

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Fifth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

[Translation]

Friday, August 12, 2005/ Sravana 21, 1927 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

## OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, namely, Shri Nathu Ram Shakyawar.

Shri Nathu Ram Shakyawar was a Member of the Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 representing Jalaun Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Shakyawar was a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council from 1960 to 1972.

A freedom fighter, Shri Shakyawar took active part in India's struggle for freedom and was also imprisoned during the "Quit India Movement" in 1942.

An advocate by profession, Shri Shakyawar was an active social worker. He worked relentlessly for the uplift of the downtrodden and marginalised sections of the society.

Shri Nathu Ram Shakyawar passed away on 31st July 2005 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 80, after a brief illness.

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

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

11.01 hrs.

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

11.02 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Kumar Mahato, Q. No. 281.

## Impact of Power Shortage on the Economy

+

\*281. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the industrial, agricultural and other sectors have suffered huge losses due to frequent load-shedding;

(b) if so, whether hydel and thermal power generation has declined during the last three years and this decreasing trend is still continuing in the country;

(c) if so, whether the Government has identified the factors responsible for the delay in implementation of various power projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof and remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether any long-term and short-term plan has been drawn up by the Government to increase power generation capacity in the country;

(f) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to encourage private investment to boost power generation capacity to meet the demand in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof and efforts being made by the Government in this regard; and

(h) the funds earmarked for the Tenth Five Year Plan and released during the last three years and spent by each State during the period?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) to (h) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

## Statement

(a) The power shortage continues to be there in the country; the quantum of power shortage varies from State to State. In order to optimize utilisation of available power, State Governments /Power Utilities regulate supply of power to their consumers by imposing power cuts/restrictions and resort to load shedding from time to time depending on availability and requirement of power. The supply and distribution of electricity to the ultimate consumers including industrial, agricultural and other sectors in a State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/State

Power Utility which decides priority of power supply to various categories of consumers.

(b) No, Sir. The total power generation in the country including thermal and hydro has been increasing during the last three years as per details given below:

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Total Generation (MU)	531,607	558,336	587,416

(c) and (d) The main reasons for delay in execution of some of the hydro power projects are as under:

- Geological surprises
- Location of hydro project sites in remote and inhospitable areas
- Rehabilitation & resettlement problems
- Contractual problems

In order to avoid delays in the execution of power projects, monitoring mechanism has been strengthened. The measures taken include:

- Quarterly review by Ministry of Power for each Central Public Sector Undertaking, the leading contributors in implementation of power projects.
- Quarterly review by Ministry of Power with top management of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), the leading manufacturer of major equipment for power projects.
- Quarterly review by Ministry of Power with Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for all projects of the country. Intense monitoring of each project by Central Electricity Authority with a Nodal Officer for each power generation project.
- Video Conferencing with Chief Executives of select projects at more frequent intervals.
- Visits to projects.

(e) The main short-term and long-term measures taken by the Government to increase power generation capacity in the country are as under:

**Short term measures:**

- i. A capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for being set up in the 10th Plan.
- ii. Early stabilization of newly commissioned units and overall increase of PLF of thermal units.

iii. R&M and Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units.

iv. Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation have mobilized themselves to see that execution of a good project is not hampered due to lack of funds.

**Long term measures:**

- i. Projects worth over 60,000 MW have been identified for commissioning during 11th Plan and advance action has already been started to ensure their commissioning in 11th Plan.
- ii. For coordinated development of hydro sector, 50,000 MW initiative has been launched.
- iii. Identification of sites for thermal capacity over 1,00,000 MW.
- iv. Creation of a National Grid for optimum utilization of generation capacity and inter-regional transfer of power.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. Government has, from time to time, been assisting to resolve issues coming in the way of the private sector power projects in achieving financial closure on account of delays in finalisation of various contracts such as Power Purchase Agreement, Fuel Supply Agreement, Fuel Transportation Agreement, captive coal block allotment to power utilities, etc., which happen to be major road blocks hindering development of private power generation projects.

An Inter-Institutional Group (IIG) was constituted in January, 2004 to facilitate financial closure of private sector projects likely to come up in the 10th and 11th Plans. The IIG has provided a forum for interaction amongst promoters of power projects, banks and financial institutions and the Ministry of Power. The IIG has been instrumental in facilitating financial closure of 13 projects of 4484 MW capacity as per enclosed Annexure - I.

The Electricity Act, 2003 which has come into effect from 10th June, 2003 contains several measures to attract private investment in the power sector. Government has also initiated the process of reforms and re-structuring of power sector which would improve the finances of the power utilities, thereby attracting private investments. Besides, 100% Foreign Direct Investment has been permitted in projects for electricity generation, transmission and distribution.

(h) State-wise/Union Territory-wise 10th Plan outlay/expenditure during the last three years, as per Planning Commission, is given in enclosed Annexure-II.

**Annexure-I***Projects which have achieved financial closure post IIG and are under implementation*

Sl. No.	Project name (fuel, location)	Cap (MW)	Capital Cost (Rs. in cr.)	Tariff (Rs./unit)	Date of Commissioning	Key activities
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Vemagiri CCGT (Gas), Vemagiri Generation Power Ltd.	370	1043.00	1.90	(i) Gas Turbine- Oct.' 05 (ii) Steam Turbine- Dec,' 05	EPC contract - Signed on June 24, 2003 with L & T Limited.
2	Peddapuram (Gautami) CCGT (Gas), Gautami Power Private Ltd.	464	1450.00	1.80	G.T. - Feb., 2006 S.T. -July, 2006	EPC contract signed on 27th September, 2003 with M/s. Alstom (Swit- zerland) Ltd and M/s. Alstom Projects (India) Ltd.
3	Jegurupadu Exp (gas), GVK Industries	220	760.00	1.77	31.1.2006.	EPC contract signed on 17.8.94 with M/s. ABB Alsthom.
4	Konaseema CCGT (Gas), Konaseema EPS Oakwell Power Ltd.	445	1383.00	1.69 (Fixed cost: Rs.0.94p.+ Variable cost: Rs.0.75p)	G. T. - Dec., 2005 S.T. - Aug., 2006	EPC contract signed on 15.3.2001 with L&T and LMZ Energy.
5	Jojobera Exp (Coal), Jamshedpur Power Co.	120	432.00	Between 2.10 to 2.20	August, 2005	
6	Valantharavai GTPP (Arkay Energy Ltd.) (Gas)	52.8	212.00	2.4283 (1st year) 2.2798 (lev.)	March, 2009	EPC contract signed on 31.3.2003 with M/s. GEA Energy Systems (India) Ltd.
7	Karuppur (Tanjore) CCGP (Aban Power Co.Ltd.) (Gas)	120	440.00	2.0167 (1st year) 2.2278 (lev.)	December 2004	EPC contract signed on 5.5.2003
8	Raigarh (Jindal Power Ltd.) TPP (Coal)	550	2090	2.10	March, 2007	EPC contract-In place.
9	Malana-II HEP (Everest Power)	100	548.00	2.59 (1st year) 2.49 (levellised)	April, 2009	Pre construction investigations in progress.
10	Torangallu Expn. (Jindal Thermal Power Co.Ltd.) (Coal) (Provisional in- principle subject to fulfilment of conditions.)	500	1790	2.40 (1st year)	31.12.2006	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	Akhakhhol (Surat) CCGT (M/s Torrent Power Generation Ltd.)	1050	3780.00	2.18 (1st year)/ 2.28 (lev.)	September, 2007	EPC contract has been signed on 17th June, 2005 with consortium led by SIEMENS.
12	Allain Duhangan HEP, M/s Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills, Himachal Pradesh	192	1000.00	2.30	2009	Non-EPC route.
13	Pathadi TPP (coal), M/s Lanco Amarkantak Power Pvt. Ltd., Chhattisgarh (Ph-I)	300	1033.12	2.07	January, 2008	EPC contract has been signed on 25th May, 2005 with Zelan.
Sub total		4483.8				

**Annexure-II**

*Tenth Plan Outlays/Expenditure - Power Sector*

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Tenth Plan (Appd.)	2002-03 (Appd.)	2002-03 (Actual)	2003-04 (Appd.)	2003-04 (R.E.)	2004-05 (Appd.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>A. States</b>							
1	Andhra Pradesh	7139.47	3122.69	2167.96	2175.55	2012.33	2125.86
2	Arunachal Pradesh	491.19	121.24	72.77	114.52	114.52	155.30
3	Assam	835.42	187.11	82.77	191.42	182.92	290.48
4	Bihar	2719.58	275.30	131.68	493.68	389.17	667.88
5	Chhattisgarh	99.19	20.05	13.75	30.81	43.81	157.17
6	Goa	400.00	55.22	58.53	71.82	66.81	98.99
7	Gujarat	5958.49	792.24	571.39	762.24	580.14	635.45
8	Haryana	1395.33	261.40	202.97	280.00	212.00	470.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	1235.00	202.46	363.79	155.70	155.90	57.50
10	Jammu & Kashmir	2879.49	411.91	437.75	611.29	688.55	719.89
11	Jharkhand	814.00	150.00	138.80	204.50	204.50	380.63
12	Karnataka	2206.99	886.30	860.06	1094.94	1169.69	2711.89
13	Kerala	3425.00	589.00	743.01	619.00	542.10	693.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	5503.78	913.76	566.11	814.75	572.07	916.92
15	Maharashtra	10149.71	730.56	1260.49	413.48	349.05	382.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16	Manipur	228.86	62.73	10.43	71.00	71.00	61.20
17	Meghalaya	501.37	135.47	55.81	118.08	109.39	157.11
18	Mizoram	192.80	41.32	38.98	45.40	53.74	57.86
19	Nagaland	247.95	34.78	21.40	46.60	47.10	65.48
20	Orissa	2858.54	1003.27	322.16	671.21	571.79	502.25
21	Punjab	5963.65	782.69	751.22	576.00	626.44	783.92
22	Rajasthan	6674.22	1114.00	1220.07	1186.00	1653.71	1816.18
23	Sikkim	240.00	41.20	37.49	39.50	39.50	90.75
24	Tamil Nadu	8000.00	905.00	1197.78	1294.81	1294.81	1255.53
25	Tripura	223.30	44.43	28.53	53.87	34.96	43.69
26	Uttar Pradesh	9082.49	981.56	1046.31	965.83	965.83	835.78
27	Uttaranchal	1847.05	303.67	194.38	310.67	278.67	253.84
28	West Bengal	7846.45	1558.33	754.92	1222.74	700.50	1567.48
Sub Total (States)		89159.32	15727.69	13351.31	14635.41	13731.00	17954.46
<b>B. Union Territories</b>							
1	A&N Islands	193.80	32.00	20.78	25.00	24.80	29.10
2	Chandigarh	108.94	15.66	16.52	19.60	19.60	19.95
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	77.50	18.88	18.85	12.81	12.81	9.36
4	Daman & Diu	51.26	19.24	19.30	12.71	12.72	10.44
5	Delhi	3456.00	1413.00	1575.86	1462.25	1748.94	932.50
6	Lakshadweep	13.89	10.78	2.78	2.00	7.75	2.09
7	Pondicherry	165.00	27.53	24.97	27.00	26.66	28.00
Sub Total (U.T.s)		4066.39	1537.09	1679.06	1561.37	1853.28	1031.44
Total (States & UTs)		93225.71	17264.78	15030.37	16196.78	15584.28	18985.90

## [Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after 58 years of independence, our country is facing severe scarcity of power. Jharkhand has an abundance of mineral wealth. Coal, iron, water and uranium are found in huge quantities yet the power situation there is very bad. Industrial units are closing down, farmers are not getting electricity and students are not able to study because of the serious power crisis. Uranium is found in the State which can be

used for generation of electricity but this problem cannot be solved without the cooperation of the Central and the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahatoji, please ask your question.

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether, in view of the scarcity of power and its adverse effect on the development of Jharkhand which is rich in raw materials and minerals,



the Government has conducted any review of situation of power availability so that, the power supply in the State could be augmented? If so, the results thereof and if not, the response of the Government in this regard?

[English]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Sir, in Jharkhand, power stations are working with 10.9% PLF. Even the Tenughat Power Station is working with only 33.3 per cent PLF. But if this power station had performed with 45 per cent of PLF, there would not have been any shortage at all.

When the Jharkhand Chief Minister called on me, I asked him these things. He has promised me that he will do his best.

At the same time, Sir, equally menacing problem in Jharkhand is theft. In that direction, the Jharkhand Government could have taken some steps, which they did not. Despite all these, whatever is possible from the Centre, from the unallocated and allocated quotas, we have been trying to help the State.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Does the Government hold any official responsible for the delay in the on-going Power projects that are running behind schedule? If so, what action is being taken against the concerned official and whether the Government propose to switchover to new technology in the existing Power projects that are presently categorized as sick or are working in accordance with the old systems?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Yes, Sir, the Department of Power makes constant review of the projects. All the on-going projects are reviewed, both at the State Government level and at the Central Government level. If any deficiency is found and if need for engineers and technicians of NTPC and Public Sector Undertakings is felt then they are sent there and all possible assistance is provided to them.

[English]

\*SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH: Mr. Speaker Sir, there is load shedding almost throughout the day in Karnataka State. This has affected the production especially in the field of agriculture. The farmers are the worst affected. Therefore, I would like to know whether Centre has taken any concrete measures to check the load shedding in Karnataka and to help the farmers.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Sir, if you permit I shall give the

\* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

reply in Kannada. Sir, in fact you were kind to allow me to give the reply in Kannada last week.

MR. SPEAKER: You can do so provided you speak correct Kannada.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: He has been my predecessor as Deputy Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: That is a mutual arrangement.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Sir, the system that is prevailing in Karnataka to check load shedding is much better. It is systematic and it can check the load shedding in a much better way. In spite of this, if you need any additional help from us to check load shedding, please specify and we shall definitely help you.

MR. SPEAKER: Was it correct Kannada?

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH: It was perfect Kannada.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, the Government has been striving hard to augment power generation, transmission and distribution. But the fact is that, like most of the other States, West Bengal has been plagued by severe power shortage affecting both rural and urban economies.

Sir, in his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that as a long-term measure for co-ordinated development of hydro sector, 50,000 megawatt initiative has been launched. May I know from the hon. Minister whether Farakka Hydel Project, which is long overdue, has been included in this 50,000 megawatt initiative?

Sir, as per the Tenth Plan outlay, the Government of West Bengal has been allotted Rs. 7846 crore.

MR. SPEAKER: You put your question.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, like most of the other States, there is a wide discrepancy between approved fund and the actual outlay.

This creates a confusion for us also. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the State Government of West Bengal has been able to utilise the sanctioned funds?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: The first question was with regard to harnessing the hydro- potential in the 11th Plan.

MR. SPEAKER: You can answer the first question only.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Sir, already 50,000 megawatt hydro-initiative has been launched. Preliminary survey has already been done in 162 projects. Detailed Project Report, DPR is being taken up in 77 cases; and certainly we are

going to give emphasis for hydro projects in the 11th Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that old projects are monitored and efforts are also made to modernise them. Despite electricity being the mainstay of farming in Bihar, only 35 MW electricity is produced in Bihar. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Barauni and Kanti Thermal Power Projects which are very old projects and are on the verge of closure, have been monitored for the purpose or modernization or any scheme has been formulated for their modernization? What is the quantum of funds that are going to be utilized for such modernization and by when modernization would be done so that the people of Bihar may get electricity supply as per their demand. Kindly provide a detailed reply so that the people of Bihar could appreciate the seriousness with which this Government is going to tackle the problem of electricity in Bihar.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: The work being done by the Government of India with regard to the electrification of Bihar is highly praise worthy. Bihar Government has handed over 22 thousand villages for this purpose, to the Government of India. As regards the two projects about which the hon. Member wanted to know whether any proposal for modernization of these projects are under consideration of the Government of India. I would like to submit that we have told the Bihar Government that if these two projects are handed over to the Government of India that we would handle them as efficiently as we have handled many other projects in other areas.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply is not satisfactory. At present, the State is under Governor's Rule. If the Government intends to take over the projects, the Government can take up the matter with the Governor to do so, because this matter is under discussion with other State Governments. The Governor is nominee of the Central Government which can get the file cleared from him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Governor represents the State Government there.

Now, Shri Krishnadas. Since it is an important subject, I am allowing one extra Supplementary Question today.

SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: It is a fact that both in hydel and in thermal sectors, we are not able to exploit or utilise our full potential in generating power in the country. Some ecological and environmental questions sometimes create disturbances for exploiting hydel power potential.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put the question.

SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: May I ask the hon. Minister, through you, whether there is any new technology adopted by the Ministry for exploiting or utilising all the hydro power potential?

MR. SPEAKER: What is the question?

SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: In thermal sector, for example, in the case of Kayamkulam Thermal Power Station in Kerala, the capacity is not made use of at all levels.

MR. SPEAKER: Put a question that is relevant to the Main Question.

The Minister may answer the first part of the question only.

SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: May I know whether the Government is ready to make use of the existing potential or capacity of Kayamkulam Thermal Power Station?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Every possible global technology is available with the Government. We will make use of it. Under the RGGVY, we have the programme of linking to Internet. If there is any defect even in the transformer, we will be in a position to rectify it.

#### Fake Demand Drafts

\*282. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of siphoning off money through fake demand drafts are on the increase;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during each of the last three years and the amount involved therein indicating the details of bank employees involved therein;

(c) whether the Government are also losing crores of rupees as income tax, sales tax and service tax as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to change the present system of issuing bank drafts including changing the paper used for making drafts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The number of cases of withdrawal of money through fake cheques/demand drafts and amounts involved therein in commercial banks, during the last three financial years, was as under:

Year	No. of cases	Amount involved (In lakh)
2002-03	411	1573.35
2003-04	193	633.09
2004-05	262	1105.74

The information regarding details of bank employees involved in such fraud cases is not generated by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, as per extant guidelines, banks are required to examine staff accountability and take appropriate action against guilty employees.

(c) and (d) The instances of tax evasion, including those which may arise from siphoning off money from fake demand drafts, come to the notice of the Income Tax Department during the course of investigation. Wherever such instances come to the knowledge of the Department, appropriate action under the law is taken. The details of tax evasion arising out of such individual case records are not collated.

(e) and (f) RBI issues instructions from time to time to all commercial banks regarding various security features to prevent payment of forged drafts. However, at present there is no proposal to change the present system of issuing bank drafts including changing the paper used for making drafts.

MR. SPEAKER: I deeply appreciate the hon. Finance Minister's commitment to Parliament. In spite of a very tragic bereavement, he has come to attend the House to give answers to the Questions.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the number of cases of fraud and forgery through fake Demand Drafts and other means are rising day by day. According to the Reserve Bank of India action has been taken on 5460 such cases in 2002, 5336 cases in 2003 and 4311 cases in 2004. 408 cases of forgery have come to light in the State Bank of India, 314 in Punjab National Bank and 174 in Bank of Baroda. I would like to ask the Finance Minister, through you, that if despite installation of an Internal Regulation System by the Reserve Bank, forgery is being carried out then what directions are being given by the Government to the RBI to check it.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: While the numbers have

been given in the answer, to conclude there is rampant fake Cheques or Demand Drafts, may not be correct. Public sector banks alone have nearly 47,000 branches and the number of cheques or Demand Drafts that are issued every day runs to millions crores. We are talking about 411 cases in 2002-03 and the numbers are smaller in the subsequent years. Therefore, it is wrong to give the impression or to have the impression that there is rampant fraud or fictitious Demand Drafts or Cheques. In a system so large as this, there will be some cases of forgery and fictitious Demand Drafts and Cheques. RBI has issued instructions. When these come to light, action is taken. Having regard to the number and the size of the banking system, I think the situation is under control. I would certainly advise RBI to be tighter in the instructions issued and monitor the situation.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to change the type of paper being used to print Drafts. I would like to know as to what are the problems in changing the paper? Is there delay on part of the Financial Supervision Board in this regard? Whether the Financial Supervision Board has reviewed the Technical Paper on Bank Frauds and if so, the results thereof?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the fraud is not in the paper. There are only eight security paper mills, which are approved by the Indian Banks Association. All banks have to procure their papers from these eight security paper mills. To the best of my information, the fraud is also not in the printing of the drafts. The fraud is in the use of the draft in a fictitious manner by a fictitious drawer or in the name of a fictitious drawee or opening a fictitious account, depositing money and then drawing out of the fictitious account. I do not think the problem is at the stage of the paper or at the stage of printing because the number of mills from which paper can be obtained is very limited. It is eight, and they are approved with very strict security features such as Watermark, special designing called line relief Guillocha Patterns, multi-colour printing and different series of colours for different denominations, digit code and then the hologram. I think the security features are adequate.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madan Lal Sharma - Not present.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH WAGHMARE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the information given by the hon. Minister, the cases of Bank Draft fraud were less in the year 2003-04 but it has increased in 2004-05. In reply to this question it has been stated that action should be taken against the employees under the

law. Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he has taken some measures to change the working system with regard to the draft paper? Transactions worth crores of rupees take place through Bank Drafts in which Banks also gain a lot. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would like to bring some changes in the working system along with taking legal action against the employees in such a situation?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The hon. Member is right when he says that the problem is with fictitious bank accounts. Therefore, the RBI has instructed banks to follow what is called as 'know your customer norms'. Tighter norms are now laid down before a person can be allowed to open an account and to operate an account. This cannot be taken to an extent where it becomes difficult for an ordinary person to open an account. One has to strike a balance between the need to encourage people to open bank accounts and at the same time the KYC norms. But I think the KYC norms are good enough to prevent people from opening fictitious bank accounts. In the case of fictitious bank accounts, I think the Banking Cash Transaction tax, which Parliament has approved in respect of the current accounts, that is where large withdrawals take place, will also act as a deterrent but we will look into it to see if any more measures are required in order to prevent fictitious bank accounts being opened or operated.

### Modernization of NTC Mills

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\*283. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Textile Mills controlled by the National Textile Corporation at present, State-wise;
- (b) the number of textile mills out of the total mills referred to BIFR;
- (c) whether there is any proposal of the Government to modernize the viable mills;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the scheme chalked out and implemented by the Government for rehabilitation of the workers of unviable mills;
- (f) whether there is any proposal to revive the unviable mills to increase the Government's share in the garment export; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) At present, there are 52 textile mills under the National Textile Corporation. State-wise breakup is as under:-

State	Number of Mills	State	Number of Mills	State	Number of Mills
Assam	01	Kerala	05	Mahe (Pondicherry)	01
Andhra Pradesh	02	Madhya Pradesh	02	Rajasthan	03
Bihar	01	Maharashtra	17	Tamil Nadu	08
Gujarat	02	Orissa	01	Uttar Pradesh	02
Karnataka	02	Punjab	02	West Bengal	03

(b) All these mills have been referred to BIFR.

(c) and (d) potentially viable mills have been identified for modernization in the 1st phase. An amount of Rs. 483.1 Crore has been estimated for investment on new machinery, renovation and margin money for modernization of these 22 mills.

(e) The Government has offered a liberal Voluntary Retirement Scheme to the workers affected by the closure of unviable mills of NTC. An amount of Rs.1608 Crore has

been spent so far for making ex gratia payment to 46,079 employees of NTC, who opted for VRS. Besides, Department of Public Enterprises has formulated a Scheme for counselling, re-training and re-deployment (CRR) of employees of public sector and NTC employees are exposed to such CRR programmes.

(f) and (g) No Sir. The mills closed as per the Rehabilitation Scheme approved by BIFR, were found to be unviable as per the techno economic viability studies and were chronic loss-making units. Besides, NTC does not undertake production or export of garments.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Hon. Speaker, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the Minister replies different things in different Houses. The Annual Report is also different. I do not know how the Ministry is functioning. I can give you the example. The hon. Minister replied in the Rajya Sabha something different and now he is replying in this House differently. There is neither any consistency in the Government decision nor any continuity. Out of 119 mills of National Textiles Corporation, 66 mills have been closed down. The Government had decided to take up revival and rehabilitation programme of the remaining 53 mills as approved by the BIFR with effect from 1st April, 2002. Three years have already passed yet no action is taken. Now, the Government has decided to take up modernisation of only 20 mills. The Minister has replied that out of 53 mills, 52 will be taken up for modernisation. Whatever may be the number, the Government has decided that 20 mills will be taken up for modernisation and rehabilitation and for the remaining mills, the Government has no answer. They are left with the private parties for joint ventures.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put the question.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: The Group of Ministers has now decided to make necessary arrangements for reviving 15 out of 20 mills. Earlier the Government had decided to take up 53 mills and now the number has come down to 22 or 23 mills. My question is this. Is the Government serious to rehabilitate these 53 mills or not? What really is the Government decision? The Mumbai High Court has closed down. ...*(Interruptions)* The Mumbai High Court has left to the re-sale of the property. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. You are very articulate. You cannot ask ten questions together in one Question.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I would like to know from the Minister the present position of the Government.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no variation in the reply given in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Out of 119 mills 52 mills are in our possession. Other mills have been closed as per the direction of BIFR. They have only land and no machinery etc. is there. The Government has considered modernisation of 22 mills out of the 52 mills and Rs. 487 crore have been spared for that purpose. In case some proposal is received from good parties, then efforts can be made to run the rest of the 30 mills on joint venture basis in accordance with the direction from BIFR. If the State Government brings any proposal of its own, or a good proposal of any party, then we will try to re-start those 30 mills under the joint venture as per the mutual terms and conditions with them.

*[English]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: The Government has decided to give VRS to about 40,000 employees but no money has been paid so far. The employees have not yet been paid anything. You are depending upon the sale of properties for everything. The Bombay High Court has stayed it. Of course, the Supreme Court has recently vacated the stay.

I would like to know what the Government is doing with the fate of these employees. You have told 46,000 employees to go for VRS. They are not getting the VRS amount. So far the accumulated loss is Rs.9829 crore. The Government is not coming to the rescue of this Corporation. What is the actual position? The Government is playing with the fate of the workers. What are they doing for the workers?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: You do your home work fully. If you need any information, I am prepared to provide it. We do allow VRS if it is demanded by any employee or labour. We give them salary in case VRS is not demanded. Therefore, the hon. Member should not worry about the unemployment of the workers. As far as the question of sale of land is concerned, the hon. Supreme Court has stated that if the land is sold in accordance with the BIFR scheme, then that money will be utilised for that purpose only. For example, we have sold the land of four mills in Mumbai for Rs. 2000 crore with fully transparency. Now we have to allocate more than Rs. 2000 crore to Mumbai alone for this purpose. Besides, we have taken bonds amounting to Rs. 1800 crore for giving VRS. Therefore, this money will be spent at the place from where it has come. It also includes the VRS.

SHRI AJIT JOGI: 22 mills out of 52 mentioned by the hon. Minister in his reply are being revived but there is no mention of the NTC mill in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh. It has not been included in that list. It is a very old mill and a large number of workers are working there. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take any action for revival of the BNC Mill in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh and give permission for sale of its land? Will he consider to increase the number of 22 mills selected out of the 52 mills so that the mill located in the tribal and backward region like Chhattisgarh can also be revived?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the question of raising this number from 22 does not arise. If Ajit Jogi becomes the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh and gives some proposal in that regard, then we will give this mill to the state. Similarly, we have given two mills to Pondicherry. I have the break-up of 22 mills. For the rest of the 30 mills, the first priority of the Government is that we will fully support

any proposal put up by any private party or workers of the mill or by any other person if it is in the interest of all. But, we do not have any proposal to raise the number of mills from 22 to 23.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that he is going to modernise the mills. I would like to ask him the time by which the mills are likely to be modernised because it will take 2-3 years in bringing the machinery etc.? He has mentioned about VRS but will he give VRS to the people who do not want to remain with the National Textile Mills and have asked for VRS? Will the Government spend one-fourth of the money received from the surplus land for the rehabilitation and housing for the workers? He has said in his reply on the floor of the House that the money of Mumbai will be spent only in Mumbai.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker Sir, they were in power for so many years and that process should have been started by them. After coming to power, we took action in accordance with the BIFR's instructions immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: This process started from the time of Congress. He should not be biased.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he should be grateful to the nationalization system that the Government took this responsibility, otherwise no one cares. The NTC has been given this responsibility. Today, the NTC mills are running into losses all over the country. So far as the question of VRS is concerned, whosoever opts for it, we would give him VRS. As far as the allotment of land in Mumbai is concerned, we have said in advance that 225 square feet of land would be provided and NTC would be responsible for that. Our policy is that everyone would be given 225 square feet of land.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at one point of time lakhs of people were employed in the NTC mills in Kanpur. These mills were the means of livelihood for them. The trade union leader Dada Banerjee represented their case in the House several times. Now with the closure of these mills, lakhs of people have been rendered jobless. Union State Home Minister who has been elected from there, has also given an assurance for providing assistance. Will you please revive one-two mills there? I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would try to revive one or two NTC mills in Kanpur?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: The hon. Member has rightly said that since the very date Shri Jaiswalji became the Union Minister and I took over the charge of the Textiles Ministry, he has been pressing me hard for this. I have also thought to revive one NTC mill of Kanpur. I would like to give him this much assurance here that we are going to implement that very soon.

*[English]*

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Sir, the question of revival of the NTC mills has been agitating our minds for a pretty long time. Would the hon. Minister be pleased to enlighten this august House the main features of the BIFR package?

Secondly, what is the reason for this unusual delay for revival of these 53 units?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: We will undertake this process as soon as possible. NTC mills have been the priority of the UPA Government since it took over at the Centre. Such mills in West Bengal are at the revival stage. We will fully act upon the rehabilitation programme submitted by the BIFR. If he has any other proposal besides that, he can submit that also. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please do not answer any question without my permission.

*[Translation]*

#### **Debt Burden of Government**

\*284. <sup>†</sup>SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total debt both external and internal of the Government as on date;

(b) whether the debt burden of the Government is increasing year after year;

(c) if so, the details of the same for the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government for reducing its debt burden?

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) to (d) An annexure giving the details of internal debt and external debt of the Government since 2001-02 is

enclosed. While the total liabilities of the Government has been increasing, the external debt, at book value, has declined in comparison to external debt outstanding at the end of financial year 2001-02 and there is a moderation in growth of total liabilities as percentage of GDP during the

period. The Government has been following a comprehensive strategy to moderate growth in debt burden through a policy of fiscal rectitude, recourse to sources of lower cost borrowings and debt restructuring measures to reduce the carrying cost of outstanding debt.

### Annexure

*The outstanding total debt, internal debt, external debt and other Internal liabilities since 2001-02*

Item/Year	(Rupees Crore)				
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (RE)	2005-06 (BE)
Internal Debt	9,13,061	10,37,163	11,41,706	12,70,272	14,06,525
External Debt	71,546	59,612	46,124	54,359	63,215
Other Internal Liabilities	3,81,802	4,78,901	5,48,848	6,56,883	7,62,146
Total Liabilities	13,66,408	15,59,201	17,36,678	19,81,514	22,31,886
Total liabilities as percentage of GDP	59.87%	63.14%	62.92%	63.74%	64.11%

[Translation]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned in his reply that the low cost borrowing is done to repay the high cost borrowing. When a common man borrows, the rate of interest remains high but when he repays the rate of interest is low. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what extent the low cost borrowing was done by this Government to repay the high cost borrowing and the benefit accrued to the Government on this count?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the repayment of high cost external debt was done in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04. Nearly six billion US dollars has been repaid. There are no high cost loans now which require to be repaid. If the cost of borrowing in future comes down and the current loans turn out to be higher cost than the future borrowings, then certainly we will look at repaying higher cost

[Translation]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: We have enough foreign reserves. Will the Government use the foreign-reserves for repayment of loans outstanding against it?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member wants to know whatever foreign currency is there, would you utilize them for repayment?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, foreign currency is required for a number of purposes. One is for financing our trade, for purchases, for fiscal stability etc. Wherever we think that we have a high cost loan which can be repaid without detriment to our other needs of foreign exchange, we will use foreign exchange judiciously to repay a high cost loan. Foreign exchange reserves are not meant only to repay loans. They are meant for very many purposes.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, our mixed economy has got a big boost, especially with the advent of the policy of liberalisation. This policy of liberalisation has been pursued by successive Governments since the time of late P.V. Narasimha Rao. Does the hon. Finance Minister feel that our debt burden is being reduced because of this in percentage terms year by year or Plan by Plan?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, yes.

MD. SALIM: Sir, according to the reply given by the hon. Minister, it seems that, it is also true, the over all debt burden of the Government has been on the increase, though he claims, according to book value, there is a moderation in growth in totality as compared to GDP. If one would look at the table that has been provided in the written answer, you would find that there has been an upward trend in regard to external trade in the last two years. Also, the debt burden is likely to be doubled if the other internal debts are taken into account. Would the hon. Finance Minister be pleased to give the details?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I do not know wherefrom

the hon. Member gets the impression that external debt is double the internal debt.

MD. SALIM: What I said was that other internal debt is almost double and external debt is showing an upward trend.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Other internal liabilities consist of small savings, Provident Fund, Special Deposit Schemes and public accounts, apart from some other minor heads. Now, SDS has been capped at about Rs. 1,20,000 crore. The public account is relatively small, like there is an account for the Railways, there is a road fund etc. Those are small. The two big ticket items in other internal liabilities are small savings and Provident Fund. Since the policy of the successive Governments has been to encourage small savings and to encourage workers to save in the Provident fund, these will grow and the growth of these two heads will be reflected in the growth of other internal liabilities, but that is not to be taken as a reflection on poor management. In fact, that reflects the growth of small savings and Provident Fund.

As far as external debt is concerned, according to the figures that I have furnished, if you take external debt, at book value in 2000-01 it was Rs. 65,945 crore; in 2005-06 it is Rs. 63,215 crore. In fact, if you look at the figures in the last six years, it is more or less stable. If you look at the figures for the last two years, you would find, in 2003-04, about Rs. 46,000 crore, in 2004-05 it was 54,000 crore and in 2005-06 it is 63,150 crore.

It appears to be a rising trend. But I would like to invite the hon. Member's attention to the book placed in the Parliament on India's external debt. That will give you the break-up of external debt. You will find that on all external debt indicators, we are stronger. The absolute number appears to be large because the GDP is growing at much higher rate. Even if the ratio is smaller, the absolute number will look larger because the base has become very large. When we have the GDP growth, say, nearly 8.5 per cent in 2003-04 and 6.9 per cent in 2004-05, the absolute number will look large. I would like to invite your attention to this booklet which has been circulated to all the hon. Members. Please take a look at the external debt indicators. For example, the debt service ratio in 2004-05 is 6.14 per cent. Then if you look at short-term to total debt, it is only 5.7 per cent and short-term to forex asset is only 5.5 per cent. We should not look at absolute numbers. We should look at the ratio to the total GDP.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, with regard to reducing debt burden of the Government, the hon. Minister has mentioned two things in his answer. He has mentioned about

recourse to sources at low cost borrowing and debt restructuring measures to reduce the carrying cost of the outstanding debt.

My question is this. Where from do you get the low cost borrowing and whether there is any other outside donor agency which is inclined to restructure the debt with reduced rate of interest?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the question relates to low cost borrowing of external debt. This depends upon external market conditions. Interest rates were declining for about a few years. Now the interest rate is hardening in the external market. For example, if the US Federal Reserve increases the bank rate, its impact is to harden the rates of interest in the external market. One cannot make any normative statement. That will depend upon the external market, the performance of the world economy, specially the US economy, the Japanese economy and the European economy. So if market conditions are favourable, external debt will be available at low cost and the Indian companies will access external commercial borrowing at lower cost.

So far as multilateral agencies are concerned, just to give you an example, the World Bank has two windows. One is the IDA window and the other is the IBRD window. The IDA has of course a very low cost and the IBRD has a slightly higher cost. When we borrow from World Bank as we are entitled to, we should try to source as much as possible through IDA which is at a lower cost. At the moment, the balance is roughly 1:1. When we try to get a dollar from IBRD funds, we try to get a dollar from IDA funds. But this again depends upon how sound our projects are, how persuasive our State Governments are in joining the Union Government in persuading that the loans must come from the IDA window rather than the IBRD window.

Sir, if the supplementary is only about external debt, then I have answered it.

[Translation]

#### Misuse of Export Benefits

\*285. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENG PATIL:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the misuse of concessions and facilities being provided to the exporters for promoting export of the handicraft items;

(b) if so, the details of such cases during the last three years; and



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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) No specific of misuse of concessions and facilities being provided to the exporters for promoting export of handicrafts items has been brought to the notice of Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government provides facilities and concessions on the handicraft items manufactured by the artisans at their homes and also on the export of these items. But these benefits do not reach the artisans who manufacture these items and the traders corner the entire benefits. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not your question. You have referred to misuse. You have asked about the relief.

[Translation]

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL: My question is as to what facilities and benefits the Government is planning to give to the handicraft artisans?

MR. SPEAKER: This does not relate to main question.

[English]

It depends on the hon. Minister's willingness. Since the question is about handicrafts, I am allowing it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Sir, there are separate schemes for the artisans. We give lots of funds and facilities to the NGOs for the cluster development, crafts bazaars and exhibition. The artisans and exporters have their own different fields.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Second supplementary please. I think it covers your question. Ask a new question.

[Translation]

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL: I want to know whether the Government is contemplating to formulate any scheme to provide financial benefit directly to the handicraft artisans in order to encourage them.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not connected with the question. But since it is related to the handicrafts, I am allowing it.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: There are many schemes. You come to me. I will give you the total list.

[Translation]

We are providing assistance to the artisans under various schemes. There are many schemes, such as Baba Saheb Hastshilp Yojana and several other such schemes. If the hon. Member comes, I will give him full details.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think there is nothing to ask. To your Question, the Minister has said "No".

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is about Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair 2005.

[Translation]

The Textile Minister had told in the Rajya Sabha that the handicraft is not only a means of employment but also a good means of earning foreign exchange.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You asked whether there was any misuse. He said "No".

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: I would like to know from the Minister whether the facilities and the concessions given by the Government could be given to the workers directly. How many workers are engaged in this industry? How much foreign exchange come from the industry?

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: So far as the foreign exchange is concerned, the export in 2003-2004 was to the tune of Rs.13,000 crore while in 2004 it was Rs.15,000/- crore. Earlier, the increase was 10 per cent annually but this year it increased by 17 per cent and in the coming years, it would register an annual increase of more than 20 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER: He has given reply in negative. You can ask only one question.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of happiness that the concessions being given by the Government of India to the exporters exporting the handicraft items are not being misused. It is good that transparency is observed in it. Through you, I want to tell the hon. Minister that it has been seen that not only in this sector

but in other sectors also amount provided for this purpose is misused. With a view to encourage the export of handicraft items and to check the misuse of these concessions in future, will the Government provide any incentives to the exporters to export the genuine handicraft items by leading the way?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Great ingenuity has been shown. Mr. Minister, you say that you will take all actions.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Indian Handicrafts is a big industry. If any such thing comes to the notice of the hon. Member, he may tell us. We will check that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think there is any further question.

#### Supply of Coal to Thermal Power Plants

+  
\*286. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power plants functioning under National Thermal Power Corporation are facing severe coal shortages as appeared in 'Times of India' dated the July 19, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) if so, the details of shortage of coal in each of the plants;

(d) whether NTPC has decided to construct "integrated" power plants having direct linkages to the coal mines to bring-down the dependence on coal companies;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other steps taken by the NTPC to ensure that the coal shortage would not affect the performance of thermal power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Statement

(a) to (c) A number of thermal power stations (TPSs) in the country are facing problem of inadequate supply of coal. As on 18th July, 2005, out of thirteen (13) coal based TPSs

of NTPC, six (6) TPSs were 'critical' i.e. having coal stock of less than 7 days and out of these two (2) stations were 'super-critical', i.e. having coal stock less than four (4) days. Names of the Super Critical Thermal Power Stations and Critical Thermal Power Stations of NTPC with the coal stock position against each of them as on 18th July, 2005 are tabulated below:

Sl. No.	Name of Super Critical Thermal Power Station	Coal stock in Number of days
1.	Rihand, Uttar Pradesh	0
2.	Korba, Chhattisgarh	3

Sl. No.	Name of Critical Thermal Power Station	Coal stock in Number of days
1.	Singrauli, Uttar Pradesh	4
2.	Vindhyachal, Madhya Pradesh	6
3.	Farakka, West Bengal	4
4.	Talcher (Kaniha), Orissa	6

(d) and (e) NTPC has contemplated development of integrated coal mining cum thermal power projects close to coal mine in Chhattisgarh and Orissa for benefits in 11th and 12th Plans.

(f) NTPC has planned to import 3.98 Million Tonnes during the year 2005-06 so that the performance of their thermal power plants are not affected. NTPC has tied up import of 2.1 Million Tonnes so far and the arrangements for import of balance quantity are in process.

[Translation]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Power has stated in its report that power generation by Thermal Power Plants in the country fell by 1.8 crore units i.e. 2000 MW last year and thermal power plants including gas based power plants meet 68 per cent of power requirement of our country. The Ministry of Power has stated that it will require 50 lakh tonnes of coal to increase power generation by one per cent. I want to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what extent he intends to increase power generation during this year i.e. during 2005-2006 and how much coal would be made available for this purpose?

[English]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Sir, it is true that on account of losses in coal production during 2004-05, we have lost

almost 15 to 18 billion units. Why was it so? If you look at it, our major difficulty was that during Ninth Plan we could produce only 47 per cent of the target.

Sir, 28 projects that were to be cleared during the Ninth Plan or the beginning of the Tenth Plan for the purpose of producing power were also not done. In the entire 5-6 years, only one project was cleared. Thanks to the Prime Minister's intervention, the existing plants have stepped up the production. Now, within one year, 5 projects have already been cleared. Therefore, our purpose is to see 41,110 megawatts in the Tenth Plan. Then, we will be fully in a position to meet the target.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you have coal for that?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Yes, Sir. For that, we have now 2 million tonnes of coal. We have already arranged for import. That is the short-term measure. For the next year also, arrangement is being made.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, he has answered your question.

[Translation]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the questions asked, the hon. Minister has given the list of super critical and critical thermal power plants but there is no mention of Bihar in it. There is a crisis of electricity in the entire country including Bihar. What schemes the hon. Minister has in regard to the revival of Thermal Power Plants in Bihar?

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, as per the question, the hon. Member has asked the most critical and critical plants. That is why, we have given the Rihand Plant, Uttar Pradesh as the 'most critical'. The other one is Korba in Chhattisgarh.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned there.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Sir, I am asking something about Bihar.

[English]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: As regards Bihar, it is not coming under these categories.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing critical in it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Subodh Mohite, please put your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears to me from the reply given by the hon. Minister that it is a very serious matter. The hon. Minister has replied in two paras. In para one, there is a mention of six plants and it has been said that critical and super critical plants can be closed down. Out of those six plants two and four plants can be closed down within three and four days respectively. If out of six plants of the country two plants will be closed down within three days and four plants will be closed down within four days then a grave crisis of electricity may arise in the country.

[English]

It is a very serious thing.

[Translation]

He has found a solution to this.

[English]

We are planning for integrated coal mining. Integrated coal mining has been referred to in the answer for benefits in the Eleventh and Twelfth Plans.

[Translation]

Today on one hand our plants are on the verge of closure within four days and on the other hand we have been talking about integrated coal mines for the last twenty years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please continue.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: No, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this 'No Sir'?

[English]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: This is a very serious question. ...(Interruptions) I am just coming to the question. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot make lecture.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: In the second para the issue of imported coal has been raised.

[English]

That is not a permanent solution because that cannot control your electricity tariff. My simple question is that there is a policy of the Ministry of Power for allotment of coal block for captive power generation. On the basis of the recommendation of the Power Minister, the Coal Ministry allotted the coal blocks. I know as a Member of Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Coal and as a Member of Standing Committee on Power how the coal blocks are allotted.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, you are giving information!

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: My question is that we are facing power crisis today therefore I would like to know whether the Ministry of Coal would put a condition at the time of allotment of coal blocks that a certain percentage of coal out of certain coal exploration would be given to NTPC for power generation.

[English]

This is my straight question.

MR. SPEAKER: Though it is a little long question yet it is very good.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Yes, Sir, it is a little bit long. First of all, I want to dispel his contention that coal is allotted by the Power Ministry. The fact is that coal is allotted by the Coal Ministry.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: I have not said that.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Whenever the private sector or even the public sector has any difficulty, we definitely come forward, help them both and recommend the case to the Coal Ministry. But the allotment has to be done by the Coal Ministry.

As far as shortage is concerned, I have already stated that for the short-term, we are importing 13.45 million tonnes of coal during the year to meet the conditions.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already mentioned it. Now, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal to put a supplementary. Shri Bansal, please be very specific and brief.

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in

addition to actual shortage of coal to thermal power plants, the problem which has always been experienced particularly in Bhatinda is that the coal supplied to the thermal power plants happens to be of very inferior quality and a major chunk of coal out of it is not used at all and it occupies the space in the premises of the plant. You may also have an experience of this situation. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what he is doing in this regard so as to ensure that good quality coal is supplied to the thermal power plants?

MR. SPEAKER: All right. What the hon. Minister is doing to ensure that good quality of coal is supplied to the thermal power plants?

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our requirement is 20 million tonnes. If we import 20 million tonnes of coal, we get quality of imported coal equal to 30 million tonnes. This is the situation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, you wanted to put a question. Then, there is a method of drawing the attention of the Chair. You cannot make comments sitting there. In future, you please do not do it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a well-established method of drawing the attention of the Chair. What is your question?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have raised hand but you could not see it. What I can do?  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, what is to be done is not the question here. Please ask the question.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the hon. Minister that there are two thermal power plants in Bihar i.e. in Barauni and Katni and inferior quality coal is being supplied to these plants which is resulting in low power generation as compared to their installed capacity. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what arrangements he is going to make to ensure that coal being supplied to the thermal power plants and the coal to be supplied in future will be of good quality.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, State Governments and State Electricity Boards have to decide as to how much coal they need.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you have nothing to do with the quality of the coal.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: If there is any need for coal, they have to plan in advance. Then, in case, if they want to import, they will have to act in advance. If the Bihar Government has done it, it is well and good. Otherwise, if they want our help, we will do it.

**Re-Investment of Profit Earned by Foreign Banks/Companies**

\*287. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of profit earned in India is being transferred outside the country every year by foreign banks, and companies following economic liberalisation;

(b) if so, the details of such amount transferred during the last three years both sector-wise and bank/company-wise;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any policy whereby a portion of such profit is reinvested in the country to strengthen the country's economy; and

(d) if so, the details of the policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The details of remittances of profits by foreign banks to their Head Offices during the last three years are given in the enclosed Annexure. The desired information i.e. sector-wise and company-wise is not being maintained by the Department of Company Affairs.

(c) and (d) Section 11(2) (b) (ii) of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 itself provides that foreign banks have to keep 20% of their net profit for the year in respect of all business transacted through their branches with Reserve Bank of India either in cash or in the form of unencumbered approved securities or partly in cash and partly in the form of such securities.

**Annexure**

**Remittance of Profit by Foreign Banks to their Head Office**

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Name of the Bank	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1	ABN Amro Bank NV	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	American Express Bank Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Antwerp Diamond Bank NV	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd.	1.93	1.81	1.95
6	Bank International Indonesia	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Bank of America N.A.	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Bank of Baharin & Kuwait B.S.C.	4.90	0.00	2.72
9	Bank of Ceylon	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Barclays Bank PLC	7.41	0.00	0.00
11	BNP Paribas	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Chinatrust Commercial Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
13	Cho Hung Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Citi Bank N.A.	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	Calyon Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	Deutsche Bank AG	92.82	183.56	46.41
17	JP Morgan Chase Bank, National	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Krung Thai Bank P.C.L.	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Mashreq Bank PSC	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Mizuho Corporate Bank Ltd.	0.00	2.77	0.00
21	Oman International Bank SAOG	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Societe Generale	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Sonali Bank	0.25	0.27	0.83
24	Standard Chartered Bank	259.13	664.98	245.56
25	State Bank of Mauritius Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	The Bank of Nova Scotia	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd.	23.93	48.22	
28	DBS Bank Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
29	HSBC	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	UFJ BANK Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		390.37	901.61	297.47

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: I have a pointed question. I expect more definite and a clear answer from our prudent Finance Minister.

My pointed question is whether the Government of India, in the Finance Ministry, proposes to amend or considers amending the Banking Regulation Act so that the foreign banks have to keep more amount, that is, 20 per cent of their net profit with the Reserve Bank.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is no proposal to amend the Act.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of amendment put either. Shri Chakraborty, you can put the second supplementary, if you have any.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government of India – Finance Ministry – has initiated any discussion or dialogue with the foreign banks so that they invest more money for the construction of Mumbai City, which suffered due to recent devastation.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether you are getting money for Mumbai City from outside sources.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have not initiated any discussion with the foreign banks. Mumbai's infrastructure, as I said, will be supported through the initiatives that I have announced in the Budget. If the Maharashtra Government comes up with bankable proposals, which can be taken up

with the banks, certainly I would be very happy to initiate discussions with all banks located in Mumbai including foreign banks.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### APDRP

\*288. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accorded the status of special category States to certain backward States for giving grants and loans under the Accelerated Power Development & Reforms Programme (APDRP);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of districts of each State covered under the scheme so far;

(c) the criteria fixed for granting the status of special category to such States;

(d) whether in view of Rajasthan being a bordering and famine affected State, the Government proposes to grant it the status of special category of State on the lines of other States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Eleven States viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttaranchal have been included under Special Category States for getting assistance under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP). The details of the districts of the Special Category States covered under APDRP are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) National Development Council (NDC) accords special status to the States as per the following guidelines:

- Strategic location on the border with neighbouring countries;
- Hilly and difficult terrains;

- Overall economic and infrastructural backwardness;
- Low population density and/or sizable share of tribal population; and
- Limited and weak resource base compared to development needs.

(d) There is no proposal in Ministry of Power to accord special status to Rajasthan.

(e) The funding pattern for release of funds to the Special Category States under APDRP has been adopted as per the criteria laid down by NDC.

### Statement

#### Number of Districts of the Special Category States covered under APDRP

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Districts covered
1.	Assam	24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15
3.	Himachal Pradesh	10
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	12
5.	Manipur	05
6.	Meghalaya	06
7.	Mizoram	07
8.	Nagaland	07
9.	Sikkim	06
10.	Tripura	04
11.	Uttaranchal	05
Total		101

[Translation]

### Lack of Basic Amenities in Villages

\*289. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI RAMSEVAK SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of villages are still lacking in basic amenities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any instructions/directions/guidelines in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of funds provided/utilised under various schemes in vogue, if any, for providing basic amenities in villages during the last three years and current year, State-wise and scheme-wise;
- (f) the progress made in this regard so far; and
- (g) the further action plan of the Government to strengthen the basic amenities in villages?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (g) The Ministry of Rural Development is providing certain basic village amenities such as rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), dwelling units to the rural poor under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), drinking water supply under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and sanitation under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC). According to the coverage status reported by the States, out of the 14.22 lakh habitations in the country included in the Comprehensive Action Plan-1999, 13.67 lakh habitations have been fully covered and 50,479 habitations have been partly covered to provide the stipulated quality of safe drinking water. In so far as sanitation is concerned, about 33% rural population has access to basic sanitation facilities. According to the Core Network Survey, un-connected habitations as on 25.12.2000 were 3.30 lakh. Under the PMGSY, 1.73 lakh habitations are eligible to be covered by 2007. The Ministry of Rural Development is giving assistance to the rural poor to construct 14-15 lakh dwelling units under the Indira Awaas Yojana every year where as the annual requirement is about 30 lakh houses per annum as per the 2001 Census. According to the Working Group of the Planning Commission for the 10th Plan, 1.79 lakh Primary Schools and 1.40 lakh Upper Primary Schools are required during the 10th Plan. Of this, 93,614 Primary Schools and 71,207 Upper Primary Schools have

been sanctioned as per criteria and demand of the States/UTs. As on 31.03.2004, balance unelectrified villages are 1.12 lakh and 1.00 lakh villages will be electrified by 2009.

The details of the release of Central funds released and physical progress under the PMGSY, IAY, ARWSP and TSC during 2002-03 to 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement I, II, III and IV.

The Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Planning Commission has decided to initially launch a pilot phase for the implementation of the scheme for the Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA). Under the pilot phase, the following seven facilities are proposed to be provided:

- (i) Road and transportation,
- (ii) Power connectivity,
- (iii) Electronic connectivity in the form of reliable telecom, internet and IT Services,
- (iv) Knowledge connectivity in the form of good educational and training institutions,
- (v) Market connectivity to enable farmers to get the best price for their produce,
- (vi) Drinking water supply, and
- (vii) Health facilities of basic quality and standards.

The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2005-06 announced 'Bharat Nirman' for the development of rural infrastructure at the total estimated investment of Rs.1,74,000 crores. The components of the rural infrastructure identified under the programme are, Irrigation, Rural Drinking Water, Rural Roads, Rural Housing, Rural Electrification and Rural Telephone Connectivity. Bharat Nirman is a four year programme which is scheduled to be completed by 2008-09. However, while the Rural Road Programme would need one more year, the programme of Rural Electrification would extend till the end of the Eleventh Plan. Rural Telephone Connectivity is proposed to be completed in three years. While the main objective of Bharat Nirman is to create basic rural infrastructure, it will also generate more employment in the rural areas directly and indirectly.



**Statement-I**

Sl. No.	State	Amount Released	Exp. upto June 05	No. of road works completed (upto June 05)	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		
					3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	459.53	413.80	1531	170.00	128.94	124	0.00					
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	86.51	83.59	123	0.00			0.00					
3.	Assam	154.92	144.73	286	199.72	113.49	8	134.82	21.41				
4.	Bihar*	210.00	164.18	234	33.70	33.70		0.00					
5.	Chhattisgarh	203.22	187.08	238	376.06	216.89	184	184.07	183.83	110			
6.	Goa	5.00	0.17	2	0.00			0.00					
7.	Gujarat	111.70	108.98	555	44.35	49.34	197	0.00	3.06				
8.	Haryana*	62.74	61.09	31	48.04	33.00	7	0.00	9.92	2			
9.	Himachal Pradesh	128.66	115.45	219	127.00	69.05	4	0.00					
10.	Jammu & Kashmir+	35.00	24.71	7	20.00	0.00		0.00					
11.	Jharkhand	230.00	180.74	162	67.96	57.27	12	0.00					
12.	Karnataka***	206.11	206.11	873	59.00	42.55	67	0.00					
13.	Kerala	39.08	47.57	140	20.77	1.85	0	0.00					
14.	Madhya Pradesh	552.49	552.49	745	583.00	386.65	397	361.94	338.09	182			
15.	Maharashtra	249.08	191.49	615	75.00	1.37	8	0.00	1.04	6			
16.	Manipur+	58.00	40.95	20	0.00			0.00					
17.	Meghalaya	80.72	53.79	77	0.00			0.00					
18.	Mizoram	49.38	48.08	26	48.80	46.99	16	46.40	14.98				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19.	Nagaland	47.76	47.76	28	21.44	15.89	7	18.00	11.83				
20.	Orissa	345.09	317.10	527	350.00	270.61	333	0.00	0.26				
21.	Punjab	75.39	65.05	229	27.35	20.42	68	0.00	0.55				
22.	Rajasthan	290.64	253.82	658	591.26	589.14	1481	151.40	237.52	454			
23.	Sikkim	37.81	35.53	21	20.00	4.93	0	0.00					
24.	Tamil Nadu	115.81	99.08	435	164.78	92.93	253		0.46				
25.	Tripura	51.85	24.89	12	0.00			0.00					
26.	Uttar Pradesh	588.65	479.05	1331	661.56	503.57	1022	0.00					
27.	Uttaranchal	140.41	65.89	53				0.00					
28.	West Bengal	309.17	267.97	195	405.00	262.95	130	0.00		0			
	Total (States)	4924.72	4281.14	9373	4114.79	2941.53	4318	896.63	822.95	754	0.00	0.00	0

\* Figures upto May 2005

\*\* Reported expenditure Rs. 213.67 restricted to Rs. 208.11

\*\*\* Reported to Rs. 601 restricted to Rs. 552.49

## Statement-II

## Financial and Physical Progress under IAY during 2002-03 to 2005-06

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	2002-2003			2003-2004			2004-2005			2005-2006		
		Central Release	Total Expenditure	No. of Houses Constructed	Central Release	Total Expenditure	No. of Houses Constructed	Central Release	Total Expenditure	No. of Houses Constructed	Central Release	Total Expenditure	No. of Houses Constructed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12357.15	20122.58	126837	12946.66	19453.5	105295	19190.68	24813.84	24813.84	10607.51	3715.44	20846
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	738.425	665.38	3423	797.11	1215.89	6646	1106.03	950.76	950.76	448.69	173.81	617
3.	Assam	9987.33	10433.62	65587	14702.75	14318.35	78752	22080.95	27941.87	27941.87	10387.19	2825.89	17354
4.	Bihar	19729.9	29339.428	172524	25848.1	37422.41	183792	91533.13	58275.18	58275.18	12254.92	12595.59	56455
5.	Chhattisgarh	2027.85	2923.19	16255	2520.38	3068.27	18302	3135.95	3982.75	3982.75	2608.52	100.4	1795

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6.	Goa	39	49.8	269	69.56	83.26	233	90.17	164.82	164.82	85	34.82	169
7.	Gujarat	5518.005	5330.6	27053	3744.63	5817.24	31189	5416.01	7064.63	7064.63	3423.24	791.07	3718
8.	Haryana	1189.76	1927.659	9840	1365.84	1833.58	9175	1785.1	2215.56	2215.56	1118.61	7.8	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	857.585	626.66	3413	574.16	696.12	3841	767.6	1021.72	1021.72	410.09	23.25	129
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	458.65	911.35	5749	698.17	1253.69	8412	928.43	1404.54	1404.54	843.45	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	5455.84	8064.805	40482	8693.64	11033.91	60290	11960.36	16031.16	16031.16	5383.9	0	0
12.	Karnataka	4852.22	7502.49	42452	6580.16	8516.22	49833	7831.84	10360.19	10360.19	4954.4	943.93	5471
13.	Kerala	2970.3	4517.33	32107	4272.75	5767.37	39825	5841.32	7839.16	7839.16	2562.71	1335.58	6910
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7018.009	10206.99	63691	8333.54	10734.48	65768	10594.54	13905.33	13905.33	5416.58	1341.3	11506
15.	Maharashtra	10109.7	22637.13	85970	12315.63	22767.55	103135	15569.13	22673.85	22673.85	8492.42	454.86	7835
16.	Manipur	260.01	551.34	2571	446.05	286.3	1666	921.55	885.17	885.17	248.34	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	906.15	741.83	3305	481.18	1147.5	6465	1435.65	1080.97	1080.97	241.23	0	0
18.	Mizoram	174.575	231.06	1305	319.91	390.72	2202	343.68	435.76	435.76	162.94	0	0
19.	Nagaland	291.42	666.73	6698	673.94	826.19	5966	865.88	716.11	716.11	490.39	0	0
20.	Orissa	32543.447	80678.23	444669	27731.05	35728.08	154205	13954.68	22620.13	22620.13	7474.3	1767.02	6640
21.	Punjab	598.547	1028.1	5651	802.72	1059.94	6050	1039.86	880.79	880.79	1314.39	106.87	475
22.	Rajasthan	3149.31	4715.54	37592	3748	5274.69	41888	4971.71	6561.81	6561.81	3383.66	770.22	2115
23.	Sikkim	149.87	155.17	1149	161.71	308.97	2041	250.51	346.08	346.08	125.77	19.11	143
24.	Tamil Nadu	6205.43	14446.87	62988	6922.99	11988.64	57069	9921.24	17692.31	17692.31	5384.73	551.23	824
25.	Tripura	1977.385	2050.875	10321	1340.96	2749.89	15003	2295.75	2797.54	2797.54	1023.91	42.43	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	20996.835	31225.28	177190	24672.82	34628.98	190950	31509.17	40536.06	40536.06	18902.12	3147.02	11149
27.	Uttaranchal	2011.599	2297.13	11799	3263.04	3977.92	21666	3400.03	5579.45	5579.45	1081.1	629.96	3638
28.	West Bengal	10161.083	15188.82	86709	12892.42	15478.41	90601	19084.5	27296.38	27296.38	9582.45	1524.97	10220
29.	A&N Islands	40.32	188.68	532	110.44	108.52	671	352.93	18.73	18.73	0	0	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
30.	D&N Haveli		0	3.48	54	33.35	23.98	14	33.35	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Daman & Diu		0	8.24	48	0	0.72	7	0	2.09	2.09	0	0.55	3
32.	Lakshadweep		2.5	2.75	5	2.84	2.76	14	3.86	3.75	3.75	0	0	0
33.	Pondicherry		74.63	57.31	403	41.28	45.64	264	94.43	7.84	7.84	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>		162852.825	279496.447	1548641	187107.78	258009.69	1361230	288310.02	326106.33	326106.33	118412.56	32902.92	167612

**Statement-III**

*Performance under ARWSP for the First Four Years of the Tenth Plan [ARWSP (Normal) + DDP + Natural Calamity Relief]*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2002-03			2003-04			2004-05			2005-06			(Rs. in Crore)
		Allocation	Release	No. of Hab. Cov.	Allocation	Release	No. of Hab. Cov.	Allocation	Release	No. of Hab. Cov.	Allocation Release*	No. of Hab. Cov.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	148.65	178.24	3224	131.12	131.12	12067	137.60	164.18	4129	210.32	109.91	175	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	49.77	36.50	114	49.62	41.02	169	61.25	68.25	254	90.60	45.30	NR	
3.	Assam	84.07	52.53	3791	84.03	57.73	4534	103.31	95.66	4555	152.80	76.40	166	
4.	Bihar	74.06	37.03	0	63.19	31.60	0	74.05	89.41	0	153.24	76.62	NR	
5.	Chhattisgarh	24.43	29.43	0	19.01	25.74	0	26.63	22.70	3797	51.54	25.77	NR	
6.	Goa	1.22	0.00	14	1.05	0.00	8	1.21	0.00	25	1.93	0.00	NR	
7.	Gujarat	66.99	99.98	631	56.90	84.58	1183	66.96	66.96	930	123.39	61.70	185	
8.	Haryana	29.46	33.46	48	26.62	26.62	0	27.07	27.07	473	35.90	17.95	50	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	56.43	82.29	1875	49.27	51.37	1651	54.38	54.38	1770	106.05	53.03	422	
10.	J & K	123.88	111.96	1431	108.98	128.51	303	128.69	128.34	315	200.73	103.37	NR	
11.	Jharkhand	30.63	19.50	228	25.75	20.60	126	29.49	27.53	2150	55.29	0.00	NR	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12.	Karnataka	123.13	143.55	6137	113.12	120.62	6002	117.78	126.77	6416	175.55	87.78	NR
13.	Kerala	36.98	18.99	575	36.45	42.69	448	39.46	44.01	1083	53.86	26.93	NR
14.	Madhya Pradesh	71.59	95.86	0	60.79	73.10	0	77.45	79.45	10672	151.01	75.51	4632
15.	Maharashtra	168.29	193.36	1442	157.10	157.10	2280	159.71	159.71	1628	275.91	145.46	43
16.	Manipur	18.26	9.47	115	18.33	16.24	100	21.03	21.03	70	31.10	0.00	NR
17.	Meghalaya	19.57	29.36	375	19.67	18.12	369	24.22	26.14	391	35.83	0.00	2
18.	Mizoram	13.98	20.97	180	13.86	13.86	164	17.37	18.10	174	25.69	12.85	NR
19.	Nagaland	14.54	21.81	306	14.53	16.27	101	17.82	17.02	45	26.37	13.19	0
20.	Orissa	62.25	58.30	0	53.03	47.14	0	69.34	69.34	5528	124.05	62.03	227
21.	Punjab	25.81	30.81	710	22.69	22.69	746	28.15	28.15	626	36.42	18.21	51
22.	Rajasthan	267.50	235.96	10590	220.26	233.69	1986	292.40	304.40	11233	440.34	226.67	2204
23.	Sikkim	5.97	8.96	130	6.03	7.63	120	7.31	7.31	120	10.83	5.42	7
24.	Tamil Nadu	63.58	75.58	0	48.69	62.69	0	71.25	84.94	6520	118.75	59.38	211
25.	Tripura	17.34	24.28	332	17.43	19.03	0	21.49	15.75	247	31.78	15.89	12
26.	Uttar Pradesh	130.22	113.49	0	110.86	104.57	0	129.91	134.55	92	247.64	0.00	1226
27.	Uttaranchal	30.83	36.83	407	26.35	23.72	274	30.35	32.65	393	57.25	28.63	NR
28.	West Bengal	85.45	101.15	6539	68.27	68.27	6752	85.27	82.70	5599	133.08	66.54	54
29.	A&N Islands	0.13	0.00	10	0.06	0.00	9	0.06	20.37	0	0.09	0.00	NR
30.	D&N Haveli	0.07	0.00	13	0.04	0.00	213	0.04	0.00	59	0.06	0.00	NR
31.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	NR
32.	Delhi	0.05	0.00	0	0.03	0.00	0	0.03	0.00	0	0.05	0.00	NR
33.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	10	0.00	0.00	10	0.00	0.00	2	0.00	0.00	NR
34.	Pondicherry	0.05	0.00	23	0.03	0.00	121	0.03	1.00	71	0.05	0.00	NR
	Total	1845.18	1899.64	39250	1623.15	1646.29	39736	1921.10	2017.88	69367	3157.50	1414.48	9667

\* As on 20-7-2005.

**Statement-IV****Physical Progress Report of CRSP**

Sl. No.	State	Project Performance						
		IHHL BPL	IHHL APL	IHHL Total	San. Comp.	School Toilets	Toilets for Bal	RSM/PC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2842010	126843	2968853	22	38171	534	435
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9022	0	9022	0	373	13	7
3.	Assam	61223	650	61873	0	147	0	17
4.	Bihar	92785	4245	97030	282	456	0	130
5.	Chhattisgarh	19777	935	20712	15	1734	0	30
6.	D & N Haveli	37	0	37	1	0	0	0
7.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Gujarat	27990	29444	57434	0	2139	0	0
9.	Haryana	148590	113739	262329	169	1632	1408	38
10.	Himachal Pradesh	700	98	798	44	385	2	5
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2317	184	2501	25	178	0	4
12.	Jharkhand	34253	2047	36300	58	2155	7	190
13.	Karnataka	34650	8222	42872	42	1576	31	2
14.	Kerala	382532	36853	419385	517	1402	596	62
15.	Madhya Pradesh	416806	101520	518326	154	15998	1239	323
16.	Maharashtra	217919	377940	595859	909	13823	3335	959
17.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Nagaland	28401	0	28401	71	290	34	2
21.	Orissa	552613	136416	689029	61	8378	26	457
22.	Pondicherry	900	0	900	5	26	7	2
23.	Punjab	24525	0	24525	57	453	0	7
24.	Rajasthan	86250	55053	141303	25	7173	6	89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
25.	Sikkim	6867	32253	39120	172	782	43	0
26.	Tamil Nadu	1537143	1651227	3188370	1039	20461	17126	251
27.	Tripura	278451	53167	331618	28	1484	1676	481
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1216054	555644	1771698	688	15121	1	215
29.	Uttaranchal	35849	14334	50183	12	109	0	14
30.	West Bengal	3717000	842661	4559661	549	18101	1	504
Grand Total		11774644	4143475	15918139	4945	152547	26085	4224

*Central Rural Sanitation Programme (TSC)*  
*Release Position*

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Release	Expenditure
2002-03	14110.27	9432.45
2003-04	20500.00	16561.36
2004-05	36766.44	22747.64
2005-06 (upto 10-8-05)	19574.05	5754.41
Total	90950.76	54495.86

*[English]*

**Decline in Profit of Banks/  
Financial Institutions**

\*290. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector banks in the country registered overall decline in profits during the last fiscal year as appeared in 'Statesman' dated the June 23, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof and factors responsible for decline in profits of banks;

(c) the profit/loss of public sector banks/financial institutions during the last three years and as on date;

(d) whether the RBI/Government have framed new guidelines for public sector banks/ financial institutions to check such decline in profits and steps to enhance profit; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Public sector banks have recorded operating profit of Rs. 38.413 crore in the year 2004-05 as against Rs. 39,475 crore in the year 2003-04. Net Profits of some public sector banks have declined during the year 2004-05 viz-a-viz year 2003-04 primarily because of increased provisioning for NPAs due to revised guidelines of RBI, provision for arrears on account of wage revision, depreciation on investments, hardening of yield on Government securities and resultant fall in treasury income etc.

(c) The details of net profit/loss of public sector Banks and Financial Institutions during the last three years is given as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Public Sector Banks	12,295.46	16,546.37	15,190.12
Financial Institutions	(-)372.79	(-)2,882.94	06.56

Note: figures shown (-) indicate loss

(d) and (e) The steps taken by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India to improve the functioning and profitability of the public sector banks include enactment of law for effective recovery of Non-Performing Assets, deregulation of interest rates; introduction of prudential norms; reduction in Statutory Liquidity Ratio, encouragement to Information Technology, Organizational Restructuring, improvement in human resource management and customer service, diversification in lines of business, etc. Further, the Government has advised Public Sector Banks to submit a Statement of Intent on Annual Goals for the financial year 2005-06. which includes quantitative and qualitative targets on various performance parameters viz. Capital Risk Adequacy Ratio (CRAR), earning per share,

growth in business, Priority Sector lending. NPAs, profitability, improvement in risk management practices, use of technology, special efforts in reaching out to the under-privileged etc.

[Translation]

### Crisis In Cotton Textile Industry

\*291. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton textile industry in the country is facing grave crisis and a number of mills are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, whether the Government has identified the factors responsible for the crisis in the cotton textiles industry in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bail-out the said industry from the crisis and to provide assistance to it; and

(e) the success achieved by the Government as a result of steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The trend in production of cotton products does not indicate any crisis situation in the cotton textile industry. The details are as follows:-

*Production of Cotton fibre, yarn, fabric for the last three years*

Production of Cotton items	Unit	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (P)
Fibre*	Million Kg	2312	3009	3944
Yarn	Million Kg	2177	2121	2272
Fabrics	Million Sq. meter	19300	18040	20578

\*Cotton Year (October-September)

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Some of the important steps taken by the Government to provide assistance to the cotton textile industry are furnished in the enclosed statement.

(e) The said measures have strengthened the cotton textile industry as can be observed in the increase in production and export.

### Statement

*Measures taken by the Government in the recent past to help the cotton textile sector*

- To improve productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination through upgradation of cotton market yards and modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories.
- The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.
- For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- For the decentralised powerloom sector, Government has enhanced, w.e.f. 13.01.05, the capital ceiling for machinery from Rs. 60.00 lakh to Rs. 100.00 lakh under 20% capital subsidy scheme—TUFS.
- For small scale textile and jute industrial units, Government has enhanced, the rate of Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) from 12% to 15% w.e.f. 13.01.05.
- "Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme" [a centrally sponsored scheme] has been launched with a view to imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports. Under the Scheme, Government gives grant upto Rs.17 crores per apparel park for infrastructure work, training and common facilities.
- "Textile Centers Infrastructure Development (TCIDS) Scheme" [centrally sponsored] has been introduced with the objective of modernizing infrastructure facilities at major traditional textile centres of the country.



Government of India gives grant upto Rs.20 crores for a particular centre.

- In order to facilitate modernisation of the Powerloom Sector, Schemes such as Hightech Weaving Parks, Modernisation and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centers, Group Workshed Scheme and Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme @ 20% have been introduced.
- In 2004-05 Budget, the entire textile sector, except for man-made fibre and filament yarn was provided optional exemption from excise duty. In 2005-06 Budget, Central Value-aided Tax (CENVAT) on Polyester Filament Yarn has been reduced from 24% to 16%. These modifications in fiscal levies aim at attracting more investments for modernization of textile sector.
- To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery has been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items.
- In 2005-06 Budget, 30 items of knitting and knitwear have been de-reserved. This would facilitate setting up of large sized modernized units for meeting the international competition.

[English]

#### Performance of Thermal Power Plants

\*292. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

SHRI B. MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of Thermal Power Plants;

(b) if so, the power generation capacity of Thermal Power Plants in the country at present, State-wise;

(c) whether NTPC has prepared any scheme to substantially enhance its power generation capacity;

(d) if so, the details of the scheme formulated by NTPC in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir, the performance of thermal power plants in the country is reviewed from time to time.

(b) Details of generation capacity of the thermal power plants in the country are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) to (e) A capacity addition of 9470 MW power generation is envisaged through ten (10) on-going projects of NTPC which are under various stages of construction. Details of the capacity and the commissioning schedule of the projects are given in the enclosed statement-II.

#### Statement-I

#### Details of Power Generation Capacity of the Thermal Power Plants in the Country

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
1.	Chandigarh	2
2.	Delhi	1699.7
3.	Haryana	1528.92
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0.13
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	183.94
6.	Punjab	2130
7.	Rajasthan	2571.8
8.	Uttar Pradesh	11518
9.	Chhattisgarh	3454
10.	Goa	48
11.	Gujarat	8724.92
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4532.5
13.	Maharashtra	10588
14.	Andhra Pradesh	7874.7
15.	Karnataka	2184.42
16.	Kerala	780.44
17.	Lakshadweep	9.97
18.	Pondicherry	32.50
19.	Tamil Nadu	7002.96

1	2	3
20.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	39.875
21.	Bihar	4178.5
22.	Jharkhand	1430
23.	Orissa	4000
24.	West Bengal	6233.58
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.88
26.	Assam	910.69

1	2	3
27.	Manipur	20.1
28.	Meghalaya	2.05
29.	Mizoram	51.87
30.	Nagaland	2
31.	Tripura	195.35
Total		81946.795

**Statement-II****Details of NTPC's Ongoing Thermal Projects**

Sl. No.	Project	Capacity (MW)	Commissioning Schedule
1.	Rihand Stage-II	500 (Unit-II)	U#2 - May '06
2.	Vindhyachal Stage-III	1000	U#1 - Feb '07 U#2 - Aug '07
3.	Unchahar State-III	210	U#1 - Sep '06
4.	Kahalgaoon Stage-II Phase-I	1000	U# 1 - Nov '06 U#2 - May '07
5.	Kahalgaoon Stage-II, Phase-II	500	Mar '07
6.	Sipat Stage-II	1000	U#1 - Jun '07 U#2 - Dec '07
7.	Sipat Stage-I	1980	U#1 - Apr '08 U#2 - Feb '09 U#3 - Dec '09
8.	Koldam Hydro-Electric	800	U#1- Nov '08 U#2- Jan '09 U#3- Mar '09 U#4- Apr '09
9.	Barh	1980	U#1 - Mar '09 U#2 - Jan '10 U#3 -Nov '10
10.	Bhilai Expansion Power Project - Joint Venture with Steel Authority of India Limited	500	U#1 - Jul '07 U#2 - Oct '07

*[Translation]***National Calamity Relief Fund**

\*293. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount contributed by the Government to National Calamity Relief Fund constituted this year;

(b) the amount of assistance provided out of the amount contributed by the Government in the said fund to the people affected by Tsunami which rocked the country recently;

(c) whether any provision has been made to provide assistance from the said fund to famine, drought and flood victims;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to provide assistance out of the said fund to the victims of natural calamities in Maharashtra;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (f) No fund named National Calamity Relief Fund exists or is proposed

to be constituted by Government of India. Relief for natural calamities is provided under:

- (a) The National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF); and
- (b) Central grants for States' Calamity Relief Funds.

There is a budget provision of Rs.1,500 crore in 2005-06 for transfer to the NCCF.

Government of India approved the following Central assistance for immediate relief, subsidy to fishermen and restoration of communication links from the NCCF for the Tsunami affected areas during 2004-05 itself, in the immediate aftermath of the devastation caused by Tsunami on 26.12.2004:

- Tamil Nadu - Rs.1068.22 crore
- Kerala - Rs.142.02 crore
- Andhra Pradesh - Rs.47.19 crore

Additional assistance of 54,000 MT, 20,000 MT and 10,000 MT of rice was also approved for Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

Calamities like drought, famine and flood are eligible for relief and assistance from NCCF.

An amount of Rs.103.07 crore was released to the Government of Maharashtra from NCCF on 18.7.2005 for the areas affected by drought and hailstorm. Government of India released further amounts of Rs.500 crore on July 28, 2005 and Rs.416.41 crore on August 5, 2005 from NCCF on 'on account' basis for immediate relief and rehabilitation in the aftermath of the unprecedented rains/flash floods in some parts of Maharashtra, including Mumbai, pending the report of the Central Team and a decision on its recommendations. Government of India has also released Rs.83.59 crore towards second instalment of Centre's share of CRF for 2005-06 to the State Government on August 5, 2005.

#### **Regional Rural Banks**

\*294. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

MOHD. SHAHID:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks are being pruned by the Government as reported in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated the June 4, 2005;

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

(c) whether all the State Governments have given their consent to it;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the basis on which the number of banks has been prescribed in the rural areas alongwith the extent of rural area within which a bank is proposed to be set up;

(f) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which this exercise is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The Government has initiated a process for amalgamation of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) sponsored by the same Public Sector Bank within a State. This is expected to result in expanded coverage of geographical areas, improved outreach, reduction in administrative and operational costs, economies of scale, greater scope for technological upgradation, better deployment of staff and introduction of new services. In the first phase 5 RRBs in the State of Uttar Pradesh, 3 in Punjab, 6 in Gujarat, 3 in Maharashtra, 2 in Tamil Nadu and 4 in Karnataka (totaling 23) have been considered for amalgamation. The proposal for amalgamation is considered only after obtaining the concurrence of the concerned State Government.

(e) Section 3(i) of RRB Act, 1976 empowers the Central Government to establish Regional Rural Banks in States or Union Territories. The Central Government is also empowered to specify the local limits within which each Regional Rural Bank shall operate. Opening of branches by RRBs is governed by the provisions of Section 23 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. It is left to the discretion of the banks to identify the locality/center for opening new bank branches. The Banks decide on the location of branches after taking into consideration factors such as business potential, viability, infrastructure, security etc.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) and (h) Do not arise.

#### **Revival of Co-operative Banks**

\*295. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has called a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the various States for revival and revitalization of co-operative banks;

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

(c) whether the State Governments have given their consents for revival package of co-operative banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The report of the Task Force set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan on the revival of Short-Term Co-operative Credit Structure was discussed with the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors in the meeting of the National Development Council on 28.06.2005. A further meeting with Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors has been proposed in September, 2005.

(c) and (d) So far, comments on the recommendations of the Task Force have been received from 15 State Governments. There is a consensus among these State Governments for revitalizing the Cooperative Credit Structure and the recommendation relating to application of prudential norms including Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) among all tiers of Cooperative Banks. However, there is a mixed response on some recommendations, especially the ones relating to:-

- i) Criteria for determining Cooperative Credit Structure (CCS) units to be eligible under the Rehabilitation Package.
- ii) Sharing pattern of Revitalisation Package amongst Government of India, State Governments and Cooperative Credit Structure.
- iii) The voluntary nature of the Rehabilitation Package and it being linked to enactment of legal and institutional reforms by the participating State Governments.

#### Irregularities in Regional Rural Banks

\*296. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases of misappropriation/fraud detected alongwith the amount involved in it in Regional Rural Banks during the last three years till date;

(b) whether the Government has enquired into the cases of fraud/misappropriation by Regional Rural Banks;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there has been any lapse on the part of RBI/NABARD in monitoring the working of these banks;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

(NABARD), the number of cases of misappropriation/fraud detected in Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) alongwith the amount involved during the last three years is as under:

(Rs in Lakhs)		
Year	Number of cases	Amount Involved
2001-2002	139	211.75
2002-2003	236	548.38
2003-2004	328	792.10

(b) and (c) Enquiry into the cases of fraud/misappropriation is conducted by RRBs themselves and reported to NABARD, RBI and the concerned sponsor bank. Appropriate further action is taken thereafter by the RRB.

(d) and (e) No such incidence has come to the notice of the Government.

(f) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has advised the RRBs to adopt the following measures to check the cases of fraud/misappropriation:

- Nominate a senior officer who will be responsible for submitting all the returns relating to frauds to NABARD and Sponsor Bank.
- Fix staff accountability in respect of delays in reporting cases of frauds to NABARD.
- Prompt reporting of information relating to frauds to the Board of Directors.
- Prompt filing of cases with the police and follow-up thereafter.
- Clear all backlog in reconciliation of more than six months old entries in inter-bank and inter-branch accounts.
- Strengthen the internal control mechanism in banks through vigilance cells and improvement in the system of audit, through inspection reports, guidelines, etc.
- Have an effective vigilance machinery to bring in systemic corrections so as to prevent recurrence of frauds and to create awareness among the staff to prevent the increasing incidence of frauds, through training programmes.
- Board of directors of RRBs to review the cases of fraud/misappropriation on quarterly and annual basis.

[English]

### Merger of Textile Schemes

\*297. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme and the Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme are proposed to be merged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the salient features of the new schemes; and

(d) the major gains of the new scheme as compared to the existing two schemes with reference to the post quota regime?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new scheme namely, 'Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks' has been formulated by merging two existing schemes i.e. the Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports (APE) and the Textile Centre Infrastructure Development (TCID) in order to expand the production base of the textile and garment sector.

(c) The salient features of the new Scheme are as under :

1. The scheme envisages to create 25 Textile Parks of international standard at potential growth centres of India by 2007-08.
2. The Scheme would be implemented by the Ministry of Textiles through Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) at the field level. Industry Associations/groups would be the main promoters of Textile Parks.
3. There would be engaged an agency like Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) or a similar professional body with considerable experience and expertise in the area of infrastructure development, as Project Management Consultant for the Scheme.
4. The Government of India's support under the Scheme by way of grant of equity will be 40% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 40 crore.

(d) The new Scheme is based on Public Private Partnership and envisages to provide proper targeting greater flexibility and higher industry participation.

### Import of Wool

\*298. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale import of wool from other countries are affecting our domestic industry;

(b) if so, the value and quantity of wool imported during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of sheep rearers especially in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) None of the domestic industry associations/federations has brought to the notice of the Government that the import of raw wool is affecting the domestic industry adversely.

The quantity and value of wool imported during the last three years are as under:-

year	Quantity (in million kg.)	Value (Rs. in crore)
2002-03	73.92	801.83
2003-04	84.61	870.61
2004-05	82.47	825.95

(Source: DGCIS, Calcutta)

(c) Ministry of Textiles through Central Wool Development Board has taken up many schemes under the Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (IWIP) for sheep and wool development in the wool producing, States in the country including Rajasthan benefiting sheep rearers. Under this programme projects are undertaken for sheep and wool improvement and development of speciality fibres such as Angora and Pashmina. Technical consultancy services and support services as well as human resource development programmes are also undertaken under the IWIP.

[English]

### Technology Vision Document

\*299. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has released its financial sector Technology Vision Document;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main objectives and the targets fixed under the vision document?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The corporate objective of the Financial Sector Technology Vision Document is to enable the financial sector to leverage on Information Technology for better customer service, improved housekeeping and overall systemic efficiency. The document elucidates the technology vision for the financial sector for the medium term i.e. three years, with coverage including the following:-

- (i) Information Technology for regulation and supervision
- (ii) Information Technology and the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT)
- (iii) Information Technology for the Financial Sector

(iv) Information Technology for Government related functions.

#### National Legal Service Authority

\*300. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons benefited through The National Legal Service Authority (NLSA) during each of the last two years-till date, State-wise;

(b) the amount allocated during each of the last two years and the current year for implementation of the NLSA programme, State-wise; and

(c) the major legal aid programmes undertaken during the last two years under this Authority?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The requisite information is being collected from State Legal Services Authorities all over the country. The information will be laid on the Table of the House as and when the same is received.

(b) Statement-I is enclosed.

(c) Statement-II is enclosed.

#### Statement-I

*The details of the amount allocated by National Legal Services Authority during the last two financial years and current year viz. 2003-04, 2004-05 and till date.*

*(Including Supreme Court Legal Services Committee & NGOs)*

S.No.	Name of the State Legal Services	2003-04 Rs.	2004-05 Rs.	2005-06 Rs.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	26,09,633	2,500,000	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	747,244	400000
3	Assam	20,94,216	1,000,000	1500000
4	Bihar	4,94,924	-	0
5	Chhattisgarh	14,29,987	50,000	1500000
6	Goa	-	655,000	0
7	Gujarat	30,00,000	1,500,000	1,400,000
8	Haryana	5,28,500	533,000	1000000
9	Himachal Pradesh	6,00,000	1,216,199	0

1	2	3	4	5
10	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	0
11	Jharkhand	5,46,148	-	0
12	Karnataka	-	1,285,361	1,000,000
13	Kerala	37,00,000	5,584,000	2,000,000
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	499,900	0
15	Maharashtra	1,60,000	140,000	615,400
16	Manipur	-	150,000	300000
17	Meghalaya	-	237,522	0
18	Mizoram	5,00,000	350,000	200,000
19	Nagaland	-	200,000	265,000
20	Orissa	13,00,000	700,000	1500000
21	Punjab	15,28,500	1,500,000	1300000
22	Rajasthan	52,00,000	2,000,000	1500000
23	Sikkim	-	-	246,215
24	Tamil Nadu	4,26,842	1,000,000	1,000,000
25	Tripura	12,00,000	1,215,000	1,400,000
26	Uttar Pradesh	5,48,000	1,577,000	590,000
27	Uttaranchal	-	-	1,426,990
28	West Bengal	44,11,855	2,920,000	1,715,000
29	Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	0
30	U.T. Chandigarh	5,28,500	500,000	0
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	0
32	Daman & Diu	-	-	0
33	Delhi	6,60,000	18,200,000	3,130,000
34	Lakshadweep	-	-	0
35	Pondicherry	10,00,000	500,000	500000
36	Supreme Court Legal Services Committee	40,00,000	3,500,000	2,000,000 0
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,65,07,105</b>	<b>502,260,226</b>	<b>26,488,605</b>

**Statement-II**

1. The NALSA has taken new initiative to encourage the general public to settle their disputes amicably at pre-litigation as well as post-litigation stage. Necessary guidelines and directions have been issued to all the State Legal Services Authorities to encourage the settlement of disputes/cases through Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism viz. Conciliation, Mediation and Lok Adalats.
2. The NALSA launched a campaign for the benefit of physically disabled persons in letting people know when and how to get help and increasing awareness of positive steps for mental well being. The NALSA impressed upon all the State Legal Services Authorities to observe World Mental Health Day on 10th October, 2004. A large number of awareness camps for the benefit of the Mentally Challenged in association with Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations including hospitals and dispensaries were organized throughout the country.
3. The Authority launched Child Rights Campaign in Government schools spread over Northern Region of the country, as a Millennium Programme for children. Children are the primary beneficiaries of the Legal Services Authorities Act. The Authority started deliberations with the Security Agencies of the country on 14th November, 2004 at Parliament Annexe, New Delhi. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal, Judge Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble the Law Minister of India, Dr. H.R. Bhardwaj, Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Delhi and other dignitaries participated in the deliberations.
4. The National Legal Services Authority launched the NATIONAL LEGAL LITERACY MISSION (2005-2010) in the august presence of Dr. Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India and Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Lahoti, the Chief Justice of India on 6th March, 2005 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. The basic purpose of the Mission is Legal Empowerment. The Mission has been launched to make the citizens aware of their Legal Rights, their Constitutional Obligations and to support the disadvantaged to access door of justice and eliminate stigma, discrimination and inequality from society. In the first phase, the Mission has launched in the States of West Bengal, Orissa, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, in the North Eastern region and in Delhi. After the launch of Legal Literacy Mission by the respective Chief Justices of the High Courts, camps were organized by NALSA for creating Legal Awareness amongst the people.
5. The National Legal Services Authority and the State Legal Services Authorities under the guidance of NALSA observed the National Legal Aid Week for Women from 2nd March to 8th March, 2005 throughout the country. Legal Literacy Camps were organized for creating awareness amongst women about their Legal Rights.
6. The National Legal Services Authority launched Jal Adhikar Abhiyan (People's Right for Drinking Water and Access to Social Justice) by Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Hon'ble Vice President of India and Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Lahoti, the Chief Justice of India on 27th April, 2005 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal, Judge Supreme Court of India, Judges of Delhi and Rajasthan High Courts.
7. NALSA has taken initiative to bring the North-Eastern States of the Country at par with the other States and has impressed upon the State Legal Services Authorities of the North-Eastern Region to conduct more and more legal awareness camps & organize Lok Adalats in their respective States.
8. The Authority organized a National Dialogue on Protection of Legal Rights of Workers on 1st May 2005 at Talkatora Indoor Stadium to express its solidarity and support to the workers community. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, Dr. H.R. Bhardwaj, Hon'ble Union Law Minister, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mukul Mudgal, Judge, High Court of Delhi, Shri George Fernandes, Sh. G. Venkat Swamy, Dr. Nirmala Deshpande, Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Sh. Jitender Sharma, Senior Advocate, Ms. Brinda Karat, Member, CPI (M) Pollt Bureau were present on the occasion.
9. The Authority also announced the establishment of Crime Against Labour Cell in each District of India. The Crime Against Labour Cell is being constituted in all the Districts to assist labourers in the registration of their cases, speedy settlement of claims and compensation.

[Translation]

**Sale of Stamp Paper**

2950. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of stamp paper in the capital has increased by five-six fold recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;



(c) whether the people are facing a lot of difficulty in purchasing stamp papers; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to deal with this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has informed that the revenue generation has increased from Rs. 452.58 Crore for 2003-04 to Rs. 673.04 Crore in 2004-05. The reasons for the increase are (i) More property transactions, (ii) Easy accessibility/transparency of the system, (iii) Reduced rate of stamp duty for women in registering the conveyance deeds (iv) Levy of stamp duty on registration of General Power of Attorney other than blood relations since June 2004 and (v) Compulsory registration of Agreements to Sale. The Stamp papers are easily accessible from Delhi Treasury. Further, it has been decided to sell them in selected bank branches also. No complaints regarding difficulty in purchasing Stamp papers have been received.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Deposits of Small Investors

2951. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Snow-cem India Limited has accepted fixed deposits from small investors has not paid dues thereon to the investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the company;

(d) whether Registrar of Companies, Mumbai has received complaints from the investors;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the repayment of amount to small investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The company has not paid dues to the fixed deposit holders including small investors. The following amount of fixed deposits are outstanding as on 31-03-2005:

Fixed Deposit under Rule 3(2) (i) Rs. 5,62,15,000/-

Fixed Deposit under Rule 3(2) (ii) Rs.15,49,33,000/-

Total Rs.21,11,48,000/-

(c) The company is registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (special provisions) Act, 1985.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Company Law Board, Western Region had passed an order on 28-01-2005 under section 58A(9) of the Companies Act, 1956 based on receipt of 266 petitions from fixed deposit holders. Registrar of companies, Mumbai had received complaints from 60 depositors regarding non-payment of matured fixed deposits including complaints from 13 depositors alleging non-compliance of the directions given by the Company Law Board. Therefore, Registrar of Companies, Mumbai has issued prosecution notices to the company and its directors for initiating prosecution proceedings under section 58A(10) of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Translation]

#### Damage due to Dhauli Ganga Power Project

2952. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA ": Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to leakage of water, heavy cracks have appeared in gram Sabha Syankur and Elagad and the houses are also damaged because of release of water in large scale in the underground tunnels of Dhauliganga Hydro Power Project situated in Pitthoragarh district of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that at present this tunnel has been closed and the village people have been asked to shift to safer places;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct high level enquiry into the matter so that such incidents do not recur in future;

(d) if so, whether the Government have any scheme to rehabilitate the affected families and provide compensations to them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC)

have informed that during initial filling of water conductor system for Dhualiganga Hydroelectric project situated in Pithoragarh District of Uttaranchal, some seepage was observed through the pressure relief holes provided in the system based on engineering consideration at the junction of over burden with the rock. Due to the above seepage, subsidence was observed in the over burden adjacent to the water conductor system in the land belonging to Syankuri Gram Sabha.

(b) The tunnel was inspected by a team of experts and suggested remedial measures have been undertaken. The issue was discussed with the villagers in the presence of the District administration and for safety reasons, 24 families have been requested to move to a safer place after due compensation.

(c) No, Sir. During initial charging of the water conductor system this is a normal phenomenon and such type of incidents do occur.

(d) and (e) Following assistance has been considered by NHPC for the affected families as per agreement with them:-

- (i) Each affected family has been paid Rs.45,000/- to move to safer place till the end of rainy season i.e. October 2005.
- (ii) All the houses have since been evaluated by the State Government and in case of any damage the same shall be compensated by NHPC.
- (iii) Cost of minor repairs, if required, after the rainy season and charging of the water conductor system shall be got done by NHPC through the affected people.
- (iv) Any protection works required shall be carried out through the affected families.

#### **Outstanding Dues Against BTPS**

2953. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rupees one thousand crores is still remaining unpaid to Northern Railways against the transportation charges for coal supplied to Badarpur Thermal Power Station, New Delhi;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a)

to (c) No, Sir. As on 31st March, 2005, Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS) is to pay Rs.623.80 crores to Railways against transportation charges of coal. The dues remained outstanding due to the fact that BTPS was not receiving full payment of energy supplied to former Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU) and Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB). After securitization of DVB's period dues, it has been informed to Railways that these dues will be liquidated by the year 2009 subject to the condition that 'securitization amount is received by BTPS from Delhi Transco Limited/Government of NCT of Delhi as per schedule.

[English]

#### **Gas Based Power Projects**

2954. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any gas based power projects from the Government of Maharashtra have been pending for Central Government approval, for over a year;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantity of gas required for these power plants; and

(c) the Central Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. After the enactment of Electricity Act, 2003, Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) from Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of Thermal Power Projects. Any generating Company can establish, operate and maintain a generating station without obtaining license under this Act if it complies with the Technical Standards relating to connectivity with the grid.

#### **Bio-Diesel From Jatropha**

2955. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that due to increased price in diesel consecutively, farmers in West Bengal have now approached WBREDA Authority for bio-diesel pumps;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether on experimental basis it has been observed that fuel can be had out of the Jatropha seeds; and

(d) if so, the percentage of bio-diesel from Jatropha seeds which can be mixed with diesel to operate irrigation pumps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Some farmers from Burdwan and Bankura districts of West Bengal approached WBREDA to convert their diesel engines into a dual-fuel engine based on diesel and bio-gas. Accordingly, 54 such proposals have been sanctioned by WBREDA and the farmers are now running their diesel engines in the dual-fuel mode of diesel and bio-gas.

(c) and (d) WBREDA has set up an oil extraction machine on an experimental basis at Energy Park, Kolkata to extract oil from Jatropha seeds. Jatropha plantation has also been taken up by WBREDA on an experimental basis. As an experiment, WBREDA is also running a 3 KW diesel generator with 20% blending of Jatropha oil. At present it is expected that diesel pumps can be run with diesel blended with 20% to 25% Jatropha oil, which needs further testing and validation by the engine manufactures.

[Translation]

#### Tax Dues Recovered

2956. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise details of the tax dues recovered by the Government during the last three years;

(b) whether huge amount of tax dues have been recovered during the year 2004-05;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any target has been fixed for recovery of tax dues by the Government during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The year-wise details of the tax dues recovered by the Government during the last three years pertaining to direct taxes are given below:

Rs. (in crores)	
Financial Year	Amount Recovered
2002-03	12770
2003-04	16150
2004-05	22716

(d) and (e) So far as direct taxes are concerned, the Ministry of Finance has fixed the following internal targets for recovery of tax dues during the current financial year:

Recovery from arrears of direct taxes	Rs. 10,342 crores
Recovery from demands raised during current year	50% of the net demand raised during current year (after adjustment of pre-paid taxes and refunds).

Information in respect of parts (a) to (e) pertaining to indirect taxes is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Interest Rate

2957. SHRI A. K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lending rate of interest are still very high as compared to USA, China and other developed and developing countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce lending rates by banks to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) While information on the prevailing rates of interest on loans advanced in developed and developing countries, including USA & China are not readily available, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken the following steps to reduce rates of interest on loans extended in India.

(i) Interest rates on loans given by Commercial Banks have been deregulated, except that the interest rate on loans up to Rs.2 lakh should not exceed the Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) of the banks concerned. Commercial banks are, therefore, free to decide their lending rates on loans above Rs.2 lakhs subject to the announcement of BPLR. Banks are also free to lend at sub-BPLR rates to creditworthy borrowers based on an objective and transparent policy, subject to the approval of their Boards.

(ii) The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) advised all Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to reduce their lending rate to a single digit rate of not more than 9% per annum on crop loans up to a ceiling

of Rs.50,000/-. The single digit lending rate is expected to benefit most of the crop loan account holders and cover almost all small and marginal farmers.

(iii) Further RBI has initiated the following steps to give the benefits of softer interest rate to the SSI sector:

(a) As per the announcement made in the Union Budget, 2003-04, IBA have advised the banks to adopt the interest rate band of 2% above and below its PLR for secured advances.

(b) As per the decision of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) on Credit Flow to SSI Sector, banks have been advised to set the interest rate on advances keeping in view the prevailing general southward movement in interest rates. The Committee has also advised the banks to fix at least 3 slabs of rate of interest, for loans up to Rs.50,000, between Rs.50,000 & Rs.2 lakh and above Rs.2 lakh.

[Translation]

#### Funds for Construction of Court Buildings

2958. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions laid down for allocation of funds by the Union Government for construction of buildings of district and sessions courts;

(b) the State-wise proposals received during each of the last three years, till date; and

(c) the details of funds allocated by the government during each of the last three years and current year, for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The expenditure in respect of High Courts and Subordinate Courts (including the provision for infrastructural facilities) is to be met by the concerned State Governments/UTs. However in order to augment the resources of State Governments and Union Territories, Central Government has been providing funds for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Planning Commission allocates a fixed amount to this Department for the scheme. The allocation made by the Planning Commi-

ssion is thereafter distributed amongst the various States/UTs on the basis of the criterion laid down by the Planning Commission. One of the main conditions of the scheme is that the State Government must come forward with a matching share to the amount released by the Central Government. However, the State Governments are free to utilize additional funds from their own resources. The Central Government's share is restricted to the allocation made by the Planning Commission.

(b) Following States sent their request for releasing of fund under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of court buildings and residential premises of judges and judicial officers:

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Delhi, Pondicherry.

(c) Financial assistance provided during the year 2002-03 and 2003-04 for development of judicial infrastructure, such as construction of court buildings and residences of judges and judicial officers, is given in the enclosed statement. In the year 2004-05, the plan allocation were reprioritized, and Rs. 103.05 crore was allocated for computerization of district and subordinate courts. No releases have been made in the current financial year so far under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

#### Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Amount Released during 2002-03	Amount Released during 2003-04
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	695.26	283.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	106.25	0
3.	Assam	505.25	0
4.	Bihar	489.51	526.66
5.	Chhattisgarh	317.28	234.00
6.	Goa	55.00	0
7.	Gujarat	308.80	324.09
8.	Haryana	129.00	137.20

1	2	3	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	68.00	53.20
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	74.60	60.80
11.	Jharkhand	271.52	112.36
12.	Karnataka	436.50	339.26
13.	Kerala	283.86	216.51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	432.70	0
15.	Maharashtra	618.60	708.00
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0
18.	Mizoram	106.25	114.00
19.	Nagaland	106.25	114.00
20.	Orissa	360.25	166.35
21.	Punjab	171.89	177.67
22.	Rajasthan	258.82	300.07
23.	Sikkim	106.25	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	579.53	416.54
25.	Tripura	106.25	152.00
26.	Uttaranchal	176.00	76.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1277.12	1090.86
28.	West Bengal	857.85	878.07
Total		9198.69	6481.56

**Union Territories**

1.	A & N Islands	63.00	60.80
2.	Chandigarh	63.00	167.20
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	30.00	0
4.	Daman & Diu	30.00	0
5.	Delhi	528.70	304.00
6.	Lakshadweep	0	0
7.	Pondicherry	75.00	152.00
Total		789.70	684.00
Grand Total		9988.39	7165.56

**Customs Clearance**

2959. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish the office of customs clearance in the Muradabad district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The district of Muradabad in Uttar Pradesh already has a customs field formation at the Inland Container Depot, Muradabad, where the customs clearance of imported and export goods is done.

[English]

**Tax Exemption**

2960. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tax assessment of private schools, colleges and charitable trusts are completed in a summary manner;

(b) if so, the details of private schools, colleges and charitable trusts taken up for scrutiny assessments during the year and previous year and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the provisions of tax exemptions are applied with utmost care to only genuine and eligible institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Every year less than approximately 5% cases are taken up for scrutiny in accordance with scrutiny guidelines laid down for that year.

(b) The scrutiny guidelines for non-corporate and corporate assesseees for 2005-06 provide that all cases of educational institutions (other than those, which are substantially financed by the Government) whose aggregate annual receipts exceed Rs.10.00 crores in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Ahmedabad and exceed Rs.5.00 crores at other places will be scrutinized.

As per the norm laid down in the scrutiny guidelines for the year 2004-05, all cases where income exceeding

Rs.10.00 lakhs was claimed as exempt in case of corporate assesseees and income exceeding Rs.2.00 lakhs was claimed as exempt in case of non-corporate assesseees, were selected for scrutiny. Further, all cases where exemption was claimed under section 11 of the IT Act and the gross receipts exceeded Rs.5 crores, were also taken up for scrutiny.

The outcome of the cases taken up for scrutiny will be known after the assessments are completed and, where appeal is filed by the assessee, after the disposal of the appeal.

(c) For claiming exemption, an educational institution must exist solely for educational purposes. The objectives as stated in its constitution and also as reflected in the expenditures incurred by it or activities carried out by it must also show absence of profit. For obtaining the approval of the Central Government under the relevant provision of Section 10 of I.T. Act, 1961, the applicant will have to furnish the relevant information in the prescribed form and in accordance with the statutory rules. Where an applicant running and managing educational institutions depends upon recognition as a charitable and educational institution on year-to-year basis, it files return in the prescribed form for such purpose under section 11 of the Act to the Assessing Officer authorized for the purpose. Section 11 lays down stringent procedure to ensure that exemption is denied where the activities of the applicant disclose any private profit contrary to the norms of public charitable purpose.

#### **World Bank Loan for PGCIL**

2961. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has sought World Bank loan for Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has agreed to provide loan;

(c) if so, the details of the same including terms and conditions put forward by the World Bank; and

(d) the extent to which the Government of Karnataka is likely to be benefited from the said loan?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) has sought loan assistance of US\$ 1 billion from World Bank to be disbursed in various tranches for implementation of transmission projects during 10th & 11th Plans. The appraisal for first tranche of US\$ 400 million under this loan has been completed by the World Bank. The terms and

conditions of the loan will be finalized and loan agreement will be signed after negotiations.

(d) The proposed loan assistance from the World Bank would be utilized in implementation of Central Sector transmission projects. Implementation of these transmission projects would help in strengthening regional grids and inter-regional grids and would enhance power transmission capacity of all the regions including Southern Region of which Karnataka is also a part.

#### **New Mining Policy**

2962. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to introduce a New Mining Policy;

(b) whether the State Governments have been given any direction in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) The Government had announced its National Mineral Policy for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals in 1993 and it is still in operation.

In the Mid Term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan it has been indicated that to go into whole gamut of questions relating to development of Mineral Sector including the requirement of the infrastructure, expeditious clearance from the environmental angle and other related issues, a high level committee needs to be established.

Such a Committee, if appointed, may review the National Mineral Policy also. However, no such Committee has been constituted so far.

(b) and (c) In view of (a), do not arise.

#### **Allocation of Power to Tamil Nadu**

2963. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the actual requirement and supply of Power for Tamil Nadu from the Central Public Undertakings;

(b) the names of undertakings from which power is being distributed to Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether Tamil Nadu has requested for additional quota of power to meet the increasing demand in the State; and

(d) If so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Out of the total energy requirement of 13,708 million units (MU) by Tamil Nadu during the current year (April-June, 2005), 5,227 MU energy was supplied from Central Generating Stations.

(b) Power is supplied to Tamil Nadu from three Central Government Undertakings, namely National Thermal Power Corporation, Nuclear Power Corporation and Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

(c) and (d) TNEB had requested Government of India (GOI) in February, 2005 for allocation of cheap power from Eastern Region equivalent to quantum of output of Kayamkulam Power Station for a period of 3 years w.e.f. 31.03.2005. In response, GOI has made special allocation of 180 MW from unallocated quota of NTPC stations in Eastern Region to TNEB for pooling with equivalent quantum of Kayamkulam power for a period of two years beyond 31.03.2005 or until the LNG terminal at Kochi comes up, which ever is earlier.

#### **Theft of Diamond**

2964. MS. INGRID MCLEOD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the large scale theft of diamonds in Chhattisgarh mines by unauthorised miners;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such extensive pilferage of diamonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) As per records of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate office under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines, there is no mine of diamonds in Chhattisgarh. IBM is not aware of any theft of diamonds.

(c) Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 empowers State Governments to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals. As such State Governments have adequate powers to check any theft or pilferage of diamonds.

[Translation]

#### **Jeevan Ganga Yojana**

2965. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal relating to Jeevan Ganga Yojana for Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) is lying pending with the Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Government is likely to approve the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) According to the information furnished by the Water Conservation Department of Government of Madhya Pradesh, no proposal relating to Jeevan Ganga Yojana for Jabalpur has been submitted by Hiran Water Resources Division, Jabalpur.

(b) Question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Defaulting Companies**

2966. SHRI SURESH WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2936 dated 17.12.2004 and state:

(a) the status of action taken against 111 vanished companies;

(b) whether the Ministry has responded that criminal and other actions being planned against the Promoters and Directors;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken as on date;

(d) whether properties of the Directors have been attached; and

(e) if so, the measures being taken to protect the small investors to get their money back who have invested in such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) 229 companies were originally identified as Vanishing Companies out of which 115 companies have been traced back. As on date, 114 companies stand identified as Vanishing Companies. The status of actions taken against these Vanishing Companies is as follows:

Prosecutions have been filed against 107 companies and their promoters/directors u/s 62/63, 68 and 628 of the Companies Act, 1956.

Similarly, prosecutions have also been launched against 94 companies for non-filing of statutory returns. The cases are pending before different Courts for decision.

(b) and (c) FIRs have been filed against 100 companies, out of which FIRs have been registered in 87 cases. Investigations by respective State Police Authorities are at various stages in all these cases.

SEBI has debarred 100 companies and 378 directors u/s 11B of the SEBI Act from raising money from the Capital Market in any form, for a period of five years.

(d) and (e) No Sir.

However, Petitions have been filed with the Company Law Board under Sections 397/398/402/408 read with Section 406 of the Companies Act, 1956 in respect of two Vanishing Companies to disgorge the properties/monies obtained by promoters/Directors of these two Vanishing Companies. A final outcome in these cases is awaited as it involves court process.

[English]

#### Rural Electrification

2967. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) since when the rural electrification scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana was launched;

(b) the number of villages of Uttaranchal electrified during the last three years under this scheme and the funds incurred thereon during the period;

(c) whether the name of this scheme has been changed now; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the utility thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Since 2001-02 rural electrification has been treated as Basic Minimum Service (BMC) and included under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY).

(b) As per reports furnished by Government of Uttaranchal, the villages electrified during last three years out of funds received by Uttaranchal Government under PMGY are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Period	Amount received	Target		Progress		Expenditure
			Village	Tok	Village	Tok	
1.	2002-03	1857.56	77	61	58	64	946.75
2.	2003-04	888.33	27	42	123	79	1325.00 (888.33+ Previous balance)
3.	2004-05	300.00	117	173	84	146	300.00

(c) and (d) The scheme, Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) has been discontinued from 2005-06.

[English]

#### Extension of Branch of PNB

2968. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the extension Branch of Punjab National Bank, Tanda, Ambedkar Nagar (UP) at Baskhari District Ambedkar Nagar (UP) is not able to function to its optimum level due to various reasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are several complaints from customers for non-satisfactory functions of the extension branch;

(d) if so, the action taken against those complaints; and

(e) the efforts made/proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of the Punjab National Bank extension Branch at Baskhari?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No Extension Counter of Punjab National Bank (PNB) is functioning at Baskheri, Distt. Ambedkar Nagar (UP). However, the Branch office of Punjab National Bank, Tanda is providing 'extended service' in the premises of SB National Inter College, Baskheri under which only limited service can be offered.

(c) There are no complaints. However, a request for opening a regular extension counter of PNB was received.



(d) RBI has not agreed to the proposal of the bank to open an Extension Counter at SB Inter-College, Baskheri.

(e) The bank continues to provide extended service for limited hours at Baskheri Distt. Ambedkar Nagar (UP).

#### Performance of RRBs

2969. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of the Regional Rural Banks in the country during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The performance of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) is reviewed by the sponsor banks in the quarterly meetings held for each RRB wherein Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) also participate. The Government of India reviews the Performance of RRBs annually and lays a Performance Report on the Table of the House.

#### Research in Biotechnology

2970. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to augment and strengthen institutional research capacity in areas of biotechnology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fields in which the excellence of biotechnology is to be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Biotechnology has planned to augment and strengthen institutional research capacity in areas of Biotechnology through support for establishment of Centres of Excellence. These objectives are proposed to be achieved by providing flexible support to (i) expand and develop faculty research capability and (ii) enhance research infrastructure. The Department endeavours to support Centres that promote and strengthen institutional capacity in specific thematic areas of biotechnology with a multi-disciplinary research effort by expanding and developing capabilities in biotechnology research, establishment of core facilities and

enhancing infrastructure needed to carry out objectives of the programme. The Department has already invited concept papers for establishment of Centres of Excellence through an open advertisement in newspapers.

(c) Some of the priority areas for establishment of Centres of Excellence in Biotechnology include major infectious diseases, systemic and genetic disorders, biomedical technology, microbial technology, transgenic plants, plant biotechnology and seribiotechnology.

#### Financial Assistance to TN

2971. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation has planned to extend financial assistance of about Rs.2,000 crores to the Southern States particularly Tamil Nadu this year for various development schemes in the power sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) For the year 2005-06, Power Finance Corporation has set up a target of over Rs.2,000 crores for sanction of loan to the Southern States for various development schemes in the power sector. However, final sanction and related disbursement would depend upon the detailed appraisal of the loan requests received from the concerned States. The details are given below:

Name of State	Scheme	Target set for sanction of loan (Rs. in Crores)
Tamil Nadu	Generation	330
	Transmission & Distribution	93
Andhra Pradesh	Generation	577
	Transmission	145
	Distribution	140
Karnataka	Generation	240
	Transmission	285
	Distribution	140
Kerala	Generation	80
Total		2030

**NCES in A & N Island**

2972. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-conventional energy sources schemes in Andaman & Nicobar Islands is not being implemented;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Ministry is implementing various, non-conventional energy programmes throughout the country, including Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Details of various non-conventional energy systems/ devices installed in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, as on 31-3-2005, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) To encourage investment in non-conventional energy, financial and fiscal incentives are being provided which include accelerated depreciation, relief from taxes & duties. In addition, preferential tariff is given to grid interactive renewable power in most potential states. A higher, level of central financial assistance, on par with special category states, is being provided for setting up non-conventional energy projects in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

**Statement**

*Details of various non-conventional energy systems/ devices installed in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, as on 31-3-2005*

S.No.	Systems/ Devices	Capacity/Nos.
1	2	3
1	Small hydro power (MW)	5.25
2.	Biomass, gasifier (MW)	0.167
3.	Solar Power (kWp)	100
4.	Solar Photovoltaics	
	i. Street lighting systems (nos.)	358
	ii. Home lighting systems (nos.)	405
	iii. Solar lanterns (nos.)	6296
	iv. Power plants (kWp)	167

1	2	3
4.	Solar photovoltaic pumps (nos.)	05
5.	Solar cookers (nos.)	60
6.	Water pumping windmills (nos.)	02
7.	Energy parks (nos.)	06

MW = Megawatt, kWp = Kilowatt peak,

**LIC**

2973. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether LIC has a proposal to acquire UTI Bank and merge with Corporation Bank and LIC Housing Finance;

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

(c) whether this proposal will be at the cost of efficiency and growth of these Banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir. LIC has no such proposal at present.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Chocolate Based Medicine**

2974. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) has developed chocolate-based medicines to the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the commercial production of the same in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The chocolate-like product developed by National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) comprises various nutraceutical herbs and has antioxidant, anti-stress and adaptogenic properties. For commercial level production, patent has been filed and up scaling studies from the pilot plant level to commercial level have been done.

#### **Awareness about Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

2975. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government proposes to have direct communication between it and gram panchayats so as to make the rural people aware about the rural development programmes and schemes being implemented in the rural areas from time to time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present devices available for this direct link; and

(d) the further strategy chalked out by the Union Government to make rural people aware about centrally sponsored schemes relating to rural development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (d) The Ministry has launched several Rural Development Schemes like Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme etc. In view of the magnitude of the task of reaching out to rural poor with information on Rural Development Programmes and creating awareness, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities are being undertaken at a substantial scale on regular basis by the Ministry through various modes of information dissemination viz Print Media, Electronic Media, and various modes of outdoor publicity.

The Ministry is also bringing out a monthly Newsletter 'Grameen Bharat', in order to provide easy access to information to PRIs on regular basis. This newsletter is prepared in Hindi and English by the Ministry and sent to the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) for incorporation of information pertaining to their respective

local areas and publication in respective regional languages. These are then distributed free of cost to all elected Panchayats and public representatives etc.

The present media policy and publicity strategy of the Ministry also among others envisages more interactive and field based Radio and T.V. programmes to be produced in Hindi, regional languages and even in colloquial and tribal languages for dissemination of information in a effective way for the target group, distribution of guidelines/manuals/posters/ pamphlets indicating the thrust areas of various schemes up to the level of DRDAs and gram Panchayats and to public representatives etc.

[Translation]

#### **Appointment in CBEC Deptt.**

2976. SHRI D. NARBULA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quota for appointment of dependents of deceased havildars on compassionate ground exists in the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC);

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the number of deceased havildars whose dependents are taken in service from January, 2002 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) There is no separate quota for appointment of dependents of deceased havildars on compassionate ground in the Central Board of Excise and Customs. Appointments on compassionate ground are governed under a Scheme formulated by the Department of Personnel and Training on October 9, 1998. According to this Scheme, the compassionate appointments can be made up to a maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota in any Group 'C' and 'D' post. Actual appointment of a dependent of the deceased employee depends upon the availability of vacancies in the grade and suitability of the candidate for such appointment based on the person's educational qualifications and, fulfilling other requirements as prescribed in the Recruitment Rules for that post.

(c) As the Group 'C' and 'D' posts including the posts of havildars are de-centralized and the respective appointing authorities of the cadres concerned are competent to appoint dependents on compassionate grounds in accordance with the provisions of the aforementioned Scheme formulated by the Department of Personnel and Training, such data is not centrally maintained.

[English]

### Foreign Tours by CMs

2977. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for Chief Ministers to seek prior permission from the Centre before proceeding on foreign tours;

(b) if so, the guidelines laid down for the purpose;

(c) whether all the Chief Ministers who went abroad during 2005 have sought Centre's prior permission; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The guidelines issued by Cabinet Secretariat regulate the foreign visits of Chief Ministers. As per these guidelines proposals of foreign visit are processed on being cleared by Ministry of External Affairs from political angle, by the line administrative ministry concerned with the subject matter of the visit from essentiality angle and Ministry of Home Affairs, if foreign hospitality is involved. Approval of competent authority is communicated there after.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

### Indo-China Customs

2978. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have finalized the channels of communication for timely exchange of information and intelligence on customs matters;

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

(c) the details of the two way trade between the two countries; and

(d) how much customs cooperation agreement will be helpful to increase the trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No Sir. The channels of communication for timely exchange of information and intelligence in customs matters shall be finalized after the agreement between India and China on Customs Cooperation comes into force.

(c) Total import of goods from China into India during the year 2004-05 was USD 6747 million and total export was USD 4586 million. The total volume of trade between the two countries during this period was USD 11333 million. The growth in trade between the two countries over the period 2003-04 to 2004-05 was 61.70%. India's balance of trade with China during the year 2004-05 was (-) USD 2160 million.

(d) The agreement will have a positive impact on trade between the two countries by ensuring that only genuine trade is encouraged while providing a mechanism to tackle issues like commercial frauds involving under valuation and misdeclaration of goods.

### LIC Policy Holders

2979. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Blue-chip companies like ITC, L&T and UTI bank, that have generated exceptional returns for shareholders, are becoming useless for policy holders of Life Insurance Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether financial institutions have to maintain stake to ensure that there is no change in professional management;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether LIC valuation surplus is declining by Rs. 433 crore every year;

(f) whether the valuation surplus is distributed among the LIC policy holders and the Government in the ratio of 95:5;

(g) if so, whether the policy holders interest is jeopardized by the Government decision; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) makes equity investments for dividend income and capital appreciation. LIC has exposure to about one thousand companies including ITC, L&T and UTI Bank. Depending on the market conditions and growth prospects, LIC has been purchasing and selling equity and booking profits at periodic intervals. As such, the investments in these companies are generating value to the policy holders as can be seen from the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) LIC has informed that there is no such compulsion for financial institutions to maintain stake in companies. However, investments in equity being long term in nature, LIC prefers to remain invested in companies with sound business model and competent and credible management to realize long term value. Wherever LIC's holding is substantial, it has nominee Directors on the Boards of the companies. Accordingly, it has nominees on the Boards of ITC, L&T and UTI Bank.

(e) The valuation surplus of LIC is not declining. It has increased from Rs. 8664.99 crores in the year 2001-02 to Rs. 10962.60 crores in the year 2003-04.

(f) to (h) Under Section 28 of Life Insurance Act, 1956, the annual valuation surplus is distributed among insurance policy holders and government in the ratio of 95:5. As such, the policy holders are major beneficiaries of the surplus generated by LIC through its Capital Market Operations.

#### Statement

*Details of profit made by LIC on account of its trading activities in the shares of ITC, L&T and UTI Bank*

Year	ITC Profit	L & T Profit	UTI Bank Profit
2002-03	0.30	0.00	0.00
2003-04	287.93	0.20	0.00
2004-05	277.21	120.95	23.69
Total	565.44	121.15	23.69

[Translation]

#### FDI by NRIs

2980. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a lot of time is being taken by the Indian Government official on the investment proposals of Non-Resident Indians due to which number of NRIs are not interested to make investments in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) the time taken normally on one investment proposal;

(d) whether the Government propose to approve or disapprove any investment proposal in fix time period;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (f) Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), including investment by Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route, except for a small negative list. Sectors/activities which are not covered under the automatic approval, require clearance of the Government through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB). The approval procedure for considering investment proposals by NRIs under the FDI scheme is the same as that for foreign direct investment. The FDI policy is reviewed on an on-going basis. Foreign investment proposals received in the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), if complete in all respect, are generally placed before the Board within 15 days of its receipt. Decision of the Government in all cases is communicated in time bound manner.

#### Prices of Minerals

2981. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Orissa Mines Development Corporation (OMDC) has kept the higher prices of few raw materials for the benefit of local mines owners or private mines owner so that people purchase raw material from the private mine owners;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of profits earned and mining activities carried out by the OMDC during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): On the basis of the information received from the Ministry of Steel, the position is as follows:

(a) and (b) Orissa Mining Development Corporation (OMDC), fixes the prices of its products through open tenders on a quarterly basis in the interest of its business as well as to ensure transparency in the process. The highest price quoted is accepted and dispatch/billing is effected based on the same. Products of the company are being lifted by the customers at the prices fixed in the above manner.

(c) OMDC is engaged in production of Iron ore and Manganese ore. OMDC has also commissioned a Sponge

Iron Plant of 100 tones per day capacity during 2004-05. The production of its products and profits earned during the last three years are as under:

Year	Production (in lakh metric tones)			Net Profit (Rs. in Crores)
	Iron ore	Manganese ore	Sponge Iron	
2004-05	31.75	0.42	0.15	145.55
2003-04	30.87	0.43	Nil	104.24
2002-03	14.89	0.84	Nil	3.15

[English]

#### IT Related Search on Builders

2982. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether Income Tax Authority had conducted search into the premises of leading builders of Mumbai;
- if so, the details of the outcome thereof;
- whether these builders are promoted by a large pharmaceutical company;
- if so, whether Income Tax Authorities have tried to hush up the cases; and
- the complete details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Income Tax Department has conducted searches in the premises of some of the builders of Mumbai, during Financial Year 2004-05.

(b) Under the Income Tax Act, investigation culminates into an assessment which then is a subject matter of appeal. The appeals often go up to High Court/Supreme Court. The results of the Search and Seizure, which is a tool of investigation, are known only when appeals, etc. are finalized.

(c) All these builders are not promoted by one pharmaceutical company. However, one of them has close connections with pharmaceutical business.

(d) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### Complaint Against Bank of Rajasthan

2983. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether the Union Government has received complaints against the functioning of Bank of Rajasthan;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the action being taken by the Government in this regard;
- whether the Government has ever conducted an enquiry into the working of the bank; and
- if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representations from various quarters were received, inter-alia, opposing the decision of the bank to shift its Central Office and Managing Director's office to Mumbai, downsizing its workforce to 3000, hiring of premises belonging to close relatives of top management of the bank and low CD ratio of the bank.

(c) to (e) As per the RBI policy, Boards of banks have been given freedom to decide on opening or locating their controlling offices. Such offices, however, require licence from RBI in terms of Banking Regulation Act, 1949. The Bank of Rajasthan had submitted that since about 71% of its advances and investments were controlled by the Mumbai Region and locating some of its key departments at Mumbai would facilitate efficient decision making and planning the future growth of the bank, the bank was permitted to shift its Credit Deptt., Accounts and Audit Deptt. and Board Secretariat to Mumbai. As regards downsizing its workforce, this being an administrative issue, is an internal matter of the bank and as per extant regulations, Govt. intervention is not required.

RBI issued directions to the bank to get a flat vacated under Section 35A of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and also to be transparent in acquisition of premises.

RBI has not prescribed any benchmark CD ratio for the banks. In a deregulated design, RBI ensures banks comply with the prudential norms and prescription.

#### Additional Foodgrains under National Food for Work Programme

2984. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the additional quantum of foodgrains sought by the State Government under the National Food for Work Programme, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken so far by the Union Government for the supply of foodgrains and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The NFFWP is allocation based programme. Entire resources made available during a year is allocated among the States based on a set criteria and as such no resources under the NFFWP are left with the Ministry of Rural Development to provide additional resources including the foodgrains. However, based on the savings due to non-claiming of second Instalment and deductions thereof if any, at the fag end of the year, additional instalment is released to the better performing Districts.

#### Electricity Connection to Tribal People

2985. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that even today houses for tribal families in tribal dominated areas are deprived of electricity connections;

(b) whether the Government has formulated a scheme to provide electricity connection to those tribal families who are deprived of power;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the houses of cent percent tribal families will be provided with electricity?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In order to improve the quality of life of rural families Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Harijan & Advasi families, Government of India launched Kutir Jyoti Programme in 1988-89 for extending single point light connections to households of such rural poor, which also included BPL tribal families. Under this programme one time

cost of internal wiring and service connection charges were also provided by way of 100% grant to the States.

In February, 2004, Government of India launched a scheme "Accelerated Electrification of one lakh villages and one crore households." Under this scheme 100% grant was provided for electrification of BPL households in the electrified villages as per the existing guidelines of Kutir Jyoti scheme.

Subsequently for the attainment of National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) goal of providing access to electricity to all households in five years, Government of India merged the existing scheme and launched a new comprehensive scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) Scheme for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification" in April, 2005. Under this scheme electrification of un-electrified BPL Households would be financed with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.

#### Weavers under Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana

2986. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to make any provision for benefit of weavers engaged outside cooperative sector to cover under Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) The Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY) was introduced in the year 2000-01 and will continue up to 31.3.2007. This scheme provides benefits for such facilities which would enable the weavers, both within the cooperative fold as well as those outside, to take up production as per the demands of the market. The benefits given to the weavers under the scheme is towards working capital, basic inputs, creating awareness to support quality fabric production through appropriate design intervention, publicity and marketing incentive. The quantum of assistance released under the scheme for the benefit of weavers in the country, including those outside the cooperative fold, during the last three years are as under:-

S.No.	Year	Amount Released (Rupees in lakh)			Total
		Basic Input	Marketing Incentive	Strengthening of handloom organisations	
1	2002-03	2356.32	5421.69	342.00	8120.01
2	2003-04	1824.92	3538.98	1000.00	6363.90
3	2004-05	1385.06	4787.74	1488.00	7660.80
	Total	5566.30	13748.41	2830.00	22144.71

**SIDBI**

2987. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the role played by the Small Industries Development Bank of India to promote small scale industries in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the year-wise number of small scale industrial units set up during the last three years with the loan provided by Small Industries Development Bank of India;

(c) whether Small Industries Development Bank of India has proposed to expand its area of activities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has assisted 414 units in Bilaspur, 55 units in Bastar and 32 units in Kabirdham under Rural Industries Programme. Under Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, subsidy of Rs. 47.86 lacs has been disbursed in Chhattisgarh. Subsidy of Rs. 17.80 lacs has been disbursed under Technology Upgradation Fund. SIDBI also operates Udyog Sadhna Programme in Chhattisgarh for dissemination of information. SIDBI has also held exhibitions, seminars and marketing related activities.

(b) The number of 'small scale' industrial units assisted by SIDBI during the last three years is as under:

2002-03	22
2003-04	11
2004-05	50

(c) to (e) SIDBI is making consistent efforts for creating noticeable impact to meet the credit and developmental needs of the SSI sector in the state of Chhattisgarh.

[English]

**Development of Bio-Diesel**

2988. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been initiated by the Government on the development of bio-diesel derived from Jatropha seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of alternate fuel estimated to be produced every year;

(d) the details of public sector oil companies keen to promote Jatropha cultivation through subsidies and loans; and

(e) the status of trials being carried out on the herbal-fuel invented by Nagpur based scientist couple two years back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development is coordinating the operationalization of the recommendations of the Planning Commission's Report on Bio-Fuel. In this connection, the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been submitted to the Planning Commission for approval. Since Jatropha is a new plant being introduced in the country for production of bio-diesel, the programme is proposed to be taken up initially as a Demonstration Project on 4 lakh hectares of wastelands including 2 lakh hectares degraded forest lands and 2 lakh hectares non-forest wastelands. If this Demonstration Project proves successful, Jatropha cultivation is proposed to be taken up on a commercial scale at a later date. Therefore, quantum of alternate fuel to be produced annually cannot be estimated at this stage. As of now, public sector oil companies are prepared to purchase any amount of bio-diesel from the market at a price equivalent to the ex-depot diesel price.

(e) This ministry is not in receipt of any report on the work done by the Nagpur based scientist couple on herbal fuel.

[Translation]

**Pending NCES Proposals of HP**

2989. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Non-Conventional Energy Sources proposals of Himachal Pradesh are pending with the Government of clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (d) Details of receipt of non-



conventional energy project proposals of Himachal Pradesh are given in the enclosed statement. Proposals would be considered on receipt of clarifications/revised proposals from the state, depending upon techno-economic feasibility, fulfilment of terms and conditions as per provisions of the respective schemes and availability of funds.

### **Statement**

#### *Details of receipt of various non-conventional energy project proposals of Himachal Pradesh*

S. No.	Proposals
<b>I.</b>	<b>Remote Village Electrification</b>
1.	400 kW small hydro power project at Billing in district Lahaul & Spiti
2.	800 kW small hydro power project at Sissu in district Lahaul & Spiti
3.	400 kW small hydro power project at Shansha in district Lahaul & Spiti
4.	900 kW small hydro power project at Sach village in Pangi Valley district Chamba
5.	200 kW small hydro power project at Kinnu Charang in district Kinnaur
<b>II.</b>	<b>Small Hydro Power</b>
6.	10 MW small hydro power project at Ghanvi-II in district Shimla
7.	2.25 MW small hydro power project at Bagrood Sidhata in district Kangra
8.	30 kW small hydro power project at Sarshan in district Shimla
<b>III.</b>	<b>Solar Thermal</b>
9.	Establishment of a Solar Energy Research Centre in district Shimla.
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Energy Parks</b>
10.	State level Energy Park proposal at Pandoh in district Mandi

MW = Megawatt, kW = Kilowatt

### **National Companies Law Tribunals**

2990. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH:

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to activate National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT);

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be activated; and

(c) the manner in which NCLT/NCLAT is likely to help in better administration of the Companies Act and other Allied Acts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) and (b) The constitution of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) as provided for under the Companies Act, 1956, is sub-judice on account of a Special Leave Petition (SLP) filed by the Central Government in the Supreme Court, following a ruling by the Madras High Court on a petition challenging some provisions of the Companies (Second Amendment) Act, 2002. Therefore, no time schedule for setting up of NCLT can be stated at present.

(c) The Companies (Second Amendment) Act, 2002 provides for a specialized forum in the form of NCLT/ NCLAT to adjudicate on company law matters including rehabilitation, liquidation and winding up of companies by transferring the jurisdiction of the Company Law Board, Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)/ Appellate Authority for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) and the High Courts respectively relating to the above matters, to the proposed tribunal. However, on account of the NCLT not having been constituted due to the reasons stated at (a) & (b) above, these provisions are yet to be notified.

[English]

### **FDI in Banks**

2991. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any moves by the Ministry to speed up the opening of the banking sector and allow foreign firms more than 49 percent investment limit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) A notification was issued by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce on 5th March, 2004 raising the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit in private Banks from 49% to 74%. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines on Ownership and Governance in

Private Sector Banks and a Road Map for presence of foreign banks in India on 28.02.2005 which are available on the RBI website [www.rbi.org.in](http://www.rbi.org.in).

#### **Building of Buoy Research Vessel**

2992. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has awarded the work order for the construction of Buoy tender-cum-Research Vessel to meet the maintenance requirement for increasing buoy network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the said vessel; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, an autonomous body of the Department has signed a contract with M/s Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, for construction of the said vessel. The keel laying of the vessel was done on 23rd December 2004 at Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. The underwater hull of the vessel has been erected and the ship's major machineries have been ordered.

(c) The estimated cost of the vessel is Rs. 22 crores.

(d) The vessel is expected to be completed by March 2006.

[Translation]

#### **Closure of PSUs and Private Companies**

2993. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public undertakings and private companies closed down by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction during last one year as on date;

(b) the number of workers, employees and officers engaged therein;

(c) the employment provided to those workers and employees by the Government;

(d) whether the Government propose to modify the structure of BIFR to reactivate it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) In all, 88 public undertakings and private 13 companies were closed down by Board for Industrial Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) during the year 2004. During the period from January, 2005 to May, 2005, the number of such units was 2.

(b) The number of workers involved in these units during 2004 was 72,753. The number of workers in the units closed during 2005 is 129.

(c) Government has introduced a scheme of Counseling, Retraining and Redeployment (CRR) in 2001, under which the separated employees are equipped through short duration training programme for undertaking income generating avocations at their own.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) SICA (Repeal) Act, 2003 has already been passed by both houses of Parliament.

[English]

#### **Tax on All Incomes**

2994. SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to tax all incomes from interest;

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

(c) the manner in which the Government will safeguard the interests of pensioners and senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Finance Act, 2005 has omitted section 80L of the Income-tax Act. Accordingly, deduction of Rs.15,000/- on income by way of interest on government securities and of Rs.12,000/- on income by way of interest on National

Savings Certificates, debentures of public sector companies, deposits with banking companies or financial corporations, etc., shall not be available from assessment year 2006-07.

(c) The exemption limit for individuals has been raised from Rs.50,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/- and in the case of senior citizens, it has been further increased to Rs. 1,85,000/-. Besides, section 80C inserted by Finance Act, 2005 provides for deduction up to Rs.1,00,000/- of the amount deposited in specified saving schemes.

#### **Ocean Earthquake**

2995. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Island in the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean are very sensitive to earthquake;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a State of the Art laboratory for this purpose; and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the seismic zoning map published by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) the country has been divided into four seismic zones. Zone V considered to be most vulnerable to earthquakes while Zone II is the least. The Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean falls in zone V.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. India Meteorological Department has already upgraded the existing seismological observatory at Port Blair with state-of-the-art broadband seismograph system. Following the great Sumatra earthquake of 26.12.2004, a network of five temporary field observatories have been established at Baratang, Havelok, Port Blair, Hut Bay and Campbell Bay. It is planned to set up permanent observatories at Digilpur, Campbell Bay, Car Nicobar, Havelok and Titaije. Out of these observatories, Port Blair, Digilpur and Campbell Bay would be a part of real time seismic monitoring network. The Real time seismic monitoring in India shall provide the necessary information on earthquakes capable of generating Tsunamis online to Tsunami Warning System being set up by Department of Ocean Development.

#### **Ocean Development Programme**

2996. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the new initiatives taken by the Government during the Tenth Five Year Plan for ocean development;

(b) the comprehensive Bathymetric survey of entire exclusive economic zone; and

(c) the details of the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The new initiatives taken by the Government include (i) Geophysical study of Laxmi Basin, (ii) Studies on gas hydrate exploration and technology development for its assessment, (iii) Swath bathymetric survey of Exclusive Economic Zone, (iv) acquisition of a new technology demonstration vessel and (v) Establishment of early warning system for mitigation of oceanogenic disasters: Tsunami and storm surges in Indian Ocean.

(b) and (c) (i) The programme on comprehensive Bathymetric survey of Exclusive Economic Zone envisages the swath bathymetric surveys using multibeam sonar which will be useful in the scientific investigations of our oceans and developing cutting edge oceanographic science and technologies for exploring and utilizing the ocean resources.

The details of other programmes taken up during the Tenth Five Year Plan are provided below:

(ii) Geophysical Study of Laxmi basin

The programme has been taken up by Department to establish conclusively the nature of basement in the Laxmi basin as well as in the area to its north and south, detailed geophysical surveys along the entire West Coast margin upwards of the northern extremity of the Chagos - Laccadive ridge would be necessary. This involves acquisition, processing interpretation and analysis of geophysical data, followed by preparation of documents, charts and maps.

(iii) Studies on gas hydrate exploration and technology development for its assessment

Gas hydrates are ice like crystalline accumulations formed mainly from methane and water, found in specific temperature - pressure regimes of the seabed and emerging as a potential cleaner fuel resource. The programme focuses on scientific research with special emphasis on resource extent evaluation and environmental impacts and development of technology for detection and qualification of gas hydrates off India's coast.

## (iv) Acquisition of new Research Vessel

With a view to develop sustainable technology for the exploitation of various non-living resources, suitable multipurpose vessel is proposed to be acquired to cater to shallow water survey, data buoy maintenance, technology services and demonstration for the various coastal and deep ocean activities planned by the Department. The vessel will also augment the capacity needs of the marine living and non-living resources programme of the Department.

## (v) Establishment of early warning system for mitigation of oceanogenic disasters: Tsunami and storm surges in Indian Ocean.

The Government is in process of setting up a Tsunami and Storm Surge Early Warning System with the following components:

- Strengthening of the existing seismological network to indicate in near real time occurrence of tsunamigenic earthquakes.
- Installation of ocean bottom pressure sensors at appropriate locales in the Indian Ocean, with real time connectivity.
- Tide gauge and data buoys networking.
- Modeling of the inundation scenarios for the entire coast.
- Establishment of a centre for collection of information, analysis and generating status advisories.

**Disaster Awareness**

2997. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ 1010 on 19.03.2005 and state:

(a) whether details regarding observance of the year 2005 as "Disaster Awareness Year" have since been worked out;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the details are likely to be worked out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) To spread Disaster/Tsunami Awareness, the Department of Ocean Development have been funding institutions for organizing seminars/symposiums/ workshops/ ocean awareness programmes etc. In 2005, so far Department of Ocean Development had provided funds for the following programmes:

S. No.	Name of Institutes/ Organizations	Title of the events
1	Geological Society of India, Bangalore	International Workshop on recent Tsunami
2	Madras Development Society, Chennai	International Conference on Tsunami Disaster Management & Coastal Development.
3	Indian Geophysical Union, NGRI, Hyderabad	42nd Annual Convention & Meeting on Earth System Process relate to Earthquake, Tsunami & Volcanic Eruption

*[Translation]*

**Grants to Voluntary Organisations under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission**

2998. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether grants are being given to the voluntary organisations under 'Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission; and

(b) if so, the funds provided thereunder during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise and Organization-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission do not give grants to the Voluntary organizations for providing drinking water or sanitation facilities in the rural areas. However for research and development and for conducting training in these sectors, grants are provided to the voluntary organizations.

(b) Details of funds provided to the voluntary organisations during the last three years and current year is furnished as under:

S. No.	Name of the organisation	Amount released (Rs. in Lakh)			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (as on 9.8.05)
1	Environmental Sanitation Institute Ahmedabad, Gujarat	0.00	12.50*	0.00	0.00
2	Ramakrishna Mission Lok Shiksha Parishad, Narendapur, West Bengal	0.00	0.00	19.80*	0.00
3	The Social Work & Research Centre (SWRC), Ajmer, Rajasthan	0.00	04.40**	0.00	0.00
Total		0.00	16.90	19.80	0.00

\* For Conducting training

\*\* For Research and Development

[English]

#### **Credit to Informal Sector**

2999. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a major problem in all developing countries is that the formal banking system is ill-equipped to meet the credit needs of the informal sector; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to provide credit to informal sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) While no specific information is available about the formal banking system in developing countries being ill-equipped to meet the credit needs of the informal sector, in India there are various Central Government Sponsored Schemes (CGSSs), being implemented through the banks, which provide access to credit to the informal sector. These schemes have a subsidy component from the Government and a loan component from the banks. These include the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for the rural poor, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) for the urban poor, Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS) for those who are engaged in scavenging and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for the educated unemployed youth. Banks also extend finance to the poorest of the poor under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme (DRI), which involves interest subsidy. Banks are also implementing the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme for the farmers. Apart from this, banks also lend under various

microfinance models to the Self Help Groups (SHGs). As on 31st March 2005, 16.18 lakhs SHGs have been linked to banks and the total credit flow to these SHGs was Rs.6898 crores.

[Translation]

#### **Allocation of Power to MP**

3000. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether share of Madhya Pradesh has been slashed in the unallocated power from Central pool;

(b) if so, the extent thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to allocate the unallocated power to the State keeping in view shortage of power in the State;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) The unallocated power (15%) in Central Generating Stations (CGSs) in a region is kept at the disposal of the Central Government and the same is generally allocated within the region keeping in view the relative power supply position as well as emergent/seasonal requirements of the constituent States/Union Territories. At present, an allocation

of 162 MW (19%) has been made in favour of Madhya Pradesh from unallocated quota of CGSs in the Western Region and an additional 200 MW from the unallocated/surrendered share in NTPC stations in Eastern Region. The total allocation to Madhya Pradesh from the unallocated power of Western Region and NTPC stations in the Eastern Region being maximum and significant power shortages being experienced by other States of the Region, additional allocation to Madhya Pradesh is not contemplated at present.

[English]

#### Production of Zinc

3001. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the various public sector companies dealing with zinc production at present;

(b) the target set by each company to produce zinc in the coming years; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to increase the production of zinc in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) There is no public sector company dealing with zinc production.

(b) The targets set by Hindustan Zinc Limited and Binani Industries Limited in the private sector for the year 2005-06 to produce zinc are as under:

Hindustan Zinc Limited 351,540 tonnes per annum

Binani Industries Limited 30,000 tonnes per annum

(c) The Board of Hindustan Zinc Limited has recently approved to set up a second zinc smelter plant of 1,70,000 tonnes per annum capacity at Chanderiya, District Chittorgarh in Rajasthan.

#### FDI

3002. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign direct investment in India for the last three years, year-wise, particularly in comparison to China; and

(b) details of State-wise Foreign Direct Investment in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The details of FDI inflow in respect of China and India during each of the last three years are given below:

(US \$ in billion)\*

Country	2002	2003	2004
China	53	54	62
India	3	4	6

(Source UNCTAD)/ \*Preliminary estimates.

(b) State-wise FDI inflows as reported to Reserve Bank of India during each of the last three years is given in the table below.

#### Statement on Financial Year wise Break-up for FDI Inflow

(Amount in Rs. crores)

Sl.No.	State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
		Apr-Mar	Apr-Mar	Apr-Mar
1.	Andhra Pradesh	242.65	353.49	747.85
2.	Assam	2.59	19.48	13.39
3.	Bihar	0.00	1.13	0.00
4.	Gujarat	550.71	917.12	610.53
5.	Karnataka	975.24	926.53	1131.34
6.	Kerala	67.45	44.53	33.77
7.	Madhya Pradesh	5.83	34.85	69.25
8.	Maharashtra	2366.40	1355.30	3183.13
9.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Rajasthan	1.22	1.89	4.58
11.	Tamil Nadu	990.17	603.80	358.47
12.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.03
13.	West Bengal	177.96	84.50	467.37
14.	Chandigarh	843.89	76.71	13.49
15.	Delhi	3062.22	2123.46	3717.53
16.	Goa	139.09	160.59	100.66
17.	Other States not indicated	3445.25	3360.72	4201.34
Grand Total		12870.67	10064.10	14652.73

Source: RBI.

**Gas Based Power Projects**

3003. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gas based power projects are on the verge of closure due to shortage of gas;

(b) if so, the names of such plants which are likely to be shut down;

(c) whether the Government has rescheduled the commissioning of two gas based power projects in Andhra Pradesh due to shortage of gas;

(d) if so, the expected date of their functioning; and

(e) the alternative arrangement being made by the Government to meet the gas crisis?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The construction of Gas Based Power Plants in Andhra Pradesh are progressing as per schedule. The expected dates of commissioning of Gas based power plants in Andhra Pradesh are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Plant (Implementation Agency)	Capacity (MW)	Anticipated Dates of Synchronization	
			Open Cycle	Closed Cycle
1.	Jegurupadu CCGP (GVK Industries Ltd.)	220	Aug., 2005	Nov., 2005
2.	Vemagiri CPP (Vemagiri Power Gen. Ltd.)	370	Oct., 2005	Nov., 2005
3.	Konaseema CCGP (Konaseema EPS Oakwell Power Ltd.)	445	Dec., 2005	Aug., 2006
4.	Gautami CCGP (Gautami Power Ltd.)	464	Feb., 2006	July, 2006

(e) In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of natural gas, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas envisages the following initiatives:

- (i) Augmenting production of natural gas from the existing gas fields/wells.
- (ii) Increasing domestic sources by awarding gas blocks for exploration and production (E&P) activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).
- (iii) Encouraging import of gas in the form of liquefied natural gas (LNG).

**Andhra Pradesh Livelihood Project**

3004. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the present status of Andhra Pradesh Livelihood Project" sanctioned in 1999?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): The Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (APRLP) funded by the Department for International Development (DFID), U.K. is being implemented in 5 districts of Andhra Pradesh viz. Ananthapur, Kurnool, Mahaboobnagar, Nalgonda and Prakasam. The objective of the project is to comprehensively implement pro-poor watershed based sustainable rural livelihoods in the aforesaid 5 districts. The project was sanctioned in June, 1999 for a period of 7 years and the total project cost is Rs.320.00 crores. Under this project, 500 new watershed projects, 100 in each district, are being implemented with livelihoods support. The project is also supporting the enhancement of livelihoods of the identified poor in 2000 ongoing watersheds in the State. Since inception of the project viz. 2000-01, funds to the tune of Rs.195.54 crores have been released for implementation of the project and Rs.140.91 crores has been utilized. The district-wise progress of implementation of the project is as under:

Sl. No.	Activity	Project districts					
		Ananthapur	Kurnool	Mahaboobnagar	Nalgonda	Prakasam	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Implementation of New Watersheds with Livelihood support (No. of watersheds)	100	100	100	100	100	500
2.	Implementation of Livelihood enhancement activities in the ongoing watersheds (No. of watersheds)	400	400	400	400	400	2000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Identification of left over poor families.	16842	25098	18600	17345	38693	116578
4.	New Self Help Groups (SHGs) formed with leftover poor families	6289	4730	1614	1688	3159	17480
5.	Number of Village Organisations (VOs) formed	474	265	469	433	478	2119
6.	Number of User Groups (VGs) formed	1676	1194	876	1570	551	5867
7.	Basic training conducted for Women self Help Groups and others (No. of trainings)	5008	2078	4643	2082	2059	15870
8.	No. of villages where Livelihood Action plans are grounded	462	265	391	413	482	2013
9.	Productivity enhancement						
(a)	No. of villages under seed production	104	17	101	135	115	472
(b)	No. of villages under Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	60	43	58	25	100	286
(c)	No. of para workers trained (Agriculture and Animal Husbandry)	489	347	310	387	365	1898
(d)	No. of vermicompost units established	390	141	236	88	126	981

**Foreign Companies****Statement**

3005. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies registered after 2004, Country-wise;

(b) whether the Government noticed any unregistered foreign company functioning in India; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by the Government and SEBI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA) : (a) Country-wise list of the number of foreign companies registered in India from January, 2005 to July, 2005 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The Government has not noticed so far any unregistered foreign company functioning in India.

(c) Does not arise.

**Foreign Companies**

S.No.	Name of the Country	No. of Foreign Companies
1	2	3
1.	Singapore	22
2.	USA	19
3.	Japan	13
4.	UK	11
5.	Hong Kong	10
6.	Korea	07
7.	Germany	05
8.	Italy	05



1	2	3
9.	France	04
10.	Malaysia	04
11.	Russia	04
12.	Australia	03
13.	China	03
14.	Canada	02
15.	Cayman Island	02
16.	Israel	02
17.	Netherlands	02
18.	Sweden	02
19.	Switzerland	02
20.	Taiwan	02
21.	Thailand	02
22.	Belgium	01
23.	British Virgin Island	01
24.	Finland	01
25.	Iran	01
26.	Luxembourg	01
27.	Norway	01
28.	Poland	01
29.	Portugal	01
30.	Spain	01
Total		135

#### Extraction of Gold

3006. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) details of gold extracted by various Public Sector Companies during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Hutti Gold Mines in Karnataka has gone into rough weathers due to the uncertainty caused by foreign companies converting this Gold Zone into hot competition Zone;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from foreign companies for granting of mining rights to operate in this area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Details of gold extracted by various Public Sector Companies during the last three years is given below:

State	Name of the Company	Year	Production in Kilograms
Karnataka	Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited	2002-2003	2709.00
		2003-2004	3107.77
		2004-2005	3499.21
Jharkhand	Hindustan Copper Limited	2002-2003	354.00
		2003-2004	195.00
		2004-2005	

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Mineral (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, only an Indian national or a company registered in India can be granted a reconnaissance permit or prospecting licence or mining lease for exploration or mining of minerals. As such, under the existing scheme of the mining legislation, a foreign company is not allowed to undertake reconnaissance/prospecting/mining operations till they get themselves registered in India and obtain a local corporate identity. On the recommendations of the State Governments, approval have been given by the Central Government under Section 5(1) of the MMD&R Act, 1957 for grant of 28 reconnaissance permits in the State of Karnataka in favour of Indian Companies many of which are the subsidiaries formed by foreign companies.

#### Pay Scale of RRBs

3007. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government in its orders asked Regional Rural Banks to revise the pay, allowance and other benefits to employees, as per direction of Supreme Court of India;

- (b) If so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) the number of RRBs sponsored by State Bank of India and State Bank of Saurashtra;
- (d) whether the order of the Government has been strictly followed by SBI for RRB staff in each item of revision of salary structure; and
- (e) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the Directions of the Supreme Court of India, Government of India advised Chairman of all RRBs to revise the pay scales of staff/officers of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) by granting the benefit of 6th and 7th Bipartite settlements w.e.f. 1st November 1992 and 1st November 1997, respectively.

(c) The number of RRBs sponsored by State Bank of India and State Bank of Saurashtra are 30 and 3, respectively.

(d) and (e) State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that salary revision in RRBs sponsored by SBI was carried out with effect from 1st April 2000 as per Government of India order in the year 2001 on 6th 7th Bipartite Settlements in the banking industry.

#### **Shortage of Currency Notes**

3008. DR. K. DHANARAJU:

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is huge shortage of currency notes of small denominations and fresh currency notes in the market as well as in banks;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps the Government proposes to take to ensure that fresh notes are available in the banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), no such complaint has been received.

(c) Distribution and retrieval of bank notes are managed by RBI with the help of a network of about 4500 currency chest bank branches. All the other bank branches are linked to these currency chests as part of the supply chain. As per extant directives and guidelines of RBI,

currency chest branches are required to verify, process and sort the bank notes received by them both directly and from other branches and ensure that bank notes unfit for further circulation are returned to RBI and good quality bank notes are reissued.

#### **Foreign Assistance for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**

3009. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has sought financial assistance/loans from World Bank or any other foreign financial institutions for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;
- (b) If so, the amount received therefrom, institution-wise;
- (c) the actual requirement of funds for the project;
- (d) whether due to inadequate funds, the project has been lagging behind the schedule and the cost is escalating;
- (e) if so, the efforts being taken by the Government for timely completion of the project; and
- (f) the extent to which goal has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of US \$ 400 million and World Bank has agreed to a loan/credit of US \$ 399.5 million to support the programme of total rural connectivity under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

(c) The total fund requirement for Rural Road component of 'Bharat Nirman' upto 2009-10 has been estimated to be Rs. 48000 crore.

(d) and (e) Rural Roads component of 'Bharat Nirman' programme launched during the current year has a goal of providing connectivity to all villages with a population of 1000 (500 in the case of hilly or tribal areas) with an all weather road by 2009. PMGSY, the ongoing programme to provide rural connectivity, is being funded through the 50% share of the cess levied on High Speed Diesel and the loan/credit approved by the World Bank (US \$ 399.5 million) and Asian Development Bank (US \$400 million). To meet the Bharat Nirman goals of providing connectivity to the villages,

Ministry of Rural Development is in continuous consultation with the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance to locate additional sources of Rs. 4000 crore annually to meet the gap.

(f) As per information received from the State Governments, 37935 habitations out of total eligible 172772 habitations have been covered under PMGSY so far.

#### **Financial Institutions**

3010. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has set up a department to track financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interest of small investors and vigil on FIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **NABARD Guidelines for Co-operative Societies**

3011. SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development have issued new guidelines for its new scheme which are implemented through Service Co-operative Societies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NABARD have decided for not giving such funds to any District Co-operative Banks in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Agreement for Science and Technology**

3012. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of agreements Government have signed with international organisations in the field of Science and Technology during the last three years;

(b) the details of institutional assistances received by the country in Indian currency during the last three years under these agreements along with the heads under which it has been received; and

(c) the details of progress made with the help of these institutional assistances in the field of Science and Technology during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

#### **I REP**

3013. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor the working of the Integrated Rural Energy Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Monitoring of the IREP programme is done at the Central, State and District levels. The State Nodal Agencies/State Nodal Departments implementing the IREP programme are required to send physical and financial reports of the progress of the programme to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. These Reports include details of expenditure incurred, funds utilized, and item-wise physical and financial progress of various rural and renewable energy programmes, taken up under IREP. Periodic Review meetings are held by the Ministry to monitor progress of the programme in the States.

#### **Education Cess**

3014. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines for utilization and reimbursement of Education Cess by the State Governments have been laid down; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Education Cess has been levied to fulfil the commitment of the Government to provide and finance universalised quality basic education mainly through the schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal (MDM) and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya. Plan allocations are made for these schemes from Government's over-all budgetary resources, including receipts of Education Cess. Allocation for each scheme is a single figure, and does not show its break-up according to sources of revenue. Likewise, assistance to States under above schemes is also released out of over-all allocations for the schemes in accordance with their respective guidelines, and is not released separately against any Cess and non-Cess components. No separate guidelines have been laid down for utilization of Education Cess by State Governments or for allocation/re-imbursement of Cess money to them.

#### Budget Estimate-Customs

3015. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Budget Estimates and amount realized as customs duty in financial year 2003-2004;

(b) whether there is any shortfall;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for shortfall in realisation and steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The details of Budget Estimate (BE) and amount realized as customs duty in the financial year 2003-2004 are given below:

Budget Estimate	Revenue Realized
49350	48629

(b) and (c) Collection of Customs duty in the financial year 2003-2004 was less than the BE by Rs.721 crore.

(d) Difference between the BE and the revenue realized is due to number of reasons and number of steps such as monitoring of valuation, risk analysis based assessment are being taken on continuous basis to maximize the revenue collection.

#### SEBI Inquiry into Stock Market Crash

3016. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to SQ. No.128 on March 11, 2005 and state:

(a) whether the SEBI has completed the investigations against the entities involved in sensex crash on May 17, 2004; and

(b) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The investigations have been completed. Pursuant to the findings of the investigations, action has been initiated against the concerned persons/entities. Show Cause Notices have been issued to 12 entities for violation of SEBI (Stock Brokers and Sub-Brokers) Regulations, 1992, violation of SEBI (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices Relating to Securities Market) Regulations, 2003 and violation of other circulars issued by SEBI.

[Translation]

#### Construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Bihar

3017. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has increased the funds allocated under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana from Rs. 150 crore to Rs. 325 crore for construction of roads in Bihar.

(b) if so, whether the work of construction of these roads has been assigned to Central Agencies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether out of these agencies only NBCC has started the work and the rest have not taken any initiative;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the rest of agencies are likely to start their work; and

(f) the details of work assigned and funds allocated to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (f) The annual allocation under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for the State of Bihar has increased from Rs. 150 crore to Rs.332 crores for construction of roads in the year 2005-06.

'Rural Roads' being a State subject, the implementation of the programme is done by the State Government. Since the progress of works in Phase I & II was hampered by the constraints of executorial capacity, the Ministry of Rural Development agreed to the engagement of Central Agencies for execution of works of Phase-III (2003-04) onwards at the request of the State Government on 28th June, 2004. The Government of Bihar has now engaged five Executing Agencies. These are National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC), National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC), National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. (NPCC), IRCON

International Limited (IRCON) and Central Public Works Department (CPWD). With four of these agencies, tripartite agreement for Implementation of PMGSY has been signed on 31.08.2005. The CPWD has agreed to implement the programme through exchange of letters vide letter dated 29.10.2004. So far, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared by these agencies have been approved for 163 road works involving 1575.13 kms. length for a value of Rs.453.33 crore. The Executing Agencies have already invited tenders for approximately 1313 km. length for DPRs worth Rs. 380 crore and the details are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

##### *Progress of PMGSY in Bihar by NEAs*

	CPWD	IRCON	NBCC	NHPC	NPCC	Total
Amount allocated (Rs. in crore)*	143.54	203.48	266.25	186.25	164.49	964.01
Cost of works approved (Rs. in crore)*	12.55	137.53	152.73	109.63	40.89	453.33
Approved road length (in Kms)*	39.78	486.955	606.23	268.88	173.285	1575.13
Tenders invited for length (in Kms)+	31.93	420.07	542.03	227.20	92.68	1313.91
Tenders invited (Rs. in crore)+	9.01	116.51	134.39	99.55	20.84	380.30

\* As on 12.8.2005.

+ As on 30.6.2005.

[English]

#### **Circulation of Mutilated Currency Notes**

3018. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of mutilated and very old currency notes are being re-issued by the public sector banks;

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

(c) the action taken by the RBI against guilty officers; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid inconvenience to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have not come across any such complaints in the recent past.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) RBI has created public awareness to insist on issue of clean bank notes by the banks. Banks are also

authorised to accept and exchange soiled, mutilated, etc., banknotes. Reserve Bank has directed that the currency chest branches are equipped with appropriate machines to expedite the process of verification, processing and sorting of banknotes. While some banks have already installed such machines, banks with more than 100 currency chests have been given time upto November 30, 2005, to install the machines.

#### **Assistance to Farmers by NABARD**

3019. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assistance of NABARD to small and marginal farmers in rural areas has created the desired impact;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government has assessed performance of NABARD in regard to loan to farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether channelisation of the above-said assistance through public sector banks has created any hindrance to this assistance; and

(f) if so, the counter measures taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) does not disburse agriculture credit directly, it only refinances credit disbursed by lending agencies including Commercial Banks, Cooperative Banks & Regional Rural Banks.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details of refinance disbursed by NABARD under investment credit during the year 2004-05 is as under:

	(Rs. Crore)
Item	2004-05
Refinance to Farm Sector	5756.88
Refinance to Non-Farm Sector	2820.59
Total	8577.46

NABARD has also sanctioned total Short Term (Seasonal Agri. Operation) credit limits aggregating Rs.10218.97 crore to State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) during the year 2004-05.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### Excise Duty Exemption

3020. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposal for grant of excise duty exemption for industrial units and products manufactured in the Tsunami - affected districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has got any recommendations from States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c): Yes Sir. A proposal for excise duty exemption for units located in the Tsunami affected districts of Tamil Nadu was received from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

(d) The request was examined. It was decided not to extend exemption from excise duty for units in Tsunami affected areas.

[Translation]

#### Baba Saheb Bheem Rao Ambedkar Hastshilp Yojana

3021. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated under the Baba Saheb Bheem Rao Ambedkar Hastshilp Yojana during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the functioning of Non-Governmental Organizations working under this Yojana has been reviewed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the Non-Governmental Organization which have violated the guidelines laid down by the Government in this regard alongwith the action taken by the government against the said organizations?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The schemes for promotion & development of handicrafts including Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) are Centre Sector Schemes and state wise allocations are not made. However, the amount allocated under this scheme in the country during the last three years is as under:

S.No.	Year	Allocation (Rs in crores)
1.	2002-03	7.45
2.	2003-04	17.15
3.	2004-05	19.42

(b) and (c) A study was undertaken on assessment, evaluation and value chain analysis of clusters adopted under AHVY. In view of the findings of the study that Implementing Agencies including NGOs, especially the smaller ones, do not have enough exposure of current developments in the field of design, technology and management, Guiding and Monitoring Agencies were suggested to be involved with the projects taken up under AHVY scheme. Accordingly, the scheme has been suitably modified to engage Guiding and Monitoring Agencies to perform the roles like concurrent monitoring and supervision, guidance in terms of market intelligence, technology, design input and coordination with other development partners etc.

(d) No such instance of violation of guidelines has been reported to the Government so far.

### **Import of Teakwood**

3022. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Teakwood is being imported in many metropolitan cities of the country from Nijeria;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the imported Teakwood from Nijeria has not been released since March 28, 2005 in Nagpur due to the obstinacy and arbitrary behaviour of the officers of customs department;

(d) whether any complaint requesting an enquiry in this regard and an application for getting the Teakwood released has been made by the traders of Nagpur in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details of the action taken so far to release the teakwood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. 5520 cubic meters of teakwood was imported from Nijeria during the year 2004-05 and 7482 cubic meters was imported during 2005-06 (April to June) in the metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(c) No, Sir. There were few cases of mis-declaration of goods by certain importers at Inland Container Depot (ICD), Nagpur. These importers had mis-declared the description of goods to evade duty. Show cause notices were issued and these cases were adjudicated providing for release of goods on payment of redemption fine and penalty as per the Customs Act, 1962. Provisional release of the goods was also offered to importers during the pendency of investigation.

(d) Ministry have received references from Hon'ble MP Shri Paras Nath Yadav enclosing representations from The Nagpur Timber Merchants Association on the subject of delay in clearance of imported Nijerian roughly squared teak logs through ICD-Nagpur.

(e) The Ministry took up the matter immediately with the Chief Commissioner, Nagpur Zone and directed him to release the consignments of teak wood on provisional basis, pending further investigations in the matter. The customs authorities at Nagpur have already adjudicated some cases

and in others, have given an option to the importers to get provisional clearance of such goods pending investigation.

*[English]*

### **Construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**

3023. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether roads under Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana are given in different phases to the States as per finalisation by the concerned State;

(b) if so, the number of phases completed so far in this regard and the phase which is now operating, State-wise;

(c) the details of States which are yet to complete all the formalities for each year and lacking behind in availing funds under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; and

(d) the time by which each State of the country is likely to complete formalities and to get Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Phase-wise proposals for road works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) received from the States are approved by the Ministry, after scrutinizing them.

(b) Phase-V of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) corresponds to the current year. However, the incomplete works of previous Phases are also taken up for completion. The number of road works approved and the number of road works completed so far in the Phase, State-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The State-wise details of funds allocated, released and over-all shortfall in release under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) 'Rural Roads' is a State subject. Central assistance to States for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is provided only after the essential formalities are completed by the State concerned. The time by which each State would complete the requisite formalities depends on the State concerned.

## Statement-I

State-wise number of road works approved and number of road works completed from Phase-I to Phase-V under PMGSY  
(Excluding World Bank/Asian Development Bank supported projects)

Sl. No.	State	Phase-I			Phase-II			Phase-III			Phase-IV			Phase-V			Total (Phase-I to V)		
		Number Approved	Number Completed	Number Completed	Number Approved	Number Completed	Number Completed	Number Approved	Number Completed	Number Completed	Number Approved	Number Completed	Number Completed	Number Approved	Number Completed	Number Completed	Number Approved	Number Completed	Number Completed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1479	1479	1639	1531	615	124	607	0	0	0	0	3134				4340		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	202	202	137	123	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	325				403		
3.	Assam	212	212	294	286	107	8	195	0	0	0	0	506				808		
4.	Bihar	298	182	670	234	136	0	0	0	0	0	0	416				1104		
5.	Chhattisgarh	112	108	270	238	293	184	359	110	0	0	0	640				1034		
6.	Goa	70	70	14	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	72				90		
7.	Gujarat	165	165	573	555	303	197	128	0	0	0	0	917				1169		
8.	Haryana	21	21	32	31	14	7	18	2	0	0	0	61				85		
9.	Himachal Pradesh	127	127	246	219	370	4	105	0	105	0	0	350				953		
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	37	24	74	7	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	31				178		
11.	Jharkhand	168	154	202	162	131	12	0	0	0	0	0	328				501		
12.	Karnataka	412	406	938	873	359	67	0	0	0	0	0	1346				1709		
13.	Kerala	33	29	184	140	53	0	96	0	0	0	0	169				366		
14.	Madhya Pradesh	387	375	801	745	555	397	743	182	579	0	0	1699				3065		
15.	Maharashtra	810	800	804	615	304	8	240	6	0	0	0	1429				2158		
16.	Manipur	663	404	127	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	424				790		
17.	Meghalaya	208	208	109	77	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	285				347		
18.	Mizoram	19	19	26	26	21	16	14	0	0	0	0	61				80		



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19.	Nagaland	127	127	27	28	22	7	9	0	0	0	185	162
20.	Orissa	521	512	571	527	630	333	418	0	0	0	2140	1372
21.	Punjab	86	86	249	229	114	68	67	0	0	0	516	383
22.	Rajasthan	528	522	669	658	1508	1481	584	454	484	0	3773	3115
23.	Sikkim	30	30	30	21	21	0	34	0	0	0	115	51
24.	Tamil Nadu	865	862	450	435	498	253	417	0	0	0	2230	1550
25.	Tripura	193	193	54	12	7	0	0	0	0	0	254	205
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5133	5047	1529	1331	1937	1022	2301	0	0	0	10900	7400
27.	Uttaranchal	69	67	92	53	52	0	0	0	0	0	213	120
28.	West Bengal	174	170	213	195	367	130	152	0	0	0	906	495
Total (States)		13149	12601	11024	9373	8514	4318	6557	754	1168	0	40412	27046

## Statement-II

State-wise and Phase-wise details of funds allocated, released and shortfall under PMGSY

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Phase-I		Phase-II		Phase-III		Phase-IV		Total (Phase-I to IV)		Shortfall
		Amount Allocated	Amount released	Amount Allocated	Amount released	Amount Allocated	Amount released	Amount Allocated	Amount released	Amount Allocated	Amount released	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	190.00	198.38	380.00	459.53	90.00	170.00	90.00	0.00	750.00	827.91	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.00	40.95	70.00	86.51	35.00	0.00	35.00	0.00	175.00	127.46	47.54
3.	Assam	75.00	75.00	150.00	154.92	75.00	199.72	75.00	134.82	375.00	564.46	0.00
4.	Bihar	150.00	149.90	300.00	210.00	150.00	33.70	150.00	0.00	750.00	393.60	356.40
5.	Chhattisgarh	87.00	92.41	174.00	203.22	87.00	376.06	87.00	184.07	435.00	855.76	0.00
6.	Goa	5.00	5.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	25.00	10.00	15.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7.	Gujarat	50.00	59.81	100.00	111.70	50.00	44.35	50.00	0.00	250.00	215.86	34.14	
8.	Haryana	20.00	25.18	40.00	62.74	20.00	48.04	20.00	0.00	100.00	135.96	0.00	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	60.00	60.00	120.00	128.66	60.00	127.00	60.00	0.00	300.00	315.66	0.00	
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00	20.00	40.00	35.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	100.00	75.00	25.00	
11.	Jharkhand	110.00	123.92	220.00	230.00	110.00	67.96	110.00	0.00	550.00	421.88	128.12	
12.	Karnataka	95.00	100.57	190.00	206.11	95.00	59.00	95.00	0.00	475.00	365.68	109.32	
13.	Kerala	20.00	19.71	40.00	39.08	20.00	20.77	20.00	0.00	100.00	79.56	20.44	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	213.00	217.64	426.00	552.49	213.00	583.00	213.00	361.94	1065.00	1715.07	0.00	
15.	Maharashtra	130.00	130.21	260.00	249.08	130.00	75.00	130.00	0.00	650.00	454.29	195.71	
16.	Manipur	40.00	40.00	80.00	58.00	20.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	160.00	98.00	62.00	
17.	Meghalaya	35.00	34.95	70.00	80.72	35.00	0.00	35.00	0.00	175.00	115.67	59.33	
18.	Mizoram	20.00	19.93	40.00	49.38	20.00	48.80	20.00	46.40	100.00	164.51	0.00	
19.	Nagaland	20.00	19.75	40.00	47.76	20.00	21.44	20.00	18.00	100.00	106.95	0.00	
20.	Orissa	175.00	179.70	350.00	345.09	175.00	350.00	175.00	0.00	875.00	874.79	0.00	
21.	Punjab	25.00	24.66	50.00	75.39	25.00	27.35	25.00	0.00	125.00	127.40	0.00	
22.	Rajasthan	130.00	140.09	260.00	290.64	130.00	591.26	130.00	151.40	650.00	1173.39	0.00	
23.	Sikkim	20.00	13.16	40.00	37.81	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	100.00	70.97	29.03	
24.	Tamil Nadu	80.00	152.33	160.00	115.81	80.00	164.78	80.00		400.00	432.92	0.00	
25.	Tripura	25.00	24.75	50.00	51.85	25.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	125.00	76.60	48.40	
26.	Uttar Pradesh	315.00	321.11	630.00	588.65	315.00	661.56	315.00	0.00	1575.00	1571.32	0.00	
27.	Uttaranchal	60.00	60.63	120.00	140.41	60.00		60.00	0.00	300.00	201.04	98.96	
28.	West Bengal	135.00	135.00	270.00	309.17	135.00	405.00	135.00	0.00	675.00	849.17	0.00	
Total (States)		2340.00	2484.74	4680.00	4924.72	2220.00	4114.79	2220.00	896.63	11460.00	12420.88		

\* Total for both years 2001-02 &amp; 2002-03

**T & D Losses**

3024. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL:

DR. P. P. KOYA:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of transmission and distribution losses in National Grid and in Regional Grids;

(b) the quantum of electricity lost in T &amp; D during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the estimated loss in terms of rupees due to this transmission losses and proposed measures to minimize these losses; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to reduce the transmission and distribution losses?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) As reported by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the details of Transmission and Distribution losses of various States during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 are given in the enclosed statement. Estimated savings in terms of rupees to bring down the transmission and distribution losses to a level of 15% is about Rs.23000 crores. The steps taken by the Government to reduce the transmission and distribution losses include:

- (i) Metering of 11kV feeders and consumer metering;
- (ii) Energy accounting and auditing;
- (iii) Strengthening the provisions, relating to theft of power in Electricity Act, 2003;
- (iv) Upgradation and strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution system under APDRP;
- (v) Incentivising for reduction of cash losses by State power utilities under APDRP;
- (vi) Introduction of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS); and
- (vii) Introduction of IT applications.

**Statement**

*Percentage, Transformation, Transmission & Distribution Losses (including energy unaccounted for) in States/UTs*

Region/States/UTs	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4
<b>Northern Region:</b>			
Haryana	39.22	37.85	32.07

	1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	25.55	21.16	22.76	
Jammu & Kashmir	48.85	45.55	45.54	
Punjab	27.70	24.42	25.96	
Rajasthan	43.06	42.61	43.74	
Uttar Pradesh	37.62	34.16	35.17	
Uttaranchal	32.39	25.17	49.23	
Chandigarh	24.97	24.06	39.06	
Delhi	43.97	45.82	43.66	
BBMB	4.81	5.20	1.22	
<b>Western Region</b>				
Gujarat	26.87	28.52	24.20	
Madhya Pradesh	44.55	43.31	41.44	
Chhattisgarh	33.75	37.86	42.55	
Maharashtra	37.28	34.01	34.12	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	27.22	40.26	15.10	
Goa	25.18	40.26	45.05	
Daman & Diu	7.52	14.95	16.88	
<b>Southern Region</b>				
Andhra Pradesh	26.81	30.11	27.73	
Karnataka	33.83	24.57	23.29	
Kerala	32.21	27.45	21.63	
Tamil Nadu	16.06	17.31	17.16	
Lakshadweep	10.94	11.29	11.85	
Pondicherry	12.00	21.10	11.60	
<b>Eastern Region</b>				
Bihar	51.70	37.98	36.66	
Jharkhand	26.39	21.19	25.35	
Orissa	47.34	45.36	57.09	
Sikkim	31.73	54.85	54.99	
West Bengal	31.67	25.93	31.01	

1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	29.20	19.78	25.95
DVC	3.63	3.34	2.69
<b>Northern Eastern Region</b>			
Assam	42.78	38.30	39.31
Manipur	62.35	63.66	65.18
Meghalaya	22.66	21.92	16.73
Nagaland	52.32	56.71	55.00
Tripura	40.38	40.64	46.44
Arunachal Pradesh	53.58	38.95	47.54
Mizoram	49.77	46.91	55.54
All India	33.98	32.54	32.53

(Source: DMLF Division, Central Electricity Authority)

#### **Pension Reforms**

3025. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN:

SHRI T.K. HAMZA:

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI SUDHANGSHU SEAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the States that have adopted the New Pension Scheme (NPS);

(b) total amount accumulated in the fund under the National Pension Scheme (NPS) till date as a result of introduction of the system by the Central Government;

(c) the current liabilities of the Central and State Governments due to National Pension Scheme;

(d) the number of employees of the Central and State Governments who joined the National Pension Scheme;

(e) the estimated increase in expenditure of the Central Government or NPS;

(f) plans of the Government to finance the system;

(g) whether the National Pension Scheme will be made available to the unorganized sector; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) As per available information, the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and Assam have notified defined contribution pension schemes.

(b) to (e) Comprehensive data is not available with the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), however, as per available information, upto June 2005, Rs.75.82 crores has been reported as the accumulation by Central Civil Ministries including Defence (Civil), but excluding the Ministry of Railways and the Departments of Posts and Telecommunications. This includes Government's contribution but excludes the interest accrued thereon. Their liabilities on account of Government's contribution and interest on accumulation @ 8% per annum is approximately Rs. 5.79 crores per month.

The number of Central Government entrants to the NPS as reported by these Ministries upto February 2005 is 40,617 which is an underestimate, as it excludes Railways, Posts and Telecom.

Since the institutional architecture of the NPS is not yet established, States cannot be connected with the Central Record-keeping Agency of the Central Government and therefore, information regarding new entrants and total accumulations is not available with the Central Government.

(f) The matching contribution by Government in respect of new Government employees covered under the NPS will be met from budgetary provisions. It is envisaged that once the full architecture of the NPS is put in place, contributions and accumulations will be invested by pension funds as per investment guidelines framed by the Regulator and returns will be earned as per the choice of scheme by the subscriber.

(g) and (h) The NPS will also be available on a voluntary basis, to all persons including self-employed professionals and others in the unorganised sector, once the full architecture of the NPS is in place.

#### **Review of Electricity Act**

3026. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to review the Electricity Act, 2003;

(b) if so, the specific clauses to be reviewed and reconsidered;

(c) the Government's stand on the N.K. Singh Committee Report, in specific, allowing 14 per cent returns on net worth to power companies;

(d) whether the Government is considering to ensure that the State Governments properly utilize the subsidy provided to them by Union Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Ministry is considering to launch Consumer Awareness Programmes; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP). Inter-alia, states that review of the Electricity Act 2003 will be undertaken in view of the concern expressed by a number of states.

(c) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has laid down 14% return on equity in its regulations in the terms and conditions for tariff for generation and inter-state transmission for the period from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2009.

(d) and (e) Utilization of the assistance being given by the Central Government to the States is monitored as per guidelines of the respective schemes/programmes.

Regarding the subsidy in electricity tariff as determined by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission, section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides "If the State Government requires the grant of any subsidy to any consumer or class of consumers in the tariff determined by the State Commission under section 62, the State Government shall, notwithstanding any direction which may be given under section 108, pay, within in advance in the manner as may be specified, by the State Commission the amount to compensate the person affected by the grant of subsidy in the manner the State Commission may direct, as a condition for the licence or any other person concerned to implement the subsidy provided for by the State Government".

(f) and (g) The National Electricity Policy states that Central Government, State Governments and Electricity Regulatory Commissions should facilitate capacity building of consumer groups and their effective representation before the Regulatory Commissions which would enhance the efficacy of regulatory process.

#### **Enhancement of Funds under IWDP**

3027. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States particularly Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to enhance funds under Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP);

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

(c) the per hectare amount sanctioned under the IWDP at present and the share of the concerned State therein; and

(d) the details of proposed enhancement, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) There are no proposals from the State Governments including Maharashtra for enhancement of funds under Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP).

(b) Does not arise

(c) IWDP is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the cost norm of Rs.4000/- per ha. has been revised to Rs.6000 per hectare with effect from 1.4.2000. The increase of Rs.2000 is to be shared between the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 75:25. Thus the funding pattern of the scheme has been revised from 100% Central grant to sharing in the ratio 11:1 between the Central Government and the State Governments i.e. Rs 5,500 is borne by the Central Government and. Rs.500 is shared by the State Government.

(d) There is no proposal for enhancement of cost norms.

#### **Subsidy from Department of Sericulture**

3028. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the subsidy announced to farmers through the Sericulture department has not fully reached to the farmers; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA):** (a) and (b) Of the various steps taken by the Central Silk Board to ensure proper utilization of funds by the States so that there is minimum delay in dispersal of subsidies to the farmers under the Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) administered by the Central Silk Board, the major ones are as follows:-

- i) Repeated emphasis on timely release of the State's share is laid by the Ministry of Textiles and the Central Silk Board at meetings with the State Government functionaries and also through workshops;
- ii) Central Silk Board has taken action to undertake periodical/monthly visits by its field officers to the sericulture areas in all sericulture practicing States where CDP is being implemented, Feedback would enable Central Silk Board to take necessary steps to overcome constraints if any, besides ensuring full utilization of funds;
- iii) Programme Advisory Monitoring Groups have been constituted in each of the States to quickly process the proposals including clearing tender formalities for procurement of equipment and distribution of subsidies etc.
- iv) Action has been initiated to conduct evaluation of CDP by an external agency. The study would inter-alia assess the actual benefits accruing to the farmers and the extent to which objectives of the programme have been realized.

#### **National Disaster**

**3029. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:** Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Sub-Continent is seen to be most vulnerable to national disasters;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian sub-continent by virtue of its unique geographical configuration and associated climatic regime is most vulnerable to natural disasters like earthquakes, landslides, cyclones, floods, droughts and Tsunamis etc. According to the concept of plate tectonics, the Indian plate is moving in north-north-east

direction and colliding with Eurasian plate causing earthquakes and landslides in the Himalayan region. Bay of Bengal & Arabian sea witness development of cyclones which strike both the east & west coasts making the Indian sub-continent vulnerable to cyclones during monsoon season. The inter-annual and intra-seasonal variability of monsoon rainfall results in disasters like floods and droughts. Tsunamis are generally associated with large magnitude earthquakes in the Indian Ocean along the border of Indian plate boundary.

(c) Ministry of Home Affairs, the nodal agency for disaster management has initiated efforts to strengthen the preparedness for effective handling of the disaster situation arising from natural calamities in the country by taking up the training and equipping of specialists response teams of National Disaster Response Force. These specialist teams are being trained in "medical first response" and "collapsed structures search and rescue" and will be available to supplement efforts by the State Governments concerned in the event of a major disaster situation. The State Governments have also been advised to set up specialist response teams. GOI-UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme has also been taken up in 169 districts in 17 multi-hazard prone states.

#### **Smuggling of Liquor**

**3030. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:**

**SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:**

**SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:**

**SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of smuggling of liquor from abroad;
- (b) if so, the number of case booked for smuggling liquor from abroad during each of last three years till date;
- (c) whether the Government has analyzed the reasons for smuggling of liquor and the resultant loss of revenue through custom duty;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the possibility of smuggling of liquor from abroad. However, organized smuggling of

Liquor has not been noticed during the last three years. Only stray incidences of individual passenger's mis-declaration at airports and a few cases of illegal import/diversion of the Liquor have been noticed. The details of these cases are as follows:

Year	No. of Cases Booked	Value (Rs. In crores)	Customs duty involved (Rs. in crores)
2002-2003	82	0.0529	0.1316
2003-2004	72*	2.5449*	0.0793
2004-2005	123	0.1054	0.0900
2004-2005 (upto June 05)	19	0.0173	0.0207

\* In the year 2003-04, 02 cases involving illicit diversion of liquor imported duty free for consumption by Diplomats were booked by DRI, New Delhi. The value of the seizure was Rs.2.50 Crores.

(c) and (d) Considering the small nature of the cases made, detailed analysis of reasons for smuggling of Liquor has not been under taken.

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

#### **Development of Coastal Areas**

3031. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has received any proposal from Gujarat for the development of its 1600 k.m. coastal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. Department of Ocean Development has not received any proposal from Gujarat for the development of its 1600 k.m. coastline area.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Minting of Coins**

3032. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has minted one rupee coin in the memory of Sant Gananeshwar Maharaj in 1999;

(b) if so, the number of coins minted;

(c) whether there is heavy demand for this coin from his disciples;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to mint more coins to fulfil the demand;

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be minted; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No coin has been minted in the memory of Sant Gananeshwar Maharaj in 1999.

(c) to (f) Does not arise.

#### **Pending Proposals under SGSY**

3033. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals/projects received by the Union Government from various States under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) during the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has accorded sanction to the said proposals/projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with financial assistance provided/likely to be provided, State-wise and proposal/project-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Ministry receives a large number of proposals under Special Projects from various State Governments. Special Projects received in the Ministry are first scrutinized and if they are not found meeting the guidelines, are returned back to the concerned State Government. State-wise details of the pending projects and the sanctioned projects during the last three years and the current year are enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) Details of the financial assistance provided, State-wise and project-wise during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Pending proposals are under various stages of scrutiny and a large number of the projects have

been forwarded to various technical Departments for the comments. As soon as the comments are received and deficiencies in the proposals are cleared, the proposals are put up before two Inter-Ministerial Committees for approval and sanction.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise list of pending projects and sanctioned projects during the last three years and the current financial year under SGSY Special Projects*

S.No.	States	Number of Projects Pending		Sanctioned	
		During last 3 years	During Current Year (2005-06)	During last 3 years	During Current year (2005-06)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	3	12	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	1	0
3.	Assam	4	0	4	0
4.	Bihar	3	4	8	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	0	1	1
6.	Goa	0	0	1	0
7.	Gujarat	4	0	8	0
8.	Haryana	4	0	1	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	2	0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	4	0
11.	Jharkhand	3	0	2	0
12.	Karnataka	5	9	6	0
13.	Kerala	1	0	5	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24	0	9	1
15.	Maharashtra	0	2	7	0
16.	Manipur	6	2	2	0
17.	Meghalaya	2	0	1	0
18.	Mizoram	3	0	5	0
19.	Nagaland	4	1	2	0
20.	Orissa	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	1	0	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	4	0	11	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	1	1	4	0
24.	Tripura	0	0	4	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	5	0	3	0
26.	Uttaranchal	8	1	5	0
27.	West Bengal	1	0	4	0
28.	NYKS	0	0	0	0
Total		99	23	112	2



## Statement-II

## Special Projects sanctioned under the SGSY during the last three years and current financial year

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Implementing Agency	Period in which Project Sanctioned	Total Project Cost	Central Share	Total Central Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Special Project on Employment Generation in Rural Areas of Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh	AP	DRDA, Nellore	2002-2003 (01.07.2002)	1499.700	900.900	360.360
2	Special Project for Development of Tribal Jewellery Handicraft Cluster in Nalgonda District of AP	AP	DRDA, Nalgonda	2002-2003 (11.03.2003)	63.940	36.200	14.520
3.	Special Project for Income Generation of SHGs through Imparting Skills in Textile Processing and Garment Manufacturing in Visakhapatnam District of AP	AP	DRDA, Vishakhapatnam	2002-2003 (11.03.2003)	1216.320	545.040	218.020
4.	Development of Handicraft Cluster of Kalamkari Painting at Srikalahasti in Chittoor District of AP	AP	DRDA, Chittoor	2002-2003 (28.03.2003)	358.740	224.060	89.624
5.	Special Project under SGSY to Provide Assistance to SHG Women Federated into MATCs in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh	AP	Commissioner, Women Empowerment & Self Employment, Govt. of AP	2002-2003 (4.12.2002)	284.000	213.000	82.800
6.	Project for Development of Handicrafts Cluster Filigree at Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh	AP	DRDA, Karimnagar	2003-04	183.300	75.600	30.240
7.	Project on Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for Rural Poor SHG Women through Integrated Dairy Development in Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh	AP	DRDA, Warangal	2003-04	1500.000	656.250	262.500
8.	Project for Development of Etikoppaka Handicrafts Cluster in Vishakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh	AP	DRDA, Vishakhapatnam	2003-04	141.500	83.620	33.448
9.	Innovative Sheep Development Project for Upliftment of Weaker Section in Medak District	AP	DRDA, Medak	2003-04 (23.1.04)	542.800	210.410	84.164
10.	Special Project for Development of Coir in Srikakulam District, AP	AP	DRDA, Srikakulam	2004-05 (24.05.04)	676.950	291.710	116.680
11.	Special Project under SGSY for Development of Fishing Livelihoods in West Godavari District, AP	AP	DRDA, West Godavari	2004-05 (24.05.04)	248.390	145.575	58.230
12.	Special Project to Provide Assistance to SHG Women Federated into MATCs in Five Districts of AP (Second Phase)	AP	SEEDAP, Hyderabad	2004-05 (07.12.04)	457.000	190.875	76.350

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Special Project for Diversified Handloom Product for Economic Empowerment of Women in Kurung Kumey District of Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh	DRDA, Kurung Kumey	2004-05 (11.03.2005)	570.000	315.000	126.000
14.	Special Project for Diversified Handloom products for Economic Empowerment of Women in Golpara, Kamrup and Sonitpur District of Assam	Assam	State Institute of Rural Development, Assam	2002-03 (21.03.2003)	750.000	450.000	360.000
15.	Economic Upliftment of rural weavers in Districts of Nalbari, Barpeta and Darrang	Assam	DRDA, Nalbari	2002-2003 (28.03.2003)	535.000	251.250	100.500
16.	Special Project for Training and Marketing development (TTDM) facilities in Assam	Assam	State Institute of Rural Development, Assam	2002-2003 (15.07.2002)	1013.500	572.630	458.550
17.	Project for Farm Mechanisation for Improved Agricultural Practices in Assam (Second Phase)	Assam	SIRD, Assam	2003-04	1500.000	825.000	660.000
18.	Special Project for Development of Tassar and Sericulture in Banka and Jamui District, Bihar	Bihar	PRADAN	2002-2003 (10.3.03)	1440.583	622.874	249.000
19.	Special Project for Tea Processing and Packaging at Kishanganj district of Bihar	Bihar	DRDA, Kishanganj	2002-2003 (18.7.02)	1455.060	877.695	702.156
20.	Special Project for Establishing 10 MT Per Day Capacity Milk Powder Plant in Muzaffarpur, Bihar.	Bihar	DRDA, Muzaffarpur	2003-04 (11.2.04)	460.000	354.000	138.000
21.	Generation of Rural Employment and Sustainable Livelihood through Cattle Development in Bihar.	Bihar	BAIF	2003-04	1361.000	1361.000	544.400
22.	Special Project for Technology Upgradation, Capacity Expansion of Dairy Activities and Establishment of Milk Chilling Centre in Begusarai District, Bihar	Bihar	DRDA, Begusarai	2004-05 (11.03.2005)	875.800	338.100	135.240
23.	Special Project towards Sustainable Employment led Growth: Skill training of Rural Poor through NGO's by CAPART	Bihar	CAPART	2004-05 (11.03.2005)	1200.210	1200.210	480.080
24.	Special Project for Dairy Development in Vaishali, Bihar.	Bihar	DRDA, Vaishali	2004-05 (11.03.2005)	1361.000	637.500	255.000
25.	Special Project for Livelihoods of Rural Women 'Jeevika Sadhan' by SEWA Bharat in State of Bihar.	Bihar	SEWA, Bharat	2004-05 (8.12.04)	509.290	381.970	22.780
26.	Project for Integrated Resources Development in Dhamtari District, Chhattisgarh.	Chhattisgarh	DRDA, Dhamtari	2003-04 (1.09.03)	1350.000	896.250	717.000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
27.	Special Project namely, "Eco-friendly and Value Added Leaf Plates as Sustainable Livelihood Source for Rural and Tribal Poor in Durg and Rajnandgaon Districts of Chhattisgarh.	Chhattisgarh	DRDA, Durg	2004-05 (20.4.05)	746.700	522.690	209.080
28.	Establishment of Goa Bazar Marketing and Training Centre of Rural Products.	Goa	DRDA, North Goa	2003-04 (11.2.04)	982.340	736.755	294.700
29.	Special project for Design, Product Development and Marketing Programme for Ahimsa Himalayan Oka Tassar Silks (First Phase)	Gujarat		2002-2003	20.000	20.000	20.000
30.	Special Project for Improving Socio Economic Condition of BPL Families in Kheda District through Dairying and Animal Husbandry Practices.	Gujarat	DRDA, Kheda	2003-2004	3237.500	1125.000	450.000
31.	Project for Leather sector development in Gujarat	Gujarat	DRDAs	2003-04 (16.10.03)	457.270	342.950	137.180
32.	Project on Design intervention for skill upgradation and product Diversification in Handicrafts and Handloom Clusters in Gujarat.	Gujarat	GRIMCO	2003-04 (17.10.03)	540.000	405.000	162.000
33.	Special Project for Self Reliance through SHGs in Gujarat by Shroff Foundation.	Gujarat	DRDA, Vadodara	2003-04 (23.1.04)	322.890	242.170	96.870
34.	Special Project under SGSY for Design Intervention for Skill Upgradation and Product Diversification in Handloom and Handicraft Cluster, Gujarat.	Gujarat	DRDA, Gandhinagar	2004-05 (29.6.04)	540.000	405.000	162.000
35.	Special Project under SGSY for Development of Craft/Textile Clusters in Five States.	Gujarat	NIFT, New Delhi	2004-2005 (23.03.2005)	1500	1125	450
36.	Special Project under SGSY for Livelihood Advancement Business School (LABS) submitted by Dr. Reddy's Foundation (DRF).	Gujarat	Dr. Reddy's Foundation	2004-2005 (31.3.2005)	1400.000	1050.000	420.000
37.	Special Project on sustainable Agriculture Development by adopting Vermi-Culture in Jhajjar district of Haryana	Haryana	DRDA, Jhajjar	2002-2003 (15.1.2003)	963.300	511.000	204.750
38.	Special Project under SGSY for Cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Flowers and Orchids, Off Season Vegetable & Mushroom Cultivation and Improved Dairy Management in Chamba District of H.P.	HP	DRDA, Chamba	2002-2003 (18.11.02)	1488.730	1020.920	408.368

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
39.	Special Project for Intensive Dairy Development Project in Kangra District of Himachal Pradesh	HP	DRDA, Kangra	2002-2003 (28.11.02)	1301.250	863.550	345.420
40.	Special Project for Intensive Sheep Development in Anantnag District of J&K	J & K	DRDA, Anantnag	2002-2003 (10.03.2003)	1165.000	395.250	158.100
41.	Special Project on Production and Training Centres for Handicrafts in Baramulla district of J&K	J & K	DRDA, Baramulla	2002-2003 (15.07.2002)	340.000	255.000	102.000
42.	Special Project under SGSY for Promoting Handloom/Handicraft/Agriculture in Budgam District of J&K.	J & K	DRDA, Budgam	2003-04	278.750	82.500	33.000
43.	Special Innovative Project under SGSY on Poultry Development in Doda District of J&K.	J & K	DRDA, Doda	2003-04 (20.1.04)	243.500	100.125	40.050
44.	Special Project for Development of Tassar and Sericulture in Jharkhand	Jharkhand	PRADAN	2002-2003 (10.03.03)	1369.200	574.780	460.000
45.	Special Project on Blacksmithy and Handloom Weaving in Deoghar District	Jharkhand	DRDA, Deoghar	2002-2003 (04.03.03)	600.000	225.000	180.000
46.	Project for taking up income generating activities in farm and non farm sector by Kshetra Dharmasthala in Dakshini Kannada District	Karnataka	Shri Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project, Dakshini Kannada	2002-2003 (11.03.2003)	1456.500	701.587	280.620
47.	Special project for Artisan's village at Piliikula Nisarga Dhama, Moodashedde village, Mangalore	Karnataka	DRDA, Mangalore	2002-2003 (21.03.2003)	304.000	190.500	76.200
48.	Special Project for Infrastructure Development for Upliftment of Dairy Farmers Specially BPL Families, Kolar.	Karnataka	ZP, Kolar	2003-04 (17.12.03)	1188.730	739.090	295.640
49.	Special Project under SGSY for Use of Natural Fibre for Handicrafts in six states namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Assam & West Bengal	Karnataka	Council of Handicrafts Development Corporation (COHANDS), Delhi	2004-2005 (23.03.2005)	257.4	193.05	77.22
50.	Special Project under SGSY for Economic Empowerment of the Tribal Honey Hunters through skill upgradation in collection and extraction as well as awareness of processing and marketing of Wild Honey	Karnataka	TRIFED	2004-2005 (24.03.2005)	96.400	96.400	38.560
51.	Special Project under SGSY for Employment Generation for Rural Folk through Agri Enterprises in Mysore, Karnataka	Karnataka	DRDA, Zila Panchayat, Mysore in support with JSS Mahavidyapeeth, Mysore	2004-2005 (31.03.2005)	1485.046	651.568	97.590

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
52.	Special project for Sustainable Business Development of Innovative Coconut Based Micro-Enterprises for Holistic Growth and Poverty Alleviation (SUBICSHA)	Kerala	DRDA, Kozhikode	2002-2003 (10.3.03)	1401.000	605.000	484.000
53.	Special project for Micro-enterprises Development with Innovative Community and Marketing Linkage in Alappuza District of Kerala	Kerala	DRDA, Alappuza	2002-2003 (16.7.02)	840.000	630.000	252.000
54.	Project for micro-enterprises development of sanitation for employment generation in Mallapuram district of Kerala	Kerala	DRDA, Mallapuram	2003-04 (1.7.03)	281.320	118.750	47.500
55.	Production and Marketing of Value Added Fish Products in Kerala.	Kerala	DRDA, Thiruvananthapuram	2003-04 (20.02.04)	1127.150	380.610	152.240
56.	Special Project for promotion of Bok Yard Breeding of Chicks in Kerala.	Kerala	KSPDC, Kerala	2004-2005 (11.03.05)	1492.000	1014.000	405.600
57.	Special Project under SGSY Jan-uthan Programmes in rural areas in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra	Maharashtra	DRDA, Nandurbar (BAIF & MITTRA)	2002-2003 (10.03.2003)	1296.110	658.880	263.550
58.	Special Project under SGSY Jan-uthan Programmes in rural areas in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra	Maharashtra	DRDA, Jalgaon (BAIF & MITTRA)	2002-2003 (13.1.2003)	1400.000	675.000	270.000
59.	Establishment of Cattle Breeding Dairy Farm Lok - Udhur in Rural Areas in Buldhana, Maharashtra	Maharashtra	DRDA, Buldhana	2003-04	1445.000	715.650	143.130
60.	Establishment of Cattle Breeding Dairy Farm project at Nagpur, Maharashtra	Maharashtra	DRDA, Nagpur	2003-04	550.000	385.905	154.362
61.	Establishment of semen Freezing Lab & Strengthening of Veterinary Aid Centre (VAC), Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.	Maharashtra	DRDA, Ahmednagar	2004-05 (10.11.04)	890.180	396.130	158.450
62.	Special Project under SGSY Jan-uthan Programmes in rural areas in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra	Maharashtra	DRDA, Yavatmal	2004-05 (30.9.04)	200.000	100.004	40.000
63.	Empowerment of Rural Poor through SHGs by Promoting Kokum Plantation, Collection and Processing, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra.	Maharashtra	DRDA, Sindhudurg	2004-05 (7.6.04)	298.420	186.590	74.640
64.	Generation of Massive Employment Opportunity through Fish Farming, Imphal East, Manipur.	Manipur	DRDA, Imphal East.	2003-04 (11.02.04)	117.090	59.320	47.440

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
65.	Special Project on Diversified Handloom Products, Imphal West, Manipur.	Manipur	DRDA, Imphal West	2003-04 (26.03.04)	600.000	337.500	135.000
66.	Special Project for Sustainable Livelihood and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in East Khasi Hills District	Meghalaya	DRDA, East Khasi Hills	2003-04 (17.12.03)	116.160	87.120	34.850
67.	Special Project for Development of Mulberry Sericulture in Lai Autonomous district Council of Lawngtlai of Mizoram	Mizoram	Dy Commissioner, Lawngtlai	2002-2003 (14.1.2003)	512.560	268.160	107.264
68.	Special Project for Development of Mulberry Sericulture in Mara Autonomous district Council of Saiha of Mizoram	Mizoram	Dy Commissioner, Saiha	2002-2003 (14.01.2003)	512.560	268.160	107.264
69.	Special Project for Development of Mulberry Sericulture in Chakma Autonomous district Council of Lawngtlai of Mizoram	Mizoram	Dy Commissioner, Lawngtlai	2002-2003 (14.01.2003)	512.560	268.160	107.264
70.	Pilot project for Horticulture and Watershade Development of Sesawng Special project proposal under SGSY- Mizoram	Mizoram	Central Training Institute, Mizoram	2002-2003 (22.07.2002)	270.000	202.500	162.000
71.	Special Project for Integrated Piggery Development, Lunglei District Mizoram	Mizoram	DRDA, Lunglei	2004-2005 (28.03.2005)	718.720	426.540	170.616
72.	Project for Establishing Community Based Retailing Enterprises in MP and Jharkhand with support of Indian Grameen Services (IGS)	MP	Indian Grameen Service (Basix)	2002-2003 (10.03.03)	80.000	80.000	64.000
73.	Special project for Strategic Expansion of Carcass Utilisation for Rural Development (SECURE) in Raigarh district	MP	CLRI, Chennai	2002-2003 (11.03.03)	70.000	70.000	56.000
74.	Special Project for Lift Irrigation Scheme of Bagadh Dhavia, Rampur Nalkin, Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh.	MP	ZP, Sidhi	2002-2003 (18.7.02)	713.000	534.750	213.900
75.	Special project for Land Development for SC/ST beneficiaries in Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh	MP	ZP, Shivpuri	2002-03 (22.10.2002)	1401.440	840.855	336.342
76.	Special project for Bhagirathi Integrated Development in Mandla District of MP	MP	DRDA, Mandla	2002-2003 (25.3.03)	1453.110	921.720	737.369
77.	Sustainable Employment through Rejuvenation of Life Support System in Sidhi District	MP	ZP, Sidhi	2002-2003 (28.3.02)	1230.500	922.875	369.150

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
76.	Sustainable Employment through Forestry Activities on Degraded Revenue Forest Land in Shahdol, MP	MP	ZP, Shahdol	2003-04 (6.02.04)	250.000	112.500	45.000
79.	Sustainable Employment through Forestry Activities on Degraded Revenue Forest Land in Damoh, MP	MP	ZP, Damoh	2003-04 (6.02.04)	500.000	225.000	90.000
80.	Sustainable Employment through Forestry Activities on Degraded Revenue Forest Land in Chhatarpur, MP	MP	ZP, Chhatarpur	2003-04 (6.02.04)	600.000	270.000	108.000
81.	Special Project for Sustainable Employment through Hi-Tech Aonla Cultivation with Scientific Harvesting, Value Addition, and Marketing in MP	MP	ZP, Gwalior	2005-06 (10.5.05)	446.100	349.580	139.830
82.	Project on Self-Employment through Diversified Handloom Produces in Phek District of Nagaland.	Nagaland	DRDA, Phek	2003-04 (3.09.03)	690.000	405.000	126.000
83.	Special Project for Cultivation and Processing of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAP) in Nagaland	Nagaland	Department of Industries & Commerce, Kohima	2004-2005 (30.3.2005)	1208.000	483.000	193.200
84.	Special project for HIYARI HUNDEL for Poverty Alleviation in Durgapur District	Rajasthan	DRDA, Durgapur	2002-2003 (21.03.2003)	828.740	621.555	497.240
85.	Special Project under SGSY for Comprehensive Community Development project for the BPL families in selected villages of Banswara district of Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	Forest Division, Banswara	2002-2003 (24.10.2002)	241.000	180.750	144.600
86.	Common Facility Centers (CFCs) for production of Vermil compost in rural areas of Jaipur District	Rajasthan	Moraka Foundation, Jaipur	2002-2003 (31.03.2003)	251.000	141.190	75.296
87.	Infrastructure development of Milk Union and Dairy Plant under Cooperative sector in Bharatpur	Rajasthan	DRDA, Bharatpur	2002-2003 (31.03.2003)	1262.290	744.470	297.788
88.	Dheeno-Dhapo in Bikaner District	Rajasthan	DRDA, Bikaner	2002-2003 (31.03.2003)	1497.900	844.840	337.936
89.	Construction of Water Harvesting Structure in Jhalawar District of Rajasthan (Second Phase).	Rajasthan	DRDA, Jhalawar	2003-04 (10.2.04)	961.570	616.910	246.760
90.	Special Project for Mainstreaming Rural Products in Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	RUDA	2003-04 (15.12.03)	526.555	394.913	157.970
91.	Project for dairy development in Ajmer district of Rajasthan	Rajasthan	DRDA, Ajmer	2003-04 (16.10.03)	469.750	352.310	140.920

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
92.	Construction of Water Harvesting Structure in Sawai Madhopur District of Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	DRDA, Sawai Madhopur	2003-04 (16.2.04)	546.000	409.500	163.800
93.	Special Project for Development of Khadi & Village Industries District Dausa, Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	DRDA, Dausa	2004-05 (24.12.04)	315.220	114.420	45.768
94.	Special Project under SGSY for Embroidery Work in Banner District, Rajasthan.	Rajasthan	DRDA, Barmer	2004-05 (4.8.04)	215.000	161.250	64.500
95.	Special project for Promotion of Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities in Coimbatore District	TN	DRDA, Coimbatore	2002-2003 (11.03.2003)	190.000	97.500	78.000
96.	Project on Economic Upliftment of weavers in 13 districts of Tamilnadu	TN		2003-04 (1.09.03)	1447.920	1085.940	434.376
97	Special Project for Establishment Package of Benefits to Differently-Abled Persons with Focus on Mentally Retarded Persons, Thoothukudi District.	TN	DRDA, Thoothukudi	2003-04 (17.12.03)	411.060	216.945	86.780
98.	Project of vocation skill oriented package of benefits to physically Handicapped persons and mentally retarded in Ramanathapuram, Tamilnadu	TN	DRDA, Ramanathapuram	2003-04 (3.7.03)	210.000	99.340	39.376
99.	Special project for increasing living opportunity and socio-economic development using bamboo in Tripura	Tripura	TRIBAC, Tripura	2002-2003 (10.03.2003)	750.000	562.500	225.000
100.	Special Project on Irrigation under SGSY for West Tripura District of Tripura	Tripura	DRDA, West Tripura	2002-2003 (15.07.2002)	480.040	256.330	205.060
101.	Special Project for Income Generation through production of Animal Origin Food in Rural Areas of Tripura	Tripura	Animal resources Development	2002-2003 (21.03.2003)	906.470	577.875	231.150
102.	Project on Handloom, Dyeing and Printing at Bagafa Block, South Tripura district	Tripura	DRDA, South Tripura	2003-04 (4.09.03)	229.839	136.459	51.028
103.	Special Project under SGSY for Poverty Alleviation through adopting hybrid goats in Solon Block of Zarpad Rai Bareilly of Uttar Pradesh.	UP	DRDA, Raibareilly	2002-2003 (11.10.02)	755.000	167.800	67.120
104.	Generation of Rural Employment and Sustainable Livelihood through Cattle Development in UP.	UP	BAIF	2003-04 (20.02.04)	1361.000	1361.000	544.400



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
105.	Special Project for Modernisation of Infrastructure of Leather Tanning & Processing at Village Doongar, Meerut.	UP	DRDA, Meerut	2003-04 (5.12.03)	200.000	150.000	60.000
106.	Special project for Textile & Fashion Designing Training cum production centre for rural employment in Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	Dev Rishi Educational Society under control of DRDA	2002-2003 (10.3.03)	315.800	182.670	73.000
107.	Special Project on Cultivation and Marketing of Saffron in Almora district of Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	DRDA, Almora	2002-2003 (8.01.03)	137.800	59.100	23.640
108.	Project on Rural Employment Assurance through Entrepreneurship Development in Cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in Uttaranchal.	Uttaranchal	DRDA, Tehri	2003-04 (16.1.04)	1218.470	613.850	245.540
109.	Special Project under SGSY for Beekeeping and Honey Processing for Jaunpur Block District Tehri, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	DRDA, Tehri	2004-05 (22.12.04)	277.570	116.300	46.520
110.	Special Project for Lantana - An ultimate source of livelihood for Nainital and Almora District, Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal	DRDA, Almora with support of HESCO & UREDA	2004-2005 (23.03.2005)	119.240	72.040	28.820
111.	Special project on bamboo plantation and allied products in N. Bengal, Assam, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, HP and Gujarat	WB	Council of Handicrafts Development Corporation, Delhi	2002-2003 (25.03.2003)	80.000	80.000	80.000
112.	Special project for Federation of SHGs in West Bengal	WB	DRDA, Howrah	2002-2003 (28.03.2003)	1397.550	1048.163	419.265
113.	Project for Activity Based cluster in Bolpur block of Birbhum district of West Bengal	WB	DRDA, Birbhum	2003-04 (18.6.03)	94.38	70.785	28.32
114.	Special project for Revival and Revitalization of Folk Art and Culture as a Means of Sustainable Livelihood for Rural/Tribal Artisans in West Bengal and Orissa	WB	Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC)	2004-05 (11.3.2005)	944.9	708.68	283.47
Grand Total					85703.433	50467.248	22794.394

[Translation]

**Inadequate Funds for Works  
under SGRY**

3034. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints are being received that the funds allocated for construction of irrigation wells under the Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana are inadequate;

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

(c) whether the Government is considering to increase the fund allocation to the single beneficiary for irrigation wells under the said scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith funds allocated to single beneficiary for irrigation wells thereunder during the last three years and current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) No funds under SGRY are earmarked by the Centre for any work to be taken up under the programme. As per the Guidelines, Implementing Agencies under the programme can take up work as per Annual Action Plan prepared by them at the beginning of year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Bio-Tech Park**

3035. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to develop some cities in the country including Pune & Mumbai as Biotech Hub city;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken and progress made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Central Government has neither received any proposal nor is aware of any plan to develop Pune and Mumbai as Biotech hub cities.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Foreign Currency Loan for Export**

3036. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalized banks are denying foreign currency loans for export to small scale units and only give rupee loans at higher rate of interest;

(b) if so, whether there is a minimum ceiling in value terms for providing SSI sector imposed by banks for issue of these loans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government to provide sufficient foreign currency loans for export to SSI units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) RBI has reported that they have not received any specific complaint from SSI units regarding denial of foreign currency loan and sanction of only rupee loan at higher rate of interest.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Gold Card Scheme was notified on May 18, 2004 for easy availability of export credit. Further, RBI has permitted banks to borrow from abroad without any limit for the purpose of advancing export credit in foreign currency to exporters.

**Development of Coastal Area**

3037. SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total coastal area in the country particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of major/minor ports in the State; and

(c) the assistance provided by the Union Government to Tamil Nadu for the development of its vast ocean area during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Total coastline of the country is 8118 km. and the coastline in the State of Tamil Nadu is 1076 km.

(b) There are 3 major ports, 2 intermediate ports and 11 minor ports in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(c) The assistance provided by the Union Government through the Department of Ocean Development to Tamil Nadu during the last three years includes research activities on (i) "Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System", (ii) "Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management", (iii) "Development of potential drugs from the Ocean", (iv) Ocean Science and Technology Development" and (v) Societal activities for the betterment of the fishermen community.

The expenditure incurred on these activities on these activities is as follows:

2002-03	Rs. 1,72,86,926
2003-04	Rs. 3,19,25,451
2004-05	Rs. 4,18,15,383

**Use of Jute Geo-Textile in Construction of Roads under PMGSY**

3038. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:

SHRI E. G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the use of jute geo-textile in the construction of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the benefits thereof;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned any projects for use of jute geo-textile; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (d) Ministry of Rural Development has approved a pilot project for use of jute geo-textile in construction of 2 roads each in the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal, in association with the Jute Manufacturers Development Council (JMDC), under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. The details of the road works are given below:

Name of the State	Road length (in kms.)	Cost of project (Rs. in lakh)
Assam	8.80	357.91
Chhattisgarh	10.30	318.95
Madhya Pradesh	8.24	218.39
Orissa	9.50	404.58
West Bengal	11.00	490.22
Total	47.84	1790.05

The expected advantages of the use of jute geo-textile in road works include improved quality and performance of roads on soft sub-grade soils in high rainfall and water logged/flood prone zones, thereby reducing the maintenance cost. The total cost of the road works with jute geo-textile is relatively less compared to the conventional method of constructing the roads under most adverse conditions.

[Translation]

**Closure of Hindustan Copper Ltd.**

3039. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several units of Hindustan Copper Limited have been closed down in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the scheme formulated by the Government regarding the use of immovable assets of Hindustan Copper Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Hindustan Copper Limited is having its Indian Copper Complex (ICC) unit in the State of Jharkhand. The process plants of the unit, viz. Smelter and Refinery complex, Precious Metal Recovery Plant, Sulphuric Acid Plant are in operation. However, the unit has closed down its five underground mines since the operation of these mines had become unviable.

(c) Government of India has approved the company's proposal for transfer of Mosaboni and Rakha township of ICC, where the closed mines are located, to the State Government of Jharkhand against the adjustment of arrears of electricity and water taxes.

[English]

**Slow Progress of PMGSY**

3040. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been very slow progress under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana in Uttaranchal during the last three financial years, i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds sought and utilised by the Uttaranchal Government during the above period;

(d) the details of roads and amounts sanctioned during the last three financial years indicating the date of sanctioning the amount, District-wise;

(e) the progress of each of these roads as on June 1, 2005; and

(f) the details of roads and amount sanctioned for the financial year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

Year	Value of proposals (Rs. in crore)	Amount released (Rs. in crore)	Amount utilised (Rs. in crore) upto June, 2005	Number of road works approved	Number of road works completed
Phase-II (2001-03)	140.41	140.41	65.89	92	53
Phase-III (2003-04)	59.53	0	0	52	0

The amounts sanctioned, with dates, are given below:

Amount (Rs. in crore)	Date of sanction
60.00	13/3/2002
10.00	26/3/2002
70.41	5/3/2004

(f) Proposals, complete in all respects, for Phase IV and Phase V have not been received from the State Government.

#### **Awareness about Poverty Alleviation Programmes**

3041. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a major weakness in the implementation of poverty alleviations

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Uttaranchal has reported that lengthy and multistage process of transfer of forest land, limited working seasons, extreme weather conditions, non-availability of contractors with adequate capacity, excessive rains and landslides during monsoon causing damage to the roads, longer length of roads to be constructed for which only single working face for the machines is available, rocky mountainous stretches obstructing forward movement of machines and delay in the construction of connecting bridges are the main reasons for slow progress.

(c) to (e) Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, funds are released to the States Phase-wise. The Ministry of Rural Development does not maintain district-wise information on road works and expenditure. Details of the funds released to Uttaranchal during the last three years and the utilisation reported by the State are as under:

programmes has been the lack of adequate participation by people;

(b) if so, whether the Government is making any concerted efforts for increasing awareness among people and their participation in the poverty alleviation programmes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Adequate participation of the people has been realized to be a pre-requisite for effective implementation of various Rural Development programmes.

(b) and (c) Creating awareness has been one of the major activities of the Ministry to secure people's participation in the development process and to reach out to rural poor with information on Rural Development Programmes. A number of initiatives have been taken by this Ministry to promote participation of people in development process. The emphasis has been shifted towards participatory model and people oriented by involving them in the process through

Self-Help Groups and Panchayati Raj Institutions so as to enrich their knowledge, skills and technique. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities have been substantially scaled up through the use of various mode of communication viz Print Media, Electronic Media, and various modes of outdoor publicity to create awareness.

#### **Small Saving Schemes**

3042. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount collected through various Small Savings Schemes including PPF in post offices during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): A statement containing State-wise net collections in post offices under various small savings schemes during the last three years is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

*Net Small Savings Collections (Gross Deposits  
Minus withdrawals by Subscribers) in Post Offices*

(In crores of Rupees)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	2884.74	3363.82	3412.59
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16.70	23.81	32.12
3	Assam	839.77	737.80	778.29
4	Bihar	1733.92	1823.12	1867.02
5	Chhattisgarh	567.76	630.98	630.98
6	Goa	187.91	212.21	270.51
7	Gujarat	4910.22	6187.51	6191.61
8	Haryana	1415.70	1661.86	1665.80
9	Himachal Pradesh	400.63	586.20	601.30
10	Jammu & Kashmir	403.33	431.99	477.23
11	Jharkhand	1164.54	1285.90	1307.32
12	Karnataka	2186.44	2253.78	2286.97
13	Kerala	1116.17	1948.00	1963.88

1	2	3	4	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	1565.07	1937.10	1935.08
15	Maharashtra	5144.42	7255.68	7468.16
16	Manipur	22.52	18.01	21.38
17	Meghalaya	39.43	38.63	43.85
18	Mizoram	16.49	26.32	28.31
19	Nagaland	12.59	14.35	17.67
20	Orissa	753.30	1027.37	1033.03
21	Punjab	2589.84	2832.37	2895.09
22	Rajasthan	3313.04	3444.18	3554.83
23	Sikkim	9.14	22.82	35.95
24	Tamil Nadu	2646.41	3520.17	3664.14
25	Tripura	146.67	148.25	169.85
26	Uttar Pradesh	5247.57	5427.15	5424.76
27	Uttaranchal	280.26	808.35	808.73
28	West Bengal	7924.69	8439.52	8535.34
Total		47539.27	56107.25	57121.79

#### **UTs with legislature**

1	Delhi	2880.50	3675.01	3743.00
2	Pondicherry	86.17	168.38	168.38
Total		2966.67	3843.39	3911.38
Grand Total		50505.94	59950.64	61033.17

#### **Setting up of Power Projects in A & N Island**

3043. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up new Power plants and upgrade the existing power plants in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) If so, the details thereof along with the funds earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Central Electricity Authority has received detailed

project reports for revival/reconstruction of power infrastructure for Andaman and Nicobar Islands at an estimated cost of Rs.151.4 crores. Details of the generation projects are given below:

Name of the Island	Name of the Projects
Middle Andaman	Rangat Bay & Bartang (2x1.2 MW)
	Hanspuri (2x24 KW)
	Strait Island (2x1.5 KW)
North Andaman	Paschim Sagar (2x24 KW)
	Smith Island (2x24 KW)
	Jagannath Dera (2x15 KW)
Little Andaman	Hut Bay (1x1.2 MW)
	Dugong Greek (2x24 KW)
	South Bay (2x24 KW)
Car Nicobar	Car Nicobar (2x1.2 MW)
Katchal	Katchal (4x128 KW)
Teressa	Teressa (3x128 KW)
Chowra	Chowra (4x50 KW)

[Translation]

#### Seizure of Property of Smugglers

3044. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have seized the property of smugglers during each of the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Duty on Ethanol

3045. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Finance has opposed the decision to exempt duty on Ethanol as reported in the "Dainik Jagran" dated July 18th, 2005;

(b) If so, the reasons for not considering the exemption of duty on Ethanol by Ministry of Finance;

(c) the reaction of oil companies thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Taking into consideration the revenue implication, difficulties in implementation, demand and supply position of ethanol and the fact that such a concession may affect availability of ethanol for the chemical industry, it was decided not to exempt ethanol for blending with petrol.

(c) Representations of oil companies is not known to this Ministry, but some of the oil companies had earlier sought that the concessional excise duty on petrol for blending with ethanol may be continued.

(d) Representations for restoration of the concession were examined and it was decided not to accept the same.

#### Reduction in Rural Development Budget by States

3046. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that many State Governments and Union Territories have drastically reduced the budget earmarked for rural development;

(b) if so, the details of the States and Union Territories which have reduced the budget for rural development;

(c) the reason for reducing the budget; and

(d) the measures the Union Government proposes to take to ensure that rural development funds are not reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

(d) The State Governments are liable to match their share of funds released by the Ministry of Rural Development under Centrally Sponsored Schemes. In case there is a shortfall in matching share, amount have to be deducted from the central share. Funds to the Union Territories are released on 100 percent basis.

[Translation]

#### Closure of Jute Mills

3047. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is actively contemplating to close down some nationalized jute mills;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the main reasons for closing these jute mills;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any decision to rehabilitate the employees of the said mills elsewhere before closing the mills;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not the reasons therefore?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) The Government approved a proposal to reduce the manpower of the NJMC Ltd. by offering VRS to all the employees of the Organisation, including the employees of the Head Office and to extend budgetary support to the extent of Rs 978.00 crores for providing VRS, liquidating statutory arrears, gratuity and secured liabilities of NJMC Ltd.

#### Loan to Farmers by RRBs

3048. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of small farmers belonging to SC/ST/OBC categories provided loans by Regional Rural Banks particularly in scheduled tribe and backward areas of various States of the country for installation of tubewells during the last three years till date;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that loan to farmers is provided by RRBs without any difficulty; and

(c) the success achieved by the Government as a result of the measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The existing system does not generate such type of information. However, loans provided to SC/ST by Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) during the year 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 are as under:

	No of Accounts	Amount (Rs Lakhs)
2001-2002	456447	87116.08
2002-2003	613989	101629.85
2003-2004	459872	129933.76

(b) Various steps have been taken to ensure easy flow of credit to farmers. These, inter alia, include:-

- \* Banks have been advised to simplify procedures while providing loans to farmers at reasonable rates of interest and use their discretion in respect of margin money and security norms. Loans upto Rs 50000/- are free from collateral and margin requirements.
- \* Branch Managers have been delegated adequate powers to expeditiously sanction loans to farmers at their level itself.
- \* Instructions have been issued that the Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) may be issued within 15 days of receiving application.
- \* The progress in sanction of loans and pendency is also reviewed at the Block level and District level Bankers Committee meetings.

(c) There has been a constant growth of lending under agriculture sector during the last three years as indicated below:

#### Agriculture Loans:

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Loans issued under agriculture (Rs. Crore)	5879.05	7174.97	11718.17

The performance of RRBs with regard to Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and organising farmers clubs are as under:

	31st March 2004	4th February 2005
A) KCC by RRBs	1274289	1447585
B) Farmers clubs by RRBs	4897	6185

[English]

#### **APDRP**

3049. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts covered under the Accelerated Power Development & Reforms Programme (APDRP) in Bihar till March, 2005;

(b) the number of districts proposed to be covered under the programme during the year 2005-06 and the time by which all the districts in the State proposed to be covered under this programme;

(c) the total amount released under the APDRP to State till date; and

(d) the target fixed under the APDRP to achieve the goal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Out of the 38 districts in Bihar, 31 districts have been covered under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP).

(b) Bihar State Electricity Board has to prepare Detailed Projects Reports (DPRs) of the APDRP schemes for remaining districts and send the same to Ministry of Power through their Adviser-cum-Consultant. Based on the recommendations of AcC, the proposals are considered by the Steering Committee and decided on merits.

(c) The Government of India has sanctioned sub-transmission and distribution projects amounting to Rs.866.76 crores to the State of Bihar under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) so far, out of which the APDRP component is Rs.433.38 crores. The Government has released Rs.313.18 crores to the Bihar under the programme so far.

(d) APDRP has been launched with the objectives of reducing Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses,

improving quality of supply of power, increasing revenue collection and improving consumer satisfaction.

#### **Outsourcing of Banking Services**

3050. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India issued or proposes to issue guidelines on the growing outsourcing of banking services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that foreign banks in the country are appointing private parties (Direct Selling Agents) for selling retail products in violation of the guidelines of RBI;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Taking into account the guiding principles of Joint Forum of Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposes to issue guidelines on outsourcing of financial services.

(c) to (e) Indian Banks' Association has issued Model Code of Conduct for the Direct Selling Agents (DSAs) (applicable to tele-marketers and field sales personnel) for adoption and implementation by DSAs while operating as agents of banks and financial institutions. Certain provisions of these guidelines have also been included in the draft guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India on 28th June 2005 on credit card operations.

#### **PNB and Vijaya Bank in Insurance Sector**

3051. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has permitted the Vijaya Bank and Punjab National Bank to acquire stake in Insurance Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the normal time taken for giving such permission; and



(d) the reasons for delay in granting permission to these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has accorded 'in-principle' approval to Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Vijaya Bank to set up a company named "Principal PNB Life Insurance Ltd." with the following shareholding pattern:

Berger Paints India Limited	-	32%
Punjab National Bank	-	30%
Vijaya Bank	-	12%
Principal Financial Group	-	26%

RBI had also granted final approval to PNB and Vijaya Bank for setting up a Joint Venture Insurance Broking Company in the name of "PNB Principal Insurance Advisory Company Pvt. Ltd." (already in operation) with an authorized Share Capital of Rs. 5 crore.

(c) and (d) Permissions are normally granted by RBI within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of all the relevant document/clarification. There has been no delay in granting permission to banks to set up the above mentioned joint ventures.

[Translation]

#### Drinking Water Data

3052. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has found gross irregularities while analysing the data relating to supply of drinking water to rural habitations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the results achieved thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI

SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) In February 2003, all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations were requested to conduct fresh habitation survey to ascertain the status of drinking water supply in all rural habitations. The survey data received from State/UT Governments revealed certain discrepancies like incorrect categorization of habitations.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has entrusted the job of validation of the survey data to Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA). Government has entered into an MoU with IIPA in this regard on 6.12.2004 to complete the validation in 14 months. IIPA has initiated the data cleansing process in respect of 22 States till date.

#### Eleventh Finance Commission

3053. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned grants for construction of school buildings for primary education in different States from Eleventh Finance Commission's grant;

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

(c) the amount utilized out of the aforesaid grants by respective State Governments till date;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any request for release of the remaining amounts;

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

(f) the action taken thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC), for its award period 2000-05, recommended grant amounting to Rs. 506 crore to State for Elementary Education for construction of school buildings/class rooms and provision of toilet and drinking water.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating State-wise grants recommended by EFC, grants released during 2000-05 and utilization reported by State Governments is enclosed.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. Requests have been received from several State Governments. Claims received within the prescribed period have been considered and grant released. No further grant can be released for the purpose as EFC award period is over on 31.3.2005.

**Statement****Grants recommended by EFC for Elementary Education**

(Rupees in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Grants		
		Recommen- ded by EFC	Relea- sed during 2000- 2005	Reported utilisation as on date
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	5100.00	5100.00	5100.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	100.00	90.00	85.50
3	Assam	1000.00	900.00	597.20
4	Bihar	5651.00	4523.87	4464.20
5	Chhattisgarh	1469.00	885.49	590.83
6	Goa	100.00	20.11	0.00
7	Gujarat	900.00	900.00	900.00
8	Haryana	600.00	600.00	579.30
9	Himachal Pradesh	100.00	100.00	100.00
10	Jammu & Kashmir	300.00	120.66	0.00
11	Jharkhand	2749.00	276.41	0.00
12	Karnataka	1900.00	1425.00	764.18
13	Kerala	100.00	90.00	100.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	4131.00	4131.00	4131.00
15	Maharashtra	1300.00	672.86	523.00
16	Manipur	100.00	99.90	100.00
17	Meghalaya	100.00	90.00	100.00
18	Mizoram	100.00	90.00	100.00
19	Nagaland	100.00	70.33	60.83
20	Orissa	2200.00	2197.50	2197.50
21	Punjab	300.00	120.66	108.00
22	Rajasthan	2800.00	2660.00	2548.59
23	Sikkim	100.00	90.00	68.70

1	2	3	4	5
24	Tamil Nadu	1300.00	1169.92	1230.56
25	Tripura	100.00	100.00	100.00
26	Uttar Pradesh	11133.00	11133.00	11102.75
27	Uttaranchal	2067.00	2067.00	2067.00
28	West Bengal	4700.00	1890.34	1944.30

*[English]***Growth in Investment**

3054. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI, SEBI have done any comparison, study of growth in investment through Participatory Note route, FIs sub-account during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether in many cases real investors remain unidentified by-using various levels;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details about the study and observations of the RBI and SEBI; and

(f) measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Debt Profile**

3055. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the debt profile of the various State Governments during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the 12th Finance Commission considered the matter and suggested any corrective measures; and

(c) if so, details thereof and Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The outstanding debt and liabilities of state Governments during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Twelfth Finance Commission has recommended a Debt Consolidation and Waiver Scheme for states. Under the scheme, the past Central loans contracted till 31.3.2004 and outstanding as on 31.3.2005 are to be consolidated and rescheduled for repayment in 20 equal annual instalments at a reduced interest rate of 7.5%, subject to states enacting Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Acts with suggested core provisions. As a result, the states, together would have to pay lesser amount of Rs. 11,929 crore under principal repayment and Rs.21,276 crore under lower interest repayment. In addition, the debt write-off recommended by TFC is linked to reduction of revenue deficit of states for repayments due from 2005-06 to 2009-10 on the consolidated central loan, subject to laid down conditions. The above recommendations have been accepted by Government of India and detailed guidelines called "The States' Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility (DCRF) 2005-06 to 2009-10" has been formulated and circulated to all state Governments.

**Statement**

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	State	Total Outstanding Liabilities		
		2002-03	2003-04 (RE)	2004-05 (BE)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50083	57589	66392
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1140	1450	1636
3.	Assam	13848	16015	18887
4.	Bihar*	44885	49574	55654
5.	Goa	2915	3355	3811
6.	Gujarat	44079	53071	60408
7.	Haryana	18640	19965	21907
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11142	12878	14929
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	11002	11915	12984
10.	Karnataka	31530	36230	41649
11.	Kerala	31116	36045	40420
12.	Madhya Pradesh*	35099	44855	53376
13.	Maharashtra	61256	74692	84114
14.	Manipur	2167	2507	2710

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	1462	1636	1868
16.	Mizoram	1652	1925	2147
17.	Nagaland	2872	3265	3609
18.	Orissa	29045	33780	38085
19.	Punjab	37086	42187	46196
20.	Rajasthan	42977	50270	56580
21.	Sikkim	869	945	1063
22.	Tamil Nadu	39102	47249	53887
23.	Tripura	3145	3671	4256
24.	Uttar Pradesh*	86293	103464	114737
25.	West Bengal	71631	84408	95246
26.	NCT Delhi	11618	14192	16552
Total		686655	807131	913103

Note: The States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh includes

The liabilities of newly formed States viz. Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Uttaranchal respectively.

Outstanding liabilities includes Internal Debt, Loans and advances from the center and provident fund etc.

Source: RBI – State Finances 2004-05.

**Use of Machinery In Sampoorna  
Grameen Rozgar Yojana**

3056. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether machinery is being used in Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) thereby displacing manual labour; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to curtail use of machinery in SGRY?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) It has been reported that use of labour displacing machinery is nominal. State Governments are responsible for implementation of SGRY as per provisions of the Guidelines. From time to time, State Governments at various levels are being advised to ensure that labour displacing machineries are not used for works to be taken up under this programme.

**Financial Package for Senior  
Executives of PSBs**

3057. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to provide new financial packages for the senior executives of the Public Sector Banks;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be enhanced under the financial package; and

(c) the category of officials likely to be benefited by the new package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Writing off of Debt**

3058. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan owed by various States to the Union Government;

(b) whether the Union Government has a proposal to write off the States' debts;

(c) whether some other fiscal reform measures are also proposed by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) A statement containing amounts of outstanding loans due to Government of India, Ministry of Finance, as on 31.3.2005, by various State Governments, is enclosed. These pertain to the loans contracted till 31.3.2004.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Consequent upon the acceptance of the recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission, Government of India has formulated and circulated a scheme called "The States' Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility (2005-06 to 2009-10)". Under the scheme, the past Central loans contracted till 31.3.2004 and outstanding as on 31.3.2005 are to be consolidated and rescheduled for repayment in 20 equal annual instalments at a reduced interest rate of 7.5%, subject to states enacting Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Acts with suggested core provisions. In addition, the debt write-off recommended by TFC is linked to reduction of revenue deficit of states for

repayments due from 2005-06 to 2009-10 on the consolidated central loan, subject to laid down conditions.

State Governments are also required, inter-alia, to formulate their own fiscal correction path outlining various reforms to augment their revenues and compress their expenditure to eliminate their revenue deficits by the year 2008-09 and control their fiscal deficits.

**Statement**

*Outstanding Loans of State Governments due to Govt  
Ministry of Finance, as on March 31, 2005, pertaining to  
those contracted till March 31, 2004*

Sl.No.	States	Amount (in Rs. Crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14061.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	403.09
3.	Assam	2108.20
4.	Bihar	7693.93
5.	Chhattisgarh	1864.19
6.	Gujarat	8993.34
7.	Goa	1165.74
8.	Haryana	1933.30
9.	Himachal Pradesh	900.87
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1900.69
11.	Jharkhand	2385.45
12.	Karnataka	7166.50
13.	Kerala	4175.73
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7258.42
15.	Maharashtra	6799.42
16.	Manipur	750.80
17.	Meghalaya	313.87
18.	Mizoram	271.52
19.	Nagaland	317.40
20.	Orissa	7627.75

1	2	3
21.	Punjab	6839.85
22.	Rajasthan	6174.07
23.	Sikkim	179.06
24.	Tamil Nadu	5265.58
25.	Tripura	445.03
26.	Uttaranchal	1625.37
27.	Uttar Pradesh	19912.01
28.	West Bengal	14175.94
Grand Total		132708.71

#### **Help Centres for Tax Payers**

3059. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Help Centres for facilitating small and big tax payers/assesseees to file their tax returns as envisaged in the Budget proposals of current financial year have been operationalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the locations where the units are functional or operationalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Help Centres for small income tax taxpayers have been set up from 1st July, 2005 and 30th September, 2005. Government has also decided to set up Large Tax Payer Units (LTUs) to act as a single window service for the large tax payers paying Corporate/Income Tax, Excise Duties or Service Tax.

(b) "Help Centres" or Aayakar Sahayata Kendras have been set up as a facilitation measure for small taxpayers through a collaboration between the Income Tax Department and non-governmental organisations, trade/industry associations, professional bodies on PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP model. The Private partnership is on a voluntary basis. These centres will assist small taxpayers to prepare and fill up returns of income/challans/PAN applications, to respond to queries of taxpayers regarding legal and procedural issues. In order to make the public aware of this facility, wide publicity has been given to this programme highlighting the purpose and details of the scheme of the Help Centres and the conveniences it offers to the small tax payers.

LTUs for large tax payers have not yet been operationalised. The LTUs are to be initially set up at Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai and are expected to become functional in 2006.

(c) At least one Help Centre has been set up under the jurisdiction of each Chief Commissioner of Income Tax who does not have exclusively corporate or salary jurisdiction. More than one hundred (100) Help Centres have been set up across the country.

#### **Duty on Automobiles**

3060. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to cut customs duty on cars and two-wheelers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir. The Government is not considering any cut in customs duty on cars and two-wheelers at present.

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

#### **Deposits by PSUs in Banks**

3061. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

MOHD. SHAHID:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposit/investment made by Public Sector Undertakings in Banks during the last three years;

(b) the loans taken by Central Public Sector Enterprises from various Nationalised banks during the last three years, bank-wise;

(c) the details of the legal proceedings initiated against such Public Sector enterprises for the recovery of the loans;

(d) whether there is a proposal before the Government for a massive disinvestment drive of certain Public Sector Enterprises in view of the huge liabilities faced by these companies; and

- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and admissible.

#### **Fraud by NRIs**

3062. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have information that Non-Resident Indians have duped crores of rupees from nationalised banks in the country;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have fixed responsibility on such frauds committed by Non-Resident Indians; and

- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes., Sir. During the period 1.01.2002 to 31.03.2005, three cases of fraud involving a total amount of Rs. 23.12 crore were reported in deposit accounts maintained by NRIs with nationalised banks. These cases were referred by the banks to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

(c) and (d) Nationalised Banks have a well laid down system with regard to examination of staff accountability in all the cases of frauds. In case the officials of the banks are found accountable, the staff side action is taken as prescribed in terms of CVC Manual. In case fraud is perpetrated by outsiders/customers of the bank, action is taken by banks through legal recourse.

#### **Allocation of Power**

3063. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government keep 15 per cent of the total power generation in the country at its disposal to meet the emergent requirement of States from time to time;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted by the Government to allocate this unallocated power among the States; and

- (c) the demands made by various States during 2003-04 and 2004-05, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The unallocated power (15%) in Central Generating Stations (CGSs) in a region is kept at the disposal of the Central Government and the same is allocated within the region keeping in view the relative power supply position as well as emergent/seasonal requirements of the constituent States/Union Territories.

(c) As many of the States have been facing significant power shortages, requests for additional allocation out of unallocated power was invariably received from most of them. The unallocated power being limited, additional assistance is provided to the extent possible in view of aforesaid considerations.

#### **Illegal Quarry Operations**

3064. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal Quarrying operations are taking place in a number of places in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of economic loss caused as a result thereof during the last three years;

(d) the environmental implications of the illegal quarrying activities; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (e) Instances of pilferage/illegal mining in different States are brought to the notice of Central Government from time to time. The States are the owners of minerals and pilferage/illegal mining has serious revenue implications for the States. Appropriately therefore, the responsibility for checking illegal/pilferage mining, if any, rests with the State Governments and hence detailed information in this regard is not centrally maintained.

To effectively curb illicit mining, which has environmental implications also, State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals under the provisions of Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957.

*[Translation]***Accidents in Mines**

3065. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mine accidents occurred in the country during the last three years, mine-wise;
- (b) the number of people died in the said accidents;
- (c) the details of assistance provided to their families during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the point-wise reply is as under:

(a) and (b) The year-wise details of accidents and fatalities in mines for the last three years is as under:

S.No.	Year	No. of fatal accidents	No. of workers died
1.	2002	133	161
2.	2003	135	175
3.	2004	149	164

Details relating to mine-wise accidents are being collected.

- (c) The details are being collected.

(d) and (e) To minimize the occurrence of accidents in mines, the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) enforces the safety laws as contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder. The Government is also promoting a number of other initiatives for mines safety such as (i) organizing conferences on safety in mines, (ii) self-regulation by managements, (iii) workers' participation in safety management, (iv) tripartite and bipartite reviews at various levels, (v) training of work persons, (vi) observance of safety weeks and safety campaigns, and National Safety Awards.

**Irregularities in Banks**

3066. MOHD. SHAHID:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the public sector banks have committed irregularities regarding revenue worth crores of rupees as reported in "Rashtriya Sahara" dated July 17, 2005;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry regarding loss of revenue due to the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and outcome of the enquiries;
- (e) the amount recovered by the banks from the defaulters during the last one year and as on date;
- (f) the target set and achieved for recovery of outstanding loan during the last one year; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of irregularities in banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

**Strengthening Transmission Line in M.P.**

3067. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a mismatch between the transmission, distribution and power generation in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to strengthen the transmission and distribution system in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) By and large there is no mismatch between generation and transmission capacities in the country. Transmission system in the country is developed in a planned manner matching with generation addition programme. With each new generation, there is corresponding associated transmission system to evacuate power from the project and transmit to the load centers where the power is to be consumed. Transmission system for inter-state transmission of power is planned and developed under the Central Sector by the Central Transmission Utility. Transmission and distribution system for transmission and supply of power within the state is planned and developed under the State Sector by the State Power Utilities.

The development in distribution sector is the responsibility of state power utilities for which no approval from Central Government is required. In general, development in distribution sector in the country has not kept pace with development in transmission sector.

(c) to (e) Details of Transmission System Strengthening under 10th Five Year Plan based on actual progress during the first three years and the updated targets for the remaining two years are given in the enclosed statement.

The Government of India provides funds for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system in densely electrified zones in urban and industrial areas under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in order to reduce Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses, improving quality of supply of power, increasing revenue collection and improving consumer satisfaction. The said programme has two components viz. (i) investment component and (ii) incentive component. Under investment component, funds are released as Additional Central Plan Assistance to the States for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system. Under the incentive component of APDRP, 50% of the actual cash loss reduction effected is given as grant to such Utilities that reduce cash losses over the base year of 2000-01.

The Government of India has sanctioned sub-transmission and distribution projects amounting to Rs.19488.75 crores to various states under investment component of APDRP so far, out of which the APDRP component is Rs.11469.14 crores. The Government has released Rs.5593.51 crores under the component so far. Under incentive component, the Government has released Rs.1323.28 crores to the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Haryana, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and West Bengal.

#### *Statement*

##### *All India Transmission System (220 KV and Above) For 10th Five Year Plan*

		Unit	As at the end of		
			9th Plan i.e. 3/02	2004-05 i.e. 3/05	2006-07 i.e. 3/07 (Targeted)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Transmission Lines					
(a)	765 kV	ckm	971	971	2031
(b)	HVDC $\pm$ 500kV	ckm	3138	3138	3138
(c)	400 kV	ckm	49378	59175	72564
(d)	230/220 kV	ckm	96994	105783	117044
(e)	HVDC 200 kV	ckm	162	162	162
Total of (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e)		ckm	150463	169229	193949
Substations					
(a)	765 kV	MVA	0	0	3000
(b)	400 kV	MVA	61325	73490	94280



1	2	3	4	5	6
(c)	230/220 kV	MVA	116363	139407	151187
	Total of (a), (b) & (c)		177688	212897	248467
<b>HVDC</b>					
(a)	Bi-pole link capacity	MW	3000	5000	5500
(b)	Back-to-back capacity	MW	2000	3000	3000
(c)	Mono-pole link capacity	MW	200	200	200
	Total of (a), (b) & (c)	MW	5200	8200	8700

*[English]***Modernisation of Jute Mills**

3068. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether under National Jute Policy, the Government has any scheme for modernization of the Jute Mills through new technology;

(b) whether Government has offered VRS to the workers of six jute mills under NJMC;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has paid the statutory dues to the workmen of NJMC Jute Mills, who are already retired, resigned and dead; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Jute Policy, 2005 proposed to take up a concerted Programme for the Modernisation and Technological Upgradation of the Manufacturing sector which will include, (i) reorientation of manufacture of jute goods as per current international requirements; (ii) to energise the jute yarn and twine making sector; (iii) adopting environmental friendly manufacturing processes in the jute sector; and (iv) augmenting the research and development efforts. The National Jute Policy, 2005 further states that the existing schemes like the Textile Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) and the JMDC Incentive Schemes for Modernisation of the Jute Industry will be strengthened.

(b) and (c) The Government approved a proposal of the Ministry of Textiles to reduce the manpower of the NJMC Ltd. by offering VRS to all the employees of the Organisation, including the employees of the Head Office and to extend budgetary support to the extent of Rs. 978.00 crores for

providing VRS, liquidating statutory arrears, gratuity and secured liabilities of NJMC Ltd. Accordingly, NJMC management has offered VRS to the workers of all the six jute mills under NJMC. As on 1st August, 2005, 6505 employees have accepted the VRS offer.

(d) and (e) Both employees' & employers' contribution to PF, ESI and gratuity dues of dead/retired and resigned employees for certain period prior to December, 2004 remains to be deposited with the concerned authorities. NJMC is a loss making organization which is unable to generate resources to pay salary & wages and other maintenance charges. Government is hopeful that the arrears of such statutory dues of employees may be liquidated through adequate budgetary provisions.

*[Translation]***Bio-Mass**

3069. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a scheme to enhance the energy generated through bio-mass;

(b) if so, the percentage of power generated through bio-mass during the last two years till date alongwith the total number of families accruing benefits therefrom;

(c) whether the Government has identified some districts for setting up of bio-gas plants;

(d) if so, the total number of districts covered in each State under the scheme so far; and

(e) the total cost estimate to be incurred in setting up of a plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes Sir. The Government have been implementing a scheme to promote energy generation from Biomass through different technological routes such as gasification, combustion and co-generation.

(b) A total Biomass power capacity of 239 MW has been installed in the country during the last two years i.e. 2003-04 and 2004-05, which is about 3% of the additional power generation installed capacity in the country during the corresponding period. The electricity generated from Biomass Power Projects is fed into the respective State Electricity Grid.

(c) and (d) Under the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP), the Ministry has been allocating annual targets for setting up of family type biogas plants to State Governments/ U.T. Administration and other nodal agencies, such as Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), which in turn, sub-allocating targets among different districts and blocks on a cluster area approach for implementation in rural areas. The programme is being implemented in almost all districts in the country, except high altitude areas.

(e) The estimated cost of a biogas plant varies according to model, capacity, market prices of construction materials and labour cost, etc. Estimated cost of a common 2 cubic meter family type biogas plant is about Rs. 14,000/- in North Eastern Region States, Rs. 12,000/- in hilly regions and Rs. 9,000/- in other areas.

[English]

#### **Disinvestment in Shipping Corporation of India**

3070. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways has given a green signal for a 15 per cent disinvestments in Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof including bifurcation of share capital of SCI;

(c) if so, whether Ministry has now agreed for disinvestment in SCI; and

(d) If so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d)

Disinvestment decisions are taken by the Government by following the established procedure. Consultations within the Government take place from time to time and formal decisions are taken in the Cabinet/CCEA. No specific decision has been taken with respect to Shipping Corporation of India Limited.

[Translation]

#### **Export of Handloom/Handicraft Items**

3071. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which Handloom/ Handicraft items are being exported;

(b) the efforts being made for promoting export of these items;

(c) whether the Government proposes to accord special status to any city in the country specially to Jodhpur in respect of the trade of Handicrafts Items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The major countries to which handloom items are being exported are USA, UK, Japan, Germany, France, Sweden and Australia. The major countries to which handicraft items including hand knotted carpets are being exported are USA, Germany, UK, Japan, France, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands etc.

(b) The following steps are being taken to promote export of handlooms:

- i) Handloom Export Scheme under which financial assistance is provided for development of exportable range of products and international publicity & marketing thereof;
- ii) Organisation of fairs, exhibitions, Buyer Seller Meets by Handloom Export Promotion Council in overseas markets from time to time to provide the Indian handloom manufacturers an avenue for export market.
- iii) Various export promotion schemes operated by the Department of Commerce such as Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Market Development Assistance (MDA) Market Access Initiative (MAI) etc.

The efforts made/being made for promoting export of

handicraft items include: participation in international fairs and exhibitions abroad; organising buyer-seller-meets; overseas publicity; conducting market studies; development of products as per market demand; dissemination of market intelligence among exporters; organising seminars/workshops on export procedure and packaging; opening of Showrooms/Warehouse in Dallas, USA; exploring new markets in CIS, South Africa, Latin America and ASEAN countries; setting up of India Exposition Mart at Greater Noida and Special Economic Zones at Moradabad, Gautam Budh Nagar in Uttar Pradesh and Jodhpur in Rajasthan and organisation of Indian Handicrafts & Gift Fair & Carpet Expo in New Delhi.

(c) and (d) As per the Foreign Trade Policy, Jodhpur has been declared as a Town of Export Excellence for handicraft items. Common service providers of such town will be able to access the funds under Market Access Initiative Scheme for creating focused technical services. Such Town will also receive priority for assistance for rectifying identified critical infrastructure gaps under the Assistance to States for Development of Export Infrastructure (ASIDE) Scheme. Further, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has approved setting up of Special Economic Zones at Jodhpur in Rajasthan and Moradabad and Gautam Budh Nagar in Uttar Pradesh for export of handicrafts.

[English]

#### **Investment in Infrastructure**

3072. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the share of public investment in total investment in infrastructure during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) how does India's public investment in infrastructure as a share of GDP compare with that of other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Gross capital formation by industry of use in public sector in infrastructure as percentage of gross capital formation in infrastructure was 67.0 per cent, 72.3 per cent and 63.7 per cent during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively.

(b) Gross capital formation by industry of use in public sector in infrastructure as a percentage of GDP was 3.0 per cent, 2.4 per cent, and 2.2 per cent during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively. While comparable disaggregated information on infrastructure in respect of China and East Asia are not available, it is seen that the rates of investment (gross capital formation as per

cent of gross domestic product at current market prices), in India are lower as compared with China and some Asian countries.

#### **Integrated Energy Policy**

3073. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an integrated energy policy report is being prepared;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report has been submitted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken on the suggestions made in the report?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) An Expert Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Member (Energy), Planning Commission on 12th August, 2004 to prepare an integrated energy policy linked with sustainable development that covers all sources of energy and addresses all aspects including energy, access and availability, affordability and pricing, efficiency and environment. The Expert Committee is yet to submit its report.

#### **Loan for Renewable Energy**

3074. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether loan sanctioned to different companies by Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. for promotion and development of new and renewable sources of energy, amounting crores of rupees has become Non-performing Assets (NPA) and doubtful recovery;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount of loan declared as NPA;

(c) the amount of loan recovered during each of the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken to recover the loan amount from borrower companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Loans sanctioned to some companies by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) have become Non Performing Assets (NPA)

primarily on account of projects becoming un-remunerative due to reasons natural or otherwise limiting their repayment capability. The net NPA amount was Rs.89.05 crore, as on 31/3/2005.

(c) Total dues recovered during 2003-04 and 2004-05 are Rs.734.00 crore and Rs.686.38 crore respectively:

(d) IREDA has taken a series of steps against defaulters for recovery of loans such as sending recall notices, filing cases before Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT) and the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), taking action under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act (SRFAESI), 2002 etc.

[Translation]

#### Meeting on Construction of Roads in Bihar

3075. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has called a meeting of Members of Parliament from Bihar on April 28, 2005 for discussing condition of roads under PMGSY and others in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decisions taken therein; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government for constructions of roads and the details of progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Government had called a Meeting of the Members of Parliament from Bihar on 12th May, 2005 for discussing the execution of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) road works in the State of Bihar.

'Rural Roads' being a State subject, the implementation of the programme is done by the State Government. Since the progress of works in Phase I & II was hampered by the constraints of executional capacity, the Ministry of Rural Development agreed to the engagement of Central Agencies for execution of works of Phase-III (2003-04) onwards at the request of the State Government on 28th June, 2004. The Government of Bihar has now engaged five Executing Agencies. These are National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd. (NBCC), National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC), National

Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. (NPCC), IRCON International Limited (IRCON) and Central Public Works Department (CPWD). With four of these agencies, tripartite agreement for Implementation of PMGSY has been signed on 31.08.2005. The CPWD has agreed to implement the programme through exchange of letters vide letter dated 29.10.2004. So far, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) prepared by these agencies have been approved for 163 road works involving 1575.13 kms. length for a value of Rs. 453.33 crore. The Executing Agencies have already invited tenders for approximately 1313 km. length for DPRs worth Rs. 380 crore.

#### Structural Engineering Research Centre

3076. SHRI BABU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up new Structural Engineering Research Centres in the country specially in Maharashtra State;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) No Sir. There already is a Structural Engineering Research Centre (SERC) at Chennai which is recognised at the national and international level as a leading research institution in the field of structural engineering, capable of catering to needs of the whole nation.

[English]

#### Study on Primitive Tribals in Andaman & Nicobar

3077. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of study by the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology has conclusively proved that the two primitive tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are descendents of people who migrated through sea from Africa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad studied origin of the 6 tribal populations of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, of which 4 were Negroid (Onge, Jarawa, Great Andamanese and Sentinelese) and 2 were Mongolid (Nicobarese and Shompens) populations. CCMB Scientists collected blood samples from 46 Onge, 20 Great Andamanese and 25 Nicobarese; and the buccal swab from 4 Jarawa tribals and initially analyzed the samples with the paternally inherited Y chromosome markers to trace the paternal lineage.

Studies demonstrated that the Onge and Jarawa fell in a genetic group closely related to the African specific origin. However, none of the Great Andamanese, although phenotypically similar to Onge and Jarawa, showed close affinities with the modern human populations, suggesting that original chromosomes of the Great Andamanese have been replaced by the recently evolved Y chromosome. In the same study CCMB scientists analysed very small region of the maternally inherited DNA (from mitochondrial DNA) and found that they showed close affinities with the Asian populations.

On complete sequencing of the mitochondrial DNA of 5 Onge, 5 Great Andamanese and 5 Nicobarese, several novel mutations (changes in DNA sequence) were found in Onge and Great Andamanese tribes, which have not been identified either in any of the world populations or in the 600 Indian samples screened by them. Based on the mutations in mitochondrial DNA of these populations, CCMB scientists estimated that they are the descendants of the group of people, who first migrated out of Africa about 50,000-70,000 years ago, taking the southern route of migration by sea route via India to populate Southeast Asia and Australia, in contrast to the Nicobarese who have migrated from Southeast Asia, about 18,000 years ago, as these samples showed affinity with populations found in China, Myanmar and other Southeast Asia.

[Translation]

#### **Evasion of Excise Duty**

3078. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a constant rise in the incidents of evasion of excise duty;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of incidents of evasion of excise duty alongwith the amount involved therein reported during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the names of the big firms involved and duty evasion alongwith the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **PLF of Thermal Power Plants**

3079. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has considered any action plan to ensure that Plant Load Factor of all Thermal Power Plants at par with national average;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a slow progress in renovation and modernization of power projects in the country; and
- (d) if so, the reason therefor and the efforts being made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Ministry of Power have drawn up an action plan to improve the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of thermal power stations in the country, which are operating at low PLF, to the level of national average. 26 thermal power stations operating at a PLF below 60%, have been identified for improvement of their performance in a multi pronged programme under the action plan. In the first and second phase, the PLF of these power stations will be improved through Operation & Maintenance (O&M) practices up to the level of 60%. In third phase, improvement will be done through Renovation & Modernization (R&M) programme. A list of the 26 thermal power stations is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Life Extension (LE) works identified during 10th Plan have been slow because of reluctance by State Electricity Boards (SEBs) to shut down the units to carry out R&M/LE works due to shortage of power, procedural delays in placement of orders by SEBs, difficulty in providing State Government's guarantee or assigning of assets for obtaining the loan from Power Finance Corporation (PFC)/Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and delay by State Government for finalization of placement of orders.

Ministry of Power along with Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has been vigorously following up with the utilities for expediting the R&M/LE works by ways of meetings with the SEBs/Utilities, visits by CEA/National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)/Bharat Heavy Electricals (BHEL) engineers and providing technology inputs to them. Funds are available at concessional rates of interest through PFC to carry out R&M/LE works.

**Statement****List of Thermal Power Stations having PLF less than 60%**

Sl. No.	Name of Utility	Name of Station	Capacity (in MW)	PLF(%) April, 04 to March, 05
1.	IPGCL	Indra Prastha	247.50	42.50
2.		Rajghat	135.00	58.90
3.	UPRVUNL	Obra	1482.00	43.80
4.		Panki	242.00	49.10
5.		Harduaganj 'B'	425.00	18.70
6.		Parichha	220.00	50.50
7.	GEB	Dhuvaran	534.00	45.30
8.		Gandhinagar	660.00	59.10
9.		Kutch Lignite	215.0	44.20
10.	MPEB	Amarkantak	50.00	39.30
11.		Amarkantak Extension	240.00	48.90
12.	APGENCO	Nellore	30.00	58.50
13.	TNEB	Ennore	450.00	31.00
14.	JSEB	Patratu	770.00	11.00
15.	BSEB	Barauni	310.00	5.70
16.		Muzaffarpur	220.00	0.00
17.	TVNL	Tenughat	420.00	36.00
18.	DVC	Chandrapura	750.00	28.90
19.		Durgapur	350.00	47.90
20.		Bokaro 'A'	175.00	0.00
21.		Bokaro 'B'	630.00	44.60
22.	WBPDC	Bandel	530.00	46.30
23.		Santalidih	480.00	31.80
24.		Durgapur (DPL)	390.00	59.40
25.	CESC	New Cossipore	130.00	42.40
26.	ASEB	Bongaigaon	240.00	0.00

**Acronym of abbreviations used**

- i. IPGCL - Indraprastha Power Generation company Ltd.
- ii. UPRVUNL - Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.
- ii. GEB - Gujarat Electricity Board.
- iv. MPEB - Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board.
- v. APGENCO - Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation.
- vi. TNEB - Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.
- vii. JSEB - Jharkhand State Electricity Board.
- viii. BSEB - Bihar State Electricity Board.
- ix. TVNL - Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.
- x. DVC - Damodar Valley Corporation.
- xi. WBPDC - West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd.
- xii. CESC - Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation.
- xiii. NTPC - National Thermal Power Corporation.
- xiv. ASEB - Assam State Electricity Board.

### **Programme for Bio-Technology**

**3080. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:** Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing Human Resource Development Programme comprising post graduate teaching and training courses in Bio-technology in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the existing centres and proposed new centres to be set up;

(d) the number of proposals pending with Government for opening Bio-technological Research Centres in the country; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to open more such institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Different activities supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under Human Resource Development programme are:

- Post graduate (M. Sc., M. Tech, M. V. Sc, PG Diplomas) teaching programmes.
- DBT -JRF and DBT -Post Doctoral Fellowship programmes
- Short Term Training Courses for the duration of 2-4 weeks to provide hands-on training to the mid-career scientists and young faculty in the teaching institutions.
- Biotech Industrial Training Programme for 6 months' hands-on training in industries for the post-graduate Biotechnology students.
- Refresher courses for the teaching faculty in the colleges / universities for the duration of 4-8 weeks.

In addition to these major programmes, other programmes supported by DBT are:

- National/International seminars/ symposia/conferences.
- National Science Day Celebrations in R&D/Academic institutions
- Popular lectures.
- Participation in National/International trade fairs and exhibitions.

- Scholarships and awards.
- Travel support to Scientists/Academicians for attending international conferences in foreign countries.

(c) The list of existing centres where post graduate teaching courses are supported by DBT is given in the enclosed statement. These centres are considered on merit based on the expertise and infrastructure facilities available with them. In addition, Department of Biotechnology has established 7 R&D institutions in the country for promoting research in the multidisciplinary area of Biotechnology. These are:

1. National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi.
2. National Centre for Cell Sciences, Pune.
3. National Centre for Plant Genome Research, New Delhi.
4. National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Gurgaon.
5. Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar.
6. Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad.
7. Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development, Imphal.

(d) At present no proposal for opening Biotechnological research centres in the country is pending with DBT.

(e) The Department of Biotechnology has a scheme for supporting setting up of biotech facilities and centres of excellence in scientific institutions and universities. Recently the Department of Biotechnology has invited proposals through newspaper advertisement, for setting up of Centres of Excellence in existing institutions, universities etc. in specific thrust areas of Biotechnology.

### **Statement**

*DBT Sponsored Universities/Institutions offering regular PG Teaching Courses in Biotechnology in India (As on 01.04.2005)*

Name of the University/Institution

### **MSc. General Biotechnology (2 year Courses)**

1. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
2. Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
3. MS University, Baroda

4. University of Pune, Pune
5. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
6. Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai
7. Indian Instt. of Technology, Roorkee (formerly Roorkee University)
8. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
9. Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar
10. Devi Ahilya Viswavidyalaya, Indore
11. University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
12. Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla
13. University of Calicut, Calicut
14. Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Banasthali, (for girls only)
15. Tezpur University, Tezpur
16. Gulbarga University, Gulbarga.
17. Jammu University, Jammu
18. Gujarat University, Ahmedabad
19. Mysore University, Mysore
20. University of Allahabad, Allahabad
21. Guru Jambheshwar University, Hisar
22. University of Kashmir, Srinagar
23. Kumaun University, Nainital
24. University of North Bengal, Siliguri
25. Lucknow University, Lucknow
26. Utkal University, Bhubneshwar
27. Pondicherry University, Pondicherry
28. Sri Padmavathi Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati
29. Nagpur University, Nagpur
30. Visva-Bharathi, Shantiniketan
31. T.M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur

**M.Sc. Agriculture Biotechnology (2 years)**

1. Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

2. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
3. GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar.
4. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur
5. Indira Gandhi Agricultural Univ. Raipur
6. Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani
7. Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubneshwar
8. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad
9. Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

**M.V. Sc (Animal Biotechnology) (2 years)**

1. CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar
2. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur

**Master in Medical Biotechnology (2 years)**

1. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi

**M.Sc. Marine Biotechnology (2 years)**

1. Goa University, Goa
2. Annamalai University, Parangipettai

**M.Sc. Neurosciences (3/2 Years)**

1. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai
2. Jiwaji University, Gwalior
3. National Brain Research Center, Gurgaon

**M.Sc. Industrial Biotechnology**

Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar

**M. Tech Biochemical Engineering & Biotechnology (5 years Integrated/4 semesters/2 years course)**

1. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
2. Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi  
Dual degree (5 year integrated as well as 4 semester courses)
3. Anna University, Chennai
4. University Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai (formerly UDCT, Mumbai)
5. West Bengal University of Technology, Kolkata
6. Indian Instt. of Technology, Kanpur



**M. Tech. Pharmaceutical Biotechnology (2 years)**

1. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research, Mohali

**Post MD/MS Certificate Course in Medical Biotechnology (1 year)**

1. Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow

**PG Diploma Course in "Genetic Engineering & Bioprocess Development" after M.Sc. (1 year)**

1. M.S. University of Baroda, Baroda

**PG Diploma Course in "Molecular & Biochemical Technology" after B.Sc. (1 year)**

Sri Venkateshwara College, (University of Delhi), New Delhi

**One time grant to strengthen ongoing PG programmes**

1. Punjab University, Chandigarh
2. Punjabi University, Patiala
3. Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences Univ., Chennai
4. Sri Venkateshwara University, Tirupati
5. Thapar Instt. of Engineering & Technology, Patiala
6. Kuvempu University, Karnataka
7. Manonmaniam Sundarnar University, Nagercoil
8. Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur
9. Dr. B.C. Guha Centre for Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology, Kolkata
10. Bangalore University, Bangalore
11. Allahabad Agricultural Institute (Deemed University), Allahabad
12. V.B.S. Purvanchal University, Jaunpur
13. Madras University, Chennai
14. Sambalpur University, Jyotivihar, Burla
15. Fisheries Biotechnology Centre" Dept. of Aquaculture" Fisheries College and Research Institute, TNV ASU, Thoothukkudi

*[English]***World Bank Loan for Drinking Water and Sanitation Schemes**

3081. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has provided loan for drinking water and sanitation schemes to some States;

(b) if so, the details of such loan provided during the last three years and current year, State-wise and Scheme -wise;

(c) whether the World Bank has put forth certain terms and conditions in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) World Bank has provided loan for rural drinking water and sanitation schemes in three States, namely Kerala, Maharashtra and Karnataka. The details of the loan provided during the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise are given below:

(i) Kerala Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project

The original loan amount for the project was US \$ 65.5 million, and the revised loan amount is US \$ 55 million. Disbursements during the last three years and current year are as follows:

Year	Disbursement
2002-03	US \$ 4.174 million
2003-04	US \$ 5.996 million
2004-05	US \$ 13.315 million
2005-06 (till date)	Nil

(ii) Second Karnataka Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project

IDA loan is US\$ 151.6 million. Disbursements during the last three years and the current year are as follows:

Year	Disbursement
2002-03	US \$ 0.80 million
2003-04	US \$ 4.39 million
2004-05	US \$ 19.42 million
2005-06 (till date)	Nil

(iii) **Second Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Project**

IDA loan is US\$ 181.00 million. Disbursements during the last three years and the current year is as follows:

Year	Disbursement
2002-03	Nil
2003-04	US \$ 0.72 million
2004-05	US \$ 2.24 million
2005-06 (till date)	US \$ 1.49 million

(c) to (e) The World Bank is providing IDA credit, which is an interest free loan with a maturity period of 35 years (including a grace period of 10 years) and commitment charge on unutilized balances and service charge at 0.5% (upper limit) and 0.75 % per annum respectively. The loans for the projects are on standard International Development Association (IDA) terms and have approval of Government of India.

[English]

**Centre for Advance Management and Power Studies**

3082. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA ": Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.5218 on 29.04.2005 and state:

(a) whether "Centre for Advanced Management and Power Studies" under NPTI, Faridabad has been set up to groom fresh engineers in the field of Power Management with a view to develop competent professional managers for Indian Power Industry;

(b) If so, whether the Government propose to allow this Institute to invite PSUs of power sector to come forward to recruit these professionals in power sector through campus placement cell; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Power Training Institute (NPTI) encourages and invites Public Sector Undertakings as well as Private Sector Companies, in the Power Sector, for placement of students after their 2 years' full-time MBA Programme in Power Management for campus recruitment, through Campus Placement Cell of NPTI. Amongst the Public Sector Undertakings and Private Companies specially invited for campus placement are Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. (REC), Uttaranchal Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (UJVNL), Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC), National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (NTPC), Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC) and Credit Rating Information Services of India Ltd. (CRISIL), Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC), Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler (KPMG), North Delhi Power Ltd. (NDPL); Bombay Suburban Electric Supply (BSES), Reliance Energy, Adani Exports, Secure Meters respectively.

**Insurance for Mobile Handset**

3083. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether before providing of insurance cover for Special Contingency Policy (SCP) for the mobile handsets by National Insurance Company Limited and Oriental Insurance Company Limited, instructions issued on the subject were not followed by them resulting into loss of crores of rupees;

(b) whether C&AG has gone into the matter extensively in Chapter X of their report No.4 of 2005 and has brought out many irregularities; and

(c) if so, the details of the action taken on each of the observations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Comptroller and Auditor General in its report (No.4 of 2005 (PSUs) has observed that while underwriting the non-conventional policies, which had serious financial implications, the operating offices did not exercise due diligence and caution and did not ensure the compliance of guidelines issued by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), General Insurers' (Public Sector) Association of India (GIPSA) and Head Office of National Insurance Company Ltd. (NIC)/ Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. (OIC). Government has asked for the comments of NIC and OIC on different points raised by CAG in its report No.4 of 2005. Action taken on each of the observations will be communicated to CAG after examining the comments of the Companies.

### Rural Electrification

3084. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to electrify the rural areas of Bihar through Non-Conventional Energy Sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to provide subsidy to Bihar under various schemes in Non-Conventional Energy for the rural electrification;

(d) if so, the details of the percentages of the subsidy is being provided to States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (d) Under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana of the Government, being implemented by the Ministry of Power, all the unelectrified villages in the country will be taken up for electrification. It has been estimated that out of 1,25,000 unelectrified villages, around 25,000 remote villages are those where grid connectivity may not be feasible or cost effective. All such villages in the

country including those in Bihar, will be taken up for electrification by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources through non-conventional energy under its Remote Village Electrification Programme. A subsidy of 90% of the cost of electrification is provided as Central Financial Assistance for such villages. Firm proposals received from Bihar in this regard will also be taken up as per the provisions of the Programme.

(e) Does not arise.

### Irrecoverable Loans

3085. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether irrecoverable loans are written off by financial institutions under public sector; and

(b) if so, the total amount of loans written off by these institutions during each of the last three years, financial institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Bad and doubtful loans written off by financial institutions under public sector during the last three years as per information furnished by Reserve Bank of India and financial institutions are as under:

(In Rs. Crore)

Financial Institution	Amount of bad and doubtful debt written off as on 31st March,		
	2003	2004	2005
IDBI Ltd. *	906.64	1450.01	51.82
		(April 2003 - September, 2004)	(October, 2004- March, 2005)
IIBI Ltd.	0.70	1.54	8.20
EXIM Bank	0	8.37	38.12

\* IDBI Ltd. has become a banking company in the public sector with effect from October 1, 2004.

### New Textile Mills

3086. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY:

SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details and number of textile mills closed in public, co-operative and private sector in the country specially in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons affected due to this closure of these textile mills;

(c) details of rehabilitation measures taken by the Government;

(d) whether the Government has set up new textile mills during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA): (a) The number of cotton/man made fibre textile mills (Non SSI) closed in the country and Tamil Nadu during the last three years (as on 30/06/2005) is as follows:

Sector	All India	Tamil Nadu
Public	16	1
Co-operative	11	5
Private	60	31
Total	87	37

The details of cotton/man-made fiber textile mills (Non SSI) closed in Tamil Nadu during the last three years (as on 30/06/2005) are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The number of workers affected due to closure of these mills is as follows:-

Sector	All India	Tamil Nadu
Public	13110	568
Co-operative	9136	2040
Private	16063	7504
Total	38309	10112

(c) The details of rehabilitation measures taken by the Government in respect of these mills are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) The government does not set up any new textile mills in the country. Through various schemes/measures, it provide conducive policy environment for entrepreneurs to set up the units.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Tamilnadu Cooperative Sector (As on 01/07/2002 to 30/06/2005)*

S. No.	Mill Number	Mill Name	Closing date	Workers on roll
1	1612210	The Erode District Cooperative Spinning	23-Jul-03	390
2	1712054	The Ramanathapuram District Cooperative mills	17-Jul-03	233
3	1712258	The South India Co-operatives	29-Feb-04	960
4	1712262	The Tiruchendur Co-operatives	31-Jul-03	312
5	1712285	The Kancheepuram Kamakshiamman	15-Jul-03	145
Total				2040

##### *Tamilnadu Public Sector (As on 01/07/2002 to 30/06/2005)*

S. No.	Mill Number	Mill Name	Closing date	Workers on roll
1	1711270	Pioneer Spinners	21-Oct-03	568
Total				568

##### *Tamilnadu Private Sector (As on 01/07/2002 to 30/06/2005)*

S. No.	Mill Number	Mill Name	Closing date	Workers on roll
1	2	3	4	5
1	1613017	Chandra Textiles Limited (Udam)	1-Nov-03	45
2	1613026	Sri Muthukumaran Cotton Mills	1-May-03	118
3	1613027	Arautha Mills (P) Limited	6-Jul-02	95
4	1613039	Coimbatore Popular Spinning Mills	5-Apr-03	169
5	1613043	Gnanambikai Mills Limited	1-Apr-03	61
6	1613084	Rajam Textile Mills Limited	27-Aug-03	10

1	2	3	4	5
7	1613092	The Sri Venkatesa Mills Limited	20-Aug-03	938
8	1613152	The Coimbatore Pioneer Mills Limited	25-Dec-03	546
9	1613166	Kwality Spinning Mills Limited	1-Feb-03	389
10	1613178	The Coimbatore Pioneer Mills Limited	27-May-04	340
11	1613204	Sarguna Textiles (P) Limited	21-Oct-02	121
12	1613376	Coimbatore Popular Spinning Mills Ltd.	5-Apr-03	270
13	1613433	Swarnambigai Textiles	1-Feb-04	32
14	1613448	The Krishna Mills (P) Limited	1-May-03	93
15	1613827	Palani Andavar Cotton & Synthetics	1-Nov-03	320
16	1623229	The Dhanalakshmi Mills Limited	1-Jun-04	1220
17	1713005	Shri Skandha Spinners	1-Oct-03	120
18	1713113	Janaki Textiles (P) Limited	1-May-03	47
19	1713175	Ragas Spinners (P) Ltd.	15-Mar-05	86
20	1713192	Kasthuri Renga Ramanujam Cotton Mills Limited	1-Oct-02	25
21	1713217	The Jawahar Mills Limited	11-Apr-03	553
22	1713233	Shri Chakka Yarns (P) Limited	1-Dec-03	39
23	1713283	Sivagurunathan Textiles Limited	23-Oct-03	91
24	1713289	Swamiji Mills Limited	1-Apr-03	619
25	1713298	Marson'S Textiles Limited	1-Sep-02	68
26	1713305	Jayabharath Textiles (P) Limited	21-Aug-03	101
27	1713415	Kongarar Textiles Limited	26-Feb-03	604
28	1713507	K Parthasarathy Spinning Mills	1-Apr-03	173
29	1713545	Krishna Cotton And Synthetic Mills	1-Feb-03	71
30	1713886	Gowri Sankar Spinning Mills (P) Limited	27-Apr-04	86
31	1713979	S.K.G. Mills (P) Limited	13-Feb-04	54
Total				7504

**Statement-II****Rehabilitation measures taken by the Government**

To provide financial assistance to the workers of permanently closed private sector textile mills, Government has introduced the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund

Scheme (TWRFS). This Scheme is implemented by the Office of the Textile Commissioner, Mumbai in co-ordination with the concerned State Government/Workers' Union/Official Liquidator/Provident Fund Commissioner etc. It provides an interim relief for an interim period of 3 years on a tapering basis. Out of the above 87 closed mills, 12 mills are covered under the TWRFS and have been disbursed an amount of

Rs. 63.29 Crores and out of 37 mills closed in Tamil Nadu, 3 mills are covered under TWRFS and disbursed an amount of Rs. 6.06 crores. The cooperative and public sectors have the separate sets of rehabilitation measures and are, therefore, not covered under the TWRFS.

For the sick mills which may or may not be closed, the Government has set up the Board for Industrial & financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 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. BIFR appoints operating agencies for preparation of rehabilitation proposals in respect of potentially viable units. The decision on rehabilitation is taken by BIFR based on its findings. Out of the above 87 closed cotton/man-made fibre textile mills, 30 textile cases have been registered with BIFR (as on 31/05/2005). Out of the 37 textile mills closed in Tamil Nadu, 12 textile cases have been registered with BIFR as on 31/05/2005. The status of the cases under BIFR as on 31.05.2005 is as below:-

Sl No.	Status	Tamil Nadu	All India	
		Private sector	Private Sector	Public Sector
1	Non-Maintainable	2	3	1
2	Others	1	1	0
3	Stay Order by Court/Stayed by AAIFR	1	2	0
4	Under Enquiry	5	15	2
5	Winding Up recommended section 20(1) SICA, 1985	3	5	1
Total		12	26	4

#### **Pending Cases of Registration of New Companies in A&N**

3087. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications pending for approval regarding establishment of new companies in Andman & Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether it is also fact that a number of applications are pending since 2000 onwards;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which all the applications are likely to be cleared; and

(e) the steps being taken to provide the registration to all the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) No Applications are pending for approval.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) Applications are disposed of in a time bound manner.

#### **Public Holding in Listed Companies**

3088. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has prescribed for 25 per cent public holding in all listed companies;

(b) whether any time limit has been prescribed for the companies for compliance in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the SEBI now proposes to prescribe any time limit in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has informed that in terms of listing agreement, all listed companies are not required to have 25% public holding.

(b) to (d) In view of the reply to (a) above, do not arise.

#### **Rural Electrification**

3089. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing definition of an electrified village has been found inadequate as it does not meet the requirements of the rural people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a need to amend this definition so as to declare a village as electrified only if a minimum number of households in that village are provided with electricity connections;

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

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to amend the definition of electrification of a village?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) The definition of village electrification has already been modified and has come into effect from 1-4-2004. The new definition is broad based, which includes electrification of households and other public places within village such as schools, panchayats, health centers and dispensaries etc. The earlier definition on village electrification was as under:

"A village will be deemed to be electrified, if electricity is used in the inhabited locality, within the revenue boundary of the village, for any purpose whatsoever."

The earlier definition was very restrictive and therefore needed modification. The same has been done and as per the new definition now the village will be declared electrified if —

- (i) Basic infrastructure such as distribution transformer and distribution lines are provided in the inhabited locality as well as the dalit bastis/hamlet where it exists. (For electrification

through Non-conventional Energy Sources a distribution transformer may not be necessary).

- (ii) Electricity is provided to public places like schools, panchayat offices, health centers, dispensaries, community centers, etc.

- (iii) The number of households electrified should be at least 10% of the total number of households in the village.

- (iv) Mandatory certification from Gram Panchayat regarding the completion of village electrification should be obtained.

#### Export of Natural Silk

3090. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of natural silk goods and wastes exported through Central Silk Board during the last three years;

- (b) whether export of these items has been declined over the years;

- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the export of above commodities through Central Silk Board?

THE MINISTER TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) Central Silk Board does not export either silk goods or silk wastes. However, various Certification Centres of Central Silk Board certify the quantum and quality of the silk goods and silk waste for export on voluntary basis. Details of export of natural silk goods and silk wastes from the country during last three years are given below:

Types of Silk	2002-03			2003-04			2004-05 (Provisional)		
	Value		Qty.	Value		Qty.	Value		Qty.
	(MT)	Rs. (in crore)		(MT)	Rs. (in crore)		(MT)	Rs. (in crore)	
Natural Silk goods	13232	2278.29	470.82	12840	2773.85	603.54	12453	2746.56	611.3
Silk wastes	935	15.76	3.26	286	5.34	1.16	65	1.12	0.25
Total	14167	2294.05	474.08	13126	2779.19	604.70	12518	2747.88	611.55

(Source) of DGCI&S)

The above table shows an increase in export of silk goods in dollar terms.

- (d) Government is taking following initiatives to improve silk exports:

- (i) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk enabling the manufacturers to produce export quality goods.

- (ii) A number of schemes like Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Duty Drawback, Duty Free Replenishment Certificate (DFRC) have been made available to exporters whereby the element of tax on the exported item is reimbursed to them.
- (iii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the EXIM Policy extended to exporters.
- (iv) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex-Styles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.
- (v) For Technological up-gradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.
- (vi) Central Silk Board provides subsidy to beneficiaries through State Governments under plan schemes. It also provides technology support and training to them for their skill upgradation. During the X plan period enhanced plan provision over the IX plan period has been made i.e. Rs. 450/- crores for development of Research & Technology and Implementation of Central and Centrally Sponsored programmes.

[Translation]

#### Rural Electrification

3091. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

SHRI K. C. PALANISAMY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages in the country which are without electricity;
- (b) the hurdles in the electrification of these villages;

- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for electrification of villages of rural areas in the country;
- (d) the role of State Governments in this regard;
- (e) whether any time frame has been fixed for electrification of all the villages of rural areas in the country;
- (f) if so, the details of on going rural electrification programmes with the help of Union Government at present; and
- (g) the financial assistance provided to each State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) There are 112401 balance unelectrified villages in the country as on 31.3.2004 as per OM No.44/19/2004-D (RE) dated 18-3-2004 of Ministry of Power (at Annexure-I).

(b) The main hurdles in electrification of balance un-electrified villages have been:

- (i) Inadequacy of funds
- (ii) Commercial non-viability of projects making the states/utilities reluctant to take loans even on soft terms for project implementation.
- (iii) Inability of State Electricity Boards, in some States, to undertake large electrification jobs in a short period of time.

(c) Government has been implementing various schemes for rural electrification from time to time like Kutir Jyoti Programme, rural electrification under Minimum Need Programme (MNP) and Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). To accelerate the pace of rural electrification, Govt. of India in May 2004 introduced a scheme "Accelerated Electrification of One lakh Villages and One Crore Households." Under this scheme there was a provision for about 40% capital subsidy for eligible projects and balance 60% of the project cost as loan assistance from REC on soft terms.

Subsequently, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Govt. of India, launched a new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana - Scheme for Rural Electricity Infrastructure & Household Electrification" on 4th April, 2005 for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) goal of providing access to electricity to all households in the country in five years. This scheme merges the earlier scheme of 2004-05 "Accelerated Electrification of One Lakh Villages and One Crore Households" and Minimum Need Programme (MNP) for rural electrification. 90% capital subsidy of the project cost will be provided under the scheme by the Centre.



(d) Under Section 6 of Electricity Act, 2003, the State Government shall endeavour to supply electricity to all areas including villages and hamlets.

(e) It is targeted to electrify all villages and habitations in five years under "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana".

(f) The details of the ongoing rural electrification programme i.e. "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" are given in the enclosed Statement-I in the scheme document.

(g) State-wise details of disbursements made under various rural electrification schemes during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### **Statement-I**

*(Ministry of Power Office Memorandum No. 44/19/2004-D(RE) dated 18th March 2005)*

Sub: Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojna - Scheme of Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification

Approval of the President is conveyed for the "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojna - Scheme of Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification" for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) goal of providing access to electricity to all households in five years.

1. The scheme would be implemented through the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).
2. Ninety per cent capital subsidy would be provided for overall cost of the projects under the scheme.
3. The present approval is for implementation of Phase I of the scheme for capital subsidy of Rs. 5000 crores during the 10th Plan period.
4. States must make adequate arrangements for supply of electricity and there should be no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households.
5. For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under the scheme, prior commitment of the States would also be obtained before sanction of projects under the scheme for:
  - i. deployment of franchises for the management of rural distribution in projects financed under the scheme, and

- ii. the provision of requisite revenue subsidies to the State Utilities as required under the Electricity Act, 2003.

#### **6. Scope of the scheme**

Under the scheme, projects could be financed with capital subsidy for provision of -

##### **6.1 Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB)**

- Provision of 33/11 KV (or 66/11 KV) sub-stations of adequate capacity and lines in blocks where these do not exist.

##### **6.2 Creation of Village Electrification Infrastructure (VEI)**

- Electrification of un-electrified villages.
- Electrification of un-electrified habitations.
- Provision of distribution transformers of appropriate capacity in electrified villages/habitation(s).

##### **6.3 Decentralised Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply**

- Decentralised generation-cum-distribution from conventional sources for villages where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective provided it is not covered under the programme of Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources for providing electricity from non-conventional energy sources under their remote village electrification programme of 25000 villages.

##### **6.4 REDB, VEI and DDG would also cater to the requirement of agriculture and other activities including:**

- irrigation pumpsets
- small and medium industries
- khadi and village industries
- cold chains
- healthcare
- education and IT

This would facilitate overall rural development, employment generation and poverty alleviation.

##### **6.5 Rural Household Electrification of Below Poverty Line Households:**

Electrification of un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households would be financed with 100% capital

subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations. Households above poverty line would be paying for their connections at prescribed connection charges and no subsidy would be available for this purpose.

The over-all subsidy of components from paras 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.5 taken together should be kept within 90% of the over-all project cost. The over-all cost estimate of different components for all villages and household are at the Annexure-A.

- 6.6 The project covers the entire country. The details of the un-electrified villages and households access to electricity as per census 2001 is in the Annexure-B and Annexure-C.

7. **Franchisees:**

In the management of rural distribution through franchisees who could be Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Users Association, Cooperatives or individual entrepreneurs, the Panchayat institutions would be associated. The franchisees arrangement could be for system beyond and including feeders from substation or from and including Distribution Transformer(s).

8. **Revenue Sustainability**

Based on the consumer mix and the prevailing consumer tariff and likely load, the Bulk Supply Tariff (BST) for the franchisee would be determined after ensuring commercial viability of the franchisee. Wherever feasible, bidding may be attempted for determining the BST. This Bulk Supply Tariff would be fully factored into the submissions of the State Utilities to the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) for their revenue requirements and tariff determination. The State Government under the Electricity Act is required to provide the requisite revenue subsidies to the State Utilities if it would like tariff for any category of consumers to be lower than the tariff determined by the SERC. While administering the scheme, prior commitments may be taken from the State Government regarding —

- (a) Determination of bulk supply tariff for franchisees in a manner that ensures their commercial viability.
- (b) Provision of requisite revenue subsidy by the State Government to the State Utilities as required under the Electricity Act.

9. The capital subsidy for eligible projects under the scheme would be given through REC. These eligible

projects shall be implemented fulfilling the conditionalities indicated above. In the event the projects are not implemented satisfactorily in accordance with the conditionalities indicated above, the capital subsidy could be converted into interest bearing loans.

10. The services of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) have been offered to the states for assisting them in the execution of Rural Electrification Projects as per their willingness and requirement. With a view to augment the implementation capacities for the programme, REC has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with NTPC, POWERGRID, NHPC and DVC to make available CPSUs' project management expertise and capabilities to states wishing to use their services. This is being operationalised through a suitable Tripartite Agreement.
11. Upto 1 per cent of the total subsidy under the scheme would be used for associated works/efforts of the programme linked to research, technology development, capacity building, information system development, awareness and other administrative and associated expenses and undertaking of pilot studies and projects complimentary to this rural electrification scheme.
12. This scheme merges the existing "Accelerated Electrification of one lakh Villages and one crore Households" and the Minimum Needs Programme for rural electrification.
13. The scheme will be subject to evaluation and a view on modification required for implementation during 11th Plan will be taken after a comprehensive review towards the end of 10th Plan.
14. The expenditure involved on above scheme would be debitable to the following Head under Grant No. 73 - Ministry of Power for the year 2004-05 and corresponding head of account for the subsequent years.

2801 Power (Major Head)

06.796 Rural Electrification -

3. Rural Electrification

03.00.33 - Subsidies

15. This issues with the concurrence of Finance Wing vide their diary No. 3766/2055- JS&FA dated the 18th March, 2005.

-sd-

(Ajay Shankar)

Additional Secretary to the Government of India

Tel: 23715378

To,

1. The Chief Secretaries of all States
2. The Secretary, Power/Energy of all States
3. Chairman of all States (Utilities)
4. Chairman & Managing Director, REC Scope Complex, New Delhi.

Copy to:

1. Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.
2. Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Sectt. Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Expenditure (Plan Finance), New Delhi.
4. Chairman, Central Electricity Authority, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.
5. Secretary, Planning Commission, New Delhi.

6. Secretary, Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources, New Delhi.
7. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Secretary, Department of Panchayati Raj, New Delhi.
9. Secretary, Ministry of Programme Implementation, New Delhi.
10. Department of Development of North Eastern Region, New Delhi.
11. CMDs of NHPC, NTPC, POWERGRID, DVC.
12. PPS to Secretary (P)/PS to SS (P)/ AS(GC)
13. All JSs / All Directors/ DS in the Ministry of Power.

-sd-

(Ajay Shankar)

Additional Secretary to the Government of India  
Tel: 23715378

**Annexure-A**

***Scheme on Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Village Electrification  
Cost Estimates of the Scheme***

	(Rs. in crore)
1. Electrification of 125,000 un-electrified villages which includes interalia development of backbone network comprising Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) and Village Electrification Infrastructure (VEI) and last mile service connectivity to 10% Households in the village @ Rs. 6.50 lakh/village	8,125
2. Rural Households Electrification (RHE) of population under BPL i.e. 30% of 7.8 crore. Un-electrified Households/ i.e. 2.34 crore households @ Rs.1500/H/H as per Kutir Jyoti dispensation	3,510
3. Augmentation of backbone network in already electrified villages having un-electrified inhabitations @ Rs./l lakh/ village for 4.62 lakh villages	4,620
Total (1 + 2 + 3)	16,255
Outlay for the scheme	16,000
Subsidy component @ 90% for items 1 & 3 and 100% for item 2	14,750
Component of subsidy to be set aside for enabling activities including technology development @ 1% of outlay	160

**Annexure - B**

***Status of Village Electrification as on 31.3.2004***

S. No.	State	Total No. of inhabited villages as per 1991 census	Total No. of villages electrified	Balance unelectrified villages	%age of electrified villages
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	26586	26565	\$	100
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3649	2335	1314	64

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	24685	19081	5604	77.30
4.	Bihar	38475	19251	19224	50
5.	Jharkhand	29336	7641	21695	26
6.	Goa	360	360	-	100
7.	Gujarat	18028	17940	\$	100
8.	Haryana	6759	6759	-	100
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	16891	106	99.38
10	J&K	6477	6301	176	97.28
11.	Karnataka	27066	26771	295	98.91
12.	Kerala	1384	1384	-	100
13.	Madhya Pradesh	51806	50474	1332	97.43
14.	Chhattisgarh	19720	18532	1188	94
15.	Maharashtra	40412	40351	-	100
16.	Manipur	2182	2043	139	93.63
17.	Meghalaya	5484	3016	2468	55
18.	Mizoram	698	691	7	99
19.	Nagaland	1216	1216	-	100
20.	Orissa	46989	37663	9326	80.15
21.	Punjab	12428	12428	-	100
22.	Rajasthan	37889	37276	613	98.38
23.	Sikkim	447	405	42	90.60
24.	Tamil Nadu	15822	15822	-	100
25.	Tripura	855	818	37	95.67
26.	Uttar Pradesh	97122	57042	40080	58.73
27.	Uttaranchal	15681	13131	2550	83.73
28.	West Bengal	37910	31705	6205	83.63
Total (States)		586463	47382	11241	80.80
Total UTs		1093	1090	\$	100%
All India		587556	474982	112401	80.80%

\$ Balance villages are not feasible for electrification.

\* As per the new definition of village electrification (effective from 2004-05) total number of unelectrified villages is estimated to be around 1,25,000.

**Annexure-C***Rural Households Electrification - 2001 Census*

S.No.	State	Total No. of Rural Households	Households Having Electricity	% electrified Households	%un-electrified Housholds
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	12,676,218	7,561,733	59.65	40.35
2	Arunachal Pradesh	164,501	73,250	44.53	55.47
3	Assam	4,220,173	697,842	16.54	83.46
4	Bihar	12,660,007	649,503	5.13	94.87
5	Chhattisgarh	3,359,078	1,548,926	46.11	53.89
6	Delhi	169,528	144,948	85.50	14.50
7	Goa	140,755	130,105	92.43	7.57
8	Gujarat	5,885,961	4,244,758	72.12	27.88
9	Haryana	2,454,463	1,926,814	78.50	21.50
10	Himachal Pradesh	1,097,520	1,036,969	94.48	5.52
11	Jammu & Kashmir	1,161,357	868,341	74.77	25.23
12	Jharkhand	3,802,412	379,987	9.99	90.01
13	Karnataka	6,675,173	4,816,913	72.16	27.84
14	Kerala	4,942,550	3,238,899	65.53	34.47
15	Madhya Pradesh	8,124,795	5,063,424	62.32	37.68
16	Maharashtra	10,993,623	7,164,057	65.17	34.83
17	Manipur	296,354	155,679	52.53	47.47
18	Meghalaya	329,678	99,762	30.26	69.74
19	Mizoram	79,362	35,028	44.14	55.86
20	Nagaland	265,334	150,929	56.88	43.12
21	Orissa	6,782,879	1,312,744	19.35	80.65
22	Punjab	2,775,462	2,482,925	89.46	10.54
23	Rajasthan	7,156,703	3,150,556	44.02	55.98
24	Sikkim	91,723	68,808	75.02	24.98
25	Tamil Nadu	8,274,790	5,890,371	71.18	28.82
26	Tripura	539,680	171,357	31.75	68.25

1	2	3	4	5	6
27	Uttar Pradesh	20,590,074	4,084,288	19.84	80.16
28	Uttaranchal	1,196,157	602,255	50.35	49.65
29	West Bengal	11,161,870	2,262,517	20.27	79.73
<b>Union Territories</b>					
1	A. & Nicobar Islands	49,653	33,807	68.09	31.91
2	Chandigarh	21,302	20,750	97.41	2.59
3	D. & Nagar Haveli	32,783	27,088	82.63	17.37
4	Daman & Diu	22,091	21,529	97.46	2.54
5	Lakshadweep	5,351	5,337	99.74	0.26
6	Pondicherry	72,199	58,486	81.01	18.99
All India		138,271,559	60,180,685	43.52	56.48

**Statement-II***Disbursements of Grant for the year 2002-03*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	KJ	MNP	PMGY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1723.14	0.00	1705.00	3428.14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.53	1200.00	684.00	1903.53
3.	Assam	360.00	6000.00	3000.00	9360.00
4.	Bihar	990.72	6800.00	2417.30	10208.02
5.	Chhattisgarh	342.48	800.00	515.00	1657.48
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	6.00	6.00
7.	Gujarat	67.12	0.00	0.00	67.12
8.	Haryana	129.65	0.00	142.90	272.55
9.	Himachal Pradesh	18.69	200.00	110.00	328.69
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00
11.	Jharkhand	293.69	6800.00	1116.90	8210.59
12.	Karnataka	5154.58	0.00	1000.00	6154.58
13.	Kerala	509.20	0.00	0.00	509.20
14.	Madhya Pradesh	313.57	800.00	1275.00	2388.57

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Maharashtra	111.10	0.00	1664.00	1775.10
16.	Manipur	0.00	270.00	600.00	870.00
17.	Meghalaya	27.09	3000.00	600.00	3627.09
18.	Mizoram	54.00	0.00	598.00	652.00
19.	Nagaland	85.45	130.0	650.00	865.45
20.	Orissa	472.58	6000.00	100.00	6572.58
21.	Punjab	47.68	0.00	444.00	491.68
22.	Rajasthan	229.65	0.00	1061.00	1290.65
23.	Sikkim	6.93	0.00	400.00	406.93
24.	Tamil Nadu	609.13	0.00	1608.20	2217.33
25.	Tripura	98.69	0.00	500.00	596.69
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1050.00	15000.00	10187.00	26237.00
27.	Uttaranchal	728.77	7000.00	2000.00	9728.77
28.	West Bengal	423.91	6000.00	2774.00	9197.91
<b>Total</b>		<b>13865.35</b>	<b>60000.00</b>	<b>35958.30</b>	<b>109823.65</b>

KJ - Kutir Jyoti

PMGY - Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana

MNP - Minimum Need Programme

*Disbursements of Grants for the year 2003-04*

Rupees in lakhs

Sl. No.	State	KJ	MNP	PMGY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2159.87	0.00	1438.00	3597.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	187.18	1200.00	684.00	2071.18
3.	Assam	0.00	6000.00	2900.00	8900.00
4.	Bihar	152.75	6800.00	2417.30	9370.05
5.	Chhattisgarh	509.56	800.00	515.00	1824.56
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	6.00	6.00
7.	Gujarat	37.50	0.00	712.20	749.70
8.	Haryana	85.24	0.00	142.90	228.14
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17.06	200.00	200.00	417.06

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	800.00	800.00
11.	Jharkhand	66.55	6800.00	744.60	7611.15
12.	Karnataka	1541.13	0.00	1000.00	2541.13
13.	Kerala	416.49	0.00	0.00	416.49
14.	Madhya Pradesh	149.41	800.00	1275.00	2224.41
15.	Maharashtra	50.37	0.00	1664.00	1714.37
16.	Manipur	0.00	400.00	600.00	1000.00
17.	Meghalaya	51.16	3000.00	600.00	3651.16
18.	Mizoram	27.00	0.00	598.00	625.00
19.	Nagaland	43.60	0.00	2982.00	3025.60
20.	Orissa	0.00	6000.00	100.00	6100.00
21.	Punjab	100.37	0.00	444.00	544.37
22.	Rajasthan	222.30	0.00	1061.00	1283.30
23.	Sikkim	14.74	0.00	400.00	414.74
24.	Tamil Nadu	145.81	0.00	608.20	754.01
25.	Tripura	66.10	0.00	700.00	766.10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	15000.00	9277.00	24277.00
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	7000.00	1000.00	8000.00
28.	West Bengal	0.00	6000.00	3816.75	9816.75
Total		6044.19	60000.00	36685.95	102730.14

KJ - Kutir Jyoti

PMGY - Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana

MNP - Minimum Need Programme

*Disbursements of Grant for the year 2004-05*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	KJ	BPL	PMGY	Total	AREP loans	AREP subsidy	Total AREP
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	377.00	912.00	1705.00	2994.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	186.00	225.00	684.00	1095.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	2900.00	2900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Bihar	263.00	182.00	2417.30	2862.30	12014.00	8010.00	20024.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	111.00	744.00	584.00	1439.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	27.00	23.00	712.30	762.30	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Haryana	10.00	41.00	142.80	193.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9.00	9.00	200.00	218.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	-34.00	120.00	744.60	830.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	213.00	0.00	1000.00	1213.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Kerala	0.00	1047.00	0.00	1047.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	152.00	173.00	637.50	962.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	14.00	40.00	414.76	468.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	288.00	288.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	22.00	0.00	824.50	846.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	33.00	150.00	222.00	405.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	112.00	0.00	1061.00	1173.00	560.00	373.00	933.00
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	135.00	0.00	271.52	406.52	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tripura	111.00	108.00	850.00	1089.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	5387.00	5387.00	38398.00	25598.00	63996.00
27.	Uttanchal	0.00	360.00	300.00	660.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	924.50	924.50	6869.00	4580.00	11449.00
Total		1741.00	4134.00	24470.78	30345.78	57841.00	38561.00	96402.00

KJ - Kutir Jyoti

AREP - Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme

BPL - Below Poverty Line

\*No funds were released in 2004-05 under Minimum Need Programme for rural electrification.

*[English]***Pending Cases of Litigations**

3092. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an expert group to evolve a mechanism to reduce the pendency of litigations;

(b) if so, whether the panel has given a time-frame for submitting its recommendations to the Government;

(c) whether serious concern has been expressed on the increasing number of cases relating to the Ministry in different courts;

(d) if so, whether this expert group have a nominee of Minister as well as representatives from the Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) to (c) Government has constituted an Expert Group to examine issues relating to streamlining of the prosecution mechanism under the Companies Act, 1956. The Group is required to submit its report by 15-09-2005.

(d) and (e) The Expert Group has been constituted under the Chairman-Ship of Shri O.P. Vaish, Sr. Advocate. Other Members of the Group are as under:

i)	Shri Bhagwat Swaroop, Member, Settlement Commission (IT)	-	Member
ii)	Shri U.C. Nahta, Regional Director (NR), Ministry of Company Affairs	-	Member
iii)	Shri Sunil Talati, FCA, Council Member of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)	-	Member
iv)	Shri V. Sreedharan, Council Member, The Fellow Member of Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), Practising Company Secretary	-	Member
v)	Shri S.S. Luthra, Jt. Director (Tech.), Ministry of Company Affairs	-	Member Secretary

*[Translation]***Drug Related Cases**

3093. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug related cases detected by the Department of Revenue Intelligence during the last three years in Rajasthan;

(b) whether all culprits were arrested in these cases; and

(c) if so, the days on which these culprits were arrested and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has not seized any narcotic drugs during last 3 years in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Nil in view of (a) above.

*[English]***Employment in Textile Sector**

3094. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the multi-fibre agreement, the Indian textile sector is forecast to grow \$ 100 billion and create almost 5 million jobs by 2010;

(b) if so, the actual assessment made by the Government;

(c) whether Government has initiated any positive long term plans to achieve this target; and

(d) if so, the time by which these plans are expected to start yielding results?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) The Indian textile and clothing industry is in a resurgent mood in the context of abolition of quotas with effect from 1st January 2005. The industry is making vigorous efforts to upgrade its production technology and improve competitiveness in order to face new challenges and opportunities with confidence. The current size of the Indian textile and apparel industry is about US\$ 35 billion and according to the industry vision it has potential to achieve the size of US\$ 85 billion by 2010. This growth can be fuelled by both exports and raising domestic

consumption. Textile being the labour intensive sector, the overall growth in the textile economy from US\$ 37 billion to US\$ 85 billion would require an investment of Rs.1,40,000 crore that would generate over 12 million new jobs mainly for semi-skilled and unskilled labour. Direct employment opportunities of 5 million jobs are envisaged, of which 4 million would be in the apparel segment. Another 7 million jobs are expected to be generated in the allied sectors, primarily in cotton and jute farming and related activities.

(c) Government has constantly endeavoured to fashion its policies to make them as industry friendly as possible. In order to prepare the domestic textile industry to exploit opportunities as a result of phasing out of quotas with effect from 1st January 2005, various initiatives have been taken to minimize constraints. To improve productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination through up gradation of cotton market yards and modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories. The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports. The Government has also launched the centrally sponsored schemes titled "Apparel Parks for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centers and the "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" for upgrading the infrastructure facilities at old textile centers. The bold and imaginative fiscal duty regime announced in the Budget 2004-05 has provided a level playing field both to the organised and the unorganized sector, brought down the cost of production and has helped in consolidation and expansion of capacities. To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery has been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items. In 2005-06 Budget, 30 items of knitting and knitwear have been de-reserved. This would facilitate setting up of large sized modernized units for meeting the international competition.

(d) With the above focused and concentrated efforts

3 million additional spindles and 30,000 shuttleless looms have been installed during the last 2-3 years and the pace of investment has picked up considerably since the announcement in the Budget 2004-05. The Banks and Financial Institutions, which were earlier hesitant in extending credit to the textile sector have changed their mind-set and are enthusiastic about this sector. The industry is upbeat.

#### **Implementation of Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas**

3095. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken and achievement made in the implementation of the scheme "Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas" (PURA);

(b) the details of guide lines framed for the implementation of it;

(c) the details of funds released after the 1st meeting of the steering committee held on January 11, 2005.

(d) whether any National Level Monitoring body has been made for Jammu & Kashmir for implementation of the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Planning Commission has decided to initially launch a pilot phase for implementation of the Scheme, Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA). Under the pilot phase, 7 facilities namely power, telecom, road and transportation, health, education, water supply and marketing are envisaged to be provided in the selected clusters. The pilot phase is being launched in the 7 States with one cluster in each state comprising of 10-15 villages. The pilot phase is likely to be completed in 2 to 3 years time period with an estimated cost of Rs.4 to 5 crore per cluster. In the initial phase the scheme is to provide physical connectivity in the selected clusters.

(b) There are no guidelines of the scheme at present. The pilot phase is being implemented to field test the design concept of PURA and to develop guidelines for implementation of the scheme at national level.

(c) The details of releases made after the 1st Steering Committee Meeting are given below:

S. No.	State	District	Cluster Selected	Amount Released (Rs. crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Anantapur	Rayadurg	1.5
2	Assam	Sonitpur	Gohpur	1.5
3	Bihar	Muzzafarpur	Motipur	1.5
4	Maharashtra	Hingoli	Basmath	1.0
5	Orissa	Jagat Singhpur	Kujanga	1.5
6	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Shahpura	1.5
7	Uttar Pradesh	Etawah	Bharthana	1.5

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Funds of CSIR

3096. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of funds made for the functioning of National Laboratories under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) the number of patents with National Laboratories and number of patents commercially exploited and amount earned thereby;

(c) whether insurance industries are being benefited by such National Laboratories/Research Institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Total amount of Rs. 927.04 crores were allocated for the functioning of National Laboratories under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. As on 31st March, 2005, 1198 CSIR patents were in force. Out of these in force patents, 50 patents have been licensed and during the year 2004-05, CSIR earned an amount of Rs. 3.53 crores on account of royalty and premium.

(c) to (e) CSIR laboratories undertake research aimed at the development of socio-economic sectors at large and not directly connected with the insurance industries.

#### IDBI Equity Investment Scheme

3097. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has started a scheme of equity investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the aims and objectives of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Promotion of Sericulture

3098. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sericulture which is a traditional industry of Jammu and Kashmir has registered a drastic decline;

(b) if so, the details of such decline during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote the large scale production and export of silk from Jammu & Kashmir?

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

(b) Details of production of cocoon and raw silk for the last three years in the State of Jammu & Kashmir are given below:

Year	Cocoon (MT)	Raw Silk (MT)
2002-03	848	100
2003-04	681	85
2004-05	716	90 (Provisional)

(Source: CSB and State Govt. of J & K)

It will be noted that there is an increase in both figures in 2004-05 over 2003-04.

(c) Apart from other programmes and schemes to increase the production and to improve the productivity of silk in the silk producing states including Jammu & Kashmir, Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles is also implementing a special package of assistance announced by the Prime Minister in May, 2002 for development of infrastructure, silk and wool etc. in the State. So far as sericulture is concerned, the details of amount released under this package during the last three years as the 90% share of the Central Govt. are given below:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)
2002-03	226.25
2003-04	178.49
2004-05	169.20

[English]

#### Land Reforms

3099. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposals to implement a scheme for strengthening of the land reforms in the country particularly in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds earmarked therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the launching of that scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) Land and its management comes under the exclusive jurisdiction of States. Ministry of Rural Development play an advisory and coordinating role in the field of land reforms. Land Reform is a continuous process. At present, there is no proposal with the Central Government to implement a Scheme of land reforms in the

country including Rajasthan. Ministry of Rural Development play the role of evolving a national consensus for initiating effective land reforms. It organizes conferences of Chief Ministers and Revenue Ministers from time to time, monitors conferment of ownership rights on tenants, restoration as well as prevention of alienation of Tribal Land, consolidation of holdings, distribution of Government wasteland, ceiling surplus land and Bhoodan land etc. in respect of the whole country including Rajasthan.

No funds are allocated for this purpose by the Central Government.

[Translation]

#### Scheme for Expansion of Auto Testing and Research Centres

3100. MOHD. SHAHID:

PROF. MAHADEVRAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved a proposal to establish Auto Testing and Research Centres in various States of the country;

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

(c) the number of such centres in the country at present;

(d) whether any action plan regarding extension of these units is under consideration of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details of amount likely to be spent on expansion of existing units and establishment of new research centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Government has approved the National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure project (NATRIP) under Department of Heavy Industries, which envisages setting up of world-class automotive testing and homologation facilities in India at a total investment of Rs. 1,718 crores in two phases of three years each, from the date of its launch. The main facilities will come up in the three automotive hubs of the country, Chennai (in the South), Manesar (in the North) and, Pune (in the West).

(b) The project envisages setting up of the following facilities:

- (i) A full-fledged testing and homologation center within the northern hub of automotive industry at Manesar in the State of Haryana.
- (ii) A full-fledged testing and homologation center within the southern hub of automotive industry at a location near Chennai in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) Up-gradation of existing testing and homologation facilities at Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), Pune and at Vehicle Research and Development Establishment (VRDE), Ahmednagar.
- (iv) World-class proving grounds or testing racks on around 4,000 acres of land, including summer and winter pads, in Madhya Pradesh subject to the land being made available by the State Government.
- (v) National Centre for Testing of Tractors and Off-Roads Vehicles together with the national facilities for accident data analysis and specialized driving training at Rae Bareilly in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (vi) National Specialized Hill Area Driving Training Centre as also Regional In-Use Vehicle Management Centre at Dholchora (Silchar) in the State of Assam.

(c) to (e) At present there are three authorized homologation testing centre in the country namely Automotive Research Association of India, Pune; Vehicle Research Development & Establishment, Ahmednagar; and Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun. Government has decided to upgrade and expand the existing facilities located at Automotive Research Association of India, Pune and Vehicle Research Development & Establishment, Ahmednagar. The total cost of the project is Rs. 1718 crores, out of which Rs. 275 crores will be spent on the upgradation and expansion of the capacities of Automotive Research Association of India, Pune & Vehicle Research Development & Establishment, Ahmednagar; while balance amount of Rs. 1443 crore will be spent on the setting up of new facilities as envisages in the Project.

[English]

#### **Technology Park**

3101. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to determine the feasibility of opening new Science & Technology Park in Andman & Nicobar Islands to meet the huge demand of computer spares;

(b) if so, the findings of the said study and time by when the new parks are likely to be commissioned; and

(c) the names of such parks likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Development of Rural Areas**

3102. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need to make all out efforts to ensure that appropriate research outputs are put to use for the benefit of society;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has setup any mechanism for applications of Science & Technology for improving the quality of life of the people, particularly the weaker sections and women;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the said mechanism will be effective for the development of rural areas to reduce regional imbalances and generate scientific awareness among the masses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Government has been making efforts to ensure that research outputs are put to use for the benefit of the society through many schemes instituted by the Government. Prominent among them are schemes pursued by Department of Science and Technology, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Department of Biotechnology, Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment

Council, CAPART, IITs and national research institutions. These efforts entail action oriented and location specific projects in many areas such as agriculture, horticulture, energy, water management, exploiting medicinal plants, utilization of waste and so on, training of beneficiaries in appropriate skills, setting up demonstration projects at the field level and establishing technology parks including Women Technology parks. These projects are generally implemented by S&T based voluntary organizations and scientific institutions and are many a times based on research and development outputs from R&D institutions. There are specialized schemes of the Government for addressing the needs of weaker sections and women through which research outputs are utilized for improving quality of life, enhancing opportunities for income generation and empowering rural people.

(e) Science and technology is a social equalizer and various mechanisms instituted by the Government certainly contribute to reduce regional imbalances through implementation of replicable technology packages and field models in several sectors with involvement of State Governments, S&T based NGOs and S&T institutions. Scientific awareness among masses is almost a natural by-product of such efforts.

#### World Bank Loan for Food Projects

3103. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank is considering to provide some amount in the form of loan for food projects in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where these projects are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Customs Duty on Petroleum Products

3104. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to reduce the customs duty on petroleum products in view of the heavy consumption and increase in their prices in the country vis-a-vis other countries of the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the Government will have to bear the burden of revenue losses following reduction in the customs duty on petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Government had constituted an Advisory Group to review the customs and central excise tariff structure on crude petroleum and petroleum products, and to suggest changes in duty structure. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas was also represented in said Advisory Group. On the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Group, customs and excise duty structures on crude petroleum and petroleum products were revised in this year's budget, in consultation with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas so as to ensure their revenue neutrality. At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to review the customs duty structure on petroleum products.

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

[English]

#### IREDA

3105. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Renewable Energy Development Authority is incurring heavy losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The net profit and dividend payout for the last five (5) years are given below:

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Net Profit	Dividend
2000-01	16.26	9.00
2001-02	4.10	4.00
2002-03	17.33	4.00
2003-04	23.34	4.00
2004-05 (Provisional)	30.40	6.10

(c) Does not arise.

### High Speed Motor Boats

3106. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to purchase some state-of-art high speed small ships and motor-boats for the marine wing of the Department of Customs;

(b) if so, the number of such ships and motor-boats proposed to be purchased by the Government; and

(c) the total amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the procurement of 109 high speed boats of various types at an estimated cost of Rs.153 crores.

[Translation]

### Vacant Posts of SCs/STs

3107. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts in various categories meant for the persons belonging to SCs/STs are lying vacant in various departments and undertakings under this Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees working in these departments and undertakings have been promoted and fresh appointments have also been made in these departments/undertakings during the last two years;

(d) if so, the year-wise and category-wise details of fresh appointments made under various categories during the above period and so far in the current year;

(e) whether the prescribed rules have been followed with regard to the appointment and promotion of persons belonging to SCs/STs categories; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A total number of 117 posts of SC category and 112 posts of ST category are lying vacant in the Ministry and its Sub-ordinate offices and Public Sector Undertakings.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details of fresh appointments

made under various categories during last two years and so far in the current years are as follows:

Year	Total	SC	ST
2003	132	18	10
2004	473	70	102
2005 (up to 31.7.2005)	91	14	07

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of the reply given to part (e) above.

[English]

### Retail Investors

3108. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently allowed the retail investors to buy and sell gold through demat account;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the manner in which it will be beneficial to the traders, the common man and the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Government has allowed a fortnightly Gold futures contracts which commences every Wednesday of the week and is settled through demat account. The outstanding position in respect of these contracts has to result in delivery on maturity of the contract through demat account maintained by the buyers and sellers.

(c) These contracts will be beneficial to traders and common man to hedge their prices risk on their holding of Gold. They can also use these contracts as investments. These contracts will help in developing the efficiency of the Gold market.

[Translation]

### SICA Act, 1985

3109. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA) has been successful in meeting the challenges faced by the small scale industries; and



(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) 'Sick Industrial company/undertaking' as defined under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA) does not include small industrial undertakings.

[English]

**Modernisation of Weaving and Processing Sector**

3110. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether textile industry is one of the largest and the most important sectors in the country in terms of output, employment generation and foreign exchange earnings;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expand the textile industry;

(c) whether the weaving and processing sector has not performed satisfactorily due to lack of modernisation;

(d) whether the export of processed fabrics and other value added items have been affected due to lack of modernisation; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by the Government to modernize the weaving and processing sector and to boost the export of processed fabrics and other value added items?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list of important steps taken by the Government to expand the textile industry is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The following measures have been taken by the Government to modernize the weaving and processing sectors and to boost the export of processed fabrics and other value added items:-

- The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the

modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.

- For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- In order to facilitate modernisation of the Powerloom Sector, Schemes such as High-tech Weaving Parks, Modernisation and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centers, Group Workshed Scheme and Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme @ 20% have been introduced.

**Statement**

*Measures taken by the Government in the recent past to expand the textile industry.*

- \* To improve productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination through upgradation of cotton market yards and modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories.
- \* The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.
- \* For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- \* For the decentralised powerloom sector, Government has enhanced, w.e.f. 13.01.05, the capital ceiling for machinery from Rs. 60.00 lakh to Rs. 100.00 lakh under 20% capital subsidy scheme-TUFS.

- \* For small scale textile and jute industrial units, Government has enhanced, the rate of Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) from 12% to 15% w.e.f. 13.01.05.
- \* "Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme" [a centrally sponsored scheme] has been launched with a view to imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports. Under the Scheme, Government gives grant upto Rs.17 crores per apparel park for infrastructure work, training and common facilities.
- \* "Textile Centers Infrastructure Development (TCIDS) Scheme" [centrally sponsored] has been introduced with the objective of modernizing infrastructure facilities at major traditional textile centres of the country. Government of India gives grant upto Rs.20 crores for a particular centre.
- \* In order to facilitate modernisation of the Powerloom Sector, Schemes such as High-tech Weaving Parks, Modernisation and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centers, Group Workshed Scheme and Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme @ 20% have been introduced.
- \* In 2004-05 Budget, the entire textile sector, except for man-made fibre and filament yarn was provided optional exemption from excise duty. In 2005-06 Budget, Central Value-added Tax (CENVAT) on Polyester Filament Yarn has been reduced from 24% to 16%. These modifications in fiscal levies aim at attracting more investments for modernization of textile sector.
- \* To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery has been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items.
- \* In 2005-06 Budget, 30 items of knitting and knitwear have been de-reserved. This would facilitate setting up of large sized modernized units for meeting the international competition.
- \* Government has launched the Debt Restructuring

Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.

- \* In order to cater to the growing skilled manpower requirements at shop floor level, Government is providing assistance for strengthening existing and opening new Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs).
- \* National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has been set up to provide the leadership role in sensitizing the industry to the concept of value addition by inducting trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.

#### Wind Energy Parks

3111. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of wind energy parks set up in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the year of setting up of these wind energy parks;
- (c) the purpose for which such parks were set up.
- (d) whether the Union Government has reviewed the working of these wind energy parks; and
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) Wind Energy Parks, which is commonly known as Wind Farm Projects are mostly set up as commercial projects with private investments. The total capacity of wind power projects installed so far in the country is 3595 MW, which includes installed capacity of 68 MW demonstration wind farm projects supported by the Ministry with the objective to open up potential areas for commercial development of wind power. State-wise and year-wise information of the cumulative installed capacity is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) The electricity, generated by the Wind Farm Projects fed into the State Electricity Grids is metered by the concerned State Electricity Boards. As per the information provided by the State authorities, the cumulative electricity generated upto 31st March, 2005 is about 16.77 billion units.

**Statement****State-wise & Year-wise Wind Power Installed Capacity (MW)  
(As on 31.03.2005)**

State	Upto March '92	Upto March '97	1997- 98	1998- 99	1999- 00	2000- 01	2001- 02	2002- 03	2003- 04	2004- 05	Total
Andhra Pradesh	0.6	54.3	1.5	6.0	26.3	3.8	0.7	0.0	6.2	21.8	120.6
Gujarat	14.5	146.8	20.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	28.9	51.5	253.5
Karnataka	0.6	5.9	11.2	2.6	14.6	10.4	24.0	55.6	84.9	201.5	410.7
Kerala	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
Madhya Pradesh	0.6	9.6	2.7	6.2	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	28.9
Maharashtra	1.1	5.4	0.2	23.3	50.3	110.5	209.4	2.0	6.2	48.8	456.2
Rajasthan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	5.3	8.8	44.6	117.8	106.3	284.8
Tamil Nadu	22.3	676.2	31.1	17.8	45.6	41.9	44.0	133.6	371.2	675.5	2037.0
West Bengal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Others	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>901.9</b>	<b>66.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>142.9</b>	<b>172.9</b>	<b>287.5</b>	<b>242.0</b>	<b>615.2</b>	<b>1111.7</b>	<b>3596.4</b>

**Backlog Vacancy**

3112. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts in various categories meant for the persons belonging to SCs/STs are lying vacant in various departments and undertakings under his Ministry;

(b) If so, the details thereof as on date;

(c) the details of fresh appointments made under various categories as on date, category-wise;

(d) whether the prescribed rules have been followed with regard to the appointment and promotion of persons belonging to SC/STs categories; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of vacant SC/ST posts are as under:

Group	A	B	C	D
SC	4	4	7	-
ST	3	1	6	1

(c) Details of fresh appointments made under SC/ST categories are as under:

Group	A	B	C	D
SC	2	3	4	1
ST	-	3	6	1

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Financial Hubs**

3113. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up financial hubs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the places at which these hubs are likely to be set up, State-wise;

(d) the main purpose behind setting up of these hubs; and

(e) the time by which these hubs are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) In the Budget Speech 2005-06, Finance Minister proposed to appoint a High Powered Expert Committee in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to advise the Govt. on how to make Mumbai a regional financial center. Government has already initiated consultation process with RBI.

[English]

#### **Gas Cracker Projects**

3114. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam has requested from exemption from Excises and Customs duties in respect of the Gas Cracker Project;

(b) the reasons advanced by the State Government; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Government of Assam is a 10% partner in a proposed Joint Venture for Assam Gas Cracker Project (AGCP). Gas Authority of India Ltd., has been selected for implementing the project. GAIL has prepared a feasibility report for the project, which includes request for exemption from customs and excise duties. This request has been made to make the project viable.

(c) The proposal from GAIL is under examination by Public Investment Board (PIB).

#### **SMILE Committee Report**

3115. SHRI J. M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been sought to be taken on the SMILE (Securities Market Infrastructure Leveraging

Expert) committee report on the primary market infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the action has been taken to implement the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) considered the recommendations of SMILE Taskforce and necessary amendments to SEBI (DIP) Guidelines and Regulations governing intermediaries viz., merchant bankers, registrars, bankers to the issue etc., have been initiated by it.

[Translation]

#### **Education Loan**

3116. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wide-spread complaints from the common man of the country that certain Nationalised Banks are still reluctant to sanction educational loan for professional courses have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, action taken by the Government against the Heads of such Banks;

(c) whether the banks provide educational loans to students going abroad to complete their study; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No instances of widespread complaints that certain nationalized banks are still reluctant to sanction education loans for professional courses have come to the notice of the government. However, on receipt of any specific complaint against a particular bank necessary action is initiated to redress the complaint.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Banks are providing educational loans to students pursuing higher studies in India and abroad. The salient features of the educational loan scheme are given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

##### ***The Salient Features of Educational Loan Scheme***

(i) Student Eligibility :

- Should be an Indian National
- Secured admission to Professional/Technical Courses in India or abroad through Entrance Test/Merit Based Selection process

(ii) Courses Eligible :

Study Abroad

Graduation

For Job oriented Professional/Technical Courses offered by reputed Universities.

Post Graduation MCA, MBA, MS etc.

Courses conducted by CIMA - London, CPA in USA etc.

(iii) Quantum of Finance : Need based finance subject to repaying capacity of the parents/students with margin and the following ceilings.

Maximum Loan Rs. 15 Lakh

Margin 15%

(iv) Security

Upto Rs. 4 Lakh No Security

Above Rs. 4 lakh and Upto Rs. 7.5 lakh Collateral in the form of a suitable third party guarantee. The bank may, at its discretion, waive third party guarantee if satisfied with the net-worth/ means of parent who would be executing the documents as joint borrower.

Above Rs. 7.5 lakh Collateral of suitable value or suitable third party guarantee alongwith the assignment of future income of the student for payment of instalments.

(v) Interest Rate Upto Rs. 4 lakh: BPLR

Above Rs. 4 lakh : BPLR + 1%.

Simple interest to be charged during replacement holding/ moratorium period.

(vi) Capability Certificate : Banks can also issue the capability certificate for students going abroad for higher studies. For this financial and other supporting documents may be obtained from applicant, if required.

#### **IRS Officers Involved In Corruption**

3117. Dr. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of IRS officials found involved in corruption cases during the last three years;

(b) the action taken against these officers;

(c) whether these officials are still in service; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The number of IRS officers found involved in corruption cases during the last three years is 103 (one hundred and three)\*.

(b) Disciplinary proceedings under Rule 14 of the CCS(CCA) Rules have been initiated against the concerned officers in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission. In cases, investigated by the Central Bureau of

Investigation, sanction has been accorded for prosecution in appropriate cases in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission. Keeping in view the gravity of the case and also based on the recommendations of the Central Bureau of Investigation, the officers have been placed under suspension, wherever found necessary.

(c) and (d) Except those officers who have attained the age of superannuation, the others are still in service and proceedings are going on in all cases. Final action is taken only after the charges are established/dropped. Till then, in appropriate cases, the officers are placed under suspension. 24 officers of Group 'A' were placed under suspension during this period.

[English]

#### **Economic Growth**

3118. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank study for the year 2004 shows a marked improvement in governance in India;

\* This figure includes cases which were detected during the calendar years 2002, 2003 and 2004. These cases are at various stages of disciplinary proceedings, except in 8 cases where major penalty has been levied.

(b) if so, the other points mentioned in the report;

(c) whether number of suggestions have been made by the World Bank to improve India's performance further;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) to the extent to which Government has been in a position to accept its suggestions; and

(f) if so, the suggestions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The Report of the World Bank 'India Investment Climate Assessment 2004', acknowledges that India is in the global fast lane of entrepreneurial talent and technological creativity. The report mentions that improvements in infrastructure, labour markets and finance accessibility, etc. will go a long way in accelerating the growth process.

(e) and (f) Reform is an ongoing process and the Government is itself addressing all the issues through its various policies and programmes.

[Translation]

#### **National Accreditation Board for Laboratories**

3119. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Accreditation Board for Laboratories functions under this Ministry;

(b) if so, the role and functions alongwith the organisational set up thereof;

(c) whether the officers/employees working in the said Board are in permanent service of the Government and the details of facilities provided to them; and

(d) if not, the time by when they are likely to be made permanent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) functions under the aegis of Ministry of Science and Technology.

(b) The major objectives for which NABL is set up and which describe the role and functions of NABL are as under:

- i. To promote, coordinate, guide, implement and maintain an accreditation system for laboratories suitable for the country in accordance with the relevant national and international standards and guides.
- ii. To ensure that all measurements either during calibration or testing by accredited laboratories are related to appropriate national/international standards maintained at National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) through an unbroken chain of comparisons.
- iii. To encourage Proficiency Tests/Inter-laboratory Comparisons in order to ensure accuracy, reliability and reproducibility of test results.
- iv. To oversee the quality requirements of Testing and Calibration Laboratories as per National and International Standards and to facilitate upgradation of testing and calibration facilities and laboratories.
- v. To help to establish credibility of the Testing and Calibration Laboratories to their users through the process of accreditation.
- vi. To organise Awareness Programmes on all aspects of laboratory accreditation for the laboratories by various means including seminars, workshops and laboratory-industry-accreditation body meets etc.
- vii. To prepare and maintain a data base of Assessors and Experts in different disciplines of Calibration and Testing.
- viii. To maintain close linkage with industries/chambers of commerce/institutions and laboratories dealing with testing related to the environment as per national and international guidelines.
- ix. To undertake appropriate training programmes for the purpose of laboratory accreditation, testing, calibration and related activities as per requirements of national and international guidelines.
- x. To undertake special studies related to testing and calibration e.g. proficiency testing, uncertainty of measurements.
- xi. To establish and maintain strong linkages with international and regional fora such as International Laboratory Accreditation Conference (hitherto referred to as ILAC), European Accreditation Cooperation for Laboratories (hitherto referred to as EAL), Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (hitherto referred to as APLAC) etc. and to take active participation in Plenary Sessions, Committee Meetings etc. in order

to keep pace with the latest developments and for promoting Bi-lateral/Multi-lateral Recognition Agreements.

- xii. To raise or acquire funds, monetary assistance or property from Central Government and State Government(s), and other agencies including international organisations and non-government organisations or by taking loans from financial institutions. The funds, assets and all other resources in present and future shall be utilized only for the purposes or objects of NABL.
- xiii. To invest funds or money entrusted to NABL upon such securities or in such manner as may, from time to time, be determined by the governing body.

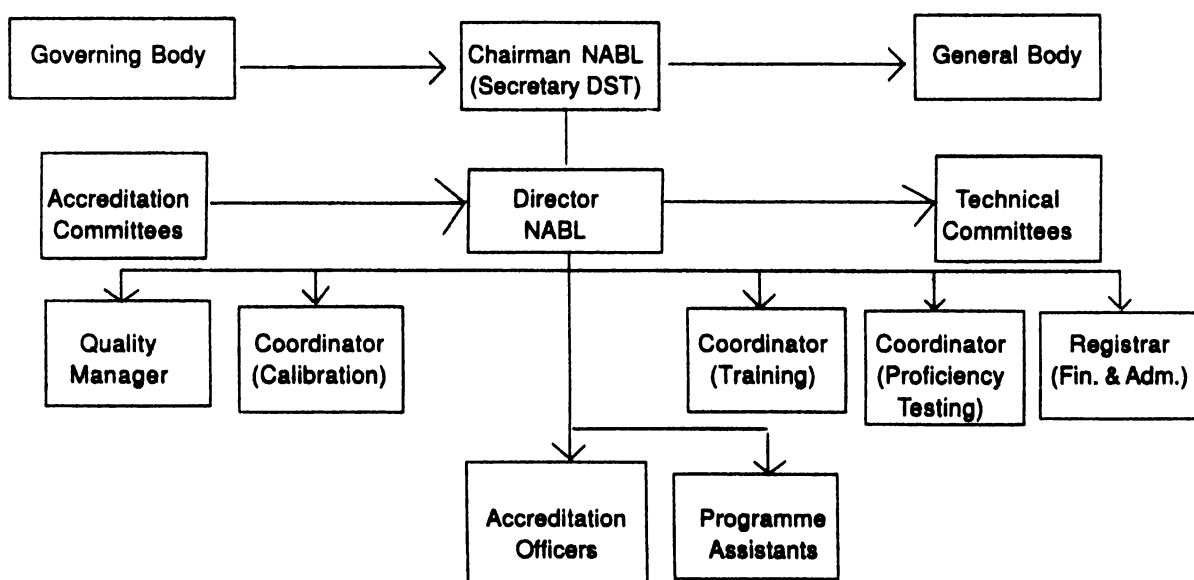
xiv. To encourage industrial/applied research and development in the field of quality in laboratory services and dissemination of its results in relevant publications including professional and trade journals.

xv. To plan, prepare develop and disseminate Certified Reference Materials for enhancement in quality and accuracy etc. of Testing, Calibration, Research and Development of laboratories/projects.

xvi. To do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to attainment of all or any of the objectives of NABL.

The schematic presentation of organisation chart of NABL is as given under:

**Organisation Chart**



(c) NABL is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 in August 1998. The officers/employees working in NABL are employees of the Society. They are provided all necessary facilities towards execution of their duties. In addition to salary, they are provided other benefits like travel allowance and medical reimbursement as per government guidelines.

(d) NABL provides third party voluntary accreditation service to testing and calibration laboratories. The accreditation process is driven by the demand for accreditation by the laboratories. The demand as well as the mix of laboratories is expected to change from time to time and NABL is required to respond to these changes. In view of this, NABL officers/employees are hired by the Society on contract basis and this will continue in future.

[English]

#### Switching from EEE to EET System

3120. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is switching from the present system of Exempt Exempt Exempt (EEE) in all the three stages of contribution accumulation and redemption to new regime of Exempt Exempt Taxed (EET) in regard to states;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has set up a committee to

study all the pros and cons before switching over to new system;

(d) if so, the details thereof and time by which the committee is likely to submit its report; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to protect the interest of the small savers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech, 2005-06 has announced the decision of the Government to adopt an Exempt Exempt Tax (EET) method of taxation of savings in accordance with the best international practice. In order to resolve a number of administrative issues, a Committee of Experts has been set up to work out the roadmap for moving towards an EET method of taxation of saving instruments. The Committee is likely to submit its report by 31.10.2005.

#### COFEPOSA

3121. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has demanded repeal of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act (COFEPOSA);

(b) if so, the details and reasons given by the ASSOCHAM for the same; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An extract from the letter of ASSOCHAM which inter alia contains the detailed reasons for repeal of COFEPOSA Act is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) The powers under the COFEPOSA Act are invoked in rare cases keeping in view the need to strike a balance to curb the prejudicial activities of smugglers and to ensure that the preventive detention under the COFEPOSA Act is resorted to only in rare and deserving cases. A Committee headed by Shri D.S. Solanki had examined the question whether the COFEPOSA Act should be repealed and it had recommended in its report that the COFEPOSA Act is still relevant. A Statement showing the number of detention orders issued since 1993 is enclosed as Statement-II. It will be seen therefrom that the number of detention orders issued has come down from 228 in 1994 to 16 in 2004.

#### Statement-I

*Extract from the letter of ASSOCHAM  
dated 26.04.2005*

#### COFEPOSA - Repeal

What is required, not repeal of FEMA, but the old laws which were made compatible to FERA at that time have not since been repealed and they have no relevance and in fact, such laws are a retrograde step. For example, FERA, 1973 came into operation on 01-01-1974, and corollary during that period, legislation was made, which was known as COFEPOSA, (Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling activities Act) and it was because of those stringent regulations that COFEPOSA envisaging preventive detention without trial, without bail of a person for about one year could be ordered and what was the purpose? Purpose was for the activities prejudicial to the conservation and augmentation of the foreign exchange resources of the country.

Now, that law has not been repealed till date and it is more misused than used. In fact, the whole law was made for combating smuggling and conserving the foreign exchange. As on today, smuggling is also reduced, custom duties have come down from 200% to 20%. So, this antique law needs to be repealed forthwith because this law is affecting exporters and other persons. As on today in the FEMA regime a person can be put on under COFEPOSA. Since COFEPOSA has not been repealed as yet. So if there is any problem that provision can also be utilized.

There is absolutely no justification for retaining COFEPOSA for the purpose of FERA activities after the repeal of FERA where the power of imprisonment and arrest had been abolished. FERA regime got a name, everybody feared FERA and the Directorate because of the powers of arrest and once the powers of arrest went away, under FEMA in adjudication they still continue imposing heavy fines but where is the recovery, there are no recoveries.

It seems very ridiculous that the person is not even heard and this preventive detention is one year. The argument is why don't you try him under the normal law, FEMA, which is a civil law, the Enforcement Directorate even today is recommending COFEPOSA against offenders of FEMA, which is not justified at all.

Appeal to the government and the Finance Minister to abrogate not only COFEPOSA but hundreds of notifications of Central Excise and Customs which are not relevant at all.



**Statement-II*****Detention orders issued under COFEPOSA Act 1974***

Year	Total No. of detention orders issued by the specially empowered officer of the Central Government
1993	135
1994	228
1995	140
1996	121
1997	88
1998	42
1999	71
2000	69
2001	52
2002	60
2003	35
2004	16

**Electoral Roll**

3122. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States have sought more time for incorporating changes in the electoral rolls;

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

(c) the time by which the electoral rolls are likely to be updated?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) A Statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

The Election Commission of India has informed that the electoral roll is revised every year with reference to 1st January as the qualifying date. Accordingly, the Commission had ordered revision of electoral rolls with reference to 1st January, 2005 as the qualifying date in all States and Union territories. However, due to various reasons no revision could be taken up in Arunachal Pradesh with the said

qualifying date. The electoral rolls of all other States and Union territories, except Assam, Chhattisgarh, National Capital Territory of Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu have since been finally published.

In the above mentioned eight States more time has been sought for updating the electoral rolls being revised with reference to 1st January, 2005 as the qualifying date. The reasons are given below:

1. **Assam** - The Commission had ordered intensive revision of electoral rolls in the State. The schedule of revision had to be revised initially on account of devastating flood. Thereafter due to delay in computerisation, election process in Bodo Territorial Council etc. and again on the request of political parties for extending the period for filing claims and objections, the extension was allowed. The present position is that the final publication is scheduled for 31st August, 2005.
2. **Chhattisgarh** - The work of summary revision of electoral rolls in the State could not commence as per the original schedule due to preoccupation of the election machinery of the State with preparation of electoral roll and conduct of elections to local bodies held in January 2005 and thereafter due to engagement of teachers, who function as designated officers during revision process, for annual Board/School examinations. The process commenced in June and the final publication is scheduled for 22nd August, 2005.
3. **NCT of Delhi** - In the NCT of Delhi, Special Summary revision was ordered with reference to 1st January, 2005 as qualifying date by the Commission. As per the initial programme, the rolls were scheduled to be finally published on 3rd January, 2005. However, subsequently, owing to various administrative reasons like rearrangement of House numbers and Block numbers, correction of overlapping polling areas, integration of the supplements, field visits for verification of the households, validation checks applied after integration of data of mother roll with the supplementary lists upto 2004, the schedule was revised.

As large number of mistakes were detected in the integrated roll, Commission further directed the Chief Electoral Officer to rectify all these mistakes before final publication of the rolls. The electoral rolls of all, except 12 out of 70 assembly constituencies, have been finally published after summary revision on 1st August, 2005. The rolls of remaining 12 constituencies will be finally published on 10th August, 2005.

4. **Jammu & Kashmir** - The Commission had ordered intensive revision of electoral rolls in the State. The original schedule had to be revised due to computerisation of manuscript which took more time than anticipated, enumeration of Nomadic population in Srinagar, who had migrated to other districts at the time of house-to-house enumeration, after their return to their houses, disturbances due to heavy snowfall in the State and request made by political parties for extending the period for filing claims and objections. The present position is that the final publication is scheduled for 30th September, 2005.
5. **Madhya Pradesh** - The work of summary revision of electoral rolls in the State could not commence as per the original schedule due to preoccupation of the election machinery of the State with preparation of electoral roll and conduct of elections to local bodies held in January 2005 and thereafter due to engagement of teachers, who function as designated officers during revision process, for annual Board/School examinations. The process commenced in July and the final publication is scheduled for 12th September, 2005 in all except three assembly constituencies of Panna District. In the three constituencies of Panna district affected by flood the process of revision may commence on 22nd August, 2005 and final publication is expected to be done on 24th October, 2005.
6. **Maharashtra** - The work of summary revision of electoral rolls in the State was de-linked from other States because of the general election to the State Legislative Assembly held in October 2004. The process started in May 2005. However, due to elections to village Panchayat, drive undertaken for detection and deletion of repeated entries and thereafter due to natural calamity caused by heavy rains more time has been sought for completion of the revision process. The final publication of the rolls is scheduled for September, 2005.
7. **Nagaland** - The Commission had ordered intensive revision of electoral rolls in the State. The original schedule had to be revised due to elections to local bodies and Christmas holidays. Subsequently, the Commission sent a team of its officers to Nagaland to look into the reasons for high increase in the electorate in some particular constituencies. On the basis of findings of the team, the programme had to be further revised. The present position is that the final publication is scheduled for 30th September, 2005.
8. **Tamil Nadu** - The electoral rolls of 39 assembly constituencies comprised wholly or partly within the six corporation areas have been ordered to be revised

intensively. In rest of the 195 constituencies a summary revision has been ordered. Programmes for summary revision has been drawn separately for Tsunami and Non-Tsunami areas. More time was sought from time to time, after periodic review of the progress, mainly for house-to-house verification and disposal of large number of claims and objections. The final publication of electoral rolls of 39 assembly constituencies where intensive revision is being undertaken is expected to take place on 15th September, 2005 and in remaining 195 constituencies on 31st August, 2005.

[Translation]

#### Allocation of Funds to Bihar

3123. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allocate rupees 384 crores to Bihar under Plan and Non-plan head for the year 2005-06;
- (b) whether on the recommendation of the 12th Finance Commission rupees 289.30 crores have been provided under Non-plan head of this year;
- (c) if so, the details of works likely to be carried out with this amount; and
- (d) the time by which the said work is likely to be started and the time limit fixed for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) As per the Revised scheme of financing of Annual Plan of Bihar for 2005-06, Rs. 3730.61 crore has been allocated as Central Assistance. Besides Twelfth Finance Commission has recommended Non-Plan grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 1199.18 crore for 2005-06 for local bodies, relief expenditure, education and health sectors and for maintenance of forests.

(b) Yes, Sir. TFC has recommended grant amounting to Rs. 289.30 crore for Non-Plan expenditure in health sector. The grant has been provided as an additionality, over and above the normal expenditure by the State, in this sector.

(c) and (d) The grant has to be utilized by the State Government during current year for non-Plan expenditure in health sector.

[English]

#### Law Commission's Recommendations on Eve Teasing

3124. SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has made any recommendations on eve teasing, assault, harassment of women in working and public places;

(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 LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) The Law Commission in its 172nd Report on 'Review of Rape Laws' has recommended changes for widening scope of the offence in Section 375 and to make it gender neutral. Various other changes have been recommended in Sections 376 and 376A to 376D and insertion of a new Section 376E dealing with unlawful sexual contact, deletion of Section 377 IPC and enhancement of punishment in Section 509 of IPC. They have also recommended changes in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The Law Commission's recommendations to insert a new Section 376E is with a view to cover a wide variety of offences including sexual harassment of women at workplaces.

(c) Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that the Report has been examined in consultation with the State Governments, that a final decision is yet to be taken and that the implementation of the recommendations is subject to Government taking a final view on the recommendations, introduction and passage of amendment Bill in the Parliament, for which no time frame can be fixed.

#### Share Depository System

3125. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that according to a survey report received by the Government in April 2005, the share depository system introduced by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in 1996 for attracting small investors has resulted in exactly opposite of the market regulator's goal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the deficiencies identified in this regard; and

(d) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Under a Technical Assistance Agreement with the Asian Development Bank, a national sample survey was conducted to, inter alia, study the income, expenditure and savings behaviour of the Indian labour force. The data base

generated by this survey is in public domain and can be accessed at [www.finmin.nic.in](http://www.finmin.nic.in). One of the findings of the survey is that though different parts of India behave differently when it comes to investing the money, however, fixed income investments predominate in the preferences of savings instruments. The survey also revealed that this particular saving behaviour is dependent on different investment goals, such as, investment planning, planning for future expenditure, planning for retirement purposes etc. There has been no comment on the deficiencies of the depository system in the survey report. The number of investor accounts in the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) was 64.74 lakhs in May 2005 as against 53.53 lakhs in May 2004. The number of investor account with Central Depository Services Limited (CDSL) was 9.05 lakhs in May 2005 as against 5.65 lakhs in May 2004.

(d) The objective of the Government and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is to ensure that capital markets operate in an orderly, transparent, safe and fair manner and that the interest of the investors are protected. SEBI has taken several surveillance and risk management measures for protecting market safety and integrity. SEBI keeps under constant watch the developments in the capital markets in consultation with the stock exchanges, depositories and other agencies for detecting and preventing any manipulation and taking deterrent action.

12.01 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the 47th Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2488/2005]

- (3) A copy of the High Court Judges Travelling Allowance (Amendment Rules), 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 412(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th June 2005, under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2489/2005]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between National Thermal Power Corporation Limited and Ministry of Power for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2490/2005]

- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Power Finance Corporation Limited and Ministry of Power for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2491/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2003-2004.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2492/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. No. 450(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July 2005, granting Nidhi Status to the Companies mentioned therein, subject to certain

conditions, under sub-section (3) of section 620A of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2493/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 2005, together with Auditor's Report thereon:

[Placed in Library, See No. LT]

- |        |   |            |
|--------|---|------------|
| (i)    | Barabanki Gramin Bank, Barabanki                  | 2494/ 2005 |
| (ii)   | Begusarai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Begusarai        | 2495/2005  |
| (iii)  | Bijapur Grameena Bank, Bijapur                    | 2496/2005  |
| (iv)   | Chitradurga Gramin Bank, Chitradurga              | 2497/2005  |
| (v)    | Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Fatehpur          | 2498/2005  |
| (vi)   | Faizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Faizabad          | 2499/2005  |
| (vii)  | Hindan Gramin Bank, Ghaziabad                     | 2500/2005  |
| (viii) | Jhabua Dhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jhabua         | 2501/2005  |
| (ix)   | Panchmahal Vadodara Gramin Bank, Godhra           | 2502/2005  |
| (x)    | Patliputra Gramin Bank, Patna                     | 2503/2005  |
| (xi)   | Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Pratapgarh      | 2504/2005  |
| (xii)  | Ranchi Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ranchi              | 2505/2005  |
| (xiii) | Rewa Sidhi Gramin Bank, Rewa                      | 2506/2005  |
| (xiv)  | Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Azamgarh            | 2507/2005  |
| (xv)   | Singhbhum Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Singhbhum (West) | 2508/2005  |

[Placed in Library, See No. LT]

[Placed in Library, See No. LT]

(xvi)	Thane Gramin Bank, Thane	2509/2005
(xvii)	Tungabhadra Gramin Bank, Bellary	2510/2005
(xviii)	Vaishali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Muzaffarpur	2511/2005
(xix)	Vallalar Grama Bank, Cuddalore	2512/2005
(xx)	Valsad-Dangs Gramin Bank, Valsad	2513/2005
(xxi)	Vidisha Bhopal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Vidisha	2514/2005
(xxii)	Vidur Gramin Bank, Bijnor	2515/2005
(xxiii)	Adhiyaman Grama Bank, Dharmapuri	2516/2005
(xxiv)	Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Allahabad	2517/2005
(xxv)	Alwar Bharatpur Anchalik Gramin Bank, Bharatpur	2518/2005
(xxvi)	Ambala Kurukshetra Gramin Bank, Ambala City	2519/2005
(xxvii)	Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank, Itanagar	2520/2005
(xxviii)	Aurangabad-Jalna Gramin Bank, Aurangabad	2521/2005
(xxix)	Avadh Gramin Bank, Lucknow	2522/2005
(xxx)	Baitarani Gramya Bank, Mayurbhanj	2523/2005
(xxxi)	Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Tikamgarh	2524/2005
(xxxii)	Bundi-Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bundi	2525/2005
(xxxiii)	Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Motihari	2526/2005
(xxxiv)	Chandrapur-Gadchiroli Gramin Bank, Chandrapur	2527/2005
(xxxv)	Chhatrasal Gramin Bank, Orai	2528/2005
(xxxvi)	Chhindwara Seoni Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chhindwara	2529/2005
(xxxvii)	Cuttack Gramya Bank, Cuttack	2530/2005

(xxxviii)	Damoh-Panna-Sagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Damoh	2531/2005
(xxxix)	Devi Patan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Gonda	2532/2005
(xl)	Dewas-Shajapur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Dewas	2533/2005
(xli)	Dhenkanal Gramya Bank, Dhenkanal	2534/2005
(xlii)	Dungarpur Banswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Dungarpur	2535/2005
(xliii)	Etah Gramin Bank, Etah	2536/2005
(xliv)	Farrukhabad Gramin Bank, Fatehgarh	2537/2005
(xlv)	Ganga Yamuna Gramin Bank, Dehradun	2538/2005
(xlv)	Giridih Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Giridih	2539/2005
(xlvii)	Gurdaspur-Amritsar Kshetriya Gramin Vikas Bank, Gurdaspur	2540/2005
(xlviii)	Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kota	2541/2005
(xlix)	Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhiwani	2542/2005
(l)	Hazaribagh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hazaribagh	2543/2005
(li)	Hisar-Sirsa Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hissar	2544/2005
(lii)	Jaipur Nagaur Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Jaipur	2545/2005
(liii)	Jamnagar Rajkot Gramin Bank, Jamnagar	2546/2005
(liv)	Junagadh Amreli Gramin Bank, Junagadh	2547/2005
(lv)	Kalahandi Aanchalika Gramya Bank, Bhawanipatna	2548/2005
(lvi)	Kalpatharu Grameena Bank, Tumkur	2549/2005
(lvii)	Kapurthala-Firozpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kapurthala	2550/2005

[Placed in Library, See No. LT]

(lviii)	Kisan Gramin Bank, Badaun	2551/2005
(lix)	Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshangabad	2552/2005
(lx)	Lakhimi Gaonlia Bank, Golaghat	2553/2005
(lxi)	Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank, Diphu	2554/2005
(lxii)	Magadh Gramin Bank, Gaya	2555/2005
(lxiii)	Malaprabha Grameena Bank, Dharwad	2556/2005
(lxiv)	Mandla Balaghat Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandla	2557/2005
(lxv)	Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Churu	2558/2005
(lxvi)	Mewar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Udaipur	2559/2005
(lxvii)	Nadia Gramin Bank, Nadia	2560/2005
(lxviii)	Nagaland Rural Bank, Kohima	2561/2005
(lxix)	Nainital-Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Nainital	2562/2005
(lxx)	Nalanda Gramin Bank, Nalanda	2563/2005
(lxxi)	Nimar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Khargone	2564/2005
(lxxii)	Prathama Bank, Moradabad	2565/2005
(lxxiii)	Puri Gramya Bank, Puri	2566/2005
(lxxiv)	Raebareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raebareli	2567/2005
(lxxv)	Rajgarh-Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sehore	2568/2005
(lxxvi)	Rani Lakshmibai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jhansi	2569/2005
(lxxvii)	Ratnagiri Sindhudurg Gramin Bank, Ratnagiri	2570/2005
(lxxviii)	Rushikulya Gramya Bank, Berhampur	2571/2005
(lxxix)	Sabarkantha Gandhinagar Gramin Bank, Himatnagar	2572/2005
(lxxx)	Shahdol Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahdol	2573/2005

[Placed in Library, See No. LT]

(lxxxi)	Shekhawati Gramin Bank, Sikar	2574/2005
(lxxxii)	Shivalik Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshiarpur	2575/2005
(lxxxiii)	Shivpuri-Guna Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shivpuri	2576/2005
(lxxxiv)	Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Siwan	2577/2005
(lxxxv)	Solapur Gramin Bank, Solapur	2578/2005
(lxxxvi)	Sravasthi Gramin Bank, Bahraich	2579/2005
(lxxxvii)	Sri Saraswathi Grameena Bank, Adilabad	2580/2005
(lxxxviii)	Sri Visakha Grameena Bank, Srikakulam	2581/2005
(lxxxix)	Sriganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sriganganagar	2582/2005
(xc)	Srirama Grameena Bank, Nizamabad	2583/2005
(xci)	Subansiri Gaonlia Bank, Lakhimpur	2584/2005
(xcii)	Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sultanpur	2585/2005
(xciii)	Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank, Bharuch	2586/2005
(xciv)	Tulsi Gramin Bank, Banda	2587/2005
(xcv)	Bhagalpur Banka Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhagalpur	2588/2005
(xcvi)	Bhandara Gramin Bank, Bhandara	2589/2005
(xcvii)	Bhilwara-Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhilwara	2590/2005
(xcviii)	Bilaspur-Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bilaspur	2591/2005
(xcix)	Bardhaman Gramin Bank, Bardhaman	2592/2005
(c)	Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bareilly	2593/2005
(ci)	Basti Gramin Bank, Basti	2594/2005

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:

- (i) S.O. 1051 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of import.
- (ii) S.O. 1052 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of export.
- (iii) S.O. 1076 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying a resident as applicant, for import of goods from Republic of Singapore under Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement between Republic of India and Republic of Singapore dated 29th June, 2005 and for the purpose of seeking advance ruling in respect of determination of origin of goods.
- (iv) S.O. 1077 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus(N.T.) dated the 3rd August, 2001.
- (v) G.S.R. 491 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (vi) G.S.R. 497 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to supercede Notification No. 26/95-Cus., dated the 16th March, 1995, so as to prescribe concessions in terms of Margin of Preference.
- (vii) G.S.R. 498 (E) published in Gazette of

India dated the 22nd July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe nil customs duty on certain specified items covered under Early Harvest Programme under the Indo-Singapore CECA.

- (viii) G.S.R. 499 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to specify concessional rates of customs duty on certain specified items covered in Phased Elimination list under Indo-Singapore CECA.
- (ix) G.S.R. 500 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to specify concessional rates of customs duty on certain specified items covered in Phased reduction list under Indo-Singapore CECA.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2595/2005]

- (3) A copy of the 'Rules of Origin' for determining the origin of products eligible for the preferential tariff concessions pursuant to Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement between Republic of India and the Republic of Singapore (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1037 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 under section 10 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2596/2005]

- (4) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Acts, 1970 and 1980:

- (i) Report on the working and activities of Andhra Bank for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2597/2005]

- (ii) Report on the working and activities of Punjab National Bank for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2598/2005]

- (iii) Report on the working and activities of Dena Bank for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2599/2005]
- (iv) Report on the working and activities of Vijaya Bank for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2600/2005]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005, under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2601/2005]
- (6) A copy of the Post Office Savings Account (Second Amendment) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 509 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2005 under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2602/2005]
- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section of section 13 of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956:
- (i) The Central Sales Tax (Registration and Turnover) Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 374(E) in Gazette of India dated 7th June 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) The Central Sales Tax (Registration and Turnover) Second Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 469 (E) in Gazette of India dated 14th July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.  
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2603/2005]
- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:
- (i) G.S.R. 434 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose definitive anti-dumping duty on Hexa Methylene Tetramine, commonly known as Hexamine, originating in or exported from Iran.
- (ii) G.S.R. 435 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 5/2005-Cus., dated the 27th January, 2005.
- (iii) G.S.R. 457 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 71/2003-Cus., dated the 1st May, 2003.
- (iv) G.S.R. 466 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 149/2000-Cus., dated the 21st December, 2000.
- (v) G.S.R. 480 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to withdraw final anti-dumping duty on paracetamol originating in or exported from Taiwan and continue the imposition of the same originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China at the rates recommended by the designated authority.
- (vi) G.S.R. 481 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provisionally exempt imports of vitrified and porcelain tiles, produced and exported by specified parties, from the anti-dumping duty imposed thereon.
- (vii) G.S.R. 482 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 65/200 I-Cus., dated the 25th June, 2001.



- (viii) G.S.R. 503 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on "narrow woven fabrics" originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China and Chinese Taipei.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2604/2005]

- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:

- (i) The Foreign Exchange Management (Establishment in India of branch or office or other place of business) (Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 336 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 2005.
- (ii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Any Foreign Security) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 337 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 2005.
- (iii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a person Resident outside India) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 504 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2005.
- (iv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 505 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2005.
- (v) The Foreign Exchange Management (Adjudication Proceedings and Appeal) Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 511 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 2005.
- (vi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transaction) Amendment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 512 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2005.
- (vii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or issue of Security by a Person

Resident outside India) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R 513 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2605/2005]

- (10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:

- (i) G.S.R. 338 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 2005 containing Corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R 757 (E) dated 19th November, 2004.
- (ii) G.S.R. 514 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2005 containing Corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R 625 (E) dated the 21st September, 2004.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2606/2005]

- (11) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under various sections of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002:

- (i) G.S.R. 436(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum appointing the 1st day of July, 2005 as the date on which all the provisions of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 shall come into force.
- (ii) G.S.R. 437(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum appointing and adjudicating authority consisting of Chairperson and two Members to exercise jurisdiction, power and authority conferred by or under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002.
- (iii) G.S.R. 438(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum specifying that the New Delhi Bench of adjudicating authority appointed under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 shall exercise jurisdiction, powers and authority conferred by or under the said Act over the whole of India.

- (iv) G.S.R. 439(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum establishing an Appellate Tribunal at New Delhi to hear appeals against the orders of the Adjudicating Authority and the authorities under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002.
- (v) G.S.R. 440 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding appointment of Director, Financial Intelligence Unit, India, and empowering the Director to exercise the powers conferred under various sections of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002.
- (vi) G.S.R. 441(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding appointment of Director of Enforcement as the Director for the purpose of the various provisions of the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2607/2005]

- (12) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 74 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002:

- (i) The Prevention of Money-laundering (the Manner of forwarding a copy of the Order of Provisional Attachment of Property alongwith the Material, and copy of the Reasons alongwith the Material in respect of Survey, to the Adjudicating Authority and its period of Retention) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 442 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) The Prevention of Money-laundering (Receipt and Management of Confiscated Properties) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 443 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) The Prevention of Money-laundering (Maintenance of Records of the Nature and Value of Transactions, the Procedure and Manner of Maintaining and

Time for Furnishing Information and Verification and Maintenance of Records of the Identity of the Clients of the Banking Companies, Financial Institutions and Intermediaries) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 444 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (iv) The Prevention of Money-laundering (Forms, Search and Seizure and the Manner of Forwarding the Reasons and Material to the Adjudicating Authority, Impounding and Custody of Records and the Period of Retention) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 445 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (v) The Prevention of Money-laundering (the Forms and the Manner of Forwarding a copy of Order of Arrest of a Person alongwith the Material to the Adjudicating Authority and its Period of Retention) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 446 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vi) The Prevention of Money-laundering (the Manner of Forwarding a Copy of the Order of Retention of Seized Property alongwith the Material to the Adjudicating Authority and the period of its Retention) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 447(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vii) The Prevention of Money-laundering (Manner of Receiving the Records authenticated Outside India) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 448 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (viii) The Prevention of Money-laundering (Appeal) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 449 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 2005, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2608/2005]

12.01½ hrs.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

**Seventeenth Report**

*[English]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, I beg to present the Seventeenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (2005-2006) on Action Taken by Government on the Observations and Recommendations contained in the 16th Report of PAC (13th Lok Sabha) relating to "Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil)-1996-97".

12.01½ hrs.

**RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

**Third Report**

*[English]*

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN (Vandavasi): Sir, I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of Railway Convention Committee (2004) on "Extension of concessions available on construction of new lines on strategic consideration to gauge conversion works taken up on strategic consideration."

12.02 hrs.

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

**(I) Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of Standing Committee on Labour**

*[English]*

\* THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): Mr. Speaker Sir, in pursuance of Direction 73 (A) of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha published in Lok Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II dated September 01, 2004, I am making another statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in 22 recommendations paragraphs of the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Ministry of Textiles.

The recommendations of the Committee mainly relate to increase the allocation of funds and utilization thereof in respect of various developmental and welfare schemes and

intensification of existing schemes in order to increase productivity and to improve quality in various segments under the Ministry of Textiles. The Ministry of Textiles is making all efforts in this regard to implement the recommendations of the Committee in true spirit.

I also lay herewith the recommendation-wise status of implementation of these recommendations on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I appreciate the responses given by the hon. Ministers. I think, now, we are having much better information from the Ministers, and I compliment them also.

12.03½ hrs.

**(II) Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth and Ninth Reports of Standing Committee on Finance**

*[English]*

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): Sir, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth and Ninth Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of Direction 73 (A) of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha.

In all, five recommendations were made by the Committee in the two reports where action is required on the part of the Government. These recommendations pertain to Comprehensive Review of the Companies Act, 1956, filling up the vacancies in the Company Law Board, Serious Fraud Investigation Office and strengthening the Inspection Wing in the Ministry.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexures to my statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take the valuable time of the hon. House to read out all the contents of the Annexures. I would request that this may be considered as read.

12.05 hrs.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): With your permission Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Tuesday, the 16th August, 2005 will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill, 2004 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they have been passed by Rajya Sabha:
  - (a) The Displaced Persons Claims and Other Laws (Repeal) Bill, 2004;
  - (b) The Hindu Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2004;
  - (c) The Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2004;
  - (d) The Warehousing Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 2005;
  - (e) The Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Amendment Bill, 2005; and
  - (f) The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (Amendment) Bill, 2005.
4. Consideration and adoption of the recommendations of Railway Convention Committee (2004) contained in their Second Report on 'Rate of Dividend for 2005-06 and other Ancillary matters'.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jivabhai Ambalal Patel – Absent.

SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL (Parbhani): Mr. Speaker Sir, the following items be included in the next week's List of Business of Lok Sabha.

1. A direct-express train service be introduced from Manmad to Tirupati via Secunderabad for Andhra Pradesh's devotees of Sai Baba of Shirdi as well as for Marathwada's devotees of Tirupati.

2. To speed up the relief work for the victims of devastating floods in Maharashtra.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, following items be included in the next week's List of Business of Lok Sabha –

1. It is a well established fact that the cow and its progeny is worshipped as revered mother land and mother in the religious agriculture dominated country, India from materialistic as well as spiritual perspectives. It is therefore needed to enact a law banning slaughter of cow progeny completely.
2. Fast increasing population is the biggest stumbling block in the economic development of the country in the absence of an effective and uniform law for population control, certain sections and groups in the country have indulged in open violation of this norm thereby creating an imbalance in the proportion in various parts of the country. It is, therefore, urgently needed to enact a law to have effective control on the increasing population.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, following items may please be included in the next week's List of Business of Lok Sabha:

1. The issue relating to determining the quota of reservation afresh for the people belonging to SCs and STs in proportion to the population in the country taking 2001 as the base year.
2. The issue relating to formulation of a scheme for providing houses to all the people belonging to the SCs and STs in the next five years.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chall): Mr. Speaker, Sir, following items may please be included in the next week's List of Business of Lok Sabha:

1. The issue relating to quick disposal of the proposals and representations received from states seeking inclusion of certain castes in the list of reservation for OBCs.
2. The issue relating to providing reservation to the persons belonging to SCs, STs and OBCs in the private sector, immediate filling up of the reserved vacancies and penal action against officers not following the reservation norms.

SHRI V. K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, following topics may kindly be included in the next week's List of Business of Lok Sabha:

1. Issue relating to providing special package by Central Government to revive the closed mills in the glass tiles industry, to check smuggling of glass tiles from China as thousand of people were employed in them and the glass tiles manufactured in Saurashtra are in high demand and are also famous in entire Asia.
2. BSNL mobile service has been started in various parts of the country but the same has not been started in my constituency effectively. Therefore, BSNL mobile service should be introduced in my constituency also.

[English]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following topics may be included in the next week's List of Business:

1. Situation arising out of denying reservation of OBC students in AIIMS, IITs and other national institutes.
2. Creation and naming of a regiment in Indian Army as AHIR/ AHIRWAL Regiment.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may please be included in the List of Business of Lok Sabha for the next week:

1. The Central Government proposes to ban use and sale of common salt with effect from 15th August, 2005 in order to promote the use of iodised salt which is not fair as it should be optional. With this decision, the persons involved in nice salt making will be rendered jobless.
2. Sawai Mansingh Hospital at Jaipur, which is a premier institution not only in Rajasthan but in the country in terms of qualified doctors as well as available equipments, should be accorded the status of All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, kindly include the following items in the List of Business for the coming week:

1. Need to accord the status of special state to Rajasthan and provide 90% of the total project cost as grant and 10% as loan under the APDRB scheme in view of several reformative measures

taken by the Government in power sector despite the higher cost of power generation due to scarce water resources.

2. Need to provide a 2 minute stoppage to Superfast Ashram Express (9105/9106) in public interest at Beavar, an important industrial town and trade centre having above 1 lakh population.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Sir, kindly include the following items in the List of Business for the next week:

1. The need to develop Hoshiarpur as a tourist centre as it is an important centre of manual wood work, Bhrigusamhita, industry and there is a big museum of old books and the Sanskrit Department of Punjab University.
2. Need to provide an economic package in order to revive Bathinda Refinery in Punjab, set up a big industry at Hoshiarpur and facilitate development in the State.

12.10 hrs.

## OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

### Notice of Question of Privilege

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Sir, this is very serious matter. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Just a minute. Please allow me to speak.

Sarvashri Ramji Lal Suman, Devendra Prasad Yadav, Sita Ram Singh, Ganesh Prasad Singh, Raghunath Jha, and Ram Kripal Yadav, hon. MPs, I have received your notices of question of privilege dated 12th August, 2005 against concerned Correspondent, Editor and Publisher of 'The Pioneer' for having published a derogatory article captioned: "Speaker asks for trouble" in the newspaper's issue dated 7th August, 2005.

Now, what do you wish to say on this? Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an article by Shri Swapan Dasgupta has appeared in the Pioneer of the 7th August captioned "Speaker asks for trouble".

This is a very serious matter. I have given a notice of privilege under Rule 221. The powers of the Speaker are being challenged and derided which is tantamount of contempt of the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the allegation has been levelled not only against you but in the matters related to ballots etc. against the secretariat also. This is repugnant to the prestige of the Chair. I have attached a copy of this article to my notice. It is clearly provided in the Rule 221 that —

[English]

"Financial business includes any business which the Speaker holds as coming within this category under the Constitution".

[Translation]

The powers vested in the Speaker are also being challenged.

It is being said that the Speaker, Lok Sabha is being influenced by the Soviet rule or by the England rule. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, I will only allow it to be mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)* It is a matter of breach of privilege. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats. Let me conduct. I am requesting all of you to sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am thankful to you for taking up this matter and for raising it. Now, let me conduct this. You have made your observation. I do not want to linger this. I have already read that. I feel that there are some people who pay lip service to parliamentary democracy but try their best to denigrate this great institution. We need not take notice of all irresponsible and immature utterances made out of

frustration and desperation. I treat all the motivated insinuations with the contempt they deserve and I close the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): No, Sir. We take serious objection to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I have closed the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): Sir, I am on a point of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, this is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jalesar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it becomes more serious because our colleagues in opposition are supporting all this. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, it is said in the article that the Speaker is influenced by Soviet rule. ...*(Interruptions)* Certainly, this is deplorable. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not admitted it. I am asking the Members to sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Just a minute. Please speak one by one. Otherwise, nobody can hear what you are saying.

Now, Shri Prabhunath Singh.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir,

what are they talking about? Will you suppress all the news papers? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

It is a question of freedom of Press also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I have made my observation.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have made my observation.

Now, Shri Prabhunath Singh.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, you have closed the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Let us not go further. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me hear if some hon. Members want to say something.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will you trample upon the freedom of press? It means that nobody can speak anything. ...*(Interruptions)* I too want to speak on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you rising? Shri Malhotra, you need not rise.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I know why you are defending it. ...*(Interruptions)* Why are you defending? We know why are you coming in this. ...*(Interruptions)* What is this? ...*(Interruptions)* What is this meant for? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Prabhunath Singh.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a discussion on the article that has been published in "Pioneer" newspaper. ...*(Interruptions)* I would

like to say that no newspaper has the right to comment on the Speaker, or to show disrespect towards the House. I would like to say that serious view should be taken on the matter so that such a thing is not repeated in future. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no question of a party line or for that matter a coalition line in the matter. If the Speaker is insulted then it is the insult of the House as a whole and every Member of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say something. ...*(Interruptions)* You have allowed them to speak so you may allow me also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, you speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you heard him therefore others viewpoints away also be heard. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Sir, may I say something? ...*(Interruptions)* I have right to speak also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Let us hear him. If an hon. Member wants to support that publication, let us hear him.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this subject had been raised in connection with Mamtaji. Thereafter, a meeting was held in your chamber where everyone was present. This matter was closed there. You made certain references and Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad made many statements about it here. To raise this issue after the closure of that matter is a matter of concern. If you wish to call a meeting, then call a meeting of all the leaders. Two points are involved in this – first is regarding freedom of the Press. You talk about the Supreme Court Judges. We had moved a Privilege Motion against them. ...*(Interruptions)* We do not want the Speaker to be insulted but a blanket-ban cannot be imposed on the Press against writing or saying anything about him. If these people wish for a return of Emergency then it is not good. ...*(Interruptions)* I suggest that you call a meeting of the leaders. ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM (Calcutta – North East): What was the need to mention Emergency? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): Sir, we are also supporting the freedom of the Press. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am not yielding. I have not yet finished. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, let him finish. I would give you an opportunity to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let him finish. I have permitted Prof. Malhotra to speak. Let him conclude and then I would hear other leaders.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, please try to conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I know why you are saying this. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I would hear you later. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear him. Let us conduct this in an orderly manner.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Manvendra Singh, if you feel agitated and upset, it should be discussed with seriousness.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have reported you that. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): This is not right, what are you doing? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Manvendra Singh, please sit down.

*[Translation]*

I am trying to control them.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is not like that no one can speak against the Speaker. Our Constitution and the rules are there and they provide for proceedings to be initiated against the Speaker, for example, a no-confidence motion may be initiated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: Was it a sponsored article that you are defending it? ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I know all that you people have done. In the country as a whole it is. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, you call a meeting of the leaders. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Have you read this report? ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Yes, I have read it. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, call a meeting of all the leaders. Members of the Congress Party have all along been raising slogans against the Speakers all over India, in Rajasthan, in Madhya Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* They will not be allowed to say one thing here and another thing outside. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Alright.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: This will not do. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI N. N. KRISHNADAS: All of us stand for the freedom of the Press but there should be no freedom to insult the House and the hon. Speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I would call all of you one by one. Next, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

*[Translation]*

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Sir, I have read the article.



*It contains three very important things. Firstly, the Speaker has been called a "COMMITTED SPEAKER", secondly it has been stated as to whether Shri Somnath Chatterji is guided by the Westminster System or by the Supreme Soviet. They have posed a question whether he is guided by Westminster or the Supreme Soviet? The implication is that he is being guided by the Supreme Soviet. Supreme Soviet denotes the Parliament of the erstwhile Soviet Union.*

Thirdly, the article alleges that Calling Attention and other motions have been awarded mostly to members who belong to the communist or the left Wing Parties. The work of balloting is done by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, hence this third allegation is even more serious since it accuses the officials of the Secretariat of being partial. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You are not helping. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: What are you talking about? ...*(Interruptions)* As far as Right to Freedom is concerned, he has not studied the restrictions that have been placed upon Right to Freedom and Freedom of Expression provided in Article 19 of our Constitution. Freedom of Expression has been granted. However, there has to be a limit to freedom of expression. Nowhere in the world, in any parliamentary system or parliamentary democracy, it is permissible to speak against the Speaker. ...*(Interruptions)* The Speaker is no longer the member of any party or of the Central committee of the Communist Party. He is not a member of the Polit Bureau since the time he took charge of the Speaker's post.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He is.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: He is not.

*[English]*

When he has taken over the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He is a member. ...*(Interruptions)* He is saying that the Speaker is not a member whereas in fact he is. ...*(Interruptions)* He is a member. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12.45 p.m.

**12.26 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till forty-five minutes past Twelve of the Clock.*

**12.47 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at forty-seven minutes past Twelve of the Clock*

*(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)*

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We will now take up the Calling Attention. Yogi Aditya Nath to call the Attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Sir, they are still levelling allegations, nobody has the right to level allegations thus. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You are also defying the Chair. I have already called Yogi Aditya Nath.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): The matter has not been settled yet, how are we supposed to sit down? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Without my permission you cannot speak. Only Yogi Aditya Nath will speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Sir, half-a-dozen Members of our party RJD and other hon. Members also have given notices. ...*(Interruptions)* You have given opportunity to the hon. Member. I want to express my feelings. Will the business of the House be conducted according to Rules or not? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, I am requesting him. Give me an opportunity. I am trying my best.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Business of the House will be conducted according to Rule 222 of the Rules. You have said that under Rule 225, the Speaker, if he gives the ruling to the effect that under Rule 222 the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, then call the member concerned, who shall then rise to his seat and while asking for leave to raise the question of privilege. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will give my ruling on Tuesday.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give my ruling later. You raised a point of order. I will give my ruling next week.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, this is unprecedented. ...(Interruptions) This was not an occasion to divide the House rather this issue concerned all. The unanimous proposal should have been referred to the committee on Privilege. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not yet given my consent. It will come later on.

12.50 hrs.

### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**Situation arising out of spread of encephalitis  
in the country and steps taken by the  
Government in regard thereto**

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Sir, I draw the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to the following matter of the urgent public importance and request him to give a statement in this regard.

"Situation arising out of spread of encephalitis in the country and steps taken by the Government in this regard thereto".

[English]

\* THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): Sir, brain fever due to Japanese Encephalitis (JE) is caused by a virus and is transmitted through mosquitoes. While there is no specific treatment for this disease, early symptomatic management is important. In case of JE and other viral encephalitis, the management of the critically ill children is directed at minimising risk of death and complications. The main reservoirs of the JE virus are pigs and water birds and its natural cycle. Virus is maintained in these animals. Man is an accidental host and does not play role in JE transmission. The outbreaks occur where there is close interaction between these animals and human beings. The vectors of JE breed in large water bodies, such as paddy fields. The mosquitoes are outdoor resters and therefore, measures such as indoor residual spray are not very effective.

Clinical management of JE is supportive and in the acute phase, it is directed at maintaining fluid and electrolyte balance and control of convulsions, if present. Maintenance of airway is crucial. The State Governments have been advised that in the endemic districts, anticipatory preparations should be made for timely availability of medicines, equipment and accessories as well as sufficient number of trained medical, nursing and paramedical personnel. The Government of India supports training programmes and provides technical support for outbreak investigations and control. Insecticides used under the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme are used for the control of JE outbreaks, wherever required.

The preventive measures for Japanese Encephalitis are directed at reducing the vector density and in taking personal protection against mosquito bites. The reduction in mosquito breeding requires ecological management, particularly water management and irrigation practices, as the role of insecticides is limited. JE vaccine is produced in limited quantities at the Central Research Institute, Kasauli through mouse brain inoculation technique. Three doses of the vaccine provide immunity lasting for a few years and repeated booster doses are required every three years. The vaccine is procured directly by the State health authorities. Vaccination is not recommended as an outbreak control measure.

During 2004, 1695 cases and 367 deaths due to suspected JE were reported in the country from 12 States. Majority of cases were reported from Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana and Assam. The State-wise cases and deaths due to JE, as reported by the

\*Also placed in Library See No. L.T. 2611/05

State health authorities, are given in Annexure I being laid on the Table of the House. In Uttar Pradesh, during 2004, 1030 cases and 228 deaths have been reported. District-wise details are given in Annexure-2 being laid on the Table of the House.

The Central support is provided as technical guidance, support for Outbreak investigations and Control, insecticide, laboratory diagnostic support through identified institutions, like National Institute of Virology, Pune; National Institute of

Communicable Diseases, Delhi; Regional Medical Research Centre, Dibrugarh; NIMHANS, Bangalore etc. In addition, support is also provided for training and Information Education and Communication. In view of the higher incidence of disease, Workshop on JE was Conducted at NVBDCP, Delhi and Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Five training courses for Medical Officers to Uttar Pradesh, and one each to Haryana, Karnataka and Assam were also arranged to improve the skills of peripheral doctors in case management and prevention and Control of JE.

### Annexure-I

#### State-wise Cases and Deaths due to Japanese Encephalitis

Sl. No.	Affected States/UTs	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004(P)		2005(P)*	
		C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D
1.	Andhra Pradesh	343	72	33	4	22	3	329**	183	7**	3		
2.	Assam	158	69	343	200	472	150	109	49	235	64	18	4
3.	Bihar	77	19	48	11	8	1	6	2	85	28		
4.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0		
5.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	1	0	12	5	17	0	1	0
6.	Goa	15	3	6	2	11	0	0	0	0	0		
7.	Haryana	74	43	47	22	59	40	104	67	37	27		
8.	Karnataka	438	45	206	14	152	15	226	10	181	6	9	0
9.	Kerala	164	2	128	5	0	0	17	2	9	1		
10.	Maharashtra	2#	0	126	1	119	16	475	115	22	0		
11.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0		
12.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	10	2	0	0	0	0		
13.	Tamil Nadu	4	0	0	0	0	0	163	36	69	9	4	0
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1170	253	1005	199	604	133	1124	237	1030***	228		
15.	West Bengal	148	50	119	21	301	105	2	1	3	1	6	0
Total		2593	556	2061	479	1765	466	2568	707	1695	367	38	4

C = Cases      D = Deaths

\* = Case as reported by respective states up to June, 2005 Provisionally

\*\* = Suspected viral encephalitis

\*\*\* = As per revised report from the state

Note # = States reported additional 80 cases for 2000 as suspected JE

**Annexure II****District-wise Japanese Encephalitis Cases & Deaths during 2000 to 2005 (Prov.) U.P.**

Sl. No.	Distt.	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004(P)		2005(P)	
		C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>													
1.	Ambedkar Nagar	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2.	Azamgarh	6	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	1		
3.	Ballia	6	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0		
4.	Basti	7	2	6	3	4	0	14	3	8	3		
5.	Behraich	99	31	90	10	70	8	122	21	37	2		
6.	Barielly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7.	Balrampur	4	1	1	0	3	2	6	2	2	0		
8.	Deoria	175	25	114	20	51	17	89	17	79	16		
9.	Faizabad	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
10.	Ghaziabad	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
11.	Ghazipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
12.	Gonda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
13.	Gorakhpur	223	50	200	36	115	20	174	41	196	50		
14.	Hardoi	7	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
15.	Kheri	87	17	153	41	0	0	137	34	124	20		
16.	Kushinagar	253	58	183	44	172	47	244	59	245	62		
17.	Lucknow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0		
18.	Maharajganj	129	30	97	22	110	24	149	28	138	34		
19.	Mau	5	1	3	0	0	0	15	2	3	0		
20.	Padroma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
21.	Pilibhit	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
22.	Pratapgarh	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
23.	Rampur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
24.	Rai Bareilly	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	22	1		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25.	Sant Kabir Nagar	28	6	28	3	11	2	41	7	42	12		
26.	Shravasti	52	13	48	9	24	5	53	3	10	0		
27.	Shahjanpur	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0		
28.	Siddharth Nagar	84	17	46	10	44	8	67	16	109	27		
29.	Sitapur	1	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	4	0		
30.	Sultanpur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
31.	Saharanpur	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	4	2	0		
32.	Udhamsingh Nagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
33.	Urmoi	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
34.	Other States	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total		1170	253	1005	199	604	133	1124	237	1030	228	0	0

As per revised report from the state.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made his statement, according to which, several deaths have occurred due to Japanese Encephalitis during the last several years in 12 States in the country. The hon. Minister himself has admitted that out of 1695 cases identified during the year 2004, 367 deaths have occurred. Out of these, 1030 cases were identified in Uttar Pradesh alone. 228 deaths occurred in Uttar Pradesh. Sir, I belong to such an area. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this going on?

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, for the first time in India, Encephalitis broke out in Tamil Nadu in 1955. Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur and several areas in Bihar etc. are facing the problem of Encephalitis for the last 28 years. Sir, it has cost us dearly.

Sir, Encephalitis has already played havoc in several countries in the world but these countries anyhow with awareness about vaccination and intensive preventive measures have managed to control this epidemic. But even today, in a number of areas in the country, hundreds of children suffer from encephalitis every year some of them reach near to the death or succumb to the disease. Hon. Minister, in his reply, has assigned all these responsibilities to the state government. I feel, had the state government contained this disease, so many deaths would not have occurred. I have got with me the figures of BRD medical

college alone during the last twenty-eight years. During the last 28 years, I am talking about only BRD medical college and not referring to private hospitals, Government hospitals and local dispensaries where children might have been admitted, 10418 children were admitted only in BRD medical college out of which 2878 children died, 4502 recovered after treatment and 2838 children were rendered mentally and physically disabled. In 1978 when this disease broke out in Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Deoria, Maharajganj districts of U.P., Champaran, Siwan and Chapra districts of Bihar and low lying areas of Nepal then the infected children of those areas were admitted to BRD medical college. In 1978, two hundred seventy four children were admitted, out of which 58 died.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask about your clarifications on this issue.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, I would like to place the figures only.

MR. SPEAKER: You have given the figures. You started your speech with figures of the year 1978. Please speak further.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: The deaths reported in various years present a horrifying picture. Hon. Minister has detailed

the causes of spread of Encephalitis as well as the ways to contain it but who will contain this dreaded disease? Without the support and cooperation of the Government of India it cannot be contained. Had the Government been serious about it then children would not have died every year in BRD Medical College during these last twenty-eight years. This time more than 75 children have been admitted in BRD medical college and more than 15 deaths have taken place due to this disease. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what has been done towards giving vaccines to the state government to contain Encephalitis? Have U.P. and Bihar Governments demanded vaccines from Government of India and if so, whether the Government of India have made vaccines available in those areas? I would also like to know whether the Government proposes to take necessary measures to check its spread, early detection and timely treatment so as to save the children from being killed or being rendered mentally or physically disabled and whether the Government proposes to set up virology lab in eastern Uttar Pradesh and ensure sprinkling of medicine in these areas? It has been reliably learnt that the state government has reduced the budget this year owing to which the encephalitis affected children will not get free medicine as this disease is found in rural areas among the people living below the poverty line. Will the Government of India ensure free treatment to such children and also make available free of charge medicines to them. Thousands of children have been rendered disabled due to this disease. Will the Ministry of health and family welfare arrange for rehabilitation of mentally and physically disabled children.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar, you can only ask one clarification.

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Speaker, Sir, our colleague Shri Yogi Adityanath ji stated in detail about brain fever while moving the calling attention motion and hon. Minister has also to give the reply. This disease has broken out in the river side or low lying areas.

Secondly, this disease has affected mostly the poor living in clusters. Single day's treatment costs eight hundred rupees as it includes three injections in a day which costs about eight hundred rupees. Mutation of virus keeps changing which needs to be researched. After thorough research, its control and detection is possible. I would like to know whether the Ministry of health and family welfare propose to launch any mass programme on the lines of Polio eradication programme.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yogi Aditya Nath ji has just called the attention towards Encephalitis and hon. Minister has furnished some information about it. Sir, it is a highly contagious disease and has affected especially children. This disease is not limited to U.P. and Bihar only, this disease has also spread among the labourers living in clusters coming from Rajasthan. The manner in which National T.B. eradication programme, malaria eradication programme and Polio eradication programme have been launched, the Government need to launch a programme to check, detect and disburse medicines through community health centres, and also to create awareness among the people about this disease through relevant literatures.

[English]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I would like to share the concerns of the hon. Member, Shri Yogi Aditya Nath, who has raised this issue. As we all know, health is a State subject, but the Central Government and I do not shy away from our responsibility. We are equally responsible for all the problems in the health sector in the country. At this point of time, we are supplementing and assisting the States in respect of these programmes. The respective State Governments have to take all the steps. We are supplementing them in every way. Sometimes, we have national programmes where we are assisting them to a certain extent.

Regarding the question raised by the hon. Member as to who will control these diseases, both the Central and State Governments will do that. We have a national vector-borne diseases control programme. It is a national programme that takes care of five diseases, that is, Malaria, Filariasis, Dengue, Japanese Encephalitis, and Kala Azar. All these five diseases come under this vector-borne diseases control programme. It is a national programme. Under this programme, we are trying to eradicate and eliminate these five diseases. We have our own separate budget for these programmes. We have an on-going programme all over the country.

About the availability of vaccines today, we have a vaccine which is being produced by our own unit, CRI (Central Research Institute), Kasauli, but that is a mouse-brain-inoculated vaccine. It is an old technique and we are not able to produce much of the vaccine. So, we are going forward to have this tissue culture vaccine, which is not available in India, but available in other countries like China. We are looking into how we could widen the scope of vaccines, produce more and supply more of these vaccines in the country. We are taking all steps in that direction.

Coming to the issue concerning the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh, yes, there is a problem every year. There are some endemic areas. When I discussed it with my officials, they said, "Yes, Sir, we have endemic areas where diseases like Japanese Encephalitis and Dengue are there." Then, I asked them, "Why should there be any endemic areas? When you say that there are so many cases every year, what are you doing and what is the State Government doing? We should eradicate these endemic areas. There should not be any endemic areas." That is why, along with the hon. Member, we are concerned about it. We are going to take all steps to eradicate all these diseases from the so-called endemic areas. We all know that this is not only a health issue, but also a social issue.

Japanese Encephalitis is related to irrigation and ecological methods. If there is stagnation of irrigation water, mosquitoes breed. Then we have to make the water flow. All such techniques have to be taught to the farmers. The Japanese Encephalitis is caused mainly due to pigs. This begins in the pigs and then through the vector mosquitoes propagates to the humans. So, piggeries have to be managed hygienically and pigs must be protected from infection. All this has to be taught to the people there. Like you said, more of IEC activities have to be undertaken. The Government is supplying the IEC material, and supporting the State Governments on IEC, through the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme.

The Japanese Encephalitis does not have a cure as such. This is caused by a virus which should be prevented from growing. If the disease occurs, all steps have to be taken to rehabilitate the patient so that he does not go into a coma or develop stiffness, etc. There has to be an emergency care set up. This affects mainly the children. We have statistics which show that many children die every year due to this. We are definitely taking all steps. The Government is going to take steps in coordination with the States.

Shri Shailendra Kumar has remarked that the treatment is very costly. There is no treatment as such for this disease. The only treatment is prevention of infected patients getting into stiffness or coma. Vaccine is used to prevent it. There is no epidemic. There is no point in vaccinating every area. We have to vaccinate people in the endemic area and that we are trying to do. But, we do not have sufficient quantity of vaccines in the country. This is prevalent in a lot of States in the country. So, we will look into that. Like I have already said, when we have a more viable and better vaccine through tissue culture, we will look into that.

Some hon. Members said that this is like an epidemic. There is no epidemic; there are only endemic spots in the

country. We have the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme. The Government is taking all steps to eliminate and eradicate these diseases, like Japanese Encephalitis and other vector-borne diseases, in the country.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): My question was about prevention of this disease like you are doing in case of polio.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: The prevention is mainly through information, education and communication. In India people living in the endemic areas are mostly farmers. Water should not be logged in the irrigated fields which leads to ecological situations. We enlighten and educate people living with pigs, living near piggeries about sanitation and all that. Vaccination is a part of programme for prevention. People in the endemic areas could be vaccinated but not all other areas. However, there is a paucity of locally manufactured vaccines today. Our CRI, Kasauli, is producing the vaccine now. In fact it is an outdated technique being followed there. We are trying to import the technology for tissue culture vaccine. We are discussing on those lines. Once that comes, we could have more rapid and elaborate vaccination available.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has identified the Encephalitis epidemic in eastern Uttar Pradesh during last 28 years. If so, whether the Government is contemplating to set up virology labs in those areas to prevent this disease? My second question is that this disease has rendered thousands of children mentally retarded and what action does the Government propose to take for their rehabilitation and third point which I want to make is the arrangement being made by Government for vaccination in those areas, besides intensive spraying of DDT powder in those endemic areas.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot go on like this, Shri Adityanath, you know it.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Diagnostic techniques like CSF fluid being taken, blood test and all that are available.

MR. SPEAKER: Any rehabilitation of those who have already been affected?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: We do not have any rehabilitation as such in the health sector. It is the Ministry of Social Affairs which looks after the rehabilitation whether it is social or medical. But we will definitely try to increase the vaccine coverage.

13.10 hrs.

# SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

**Re: Alleged surveillance over Shri Gurudas Dasgupta,  
M.P. by Central Intelligence Agencies**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Survaram Sudhakar Reddy.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much.

I would like to call your attention and, through you, the attention of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to a news item that is published in yesterday's The Hindustan Times with the heading 'Honda reds on way to Maruti now - Intelligence alert to Central and Haryana Governments'. This news item further reads that Central intelligence agencies have warned of a possible repeat of the Gurgaon violence, this time at another Japanese unit - the Suzuki-owned Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL). Leaders of the Left parties, associated with labour unions, are under watch. The agencies have named AITUC's general secretary and CPI MP, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta and its national secretary, Shri D.L. Sachdeva for fuelling the situation.

It is very unfortunate that if this is a fact, then it is an insult to the House that a Member of Parliament is being put under surveillance by the Central intelligence agencies.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are bringing up this matter on the basis of the newspaper report.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: The news is that they are trying to revive a trade union and have applied for the registration. Under the laws of the country, trade union activity is legal. Instead of keeping a watch on the multi-national companies, which are trying to do injustice to the workers; instead of giving a note on such situations, intelligence agencies are working on behalf of the multi-national corporations. It is very unfortunate. If it is true, action should be taken on these people. I would like to know as to whether we are under the British regime or in the Indian democracy in the 21st century. This cannot be allowed to continue. I think, it is a question of privilege. ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: As it is a matter of importance, I have allowed it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Just a minute.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, close watch is being kept on an hon. Member of this apex House. It is a very serious matter.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Allow me to say for half a minute. Shri Chandrappan has also given a similar notice. Shri Chandrappan, you please associate with him. No speech please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: As it is a matter of importance, although no hon. Member has given notices, I allow allowing the names of Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, Shri Hannan Mollah, Shri Khagen Das, Shri Santasri Chatterjee and Shri Prabhunath Singh to be associated with it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, would you like to respond?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us follow the rules. I have allowed because of its importance. Mr. Minister would like to respond. Listen to him.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): In India, individuals have the liberty to form any association or join any association. It is not the policy of the Government of India to stop anybody doing any trade union activity. With greatest respect to this House, to the Chair and to the hon. Members, I would like to say that we have not carried any surveillance on any hon. Member of the House.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Good. He has totally denied it. What more can you say!

Shri Ganesh Singh - not present.

...(Interruptions)



MR. SPEAKER: He has totally denied it. He has responded.

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): The life in the national Capital has become a nightmare, particularly for the women. It is reported in today's The Hindustan Times that 16-year old girl was gang raped in a blue line bus. It is also reported that in the year 2004, the reported the number of cases of rape was 551. This year, even though we have passed only seven months, it has risen to 400 rapes in the city. Not only that, in this page, you will also see that a number of cases have been reported in Delhi. We represent the largest democracy in the world.

We also claim that we are the representatives of a sacred human civilisation. Now, all of us should bow our head of shame of these heinous crimes being committed in the national Capital. Yesterday, our Prime Minister was bound to bow his head, but today, we will have to bow our head before the whole nation for the repeated commission of such heinous offences.

The city police have claimed that they have taken precautionary steps, but nothing has been done, and nothing would be done to prevent such heinous crimes. It has become very difficult for the young girls to travel in the night in the national Capital. Where do we proceed? What are we doing now? Now, our future generation would find it painful.

So, I would request the hon. Home Minister to see that such things do not recur in the national Capital. We come here, our girls also come here; and what is the guarantee that they will reach their respective homes if this is the situation available in the national Capital?

MR. SPEAKER: You have very effectively raised it. Thank you.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, it is a shameful thing, and it must be put an end to. The police should take preventive steps, precautionary steps. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to continue our normal life in the national Capital.

MR. SPEAKER: You have very effectively raised this. You have just mentioned the matter. No speech is required. It is enough.

...(Interruptions):

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Hansraj Ahir.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Sir, please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You may also associate yourself with what he has said.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: I am not on that point. I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, there is no point of order during the Special Mentions. You are a senior Member, and you know this. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, Floods due to excessive rainfall in Maharashtra, have caused heavy losses. Floods have caused maximum loss in Mumbai, Thane and Konkan regions. Now after flood waters have receded numerous diseases have broken out in those areas. The State Government has failed to provide essential medicines to the people of affected areas. People are dying of numerous diseases and thousands of people are admitted in hospitals.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is an important matter.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Due to inability of the State Government to provide medicines to people admitted in hospitals, lives of thousands of such people is in danger. Sir, through you I would like to request the Union Government also to contribute in relief work. The Union Government should dispatch teams of Doctors there besides medicines and help the patients and their families.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, You have raised a very important matter. I have allowed it.

Now Mr. Chandrabhan Singh.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not disturb, I would tell you what to do. Give up this bad habit.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH (Damoh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw attention of the hon'ble Minister of Railways towards a very important matter. Train no. 1474 and 1473 Jabalpur Overnight Express train between Bhopal and Jabalpur via Beena to be introduced was Four days a week from 1st July 2004 and its scheduled time was also declared as per the railway time table but this train has not been introduced till date. Today it is 12th of

August. Sir, through you I request the Minister of Railways to kindly issue orders to the officers in Jabalpur Zone to introduce the Overnight Express train via Beena.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you are fully aware that we have decided — it is not my decision alone — that those hon. Members who have already raised one matter during the week would be given his chance last.

Mr. Ram Kripal Yadav, you have done it already. Therefore, you have to wait till the evening. Rest of the matters, which have already been admitted, would be taken up at 6 p.m.

13.20 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.25 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twenty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

#### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Terrorism in the country including attack on Ram Janam Bhoomi Complex at Ayodhya — Contd.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No.17 As the discussion regarding terrorism in the country including attack on Ram Janam Boomi Complex at Ayodhya, raised by Prof. Malhotra, has already been completed, I request the hon. Home Minister to reply to the discussion.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, I would like to seek one or two clarifications, if you permit.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can seek clarifications after the reply is over.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, Ayodhya means land of peace and not of war, but politics has inflicted conflict and war on it. Those who have done it, have not done any service to the cause of peace and prosperity of the country. They may take pride in what they are doing but they have divided the country. They have made the image of God very limited and small and

they have unleashed unnecessary controversy and hatred. That is what the terrorists, who attacked Ayodhya, had tried to do. They tried to ignite the fire of communal hatred and divide the country. They had no other reason to attack the place. However, they were defeated in their efforts and were killed.

Who should be given credit for it? Certainly, the officers and men who averted the attack by killing the terrorists without caring for their own lives and safety. A young officer from Nagaland took the lead in neutralising the terrorists.

One lady officer was at the forefront who foiled the attack. Others did their best to defeat the terrorists by firing at them from different angles and quarters. The members of CRPF - the Central Reserve Police Force - and PAC, that is, the State Police, did their best. They should be given the credit and saluted for having saved the country from a disaster. Those who had planned fortification over there should also be given the credit. The State Government and, if you want to give credit to us also, the Union Government should be given the credit.

We have asked the experts to examine the security arrangements over there and suggest as to how it should be improved upon. We, the Union, and the State Government would take necessary steps to make the security arrangements more foolproof and strong. We have asked the State Governments to do the same in Banaras, Mathura and Agra for Taj. We have decided to assist the State Governments in this respect without any reservations. In other States, we have asked the Governments to take precautions to provide security to historical, cultural, religious, political, industrial, scientific units, installations and buildings. This is, as far as Ayodhya in brief is concerned.

Terrorism is not a new phenomenon. It was there, it is there and I am afraid it may be there in the future also. The only thing is, it is becoming more and more destructive and widespread. The developing parts and countries of the world are also affected by it.

Simple weapons and instruments were used to perpetrate it. More sophisticated and dangerous weapons, instruments and methods are being used now. Therefore, it has become necessary to prepare, to control and contain it in time without delay and with determination. Fortunately, the countries of the world have realised that the menace needs to be tackled in a coordinated and cooperative manner and not separately and individually alone. The agony is experienced and realised by all. All, therefore, are agreeing to act collectively. We have decided to cooperate with such countries of the world without any reservation. That is why,

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

we have entered into agreements for mutual cooperation with many countries of the world and international organisations. We have been saying that to control the menace, we should control drug trafficking, gun running licences and free market of small and sophisticated weapons, and free flow of funds to the terrorist organisations from one country to the other.

We propose to cooperate with countries which have decided to do this on land, in the open sea and in the air by exchanging information, by developing plans in order to limit the adverse effects of terrorism. These efforts certainly produce salutary effect.

In India, Jammu and Kashmir, North-Eastern States, parts of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh have been affected by terrorist activities. In Jammu and Kashmir, terrorism is based on religious fundamentalism and is supported from across the border. It is used in place of open war thinking that thousand cuts would bleed the province into submission and surrender. However, the people have withstood the attacks and defeated the nefarious acts of the mindless killers. This is visible in the visits of the pilgrims to the places of worship and of tourists in large numbers. This year till June, about three lakh tourists have visited the Valley as against 1.73 lakh tourists during the same period last year, showing a significant increase of 79 per cent. There has also been a significant increase in the arrival of pilgrims during Amarnath Yatra this year. The people there have suffered but they have not lost faith in themselves. The level of infiltration and violence in the State of Jammu and Kashmir was significantly lower in 2004. This trend continues. During the current year till July end, the number of violent incidents has come down by 24.5 per cent compared to the corresponding period of the last year. Similarly, the killings of civilians have declined by 28.5 per cent up to July this year as against a decline of 11 per cent in 2004 over 2003 and it has happened because of the fencing of the border.

It has happened because of the vigilance of the forces, because of the policies of the Government and because of the peace-loving nature of the people. Let us hope that this trend will continue and the situation would keep improving.

The North-Eastern States have suffered from terrorism for the last so many years. The causes of terrorism in this part of the country can be traced to tribal pride and culture, to parochialism and politics to the thick forests, and the international border and ethnicity. To avoid bloodshed and conflicts, new States have been created but they have not fully doused the fire of strife and conflicts over there. By using methods, political, economic and social, the problem has been attempted to be controlled. These efforts have

produced results. The overall security situation in the North-East continues to remain under control. Till July end this year, while the number of terrorist incidents have increased by 0.5 per cent, the killings of civilians have come down by 28 per cent - incidents have increased but the killings have come down - and those of the security forces by 58 per cent over the corresponding period of last year.

Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Meghalaya have been quite peaceful. Assam has been less peaceful and Manipur has suffered more. Terrorists have used forest areas, international borders, drug trafficking, guns, and rivalries between the tribes to keep the terrorist activities going on. Non-availability of transport and communication facilities have added to the difficulties in controlling terrorism.

Naxalism is based on a belief that the barrel of gun can produce the desired results and not the ballot. It thrives on backwardness of the area and poverty and economic weaknesses of the people and the mistakes committed by those who have the money power and political clout on the forest cover and availability of weapons and funds that are earned by using all means, fair or foul. It takes advantage of economic disparities and problems of poverty also. In some States, naxalite violence is under control, in some States, it has increased and in some States, it has reduced. The reduction in naxalite violence is less than the reduction in terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir and the North-Eastern States. The States have been asked to co-operate with each other to counter naxalite violence. They are helped by the Union to achieve the desired results. The results achieved so far are not bad but they are also not very encouraging. During the current year till the end of July, the aggregate number of incidents of naxalite violence has come down by over 8 per cent over the correspondence period of last year with a marginal 0.78 per cent increase in the overall killing of the civilians and the police personnel. The incidents have been increased and the killings have come down. The Union has provided the affected States with armoured vehicles, helicopters, night vision devices, transport facilities, communication equipments and Central paramilitary forces. Funds are given to them to strengthen their police forces and modernise their activities. People in the affected areas have begun to resist the naxalite activities on their own, which is very good, without fearing for the consequences. The naxalite violence can be controlled and it will be controlled with compassion as well as determination.

Now, Sir, I come to some of the points raised by the hon. Members here. One of the points which were raised related to POTA. Some Members argued that terrorism has increased. To substantiate this argument they relied upon

the incidents and anecdotes and not upon statistics. One can paint a gloomy picture and say the situation is desperate and disastrous. But this method of assessing the real situation is not scientific and correct and it is misleading and deceptive. But this was the method adopted by some hon. Members.

Some Members were of the view that terrorism has increased because POTA has been repealed. Some other Members said that terrorism in North-Eastern States had gone up because of the IMDT Act. These arguments rely upon false logic.

Laws are needed certainly, but laws by themselves do not solve all the problems. The results depend upon the manner in which they are used. Some laws do not solve problems. They create more dissatisfaction and more problems. TADA was enacted to solve the problems of terrorism, but it had to be repealed when it produced a lot of dissatisfaction and no good results. POTA was enacted to produce good results, but it produced the same kind of dissatisfaction as TADA did. So, it was also repealed. The argument that because of its repeal terrorism has increased is erroneous. When it was in existence, Gujarat incident had occurred. It could not prevent the carnage that had happened in the land of peace and birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi.

There is an anecdote. I take the liberty and permission of this House to relate that anecdote to you. Two ladies were in a mood to show each other that the husband of each one of them was a greater *shikari*. One of them said that her husband had gone to do some *shikar* in a forest. When a tiger was spotted, he just showed his gun and the tiger had disappeared and found killed. Just by showing his gun, the tiger had disappeared and had been killed! The other lady said that her husband was a better *shikari*. Once he had gone to a forest to do tiger's *shikar*. When he saw a tiger, he just showed his gun licence and the tiger ran away and was killed.

It is like this. By showing the TADA law, you cannot control the situation.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Does that mean there should be no law? Is that your argument?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have not said that. I have said that laws are required. But by simply having a law, you cannot solve the problem. It is like the ladies praising their husbands.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The whole world is making stricter laws. The only law which was there was repealed by you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, I request you to take the permission of the Chair before intervening.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I pointed out that POTA did not help in some cases. Just having a law is not sufficient. What is required is the will; what is required is the determination; what is required is the plan; and what is required is the strategy. If you have a law in the Statute Book, it does not help you in the forests. You will have to depend upon those who are actually in the forest trying to control the terrorist activities over there. That is the point I was trying to make. Saying that absence of POTA has enhanced terrorism is like depending upon the gun licence. It is not a very sound argument based on logic. Nothing more need be said on this point.

How does terrorism develop? Economical, social and political injustice breed anger and discontent in the society, out of which some thoughts and some signs of terrorism appear and develop.

There are people who want to earn more by hook or crook. They are in drug and arms smuggling. They resort to terrorism. Some countries rely upon terrorism to revenge upon their neighbouring and enemy countries. They have developed theories on terrorism. They think that terrorism is a low-cost option available to them to unleash proxy war on their neighbours. They want to give million cuts to their enemies. The theory that their religions are superior to those of others give rise to fundamentalism and terrorism. Narrow-minded approach towards life and ignorance about the real principles of their and others' religions make them fanatics and terrorists. Men and women are a mixture of good and bad. They have divine as well as devil state of character. When the devil state of character dominates, they become violent, intolerant and terrorists. Some Members spoke against *madrasas*; some other spoke against the *shishu vihars*. The educational institutions are meant to develop enlightened minds. If they become bigoted and develop narrow-mindedness, they generate elements which contribute towards making of terrorism.

In our country, some leaders and wise men have tried to unite the people and give a message that in the alternate analysis, all human beings are one and the same. They have done it even at the cost of their lives. There have been others who have eulogized their own religion and community and created division in the society by criticizing other religions. They have even been responsible for unleashing divisive tendencies and religious frenzies. We have seen what had happened when such a psychology was allowed to be developed in the minds of the masses. Once this kind of genie is allowed to come out of the bottle, it cannot be

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restrained and controlled easily. It takes a heavy toll and causes miseries to millions. We need not blame each other. We can introspect what we have been thinking and doing and to what extent we are responsible for the tragedies that have been developing and inflicting numerous wounds on the lives of the unsuspecting and innocent common men and women. Blaming others would not help, introspecting would help. That would restrain the mind that moves towards terrorism. The war or terrorism develops in the mind of the man. They should be restrained and controlled there only. The mind gets polluted because of the efforts made for years, and constantly.

Sir, the terrorist activities do not happen suddenly. Somebody is talking all the time, somebody is spreading the hatred all the time, somebody is criticizing some other religion all the time, somebody is contributing towards the development of fundamentalism all the time, and the net result of it is the terrorism or the incidents that occur. They do not occur suddenly. They are the results of what we have been doing for years together. They should be cleansed of the malice through constant efforts over the years. The educational institutions and other institutions should not be used to divide the people. They should be used to unite them and to impress upon them that they are one in the ultimate analysis. The conflict of civilization now is the result of this kind of psychology and this kind of thinking. If we are talking in terms of one religion alone and not realizing that other religions are also the part which lead to the ultimate goal, we have committed mistake. That kind of wisdom was given to us by our sages and the seers, not now but 10,000 years ago. They had said that there are many routes to truth. Truth is one, routes are many. Now, this is what was said. Yet, we forget it. Yet we just eulogize our own religion and criticize other religions giving rise to hatred and malice and giving rise to causes of terrorism.

The question is this. What can be done to control terrorism? I am not talking in small terms but I am talking in general terms. We should enlighten the people through education and other things, make them broad-minded, inform them about the good philosophies that have developed throughout the world. That may help. Dogmatism and religious fundamentalism does not help. The perspective of life should be wide. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Terrorism is coming from Pakistan and from the other countries. He is talking about what we should do in this country.

[Translation]

You yourself said that it is a proxy war, suicide bombers and human bombs are coming over from that side and here

it is being started as to what sort of education is to be imparted in our country.

[English]

Please talk about terrorism and what is happening to the country.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I have not yet completed it. Let him have the patience and hear what I am going to say. I am going to deal with those problems also. He should not jump at the conclusion every now and then getting up and then he should not disturb my flow of speech. That is not good. I am going to reply point by point. Prof. Malhotra, why do you jump at the conclusion?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Terrorism and communalism are two different things. Hon. Minister is talking only about communalism. Why is he not talking about terrorism? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Why does the hon. Member jump at the conclusion before the conclusion of my speech? He should have waited a little more.

Coming to my point, I would like to say that dogmatism and religious fundamentalism does not help. The perspective of life should be wide, tolerant and liberal. Through words and actions, we should create an ambience which makes the people tolerant, affectionate and compassionate. A lot of strength is needed to be tolerant, compassionate and non-violent.

Sir, the brave should show their strength not to divide, not to kill but to unite and help. Economic, social and cultural disparities and injustices create a climate in which terrorism thrives. Our polity should be just. Our effort should be to make them just. Unemployment, exploitation, selfishness of some persons in the society cause harm to the minds of the other people and the unity in the society. These causes should be eliminated. Perfect equality may not be possible but perfect desire to do justice can be helpful and feasible.

To deal with terrorism, a multi-pronged approach helps. Neither mere talks nor bullets nor strong action nor simple economic development can help. In some cases, talks may help. In some cases, strong action would be needed. But certainly economic development can prove to be useful. But, in a majority of cases, the mix of all these may help. This is what the Governments have been trying to do and these methods are producing some results. We have taken steps to stop illegal migration and infiltration.

We have closed our western borders. We have fenced

our western borders. We have fenced more than half of the eastern border around Bangladesh. The remaining work of fencing would very soon be completed. In 2006, we expect it to be completed. The fence has to be maintained and modernised to be effective. This is being done. We have to look after nearly 7000 kilometres of the border fencing. You can imagine how enormous, onerous and expensive is the task. However, we would complete it. Some States look after many things needed by the people. We have asked them to provide the things which are needed by the people. Through planned development, the needs and the demands of the people can be met. Funds for this purpose are being provided. We hope we would come up to the expectations.

Sir, I would like to inform this august House that we are giving Rs.35 crore to each district, which is supposed to be backward, for the development of infrastructure so that the people there do not feel neglected. Now, we have also asked the State Governments to distribute the surplus land declared surplus under the Land Ceiling Law so that the land which could have been given to the needy persons is also given.

We have asked the State Governments to distribute the plots for constructing houses, which should be given. These are some of the economic steps. I am not dealing with all economic steps. Maybe, very soon, we are going to have the Employment Guarantee law. That will help to provide employment to the people who are unemployed. We are having this 'Food-for-Work' project with us. Now, it is approved by the Government and certainly by the Parliament. This is also going to help. These are economic steps but these are not the only steps which we are taking. What we are doing is, we are giving a lot of money to the State Governments to strengthen their police force. We are, in fact, trying to add nearly 300 battalions in some years to come to the police force that is existing today. So, the State Governments have enough number of battalions with them. Just having the number is not enough; the number should have the guns; the number should have the transport facilities. The policemen and the officers should have the communication facilities. They should not only have the communication facilities but also there should be a mechanism for cooperation between the States. So, these funds, nearly Rs. 10,000 crore, are being made available for this purpose to the State Governments. I am giving the figures, Sir, from my memory. Nearly this amount of money is being given to the State Governments. We are asking the State Governments to cooperate.

Now, in naxalite areas, there is a committee which is headed by the Secretary who has to look after the security of the country. He meets every month and he discusses this

matter with the Director-General of Police and others to decide as to how to do it. Every three months the Home Secretary, at the national level, is expected to meet the Chief Secretaries of the State Governments, and they decide as to how this menace should be controlled. At the Home Minister's level, there is a committee constituted which is attended by the Chief Ministers of the States affected by the naxalites today. They have the State Police; they have the Para-Military Forces; and in some areas, they have the Military also. In Jammu and Kashmir, the Military is also helping them. In North-Eastern States, the Para-Military Forces of the State Governments, the State Police and the Military are also helping them. They have the Unified Command System (UCS). It means the Chief Minister of that State can sit there and decide as to how the Army, the Para-Military Forces and the State Police can be used to control the naxalite activities. It is not only this; I have already said that we are in the process of modernising our Forces. We are giving them the armoured vehicles, we are giving them the helicopters, the air cover, we are giving them the communication system – the most modern communication system, and we are also giving them a better kind of training. Now, all these things will strengthen the Police Forces; strengthen the Forces which are responsible for maintaining the law and order situation in the country, and that will help us. So, I have given the idea as to what has to be done from across the border, what has to be done in the area of education, what has to be done in the economic field, what has to be done to strengthen the State Police, the Union Police, and what has to be done to bring about the cooperation and coordination. What politically we are doing, I have explained. These are the steps we are taking and all the same, I would not like to say that the problem is fully solved, I am not going to take that kind of stand. The problem still exists and it is necessary for us to keep on doing better than what we have done up to this time, more than what we have been doing up to this time. The efforts are to do it. Efforts are to do it with the cooperation of the State Governments and the Union Government, with the cooperation of the Governments in all the States. I must say, Sir, on the floor of the House that the States may belong to different Parties and yet they have cooperated. It has been possible for us to bring about an understanding between the Union and the State Governments to tackle this problem. This is broadly our approach.

Sir, I am replying to a debate which took place many many days back and I do not know whether I have been able to reply to all the points. It is generally not possible to reply to all the points, but if there is time and if you allow and if they have any question, I am willing to reply.

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, the hon'ble Home Minister has not uttered even a single word about Pakistan in his speech. He has repeatedly said that terrorists bases are there and terrorism is being unleashed from there but there is not a word about terrorism from Pakistan. I want to know why is he shy of pinpointing Pakistan as having the terrorist bases as has been clearly pointed out by the Prime Minister, the Defence Minister and the same is being echoed by the top brass of our armed forces as well. ...*(Interruptions)* In the whole reply, he did not utter a single word. Sir, through you I would like to know as to what does the Government propose to do with the terrorists bases in Pakistan?

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, my question is whether ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not to be recorded.

*(Interruptions)\*...*

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs whether some weeks back the Bangladesh Government had asked the Government of India to have a joint-combing operation, in both Bangladeshi and Indian territories, to flush out insurgents and terrorists. If so, is it still under the consideration of the Government or has the Government communicated to the Bangladesh Government its decision in this regard, and if so, may the House know what it is?

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has not answered the reasons behind the Ayodhya attack and which organisation is responsible for this. Has the Government detected the organisation behind this attack?

Is it also a fact that India neutralised two hit squads from Pakistan in March and the third murderer escaped and went underground? Is the third murderer, who had escaped, behind the Ayodhya attack and whether this information is available to the Government of India?

Lastly, regarding Naxalites and Maoists, the hon. Minister has already answered that the socio-economic issue is the main problem for the growth of Naxalism. Now, the hon. Minister is entrusting this job to the State Government. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether

\* Not recorded.

the Government of India will take interest in this because this is not a State problem. It is not concerned with State Government as it is spreading not only in one State, but it is spreading in 15 States. Why is the Government not having any discussion with the Naxalite leaders or the leaders of other organisations?

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, through you, I would like to know as to why no effort has been made in the whole reply to enlighten us about the terrorists network being set up by the I.S.I. in the country? Terrorists training camps are operating in Pakistan even today and I.S.I. is pushing terrorists into our country and making all sorts of arrangements in this regard. A point related to this is ...*(Interruptions)* 15th August, our Independence day is round the corner. Has the Government made all preparations keeping this aspect in view? It is being reported in the newspapers continuously that terrorists have entered into Delhi and they intend to disrupt the independence day celebrations.

I would like to know whether the Government has made all the arrangements properly by informing the State Governments in that regard?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know the steps being taken by the Government in this direction with reference to the manner in which it is getting promoted at large scale in various States in the country and in particular the infiltration taking place from Nepal through Bihar border and as you all are also aware of the attack on an hon. Member in daylight, so that this trend of terrorist entering Bihar can be stopped. I would also like to know as to what action they are going to take to control the rising trend of terrorism in the country?

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): I would like to seek one clarification - also it is a suggestion - regarding internal insurgency. To avoid internal insurgency, you do not have that much police force. In some States, one police constable has to look after a population of 3,000. In some States, 1,000 people have to be looked after by one police constable.

What steps is the Government taking to improve the civil defence mechanism in the country? I would like to know whether the Government is considering relaxing the gun licensing policy where Naxalite and Maoist activities are taking place.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): I would like to know whether it is a fact that out of those Pakistanis who came to see Indo-Pakistan cricket match, 11 are still

untraceable. If it is true, then what is the Government going to do to trace them?

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not a matter of debate as to what extent the terrorist activities have increased or decreased. It is a fact that terrorism exists in our country. I feel that despite efforts being made for improving the relations between India and Pakistan; terrorists try to increase such activities internationally. Perhaps in August, 2004 Parvez Musharraf Saheb had said that terrorist activities were on the rise but he would not let the terrorists use the territory of Pakistan for such activities at any cost. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has lodged its protest with Parvez Musharraf in this regard?

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the entire debate was on the terrorist attack on Ram Janma-bhoomi in Ayodhya and terrorist activities in the country as a whole. Who were the persons behind the recent attack on Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya and to which outfit they belonged? What action has been taken against them by the Government of India so far? The Naxal movement in India has contacts with Maoists in Nepal. Several Maoists leaders of Nepal are being given refuge in JNU and in the country by the parties supporting Government. What action does the Government propose to take against them?

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the day I had discussed terrorism, I had particularly asked the Minister who was sitting here to give a reply definitely after listening to my point carefully. The issue which I was referring to was that the speech delivered by the Chief Minister of Punjab under the banner of Khalistan in Canada and after that bomb blast in Delhi and arrest of a human bomb in Punjab and the terrorists there praising the Chief Minister and the Chief Minister calling that arrested terrorist a Gentleman — is the Government in favour of ordering a Judicial inquiry in this regard so that the Punjabi people can get justice?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we all know that the manner in which the terrorist activities have taken place in Maharashtra clearly show that there is an influence of Naxalism on it. Due to the rising Naxalism and terrorist activities in the border areas of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, all the three border areas are getting affected and such incidents are rising day-by-day. A Joint command was proposed to be constituted by the Govt. but that has not happened so far. The terrorist activities are on the increase once again under the influence of Naxalism.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the terrorist activities are taking place all over the country, particularly in the North-East States where the poor students and youth remain deprived of the basic amenities and they are turning towards terrorism. I would like to know whether any planned programme is being proposed so that they can be brought back into the mainstream of the country after their surrender?

*[English]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, there are 14 hon. Members who have spoken and put the questions.

The first question relates to the role of Pakistan. The hon. Member was complaining why did I not mention the name of Pakistan. It is not necessary to mention the names of the countries and the parties also who are involved in these kinds of activities. Even without doing that, one can understand who is involved in this. It is not our style to name the people and say, "He did it." But we have given enough hint about it.

About Bangladesh, of course, the complaints are there that the people from Bangladesh are illegally migrating into the Indian territory and they are causing disturbances over there. This matter has been raised with the Bangladesh Government at the official level, at the Foreign Ministers' level, and even at the highest level also. This matter is likely to be discussed whenever there is an occasion for this. We hold the meetings in India as well as in Bangladesh, which are attended by the Home Secretaries of both the countries and they discuss it. The DGs of the Forces in India and Bangladesh also have been regularly meeting. Our Foreign Minister was in Bangladesh. He had gone there to strengthen the understanding and friendship between the countries but at the same time he did take care to say that there are certain things which are causing concern to us, and it is necessary that Bangladesh takes care of them as India is taking care of such other things also. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. MAHTAB: What about combing operations? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: That issue is before them. They will be looking into it to come to a correct conclusion.

Now, as regards the reason behind the attack at Ayodhya, well I have already said — the first paragraph of my statement relates to that — that people wanted to divide the country. That is why, they wanted to go there and throw something at the place which is supposed to be disputed and supposed to be sacred, and they wanted to create a problem. This is the reason. It is not difficult for us to



[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

understand as to why they want there. That is the reason, which is known. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that the terrorists killed in Ayodhya were buried in the Government graveyard and the people from Muslim Community mourned their death by offering fatiah on the graves. Such kind of despicable acts are taking place. The hon. Minister is misguiding and only trying to divide others and trying to make them heroes.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Now, this is exactly what creates division in the country. If these kinds of statements can be made in the Parliament, then one can understand what kind of statements could have been made by the same persons outside. This is what is happening. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): That is what he is saying. ...*(Interruptions)*

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, how can we fight terrorism if we do not accept this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We will fight terrorism with our own policy. We will not fight it according to the policy you have envisaged in this regard. You may keep your policy unto yourself.

[English]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: What about ISI? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, about ISI, we know that these kinds of agencies are active but it is not necessary for us to keep on saying that they are active, this is happening, and this is what we are doing. We know that they are active. We know how and from where they are trying to create a problem. It is not always necessary to mention the names of these kinds of agencies.

But we are not oblivious of this fact. One of the questions asked was this. Have you made preparation to provide security to the city of Delhi on 15th of August? Yes, we have taken steps, and whatever is humanly possible, our officers and boys are doing that. We hope things will be done in a proper manner.

What is being done on the border of Bihar in India?

That was the question asked. This is causing a little concern to us also. We have our forces on the border. We are trying to strengthen the SSB. Sashastra Sena Bal is over there and we are trying to strengthen it. We are trying to give them more equipment and more facilities to overcome these things.

A very good question was asked about the civil defence mechanism. I would like to say that we have started giving help to this wing of the Force in our country and we would like that it is strengthened. We are giving them a lot of money. We are providing them the facilities also. We will keep doing this. It is not only the Army or the Para-Military Forces or the State police that we are depending upon, but we are also trying to develop the civil defence mechanism which is available here. We would like to strengthen that, and we will go one step ahead. We would also like to give training and information to the people who would like to protect themselves. This is the kind of policy we are adopting.

A question was asked that 11 of the people who had come from Pakistan to watch cricket had not gone back. Now that appears to be the case. We are searching where they have gone, and we would like to take action against them.

As far as the training camps in Pakistan are concerned, statements have been made by the highest authority in the Government that these kinds of things should not be allowed and should be controlled. We know that there are training camps, and yet if the Government of Pakistan is trying to see that those training camps are not allowed to be active, we should take the word given by Pakistan also. It is because the Government may not like to have it and yet there may be training camps also. How far the Government is sincere in doing this thing is a question. At this point of time, we do think that whatever is being said by the Government of Pakistan is probably being said with all the sincerity, and yet the fact is that the training camps are still there. Now, whether they have been able to demolish those training camps or they are continuing with the connivance of the authority over there, is a different issue. I am not going to enter into that controversial part.

Our approach is, if there is a goodwill, which can help us to normalise the situation on the border, in the territories of India and across the border, we should not throw that kind of a desire to have normalcy and peace to the wind. We would like to make use of it. At the same time we will be vigilant. At the same time we will do our duty to bring this fact to the notice of the Governments in other countries and ask them, request them to see that is not allowed in their country.

What is done to the terrorists? That was a question asked. We know what was done to the terrorists. The terrorists who had gone there were liquidated. That has happened. We are trying to understand who are the others who were involved in it. All those who had gone there have been neutralised. They were liquidated. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : I had put a question on the third group. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please, sit down. We have to take up the Private Member's business now.

*[English]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: This is the information that you are reading in the media, and media is doing a good job in informing the people. We have our information, and our information always does not tally with what is made available to others. We are progressing as per our information and as per our plan. Whatever necessary in this respect shall be done, and we shall have no difficulties.

As far as the issue of Punjab Chief Minister is concerned, this is a politically motivated question, and I am not going to reply to this.

Now, there was an issue of United Command in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and other places. Well, I do not think we have created United Command in those areas. But if it is necessary, we will certainly create United Command or Unified Command, and allow them to do it. Actually, what we have done is this. Nearly 23 battalions have been given to the States that are affected by Naxalite activities. Twenty-three battalions mean nearly 20,000 men, and officers. It is a very big number. It has been given to them. When we give them these battalions, we used to charge from them for the forces sent over there. But now, we have taken a decision not to charge for the forces that we have given to them. I think, they are more satisfied with the cooperation that we have between ourselves.

Then, there was the issue of some of the hon. Members, and some of the persons who are not at all connected with these kinds of things. We can assure them that whether a State is in the North or in the South or in the West, whether it is ruled by one party or the other party, we all have to work for the unity, and for providing security to the people of this country. These considerations will not be kept in mind while giving succour to them. We have been doing that. I have already stated that I am satisfied with the kind of cooperation given by the State Governments. That does not mean that

there are no mistakes; that does not mean that there is no scope for improvement. If we look at the things in a holistic manner, the approach that they have adopted, and their willingness to cooperate, we have no reasons to be dissatisfied. There is scope for improvement. But there is no reason to be dissatisfied with the kind of cooperation that has been given to us.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, We will take up Private Members' Business. Item No. 18, Shri Chandra Pratap Singh.

15.23 hrs.

#### MOTION RE: TWELFTH REPORT OF PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP SINGH (Sidhi): I beg to move for leave to propose:

"That this House do agree with the Twelfth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolution presented to the House on the 10th August, 2005".

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twelfth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 10th August, 2005."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.23½ hrs.

#### PROHIBITION OF EXTRAVAGANT EXPENDITURE ON MARRIAGE BILL, 2005\*

*[English]*

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): I beg to move, for leave to introduce a Bill to prohibit extravagant and wasteful expenditure on marriages and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prohibit extravagant and wasteful expenditure on marriages

\* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 12.8.05

and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: I introduce the Bill.

15.24 hrs.

# CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005\*

(Substitution of new article for article 130)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

15.24½ hrs.

# OLD AGE PENSION AND REHABILITATION BILL, 2005\*

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of pension and provision of other rehabilitation facilities to old persons.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of pension and provision of other rehabilitation facilities to old persons."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

\* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 12.8.05

\*\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

15.25 hrs.

# COFFEE GROWERS WELFARE BILL, 2005\*

[English]

SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare and protection of interests of coffee growers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare and protection of interests of coffee growers."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

15.25½ hrs.

# CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005\*

(Substitution of New Article for Article 253, Etc.)

[English]

SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: I introduce the Bill.

15.26 hrs.

# CONTRACT LABOUR (REGULATION AND ABOLITION) (AMENDMENT) BILL (AMENDMENT OF SECTION 10), 2005\*

[English]

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN (Vandavasi): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.

\* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 12.8.05

\*\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

15.26½ hrs.

**PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005\***  
(Amendment of Section 2, etc.)

[English]

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN (Vandavasi): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

15.27 hrs.

**PAYMENT OF WAGES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005\***  
(Amendment of Section 1)

[English]

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN (Vandavasi): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Wages Act, 1936.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Wages Act, 1936."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.27½ hrs.

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005\***

(Amendment of Section 2A, etc.)

[English]

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN (Vandavasi): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.28 hrs.

**NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE  
BOARD BILL, 2005\***

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Child Welfare Board and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Child Welfare Board and for matters connected therewith."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri C.K. Chandrappan – not present.

\* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 12.8.05

\*\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

\* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 12.8.05

\*\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

15.29 hrs.

**ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR  
BILL, 2005 – contd.**

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up Item No. 30. Further consideration the motion moved by Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi on the 13th May, 2005. Shri Adhir Chowdhury was on his legs. He may continue.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to add a few lines to the inconclusive speech delivered by me on the last occasion. Sir, a good number of hon. Members have already expressed their concern and suggested remedial measures to eliminate the scar of child labour from our country. The problem of child labour has already assumed global dimension. We have also made our contribution by way of signing the Convention under the United Nations General Assembly on the rights of children.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*)

15.30 hrs.

We had also formulated a plethora of Acts to stem the rot in so far as child labour is concerned. It is a fact that there has been a perceptible reduction in child labour in industrialised countries. On the other hand, child labour has been flourishing in developing countries and India is one among the developing countries. Due to socio-economic condition of our society, including the size of household, the shortage of food security and constraint of employment avenues are all playing a very contributive role in flourishing the child labour market.

Not only that, in a number of countries which have been suffering from the problem of insurgency, children have been inducted in perpetrating the nefarious designs of insurgent groups. Already, in 11 countries, 35 parties have been identified by the United Nations' monitoring bodies. Children are being lured and being enticed on account of their innocence and illiteracy to commit various subversive activities. In our country also, children are being recruited in perpetrating subversive activities by insurgent groups. Already, 2.5 lakh children are being used as troops in conflicts worldwide.

Not only this, a number of children have been drawn into flesh trade also. More than 1 million children have been reported to be engaged in flesh trade. As per the Economic Survey, it has been observed that there are 1.25 crore working children in the age group of 5-14 years as compared

to total child population of 25.2 crore. Certainly, the proportion of child labour in India is unacceptable. However, we cannot wipe out the problem by introducing any law or Act.

I am saying this because the incidents of child labour always co-relate to the macro-economic issues including poverty, perjury living standards of our society, etc.

A 16-Member Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gurupadaswamy observed that extreme poverty, lack of opportunity for gainful employment, intermittency of income, and low standards of living are the main reasons for the wide prevalence of child labour.

A host of acts have already been introduced in India, and they are very much in vogue and in existence. However, the child labour market has been flourishing in India. This Government has already made a number of proposals to allot huge funds for the welfare of children.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Adhir Chowdhury, kindly conclude your speech. The other day you had taken 17 minutes, and today you have already taken eight minutes. Therefore, the total time taken by you till now, for your speech, comes to 25 minutes.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, I am concluding my speech. Please give me five more minutes to speak on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister also has to give his reply on this Bill.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: The fact is that child labour is very much linked to education. Government has already proposed 6 per cent of the GDP to be given for education sector. I would like to ask this from the hon. Minister. Has he proposed any policy for child labour? I am asking this from him because he is also the Chairman of the National Authority for Eradication of Child Labour.

Secondly, we do not have any distinct idea of the exact number of child labourers existing in India. We do not know the number of child labour engaged as domestic help, and the number of child labour engaged in other non-hazardous areas. Is the institutional mechanism -- which we have in place -- competent enough to enumerate the child labour engaged in those areas?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdhury, please conclude your speech.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, I come from the State of West Bengal and the name of my district is Murshidabad, which is popularly known as a 'bidi' manufacturing district.

The hon. Minister has already paid a kind visit to my district, and he is well aware of the child labour problems in the 'bidi' manufacturing sector. We all know that Murshidabad has a high concentration of 'bidi' labourers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdhury, we do not have much time available for this subject. Therefore, kindly cooperate with the Chair, and conclude your speech.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: But as per the National Child Development Project, there are still. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdhury, please conclude your speech.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, please allow me to speak for a couple of minutes more as this is a very important issue. A number of labourers are engaged in the 'bidi' manufacturing units. They have been suffering from respiratory problems, Tuberculosis; etc.

A number of child labour projects are running there. But the number of child health projects is too meagre in comparison to the number of children engaged in the 'bidi' manufacturing sector to provide the required educational facilities to those 'bidi' workers, especially, the children engaged in it.

Furthermore, even today it has appeared in the newspapers that in the State of West Bengal, the Government has not yet been able to identify the employers who have been violating all the established norms in terms of child labour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdhury, if you do not conclude your speech, then there will be no recording of your speech. Therefore, please conclude your speech.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: The C&AG has also commented that no employers have been punished, and no penalty is imposed on them. In this scenario of indifference to the child labour, I would request the hon. Minister to pay special attention to the State of West Bengal in general, and to the district of Murshidabad in particular.

Sir, smallest children are nearest to God, as the smallest planet is nearest to Sun.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri B. Mahtab - not present.

I now give the floor to Dr. Rajesh Mishra.

*[Translation]*

DR. RAJESH MISHRA (Varanasi): Sir, I am grateful to

you for giving me time to speak on such an important issue. Earlier many learned members expressed their views on this important issue. I would like to dwell on two or three points.

When we ponder over the problem of child labour we find that not only India but the entire world is afflicted with this malaise and due to increase in the population graph the problem of child labour exists in India and this problem is more serious in our country than that of other countries of the world. It has emerged as a major problem in our country. When we think over it we find that burgeoning population is the biggest cause of it. When population increases, unemployment also increases and with unemployment poverty also increases in the same ratio and when poverty increases people want to do any job which fall in their way. That is why everybody whether a child of 5-6 years or children of the age group of 17, 18 or 19 years always try to get some kind of job. When we take other view, of this problem we feel that when children are forcibly lured to, work in any industry, it may be said that they are being exploited. Where a family voluntarily decides, keeping in view their economic circumstances, that their children will work, in that case, in any circumstances it should not be banned.

Right to work is our Constitutional right. Right to work is enshrined in the Directive principles of the Constitution. Today poor families comprise of 10, 12 or 15 members and each member earns wages. In these families everybody, from small children to adult member works. If we look at this in the perspective of right to work we cannot term it exploitation. It may be called exploitation when it is revealed that a child is forced to work.

I belong to east Uttar Pradesh. Bhadohi district is adjacent to my constituency. Once the carpets of Bhadohi were famous all over the world. We can recall the time when German, Japan and Russia were the biggest buyers of carpets of Bhadohi and largest amount of revenue used to be collected from Bhadohi district of Uttar Pradesh. There was an inflow of large amount of foreign exchange here. After that a campaign was started against child labour. Some foreign powers started the propaganda in Germany and Russia that these carpets are tainted with the blood of 10-12 year old children. These carpets bear blood stains of those children who are employed as child labour in carpet manufacturing industries.

There was a time when Bhadohi district was the largest revenue-earning district in Uttar Pradesh but today the carpet industry there is passing through a phase of economic hardship. Many of our industries are not based on machines but run by craftsmen and these craftsmen may be of any

[Dr. Rajesh Mishra]

age. A child in the age group of twelve to fifteen, an adult of twenty five to thirty years of age and a woman of fifty years may be a craftsman. The craftsmen who have been affected in the name of child labour have become a big problem in India. In my constituency a big industry of Banarasi Saree is located. Banarasi Sarees are sent all over the world from here. In the Banarasi Saree industry a child of ten to twelve years of age, his mother, father and sister work together. If that fourteen year old child is stopped from working in the name of child labour, in my view it would do no justice to this industry. According to a decision of the Cabinet, Employment Guarantee Bill is being introduced. As per this Bill a youth or a child will get the constitutional right to work and then the problem of child labour may be controlled. Earlier, there was a debate on Bidi industry. This industry is being run in Murshidabad in West Bengal and other parts of the country. There is a big Bidi industry in Madhya Pradesh, the state to which you belong. Bidi industry is also located in some areas of Uttar Pradesh adjacent to Madhya Pradesh. It is true that small children work in these industries. But I would just like to say that if we defame the entire industry in the name of child labour it will be injustice to the industry. Saree industry is located in Varanasi, bronze utensils industry is located in Mirzapur and carpet industry in Bhadohi. There was a time when Banaras was a big centre for manufacturing small toys of wood. But due to the problem of child labour this industry is on the verge of extinction. I would not take much time of this House. Hon. Minister is sitting here and I would like to draw his attention towards this fact that inspectors of labour department get those factories closed at their will where small children are found working. Unless a underhand agreement is reached with the factory owner that factory remains closed. As a result these industries have to suffer in the name of child labour. I think, these children should be imparted good education, technical education to employ them in industries. They should also be provided good medical facilities. Apart from this one who wants to work should be given the right to work so that he can maintain his family. I would like to request the House to make necessary arrangements so that the small industries could be saved from adverse impacts. The problem of Child Labour should also be tackled while paying proper attention to the industries which are on the verge of closure. With these words I conclude.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there can be no dispute about the spirit of the Abolition of Child Labour Act, 2005 introduced by Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi, that is, children should not be forced for free labour, they should be provided with education and as far as possible, opportunity to attain all round development of personality. However, as my friend has just pointed out, we

should not assess the situation in our country from the point of view of the West. Rather our perspective should be based on the ground realities prevailing in our country.

I come from a rural background and I am the son of a farmer. I remember quite well that when I was a student in school I used to help my parents to cut grass, to carry cow-pats and to feed the cattle in the morning and in the evening. Families who are in good financial condition should try to educate their children. But if in a situation where parents are old and ill and have a 14-15 year old son who finds employment to feed his parents and earn money, it is proposed to stop such a child from working and to take action against such parents then I think we will have to draw a line somewhere and put a limit to our right to interfere.

A carpenter does carpentry and an Iron-smith moulds iron. Their sons and other family members learn the craft from childhood. On the one hand, a young man today goes to an ITI to learn the trade of a welder or a diesel mechanic after studying upto metric level and on the other hand, the son of a mechanic learns the trade from his father and starts earning upto Rs.100-150 for tightening nuts and bolts. This is not to say that I am against the education of children. Children should be educated but the conditions prevailing in India should also be kept in view. Dhaka mulmul, that could be passed through a ring was world famous. When the Britishers came to India they saw that children were put to work to make this cloth because they had soft hands which were capable of very fine work, they cut-off the hands of those children and destroyed that generation of workers. As a result, Dhaka mulmul industry got ruined and cloth from Liverpool and Manchester started selling in India.

My friends were discussing Bhadohi just now. When America found that there was a great demand of Indian carpets in Japan, China etc., it sought out ways to ruin the cottage industries of India, subdue pride in indigenous goods and raise the demand of foreign goods. As a part of such efforts they propagated the theory of exploitation, of children in the carpet industry. They started showing the blood stains in the carpets. There are certain Non-Government Organisations which are getting money from foreign companies. They are raising slogans against child labour and portraying a false image of our industries to the world. It has mined all these industries, be it the business of utensil making in Moradabad or bangle making in Firozabad. In my constituency Kishangarh, small artisans. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this discussion on this Bill was over. If the House agrees, the time for the discussion on this Bill may be extended by one hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is extended by one hour.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, I would like to say, through you, that the spirit of this Bill is quite good. There are nearly 13 million child labourers in our country. Our country is an agro-based country, it is a country of numerous villages. 77 per cent of the people in the country are dependent on agriculture. There are more than 7 lakh small and large villages and 100 towns with a population of one lakh and above. Leave aside the glamour of towns, our villages used to be self-sufficient in the past because division of labour was there. Farmers would cultivate land, potters would make pitcher and other traders would deal in their fields of specialisation. Children learnt the traditional crafts at home. Therefore, we have to keep in mind the Indian perspective, and working conditions of our country. As I have said be it a cracker making factory in Sivakashi, match box making factories, picking of tea leaves in the tea-gardens of Assam or the work of cashewnuts etc. in Kerala, I have seen that 16-17 years old boys and girls are engaged for these jobs. We will have to keep these things in mind.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry to say that the people who gave the slogan – Remove Poverty – could not remove the poverty but they did take away work from the poor in the name of child labour. If the poverty is removed and all the people become prosperous and even then if a child is made to work, then it is logical to take action against such parents. There is provision of imprisonment in the law of doing so – parents who are making their children work can attract the penalty of one year's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50 thousand. Now when the poor person is not able to feed himself and if he allows his child to work in a hotel, he does so out of compulsion. It is the compulsion which force him to do something to satisfy his hunger. A hungry man can commit any sin. A serpent eats its own eggs. When the famine hit Bengal, many parents deserted their children, sold their children and went somewhere else. We can find many such instances in the country.

Such situation also arose in the African countries is when they reeled under famine. There are several gangs operating in Hyderabad and at other places which are kidnapping children of 10-15 years of age and selling them in the gulf countries where Sheikhs tie these children on the back of camels and make them run and when these children cry, they feel entertained. Girls from Nepal and from several villages of our country are enticed on the pretext of providing

them job or some household job and then they are forced to become call girls. The incident which has been reported in several newspapers of today relates to rape of a girl. She was standing at a bus stop when some people accosted her and they took away her on the pretext of providing her a job and then they raped her. Such type of mindset, I think, is a blot on our society. As far as possible children should be provided primary education, poverty should be removed and efforts should also be made to educate parents. If all this happens, and even then children are forced to work. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jharkhand): Rawat ji, kindly speak on the agricultural child labourers as you, yourself is a farmer. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Everyone works on field in villages and they learn how to do farming with their parents, and they also learn how to do cattle-rearing. They should not be accused of child labour as it is a sort of vocational training for these children.

I very strongly support the idea of providing primary education to each child. A child has a right to it. I would like to thank the NDA Government as it incorporated the right to primary education as a fundamental right. What I want to say is that the exploitation of children should be stopped. They are paid less wages in hotels and cinema houses and maximum work is taken from them.

16.00 hrs.

This should be prevented. Though the intention of Shri Iqbal Ahmed behind bringing forward this bill is good, but the provision of providing punishment to the parents is not proper in the Indian situations in my view. Instead of that the action should be taken against the people responsible for exploitation of children and committing excesses on them. As far as possible, children should get the opportunity to study and advance in life and the time which is meant to groom them and to make their all-round development should not be wasted in taking work from them.

Sir, I thank you, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

16.01 hrs.

# FAMILY COURTS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005\*

## (Amendment of Section 7, etc.)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute, please.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 12.8.2005.



Mr. Chandrappan, during the time of introduction of Bills, when your name was called by the hon. Deputy Speaker, you were not present. Now, you have requested the Chair to allow you to introduce the Bill listed against your name. Kindly introduce your Bill.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Trichur): Thank you, very much Sir.

I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Family Courts Act, 1984.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Family Courts Act, 1984."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: I introduce the Bill.

16.02 hrs.

# ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR BILL, 2005 — *Contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Chairman Sir, if you allow me I can speak from here.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go to your seat.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: As you wish, Sir.

[Translation]

Sir, today the House is having discussion on a very important matter. The problem of child labour is before this House as an important subject and it is matter of concern for all the hon'ble members. The hon'ble Minister is also worried about it and our UPA Government is having very clear intention to provide more and more facilities to child labours. Our Government is making all efforts for their education and for improving their standard of living. I am sure that the hon'ble Minister will spell out clearly during the course of his reply the policy of the Government in this regard. All the hon'ble Members, whether they are from treasury benches or opposition benches, have deliberated upon this matter

with all seriousness and have given their valuable suggestions to check the exploitation of child labourers and to stop further increase in their number in future in the country.

Sir, India is a poor country. We have not been able to remove poverty from the country even after such a long period since independence. This has so many dimensions in which I don't want to go. One of the clear dimensions of poverty is that the number of child labourers are increasing in the country and they all belong to the families living below poverty line. Hon'ble Minister Sir, you may have got conducted a survey in this regard and we all are aware that the families which are living in acute poverty and facing hardships are compelled to allow their children to work as child labourers and thus spoil future of their children. Sir, today no family or parents are willing to allow their children to work. They do it under compulsion and that compulsion is their poverty. Economically they are not sound and they cannot afford to send their children to school or feed them properly.

Parents allow their children to work as child labourers only to improve economic condition of their family. There are so many types of child labourers for example children working in agriculture sector, factories, Tea stalls, Bidi making, domestic work etc. We people are also exploiting child labourers, be it leaders or officers, all have engaged child labourers at their residences. On the one hand we are making speeches here in the House on the menace of child labour and on the other hand if one goes at our residences he will find a child labourer busy in household chores. Until or unless we go ahead with full commitment with an open mind and heart that whatever difficulties we may face, we will not allow the exploitation of child labourers and will not allow to ruin their future, we cannot solve this problem. Children are the future of the country. If proper environment of education is provided to such children they may become engineers and doctors in future. These things may also be there in the mind of parents of these children but circumstances are such that they cannot do anything for them. In this way poverty and scarcity make the future of these children dark.

Future of any country depends on children. According to official data there are six crore child labourers in the country. The population of our country is more than hundred crores and I think there are a number of unidentified child labourers who have not come in the notice of the Government. If we don't shape the future of these children, the country will not progress and prosper. If we see this from other point of view we will find that we are darkening the future of our country. Therefore, it is imperative to go into the roots of this problem and the Government should make

efforts and arrangements for their education with a firm determination.

The Government gets these child labourers free under the law but if the Government have any concern for the future of those children then some arrangement will have to be made for them. If the Government want to liberate child labourers from agriculture sector, houses and factories law will have to be enacted and that law will have to be enforced strictly. Apart from this the Government will have to make arrangement for education of those children otherwise these children will again reach the places from where they were liberated. Therefore, the Government will have to think over it seriously to make a comprehensive policy and provide funds for this purpose. That policy should not remain confined only on papers rather it should be translated into action because a number of policies are formulated but they are rarely implemented in letter and spirit.

My colleague, Prof. Rasa Singhji, who is not present here in the House at present, was speaking on this topic. He said that he would like to thank the N.D.A. Government for enacting law in this regard. But I would like to ask him that enactment of law in this regard was alright but to what extent the problem had been solved by them? If the Government have the willpower then that law has to be implemented strictly. If it is not done, the enactment of law will prove be a futile exercise.

First of all we will have to improve the condition of the children belonging to families living below the poverty line only then the number of child labourers can be reduced or contained. Therefore the Government will have to raise standard of such families because these families are the factories which are producing child labourers. Therefore, until and unless these factories are closed and efforts are made to minimise the number of such families by raising their standard of life, whatever efforts the Government will make, Government policy will not yield desired results.

I want that the Government should formulate a scheme to provide facilities to the families living below the poverty line. The Government will have to formulate such policy under which 'save the childhood' drive can be launched. Unless and until the Government take the work of saving childhood in its hands the country cannot be made free of child labourers.

Sir, Hon'ble Minister also belongs to a poor and exploited family and he can understand this agony very well. Therefore, he will have to launch this drive for their liberation and launch save childhood drive in the country at a large scale.

Children belonging to poor families becomes victims of malnutrition. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you also have good experience of such cases in your constituency. Sir, when you visit your constituency and organize health camps for such children you may have come across the children who are victims of malnutrition and have become crippled. When a pregnant lady doesn't have enough food to eat, how she can give birth to a healthy baby? Future of such child is spoiled in the womb of his mother itself and that child fell prey to malnutrition for want of milk. The Government says that mother should feed her child up to the age of two years but when mother also go dry in absence of food the baby automatically becomes the victims of malnutrition.

In order to shape the future of the children engaged in Bidi making, factories and carpet weaving, it is necessary to make a proper arrangement of their education. The root cause of poverty in India is illiteracy. We will have to think over as to what will be the future of a illiterate child. Therefore, the hon'ble Minister Sir, proper arrangements should be made for education of such children. Please arrange for their meals. All their centres are running on papers only and no body knows where they are functioning.

Bihar is a backward State and poverty is rampant there. I have no idea whether any school or college is being run for such children by his department. There should be arrangement for imparting technical, vocational education and knowledge to such children.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request hon'ble Minister to formulate an effective law in this regard. Present laws are also effective only if they are properly implemented. If a person who violate the law is not punished, such people will be further emboldened. At present we see that the laws are no longer effective and small children are being exploited everywhere and I don't think that any action is being taken against such people. Sir, you are asking me to conclude.

Sir, my request to you is that for the upliftment of child labourers, we should work to strengthen their future. The future of the children of the country will provide a solid base to the future of the country. If the children of the country continue to live in hardship, deplorable conditions, misery, disturbance, poverty and malnutrition, the future of this country will become bleak. Therefore, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to carry out the required amendments in the laws that have already been formulated in this direction. Hon'ble Minister should apprise the House of his views in this regard. Steps should be taken to bring down the number of child labourers in the coming years. The Government should take concrete steps for the upbringing

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

and protection to rescued child labourers. They should be provided proper education and employment opportunities. The country cannot progress until and unless the problem of child labour is solved. If you visit any developed country you will find that the number of child labourers is very small there. Such condition prevails in India or in other poor countries because where there is poverty there is child labour and to solve the problem of child labourers, the economic health of the country must be improved. Sir, I would like to request hon'ble Minister that there is need to pay special attention to villages in this regard because it is from villages that largest number of people migrate to cities. Child labourers are exploited with payment of less wages and thus undue advantage of the child labourers is being taken. The hon. Minister must be aware of it. Without taking much time I would like to thank all and hope that hon'ble Minister will certainly take concrete steps in this regard. I am sure that the Minister and the UPA Government has the necessary determination and will power for this which the NDA Government never had. I hope the hon'ble Minister will take concrete action for the upliftment of child labourers of the country and eradication of poverty.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Respected Sir, I congratulate the hon. Member, Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi for bringing this Bill before this House because it brings to our attention an important lacuna in the prevailing laws prohibiting child labour. All the concerned persons and organisations working in this area and all the right thinking persons have repeatedly been demanding that child labour, in whatever form, should be prohibited in our country.

We have the highest number of child labourers in the world. It is somewhere between 70 to 80 million. Articles 24, 39 and 45 of our Constitution prohibit children under 14 years of age from working or being exposed to the hazardous employment. These children who are forced to work as labourers are losing their freedom to live as children. This is in spite of the Constitution amendment, which ensures universal and compulsory education up to the age of 14 years.

In our country children are employed in various industries such as glass making, carpet making, gem and stone polishing, match making industries and also in fire work industries. These employers are only concerned about their profit because these children are paid less. The salary of an adult labourer need not be paid to a child labour. We have the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1986 which prohibits a growing children below the age of 14 years in factories, mines and hazardous employment and regulates working conditions of children in other employment.

Sir, there are some important yardsticks to measure how much civilized the society or the country is or its people are. One important yardstick is the criminal jurisprudence prevailing in the country and another is how the society or that country or its people treat vulnerable sections of their society like women, children, minorities, etc. After 57 years of Independence, we should hold our head in shame when we look at the pathetic condition of the children of our country.

The 1986 Act prohibits children from working in certain hazardous industries only and it condones employing children in other industries. It does not mention about the vast number of children employed as domestic helpers. So, this House must take this lacuna into consideration and the Government should bring forth necessary amendments to the 1986 Bill and prohibit child labour in whatever form in the country.

Prohibition of child labour is intimately connected with universal education. Everybody will agree with this. I come from a State where we have achieved tremendous success in giving universal education. How could we achieve it? We achieved it because of free education upto tenth standard. Excepting hilly districts like Idukki, there are schools within a radius of one or two kilometres where children can go to study and we provide them with mid-day meals which was emulated in other States of the country. So, there should be incentives for the children of poorer sections to go to schools. In this connection, various experiments are going on in various parts of the world.

I would like to bring one experiment which is going on in Brazil to the notice of the House. The programme is known as Bolso Escola. It means grants for school children. The Brazil Government gives five dollars per month to the parent of a child for sending him to school. This extends upto three children in a family. The children have to get 85 per cent attendance per month. This has worked wonders in Brazil. Lakhs of new children are going to school and parents are also benefited. This programme was introduced in a province in Brazilia in 1985 and seeing the tremendous success, the Brazil Government has started introducing it in other provinces also. Now many Latin American countries like Bolivia, Equador and Argentina are introducing it. It covers 20 million children. They find that money transactions in the bank are taxed. Our Finance Minister has introduced new tax for money transactions in the bank. What is the Government doing with that money? I would earnestly appeal that the money which we get through this new tax should be earmarked for compulsory universal education.

Parents should be rewarded so that they do not send

their little children to the factories or as domestic help. If they get some money for sending their children to the school and if the children are ensured at least one mid-day meal in the school, that will work wonders in our country.

There is a recent ILO study. It says that the economic benefits of investing in education far outweigh the investment. I am not going into the details of that study. This ILO study makes it clear that every pie invested in the education of a child will be returned and ultimately the Government and the country will benefit.

We have introduced the road cess and that money is used for the construction of national highways. Similarly, for investing in children's education, for investing money in primary education for children up to 14 years, which is a constitutional provision also, the Government should find money. The Government should tax the rich. If there is a political will, the Government, I am sure, can find the money for children's education. Only through this the child labour can be totally abolished in our country. I wish the HRD Minister was also here. On the one hand, we should abolish child labour in the country in all forms and on the other hand, we should make provision for giving some incentives to these poor parents for sending their children to schools. Only through this two-pronged approach this menace can be tackled. Only by tackling this menace, by prohibiting the child labour in toto, we can say that ours is a civilised society; ours is a civilised country and ours is a modern society.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman, I thank you. I stand here to discuss Abolition of Child Labour Bill, 2005 moved by hon. Member, Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi. The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children below fourteen years of age in any of the 70 hazardous occupations as contained in parts (a) and (b) of section (3) of the Schedule of the Act. The Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 10th December, 1996 in writ petition civil no. 465/1986 gave certain directions on the issue of elimination of child labour. Accordingly, Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund was set up invariably in all the States where child labour exists in hazardous occupations. Special cells for child labour have been set up in all the States and Union Territories where child labour exists, except Uttaranchal. In India the gravity of the situation can be gauged by the figure that one out of every four begins working at a tender age to support his family, all at the cost of his childhood and education.

The Ministry of Labour today says - I think the hon. Minister will also repeat it - that the number of children

working in the stone quarries, fire-cracker factories, farms or agricultural fields and as domestic servants is around 12.6 million. I think the number might have gone up. This is the figure till December, 2004. But the NGOs like the CRY (Child Relief and You) say that it is more than 100 million. The highest number of children are working in Uttar Pradesh where it is said that the number is 19,27,997; in Madhya Pradesh, it is 10,65,000; in Andhra Pradesh, it is 13,63,000; in Rajasthan, it is 12,62,000; in Bihar, it is 11,17,000. These are all official figures. The National Sample Survey Organisation in its 59th Annual Survey has stated - this is more heartening to note - that there is rise in female child labour especially in the rural areas after all the investments, all these Acts that have come into force.

Another study has also revealed that 5.5 crore of the 9 crore children between the age group of 14-18 do not go to school and instead work as cheap labourers in beedi factories, fire-works and bottling factories.

I will just give certain examples of three or four States. In Orissa, there have been incidents where the child labour point was discussed in different media circles. A Task Force was formed with a famous and noted social activist Madam Tulsi Munda as the Chairmanship to study the child labour problem and to ensure them social security. Andhra Pradesh has launched a project on child labour with the support of DFID to eliminate child labour. Kerala is planning to introduce a legislation to ban child labour. In Tamil Nadu, more than one lakh children in the age group of 6-18 are employed in the brick-kilns. If the brick-kilns are declared as an industry, then the minimum wages and standard of work can be enforced. The law will come into force. This is not there till date in Tamil Nadu. In Karnataka, several lakh children are working in the mines. The mine-owners blatantly violate the labour laws. The National Human Rights Commission has *suo motu* taken cognisance of this situation which is prevalent in Karnataka. These are the five States to which I have drawn the attention of this House. We have more than 29 States and Union Territories. The situation is quite the same in most of the States and the Union Territories. The child labour, no doubt, is a very complex, socio-economic problem. India fully endorses to eliminate child labour. But what have we done? Only enacting the laws? We have a number of laws. This problem has to be tackled through sustained efforts over a period of time. I would suggest certain things. Why can we not frame a law in such a manner that the rights of the children are protected? The Government should adopt a project-based approach to eliminate child labour. It should encompass education, stipend, motivation, health concerns and vocational guidance. These are certain suggestions. You may have more.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

Access to school education is vital for the eradication of child labour. There is no doubt about it. But, at the same time, I would say, the child should be provided with adequate infrastructure in the school.

First of all, poverty should be tackled and it should be given the topmost priority. Poverty pushes parents to send their children to work. The strategy adopted so far has involved banning this practice and making primary education a compulsory one. Children will prefer to earn as long as teaching methods and the syllabus remain uninspiring. Parents will continue to send their children to work rather than school as long as there is crushing poverty and education remains divorced from reality and employment. Policy intervention to end child labour without hurting children is a major challenge before the global community. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: This is the crux of the problem. We have to intervene to eradicate poverty. There is no doubt about it. We should try to end child labour without hurting the child. This is the major challenge before all of us, before the Government and also before the society. Already two centuries have passed in between since the first serious efforts were made in the world to eliminate child labour. It is still prevalent. Laws prohibiting child labour uphold the provisions of the directions enshrined in article 39 of the Indian Constitution. Section 3 of the Employment of Children Act, 1938—an Act of pre-Independence time, and I understand, that was the first Act - prohibits employment of children below 15 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Apart from the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, there are legal provisions for working children in other laws such as the Factories Act, 1948; the Mines Act, 1952; the Motor Transport Workers' Act, 1961; the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; the Plantations Labour Act, 1951 and the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The Child Labour Act prohibits employment of children under 14 years in 13 occupations. We have a number of Acts. To bring in another Bill or enactment of an Act or some legal provision will not empower the Government further. It does not solve the problem but the problem lies somewhere else. As has been mentioned by my previous colleague, the problem lies with poverty, the problem lies with lack of education, the problem lies with the facility that is to be provided to poor families. Therefore, no society can boast of being advanced, modern or civilised, if it continues to tolerate the exploitation of

children. Children must be free to attend school. Guaranteeing all children their right to education paves the way for a truly democratic society. Enshrining the right in the Constitution is the crucial first step.

With these words, I conclude.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allotting me time to speak on this important issue. It will be quite natural to have a debate on the Bill introduced by Hon'ble member, Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi for the eradication of child labour. In fact it is an emotive, constructive and factual bill. But we are top dressing where a vassel dressing is required. We want to go into the root cause of the problem and not handle it in a superficial way which is a futile exercise. We are debating what is its root cause, how can it be checked. Can it be checked by formulating law or by any other reform or is there any other cause by controlling which we can get rid of this problem?

Our learned colleagues, after studying, narrated the situation prevailing in various States where the number of child labourers is increasing and their exploitation is also increasing. They are working in brick-kilns, they are also working in the carpet industry of Bhadoi and also in Bidi industry. Several children are also employed in the factories manufacturing spare parts in cycle and motorcycle industry. After all why do they have to work — whether they are not concerned about their future? 'Vibhakshati Kin Na Karoti Papam' — hunger compels man to commit any sin. When a person is hungry will he go for education or for satisfying his hunger? We are saying that child labourers should not be exploited without giving it a thought as to what compels them to seek work in their childhood. We are saying that child should be checked or laws should be made so strict that no one can exploit child labourers. If anyone employs child labourers, he should be hanged — will the child labourers be stopped from working by this measure?

The gap between the poor and the rich is increasing rapidly and which this the problem is also getting aggravated. The treatment is only aggravating the problem. One child lives amidst the hardships of farms and fields, clusters, dirty streets and eats vegetable-rice while another leads a comfortable life and eats delicious. The former and the latter both will call India their own country. If the responsible people of India will do nothing to remove this disparity then our country will never prosper and a sense of unity will not develop in the country.

Children have to struggle for food and life due to the wide gap between the haves and the have-nots in the present time. In some of the States people are selling off their children. Can there be a bigger crime in a country where people are selling their children to feed themselves, where children are being engaged in labour. Worse abuse than this is taking place. Until such things are stopped the crime of child labour cannot be ended. Therefore, the need of the hour is to bring an end to the evil practices prevalent in the society. The problem of the widening gap between the rich and the poor and the increasing unemployment which has risen due to our poor economic system needs to be dealt with.

We say that this situation has arisen due to illiteracy. I would like to say that now there is a growing disinterest in education. Many educated youngsters are living without any employment in the rural areas. Their parents worked hard to educate them, worked like slaves for this purpose. Now, after getting BA, MA, B.Ed, M.Ed. Engineering, Overseer, technical education degrees these children are wandering unemployed in rural areas. If the Government is not able to check the rising unemployment then how it would be possible to put a ban on child labour where it is the only means of feeding the children? It cannot be stopped. To argue this issue is to grope in the dark and is indicative of our foolishness.

We would have to give serious thought to this issue. The Government has enacted laws from time to time to ameliorate the conditions of children. We must learn from other countries of the world the means that they have adopted to safeguard children from this kind of situation and the measures they are taking to eradicate poverty and exploitation. We must consider what measures we could take in respect of our country. We are providing scholarships, mid-day meals, books and financial help to children to enable them to study and yet they are not able to study. Why are they not studying? They have other kinds of problems too. Where to sleep, how to eat, how to run their household?

Sir, there are various problems of this kind. Therefore, there is a need to set up a Commission or an Institution which would deal with this problem in a comprehensive manner, that would be effective in stopping child labour and would lead the children towards development, education and would be able to enhance their intelligence. Surely there must be some psychological test whereby the interest of children could be gauged. Some children just want to play. They do not have any interest in studies. You want to load a five kilo bag on the back of every child. All children do not have interest in studies. Every child does not think alike. If we wish to make a good human being out of every child

then we should be ready to adopt many methods. We have to make a comprehensive effort to find a solution to this problem. The hon. Minister is present here. He should make such efforts and adopt such measures to achieve this purpose that his name is remembered for the ages to come. The Minister should act in such a way that he may be remembered for the child development and proved to be good judge of child psychology and a warrior for the welfare of the country. This problem needs in-depth consideration. This Bill has not been introduced for fruitless discussion or to waste time. It has lofty objectives. This Bill aims to achieve welfare of the country, of the individual and of the society. If this Bill be passed, it would definitely be beneficial for the country.

With these words, I conclude.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI (Tiruchendur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the Private Members' Bill regarding Abolition of Child Labour. Also, I thank our beloved leader Dr. Kalaignar and our Thalapathi Tamil's Jupiter Thiru M.K. Stalin.

India tops the world in child labour. According to the 2001 census, the number of working children — who are the future of our country — in the age group of 5 to 14 years was 12.5 millions out of their total population of 252 million. The stories of children who are out of school in the urban environs are just pathetic. They work in hotels, automobile workshops, construction sites, tea stalls and sweet stalls, and form a part of the teeming unorganised workforce in this country. Millions of children in our country suffer from gross exploitation. The rural child tends goats and cattle from dawn to dusk and day in and day out. The entire country reaps the benefits of their unorganised labour as they collect firewood, fetch water, cook food and also do domestic work. Crude estimates indicate that 80 per cent of the working children in India are in agricultural sector.

Sir, one lakh children in the age group of 6 years to 14 years are employed in brick kilns in Tamil Nadu. Of these, about 60,000 children in the age group of 6 years to 14 years are working as bonded labourers along with their families. Prolonged exposure to sand, dust and heat of the kilns leads to child labours developing dermatological and gastrological problems apart from wheezing and asthma. This is in addition to the large number of accidents in the kilns in which the children sustain fracture and other major injuries.

Sir, several lakh children are working in mines also.

[Shrimati V. Radhika Selvi]

Poor people make excellent slaves, especially if they are girls. Like all slaves, they sometimes get lazy, but the masters do not tolerate and give them a beating. Modernity has its checks and measures against such ancient traditions. The problem of children working as domestic help has not got the kind of attention which they should have got. The existing Child Labour Act does not cover it.

Children of beedi workers also do the work of their elders. Like their elders, who get into health hazards like T.B., the children also get it easily.

Shockingly, 10 crore kids are engaged in illegal employment in India.

Sir, poverty pushes parents to send their children to work. Parents are driven by poverty and it is easier to get jobs for their children in local factories and work sites. Sometimes, the children are sold like commodities. Unless poverty is tackled, no attempt to end the problem will succeed. Child labour must be eliminated because the children should not miss out the joy of their childhood.

Due to over population, people are driven to poorer state. It is a common scene in which we are seeing women with young child begging on the Highways, on the way to airport and also at the signal points.

Firstly, we have to control our country's population to eradicate poverty and child labour.

During the time of our beloved leader, Dr. Kalaignar as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Tamil Nadu was awarded first place in the implementation of family planning. Population growth affects the nation's progress. Every State should take our beloved leader, Dr. Kalaignar as a role model for implementing family planning to eradicate poverty.

Sir, it is high time that the Government should take steps to modify the existing laws to end all forms of child labour.

Even after 57 years of our Independence, the Constitution of India has no provision for the total abolition of child labour, and it is a bitter truth. Labour laws fail to stop the industrialists and also the construction contractors from employing children. The owners can easily get bail. A fine of Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000 may be the maximum penalty. Then, they lie low for a couple of months before they trap a team of children and restart their business behind the locked doors.

Sir, the long-term solution to eradicate child labour is to educate the poor people. There is a need to start more residential schools for the children of the poor people. The

children will also get employment-oriented education. The poor people are now willing to make any sacrifice to get their children educated. So, the Government should take steps to educate them and control the population.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri M. P. Veerendra Kumar.

SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Sir, I do not want to speak on this Bill. I want to speak on the next Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The extended time for the discussion on this Bill is over. There are four to five Members to speak on this Bill and the hon. Minister also has to reply. If the House agrees, the time for the discussion on this Bill may be extended by half an hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, the time for the discussion on this Bill is extended by half an hour.

Now, Dr. Karan Singh Yadav.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, by discussing the Abolition of Child Labour Act, 2005, we are drawing the attention of the intelligentsia, through this House, towards the fact that this problem has assumed greater proportions after 57 years of independence.

16.54 hrs.

(SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this problem has become grimmer because of increase in population. At the time of independence, the population of our country was 36 crores. At that time there were fewer incidences of child labour perhaps because of lower population but now the figures of our population is about 108 crores. Various figures are being cited. Whatever be the figures cited by the Government, all of us are aware of the facts. Hardly a day passes when we do not find 8-10 years old children working in farms and fields, small factories, Industries, gem polishing, hotels, dhabas, in the households of the rich, match factories, cracker factories, in fact in every walk of life.

Indisputably, we have to distinguish this labour from the labour that is put into the traditional profession of the family with the concurrence of the family and which we all have engaged in. As many other hon. Members have mentioned about themselves, I too was born in a village and my parents and family members were also engaged in

farm work. It is one thing to help parents in the farms in the morning and evenings or to graze cows during holidays but it is a completely different proposition to work in a hotel, or factory in order to earn a livelihood. No law or legislation needs to be brought about to stop the children from helping out in the family trade as our children do till date. But there is a crying need to pay attention towards the child who is working because of financial compulsions, where the child is exploited physically, is not given food, whose health is not taken care of. We see children who serve tea at two O'clock in the morning at the bus stands despite being sleepy. We have to look out for them. The discussion in the House has made this clear. There is no need to set up a Commission for this purpose. The root of the problem lies in poverty.

It is unfortunate that in this country where we are going to introduce the Employment Guarantee Bill in a few days, we all will feel very proud the day this Bill will be passed. But just imagine what we will be able to achieve from this Bill? If a member of each family gets 100 days work at the rate of Rs. 60-70 per day, then he will get only 6-7 thousand rupees in a year.

Ours is a country where on the one hand, people do not have an income of even one thousand rupees per month while on the other hand, there were figures in the newspapers recently regarding a person getting a salary of 21 crore rupees. We will have to see this huge gap between the salary of 21 crore rupees on one side and 2100 rupees on the other. Our hon. Finance Minister has said in his speech that "India is not a poor country but the largest number of poor lives in this country." One has to pay attention to this statement — the country is not poor but the number of the poor people is too much here. It implies that all the money of the country is concentrated in the hands of a few persons. We will have to pay attention towards this and find out such method as to how the money of these powerful persons can be used in the social welfare schemes, how this money can be used in eradicating poverty, how this money can be used to put an end to child labour and how can we save the resources of the Govt. Just now, our hon. Senior Member was saying that an experiment in Brazil can be replicated here.

We have made a small experiment by universalisation of education. Some results have been achieved out of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Some children have started going to school due to this but, unfortunately, a school is not an interesting place for the children. The village children are not attracted towards school because there are no good teachers with modern technology who can teach them singing, playing and increase their interest. They just sit down and give a slate to the children for writing 1,2,3,4,

which is quite boring for them. The education programmes we are making, are not so interesting towards which the children could be attracted. Still I believe that it has made a difference. Some poor people have started sending their children due to Mid-Day meals. I would like to reiterate the same thing that the day some financial incentive to the family like Rs. 50-100 per month for sending the first two children to the school is arranged, then I think we can solve the problem of child labour.

17.00 hrs.

Several issues have cropped up in today's discussion. My time is up. Eradicating poverty will definitely be our biggest issue. I think that the hon. Minister will give his reply on this subject.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on this important subject. Besides, I am also grateful to hon. Shri Saradgi Saheb who has attracted the attention of the whole house towards this important subject.

Sir, I think that discussing the subject of child labour only in isolation is to do injustice to it. There are many reasons behind a child doing labour work. There are social reasons for it besides economic reasons too but the worst thing is that of mindset. Anyone who is helpless, weak and cannot struggle, he becomes the victim of exploitation. I feel that child labour is the worst form of the human exploitation. As per various figures many children are working in the carpet industry, beedi industry and in mines. But, there are girls also who are being exploited. Are not they being exploited? Can we imagine the huge number of such girls? Just now, the Member who was speaking earlier, was saying that around 5-6 crore children do not go to school. What do they do? They do not stay at home, they are made to work. They do not want to work but they are forced to work. I want to tell one thing clearly that many bad things have taken place in India. It's been 55 years since India became free but the poverty has not been eradicated yet because poor people are needed in the society. There are many works which only the poor people can do and in which they are exploited a lot. If they are not exploited, if they are not oppressed then how the people will become rich, how the profit motive of the people will be fulfilled? Had this problem been addressed in totality, the poverty would have been eradicated from India. I believe that the issue of poverty in India is not a mere economic issue. It is a matter of human rights violation and denial of social justice at a large scale.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Constitution had guaranteed the right to equality to everyone. The children are also entitled



[Shri Ravi Prakash Verma]

for equality. They too have been given the right to equality by the Constitution. What has happened to us today? The Constitution had guaranteed equal status, respect, justice and equal opportunities to everyone. But our executive, which was earlier made to defend the colonial interests is still catering to the interest of only 10-15% people of the country. It is providing justice, security and opportunity to them only while it is neutral towards the rest of the people. Disorder takes place in the House today. So many points are raised in the House, so many legislations are passed but why they could not be complied with? The reason for it is one and the only—the mindset. We have not been able to change the mind of the Indians today. We are living in a democracy today. Here all people are equal. Everyone should get the right to equality. Though, I feel that the issue is getting distracted. But, I want to tell that we will have to look very deeply at the division taking place in the society, the gaps creeping among the people and recently we were talking about the riots that hatred among each other is taking place. I want to come back to the issue of children. Many international pacts of ILO have been signed. There was Dakar Declaration to which India is a signatory. After that, we had decided to eradicate child labour from India. But even after deciding this, we have not been able to eradicate the Child Labour. Because, the children constitute the most helpless, destitute and easily exploitable part of the labourers. Today, we speak of providing them facilities. I maintain a different opinion from many of my colleagues. Just now, my earlier speaker was saying that there is a direct relationship between the child labour and education. How many children are not going to school? How much money the Govt. of India has spent on this, how many schemes have been formulated? Recently, education has been granted the status of a fundamental right. But, still there are 6 crore children deprived of education. I am forced to say with regret that we have not been able to bring a compulsory education bill and get it passed even till today.

I am saying it repeatedly that a National Education Commission should be established which will defend the interests of the children in totality. It is the right of every child that he should get food, sports, education and lots of love. Have we been able to provide all that? It is my personal experience that we see village as a unit. If we could have made the mother and child a main agenda of the village 12-15 years ago, then the children would have received full respect and love and we would have got rid of the caste based hatred which we are facing today, our democracy is facing today. I am forced to say this thing again and again that we and our system have mis-performed completely. We should realize that by eradicating child labour, India will become free of the stupidities in which it has been trapped

for the last 50 years. Just try to remember that it is the same Parliament where in 1975 we had conferred upon children the status of the most important resource. Is this the only way to treat the most important resource of our country? We are really culprits in the eyes of those children. Today, six crore children do not go to school. I can not describe the horrible conditions in which the children are kept and the ways in which they are exploited. Around one or one and half years back I got the information that small girls from our neighbouring country Nepal were brought for working in the circus. May be it happened near Gonda. I made a complaint in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is very strange that we all have sympathy and love for the children but when some vested interests were ruffled then the staff, Govt. officials and machinery, who should have defended the interests of the children, started defending the interests of the owners of the circus. It is the biggest contradiction of our era that we only speak but do not follow it. Which religion does not say that the God resides in the heart of the children, which society does not believe that the children are our most precious resource. We shudder to think if there is danger or injury to our child but more than six crore children in the country are in such deplorable condition today that even humanity would shudder to think. We are indifferent to them, our system is indifferent and it is not worth pardoning at all. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vermaji, please conclude now.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: I am concluding. I would like to ask the hon. Minister that the Constitution has given our children rights equal to ours. I know that there are many children who have no option but to work in order to feed their parents. I want to say that all the Panchayati Raj Institutions — whether they are Gram Sabha or elected representatives at the Block level, development block level or MP's, MLA's — they should be made directly accountable by amending the Constitution. I will welcome it.

I want to warn you for one thing that the cross-roads of time at which we are standing even today, the only way for removing our inner stupidities which are stopping us from moving forward and to make India progress by adopting an aggressive attitude, the dream to make it the most developed country on earth, can be achieved only by looking after the children and by working on an agenda focused more and more on them. I, through this House, would like to request you to bring a resolution on child labour at any cost. I believe that if the children who are working will not work, then atleast, the adult unemployed people will get work. But, every child should be provided with food, sports, education and love. Money should be spent on our helpless and destitute children

at any cost and schools should be opened for them in the same manner like the Kasturba Gandhi Boarding School are being opened for the girls. They should be taught in boarding schools and arrangements should be made for their rehabilitation and they should be inspired to be a good citizen. I think that this is not only the biggest challenge but also the biggest responsibility before the country.

I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak.

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR (Sultanpur): Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. 57 years have elapsed since country got independence. The debate on child labour is going on here in the House for several hours. We have not been able to provide relief to the child labourers even after 57 years of our independence and could not solve this problem. It is a sign of our slavery. We are still slaves in an independent country. Unless and until we provide facilities like food, cloth, shelter and dignity to all citizens of our country and eradicate the menace of child labour and impart education to all, we cannot claim ourselves to be an independent nation. Unless and until we make the children self dependent, our country cannot tread on the path of progress. Today poverty eradication programmes are not being translated into action. The root cause of poverty is unemployment. So long as poverty eradication programme is not translated into action the number of child labourers is bound to increase. Unless and until the standard of families living below the poverty line is raised the problem of child labourers will go on increasing. The task of checking the menace of child labour cannot be completed without bringing about social and economic changes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, half of the population of this country dies in average age for want of nutritious diet which spoils the future of children belonging to poor families. I would like to ask whether the Government is going to take any positive initiative to save the children of the country? The Government should clarify this thing in its reply.

India is a poor country but the skill of our craftsmen, weavers and labourers is our wealth whereas the wealth of developed countries is their money. I would like to request the hon. Minister that my question should be replied after a serious consideration.

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH (Phulbani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, all the hon. Members have contributed a lot in the debate going on on the problem of child labour in our country. The root cause of rapidly increasing number of child labourers in our country is poverty. The country in which the number of poor people increases, the number of child labourers also increases proportionately. The Government has formulated

a number of schemes for development of poor. If the Government will provide more and more grant for these schemes there will be development in rural areas. If poverty is removed from the rural areas the number of child labourers will also come down. The Government should provide more and more funds for development of rural areas. Just now what Shri Ram Kripal Yadavji has said about child labourers I also agree with him.

The influential and rich people and higher officers have been instrumental in increasing the number of child labourers in our country. All of us owe a duty to solve the problem of child labourers in our country. We, MPs, MLAs and higher officers engage child labourers at our homes for menial jobs. We should consider as to how we can check it so that the number of child labourers can be brought down. There is a rural areas in my constituency Phulbani in Orissa where large number of poor people live and they have nothing to eat. Those people send their children to work as child labourers in other areas. How those people can be stopped from this evil practice? The hon. Minister is sitting here and I request him that the areas like Phulbani, Bolangir and Kalahandi in Orissa should be declared backward districts in order to make the schemes, being implemented therein, more effective. Only then poverty there will be removed to some extent. I request to make arrangements to check the increasing number of child labourers. The Government should ensure that grant being provided to the establishments and Non-Governmental Organisations operating in Orissa is utilized properly. Besides facilities for education to poor children should also be provided. I request the hon. Minister and the Union Government to pay attention toward this.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASHEKHAR RAO): Sir, at the outset, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the hon. Member Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi for having introduced this Bill on Abolition of Child Labour in the country. I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate, and given their valuable suggestions to the Government.

Child labour is a phenomenon which is very prevalent in our society, and as all of us know, the pernicious practice of child labour is a blot on our society. A child whose legitimate place is at school and a child who should be playing after school hours and during his leisure time, and a

[Shri K. Chandrashekhar Rao]

child who should be holding a pencil, is found holding a chisel or a brick in his hand, so that it could bring in some money for feeding his family. This is a situation which we should not tolerate in our country as it is an affront to any civilised society.

After my interaction with children who are working with their parents, I can personally vouch that no mother sends her child to work voluntarily. In every case, it is poverty or compulsion of her situation which makes her send her child to work instead of putting him in school.

It is, therefore, high time that we, as a society, declare a war on child labour and pursue the cause of eliminating child labour with unrelenting commitment and with steely determination. In this battle against the scourge of child labour, we are all on the same side and, therefore, we need to work together in tackling the issue regardless of our affiliations.

The Government and the Ministry of Labour in particular are extremely serious in their efforts to fight and succeed in this direction. Elimination of child labour in India is the single largest programme in the Ministry's activities. Our Government has more than doubled the budget in the Tenth Plan and the resources set aside for combating this evil in the Ministry are around 50 per cent of its total annual budget. The Government is serious about its intentions to tackle the issue. In fact, ours is the largest programme in every sense of the word. The programme has now been extended to 250 districts spread over to 21 States in the Tenth Plan and we are covering 13 occupations and 57 processes for complete elimination while continuing our efforts to counsel and rehabilitate children in all forms of child labour. The National Child Labour Programme, which is being implemented under the chairmanship of the Collector of the district endeavours to achieve this goal through a broad convergence with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and through working in coordination with the rural development schemes.

Sir, I have been very intently listening to the views expressed by various Members on the subject. I am extremely thankful for their insight and suggestions. I agree with the sentiments expressed by Shri C.K. Chandrapan who has underlined the fact that the problem of child labour is a socio-economic problem linked with poverty and that we have to make a joint effort involving all political parties, NGOs and others to tackle this problem. I find that these sentiments find their echo in almost every speaker's views, cutting across the entire subcontinent with Dr. Thokchom Meinza of Manipur to Shri Vikrambhai Madam of Jamnagar and from Shrimati Tejaswini Ramesh of Kanakpura to Shri

Sandeep Dixit of Delhi. Sir, I am extremely impressed by their sincere concern for eradication of this menace from our country.

I cannot help but express my open admiration for the forthright comments of our senior Member Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan. I also appreciate the concern shown by other Members, including Shri Ramji Lal Suman who observed that to tackle the problem of child labour, poverty alleviation programmes need to be strengthened and that alternate source of employment be offered to them. Sir, basically there is no divergence of opinion on this subject. We all agree that the issue of child labour, being inextricably linked with poverty, requires a concerted effort to improve the economic lot of the families of child labour and create conditions conducive for their rehabilitation.

I am happy that all the Members in this House who had intervened had agreed that the issue of child labour cannot be tackled as a stand-alone problem. In fact, child labour itself is a product of various ills in the society. Poverty and illiteracy are two manifestations which are visible but there are many other reasons which are in-built in our society, like the position of women in the family, traditional and cultural practices and feudal attitudes in the country. It is, therefore, as all of you would agree, that only a holistic, multi-pronged, and motivated effort in tackling of the issue will bring in the desired results. We are attempting to involve all sections of society, coordinating the work of all departments which are dealing with the lives of the poor and the helpless in achieving our goal. I would like to request you to inform me of any area or any specific instance where you would like to bring our attention in this matter. I have given instructions to all my senior officers to attend to all such suggestions and issues.

The Tenth Plan strategy for my Ministry, as I had mentioned earlier, articulates the expansion of the National Child Labour Projects to 250 districts and the commitment of the Government to eliminate exploitation of children and bring to an end the pernicious practice of use of children in hazardous occupations and processes. We all stand committed to the total elimination of child labour.

I once again appeal to all the Members to come forward so that we work together in tackling this issue and at the end of the day help wipe the tears of the helpless and the downtrodden and bring joy to the faces of these children. A nation is generally said to be judged by how it treats its children. Therefore, let us not let down the generation which is going to grow up to manage the country in the future.

As I had been mentioning earlier, the Government and

my Ministry, in the coming years, intend to effectively use the existing legal provisions for enforcing the Act, render rehabilitative assistance through its various departmental schemes for the benefit of the working children and their families, and implement the guidelines and directions given from time to time by the Supreme Court in this connection to reaffirm our commitment so that our efforts in eliminating child labour bear fruit.

Some hon. Members have raised certain issues pertaining to child labour.

[Translation]

In his speech, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav has said that he has not seen any work being done for welfare of child labourers in Bihar and had demanded to tell as what is being done in this direction in Bihar.

[English]

Altogether, 24 districts in Bihar are covered under NCLP Scheme. About a thousand schools are envisaged to be opened very shortly. This is what we are doing during the Tenth Plan in Bihar.

The figures quoted by many hon. Members do not tally with the figures of the Government. The authentic figures available with the Government of India are of the census. Those are the figures which are adopted as the yardstick by the Government of India. I have the 1981, 1991 and 2001 census figures. The number of working children in the country as per the 1981 census is 1.36 crore. According to the 1991 census it is 1.13 core. As per the 2001 census, the latest census, it is assessed to be 1.26 crore, that is, about 12.6 million.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Members the effort of the Government in this regard. From 1997-98 to 2003-04, the inspections carried out by the Department were 20,87,460; the number of violations detected was 1,19,904; prosecutions launched against the persons encouraging child labour were 39,386; and convictions made were 18,474. This is how the Government has functioned.

The Government is serious in its commitment to this cause. We consider this the top priority programme of the Ministry. Whenever any senior officer goes to any State, we give the issue of child labour programme the first preference. We review the situation with the District Collectors and with the respective State Labour Secretaries and Ministers. I assure the hon. Member Shri Saradgi that the number of schools, which was 4,000, is going to be increased to 10,000 special schools under the NCLP programme during the

Tenth Plan. The Government is sincerely taking all the steps to eradicate child labour totally from the country.

In the light of all these facts explained by me, I would now request Shri Saradgi, the hon. Member who moved the Bill, to withdraw the Bill.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Sir, I would like to seek a clarification. ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister gave a very forthright reply. But, I would like to just point out regarding the Balika Samridhi Yojana which is for educating the girl child. I have written umpteen letters to the hon. Cabinet Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, who is sitting here, stating that in my district and in KBK districts of Orissa, money from the Centre has not been released for the last two years. Balika Samridhi Yojana is for educating the girl child.

[Translation]

We set target for education of girl child. Sir, how we can impart education to girl child, how we can encourage a girl child for education. The amount of fund provided by the Government.

[English]

It is for the encouragement of the girl child to go to school. I have not received a reply from the hon. Minister.

Secondly, under the National Family Benefit Scheme, in the State of Orissa when a labourer dies, his family is compensated with Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000. In the last two years, Orissa has not received a single pie.

[Translation]

Sir, it is very painful. Why Orissa is being neglected? Why the fund meant for paying compensation to poor people is being not provided? Why the fund earmarked for education of girl child under the Balika Samridhi Yojana is not provided? We simply announce programmes here in the House.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is regarding the children of bidi workers. I did mention this in my speech. The hon. Minister has also mentioned it. The Government has a specific programme to provide stipend and financial support through the State network, which the Ministry of Labour from the Centre has. Very recently, in this year, in Cuttack district of Orissa where a lot of bidi workers also reside, they were getting some stipend for the last ten years. I do not understand as to why it has been withdrawn. Please look into it. This is my earnest request.

SHRI K. CHANDRASHEKHAR RAO : The hon. Member is expecting a reply from me regarding the release of funds. This issue belongs to the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It is a different issue. I cannot answer it. ...*(Interruptions)* There is a Minister for that. The Member can write or ask him so that he would come to your rescue and do the needful.

Regarding the scholarship for children, the hon. Member has brought the matter of Cuttack district of Orissa to my notice that they were getting scholarship for the last 10 years. But recently it has been stopped. I would check up with the Department. I would like to assure him that it would not be stopped if it had been continuing for the last 10 years. In case, if it has been stopped, we would revive it and give it.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga): Sir, I am highly grateful to all the Members who have participated on this Bill. Not only in my opinion but also in the opinion of all the hon. Members, this is a very important issue before this august House. I think, almost all the speakers have fully agreed that there is a need for abolition of child labour. Many of the hon. Members have also expressed their apprehension that even after 50 years of Independence, there may be some problem with the parents, some problem with the agriculturists, some problem with some sections of the society if the child labour is totally prevented or abolished. Many of the hon. Members have agreed with the main purpose of this Bill. There is an apprehension that crores of children are working as labourers. They have to be totally banned. Police authorities may also be exploiting such a situation.

Many of the parents will be deprived of the earnings through their children. If many of the children working in commercial establishments, working in factories are denied work, these children and their parents will become hand to mouth. This has been the apprehension even after 50 years of Independence.

As hon. Member Shri Chandrappan expressed the opinion, a proper time has to be found out. I do agree with him that in the prevailing situation or in the prevailing atmosphere or in the prevailing environment in the country, there is some compulsion on the parents and others to prevent their children from this. What I feel is that this is an important opinion. Now, the society has accepted the reformative law. The evils of society should be removed. The society has to make up its mind. This is the proper time. As has been said by the hon. Member Shri Chandrappan, we have to think over this issue seriously because the situation has somewhat changed now. The literacy

percentage is increasing; and poverty line has also changed. In the prevailing situation, what I feel is, this is the proper time for this august House to consider seriously abolishing the child labour because in the existing Act, there is no provision to prevent all sections of the labour.

As Shri Chandrappan and other hon. Members have mentioned, there is a provision in the 86th Constitution Amendment Act to prevent this. That is a valid point. There is a Fundamental Right to Education. We can totally prevent the child labour with all these existing laws. The question is this. What was the necessity to bring this Bill? There are so many legislations, so many enactments, so many State Government circulars, and so many Acts have been made in this regard. It started from the Child Pledge Labour Act, 1933, followed by the Factories Act, Employment of Children Act, Mines Act, Plantation Labour Act, 1951, Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1961, Motor Transport Workers Act, Bidi and Cigar Workers Act. A number of Acts have been enacted at different times by the Central Government and the State Governments. Many of the positive measures have also been taken by the State Governments and the Central Government from time to time. In spite of all that, this is a fact that we have not been able to control or totally prevent the child labour. This is one aspect.

Many of the hon. Members have expressed this.

*[Translation]*

Shri Rawat and several other hon'ble Members have said that this should be banned totally. This is a factor to be considered by the society and the Government that crores of children are working in farms, factories and various other places and they are sole bread earner of their families. I do not deny this fact and my intention to bring this Bill is not to punish parents of such children or to drive away the children from the factory in which they are working or to impose any sort of penalty or to take any punitive action against them. Such law is there. Another aspect of this is that a number of households which are being supported by the children will become helpless if they are rendered jobless. But it does not mean that law should not be enacted to abolish child labour.

Several hon. Members have said this thing, Radhakrishnan Saheb has also made a constitutional point. The amendment which has been effected in the constitution,

*[English]*

that itself shows that with that instrument, we can prevent child labour totally with the help of so many Acts and enactments.

[Translation]

We can check it but we need to bring a change in the society's mindset. Several Members have expressed their views. The hon. Member from Manipur made a mention about Bal Vikas Yojana, Shri Mahtab ji and Shallendrajji also made a very good point and all these are the sentiments of the Members and they are of the view that the existing Act of 1986 does not have so much of force as to check the child labour.

I would like to request the hon. Minister that though there are penal provisions incorporated in the existing Act of 1986,

[English]

those persons who are engaging children in their establishments and factories should be punished. They should have the fear of the law, they should have the fear of the Government and they should have the fear of implementation of law.

[Translation]

That should be like this. I request the hon. Minister to make such provisions in the existing law which may check the rising number of child labour. I compliment the Sarvashiksha Abhiyan of the UPA Government.

[English]

The two percent cess amount is earmarked for the education, and particularly for the rural areas. That two per cent cess goes to Rs.4,000 to Rs.5,000 crore. Rs.4000 crore to Rs.5000 crore is meant to be allotted for the education purpose in the rural areas where the child labour is more. If those children are made aware to go to schools, by allocating sufficient budget under the Sarvashiksha Abhiyan,

[Translation]

I think that this campaign is a positive step in the direction of eradicating child labour as this would help in spreading the education. The hon. Member just said one thing that some amount of money should be given to parents who send their children to schools or the amount should be given to the students so that the poor parents get a sort of incentive for sending their children to schools. A scheme was formulated in Karnataka fifteen years back under which a student in rural area was given one rupee at the primary level and this scheme led to increase in the attendance percentage in schools. This is a good proposal. I want that such schemes should be launched by the Government so that students get incentive to attend schools and percentage

of attendance increases. Besides, the Government's Mid-Day-Meal Scheme is also a good one, at least food is served to the poor children under this scheme and this has led to increase in the attendance in schools. Earlier, children would not go to schools in rural areas, parents would not send their children to schools. Now, this scheme has been made available at the higher secondary level also in Karnataka. Earlier it was introduced in the primary school only. Presently, more than 50 lakh students are being given food under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme. This is a centrally sponsored scheme. Therefore, now this scheme should be introduced in primary and higher secondary schools as well all over the country. I request that the hon. Minister should give a serious thought to it since these are the positive steps for the poor children who do not go to school and who are forced to work by their parents and others.

Sir, I have one more suggestion that presently this scheme is already being implemented in some districts only. I think it should be introduced in each district in a fixed period, say in five years or ten years as it will be in the benefit of the child labour. Now, we are running of time.

[English]

My purpose of moving this Bill is that in spite of several enactments or legislations, still we are not able to control the child labour. Therefore, first, I would request the hon. Minister to accept my Bill *in toto*.

Later on, I seek an assurance from the hon. Minister that, to eliminate this child labour, whatever schemes are there, they would be implemented and more and more facilities in education and health would be provided to the people. If this assurance is given before the august House by the hon. Minister, I am going to withdraw my Bill.

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I am very much thankful to the Chair because this Bill has been extended three times and plenty of time has been given to it. Opportunity has been given not only to me but to others also. I feel that we have had a very good debate. I also thank all the hon. Members for taking part in the discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI K. CHANDRASHEKHAR RAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi for bringing forward such an important Bill. I have already said that abolition of child labour has been accorded top priority among the programmes of the Labour Ministry. I also want to tell the hon. Member that Rs.178.36 crore provided in the Ninth Plan for the purpose has been enhanced to Rs.602 crore. This clearly goes to show the commitment of the

[Shri K. Chandrashekhara Rao]

Government. I, therefore, want to assure the hon. Member, Shri Sardagi that our Government would make all possible efforts for the abolition of child labour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. Member withdrawing his Bill?

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Sir, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill to abolish the child labour in the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to abolish the child labour in the country and for matters connected therewith."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

17.48 hrs.

## CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL, 2004

### (Insertion of new article 47 A)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 31, Shri Sudhakar Reddy.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I introduced this Bill last time. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to explain as to why I moved this Bill.

I propose that the Constitution of India be further amended by inserting a new article after article 47. This may be called article 47A. The amendment is: 'That the State shall set up one primary health centre in every village with all medical facilities'.

Sir, the purpose of this Bill is this. Unfortunately, even after 58 years of Independence, the State has not fulfilled its commitment of 'health for all'. It is becoming more and more difficult for the people, especially for those living in urban slums, rural areas and tribal regions, to have access to primary health services. The condition of the Government

hospitals is worsening day by day. Nowadays, in most of the Government hospitals, there is inadequate staff, supply of medicine is insufficient and infrastructure is also inadequate to provide health care services to the largest population. At the village level too, the situation is much worse as there is no resident health-care provider to attend the patients or to implement preventive measures. Due to lack of availability of the Government health care services, private hospitals are charging exorbitantly. So, they are beyond the reach of the poor people. This often leaves common people in rural areas with no other option but to resort to treatment from quacks. Thus, the common man is being deprived of the basic rights to the health care, which is essential for healthy living.

Article 47 of the Constitution makes it the responsibility of the Government of India to regard improvement of public health as its duty. Yet, the successive Governments are backtracking from fulfilling this responsibility. This is obvious from the fact that allocation of expenditure on public health service has been declining over the successive years.

It is therefore necessary to make an amendment to the Constitution with a view to making it the duty of the State to set up primary health centres in every village, with all necessary medical facilities, including necessary infrastructure, staff, medicines, etc. to provide basic health care to the people.

Right now, according to the statistics available, we are spending less than 0.9 per cent of the GDP for health care. Unfortunately, we are the fifth poorest in the world and only four countries are behind us. They are: Cambodia, Congo, Georgia and Sierra Leone, of which Congo and Sierra Leone are in Africa.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Reddy, you may continue next time.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Okay, thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, there is presentation of Report of BAC.

17.51 hrs.

## BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Fifteenth Report

[English]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I beg to present the 15th Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

17.52 hrs.

### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Points arising out of the reply given by the Minister of Railways On 4.8.05 to St.Q.No 164. Re: use of Railway land

[English]

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Sir, this is regarding the use of Railway lands. 'Railways' is the lifeline of each and every Indian. 'Railways' is the symbol of integration of the nation.

Lakhs and lakhs of acres of land owned by the Railways is in India. Most of the Railway lands are being used for the purpose of serving the country. At the same time, some portions of Railway lands are unused all over the country.

With my experience in my constituency and also in the North Madras constituency, we see that some portions of lands in Ennore, Villivakkam, Avadi, Ponneri, Athipet, and Gummidipoondi, are unused. Some lands are very near and very adjacent to the railway stations and railway tracks and they could be used when there is further expansion. But there are some lands which are far away from the railway tracks and railway stations; and they call them as Railway *porampoku* and they have been unused. These lands have been occupied by the poor people for the last 40 years. They put their shelter and started living there for long years.

As such, people had encroached on the State Government's *porampoku* lands 20-40 years ago also; and the State Government issued pattas to them. They are living happily there; they are particularly the downtrodden and backward class people.

On the other side, what has happened now — this is why I mention it here — is that the Railway people started evicting the people, the poor people who have constructed their pucca houses on the Railway lands. People occupied the lands many years ago; children were born to them and they have also grown up from there. After 40 years, the Railway people have started disturbing them. Most of the people have been evicted. The land where people lived became burial ground now and they are now crying. Without any rehabilitation, they have been evicted.

Sir, without offering any rehabilitation scheme, the Railways have been evicting poor people who have lived there for more than 40 years. Is it justice? Will the Railways offer unused railway land to the people free of cost or on subsidised rates or under any lease agreement? Not only

that, in some places like Ennore, the fishermen living on the railway land have been evicted. This land, in no way will be used by the Railways in future. There is no expansion programme at all there. Similarly, at Villivakkam, there is more than 10 acres of land where about 500 shops are there. It is very near to the railway station. Mostly Government servants travel through that area. There is a big vegetable market there. These people purchase vegetables at cheap prices. That land will not at all be used for railway purposes in future also. It can be given on lease. Railways do not agree to that also and they have started evicting people. All such land, which is near to the railway station, which is a prime place, can be used for commercial purposes. Three successive Railway Ministers, starting from Kumari Mamata Banerjee, Shri Nitish Kumar and now Shri Lalu Ji, have assured that they will use the unused railway land for commercial purpose, but nothing has happened till today. If the Minister can make use of the land for commercial purposes, it will not only be useful to the businessmen but also to the public. Street vendors, platform vendors are selling their goods outside the railway stations. This results in traffic jam. If the Government comes forward and utilise the land, either as the joint venture with private participation or the Railway Department itself can do, it will be useful to the public. It will also give income to the Railway Department. I would like to know from the Minister, is there a proposal to use hundred per cent railway land for commercial purpose and help the poor and innocent to own their shelter.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shailendra Kumar — ask only one question.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Its an half-an-hour discussion and only one question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are four more members. You please ask only one question.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the Half-an-Hour discussion. I will ask the question after telling something in brief to the Hon. Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No need of the background. Only ask question.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I have a suggestion that the unused Railway land should be given to the Khalasis, the class IV employees on lease as it would also give them avenues for employment and it would be a great achievement. I would like to give one more suggestion that the fruit bearing trees should be planted along the unused land as it



[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

would prove to be a good source of earning revenue besides you can provide these trees to the people also on lease. They will pluck fruits from these trees and the Railway land will also remain safe. Fences have been erected along the said lands to check encroachments and crores of rupees have been spent on this work and generally what happens is that the people break such wall fencing. I would like the Minister to touch upon these suggestions while giving the reply.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Now in this case my request to the Railway Minister is that if there is any excess Railway land, it must be given to the local bodies. As per my information, many local bodies have applied for land which is lying vacant and unused with the Railways.

Previously, the Railways was run by the Britishers. They had registered a company in London at that time. It was called the Southend Railway Company. They had acquired excessive land. Afterwards, it was found that so much land is not useful for the operation of Railways. So, as stated by my hon. friend, some poor people might have encroached upon the Railway land. But I am not concerned with the encroachment. That is for the Railways to take a decision. If the land is not useful for the Railways and if there is application or request from the local authorities or local bodies like municipalities, panchayats, and other constitutionally-elected bodies for transferring the land for public purposes, priority should be given to those applications by the Railways. This is my only request.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, through you, I would like to say to the hon. Minister of Railways that it is being said that vacant railway land will be put to commercial use to mobilize funds required for modernization and overall development of the railways. Sir, Jatropha should be planted along the railway lines. There is shortage of petrol and diesel in the country. Petrol and diesel can be produced from Jatropha which has been certified by the scientists. The hon. Minister should inform the House if there is any plan for Jatropha plantation along the railway lines.

The other thing is that the vacant railway land, not occupied by the poor, in urban areas should also be put to commercial use so that income of the railways is increased.

The poor people should be rehabilitated on such land so that they can take up some profession. What is the plan of the railways in this regard?

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): The Railways is the second largest land owner in the country. It has 4,23,000 hectares of land under its control. In your wisdom, you have identified 43,000 hectares of vacant land which you want to develop commercially. You want to establish production units as also other facilities. Here the problem is that the land which is now under the Railways was given at certain point of time free of cost. It is totally a legal question which has now cropped up. I think the Standing Committee on Railways had also deliberated on this subject. If the Railways does not want that land any more or it would not be utilised by the Railways, it should return that land to the respective States as it had acquired this land free of cost. I would like to know whether the Ministry of Railways is considering this aspect.

Secondly, I would like to know what problem has cropped up in establishing the Rail Land Development Authority. Is the Railways coming up with a Bill for enactment in this Parliament to have a Rail Land Development Authority to take care of the vacant land which can be commercially utilised?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Santosh Gangwar – Not present.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): Sir, in the Ninth Plan document, it was envisaged that Railways should necessarily find supplementary resources so that it can go ahead with the projects envisaged. In fact, we have been trying many ways in the past to augment resources especially on ways to use vacant land. First of all, I want to clarify that Railways do not have any surplus land. It has got only vacant land which is required to be utilised for future expansion, etc. What we are talking about is the short-term strategy of utilising vacant land to be put to alternative uses like commercial purposes to augment the Railway resources. Accordingly, we have introduced a Bill in the Rajya Sabha. It was referred to the Standing Committee and certain amendments are contemplated. As one of the hon. Members said, that Bill will come to the Parliament very soon.

I will tell you one by one as to what exactly we are going to do. In Railways, we have got about 4.23 lakh

hectares of land which we have put into use for various purposes. We have utilised about 3.19 lakh hectares for various purposes like tracks, stations, goods sheds, etc., about 0.43 lakh hectares towards afforestation and 0.06 lakh hectares towards 'Grow More Food' scheme. For pisciculture, we have given 0.03 lakh hectares, for commercial licensing, 0.07 lakh hectares, 0.02 lakh hectares is under encroachment and vacant land is about 0.43 lakh hectares.

Very useful suggestions were made by hon. Members and requests were also made by them. Hon. Member, Shri Krishnaswamy made certain requests. He said that whichever land cannot be used at all for future and which is already encroached upon or where people have built some huts and houses should be given to them at low cost or may be thought of giving them on lease. He also mentioned that the State Government as a policy, after 40 years of occupation, are trying to approve and issue *pattas* relating to State Govt. lands. He also suggested that wherever we have lands near tracks, it can be used for commercial purposes.

As regards provision of house sites, I would make it very clear to the august House that it is the responsibility of the State Governments. Provision of transport facilities is the responsibility of the Railways. In many cases, we have already written to the State Governments to provide alternative accommodation. Wherever the MPs have come up with such proposals, they may address the State Government to provide alternative accommodation. As it is, the policy of the Railways is not to approve or give on any kind of a lease as far as housing is concerned. This is the policy which we are adopting.

Further, we all know that we have to necessarily grow. With the kind of demand that the Indian people make, the Railways have to necessarily grow to provide the increasing population the kind of transport they want. We cannot, at a later date, ask the encroachers to vacate the land. It is not just possible. So, the policy of the Railways is not to give any part of Railway land for the purpose of housing to encroachers.

A suggestion was made to use the land for commercial purposes. The Bill contemplates creation of an Authority, by the name Railway Land Development Authority. The main purpose of that Authority would be to see how to commercially exploit the land that is available with the Railways. Its main job is to formulate schemes, projects and to develop properties, etc. So, this is going to come. We are going to identify the sites where we are going to have commercial exploitation. We have already identified 61 major sites for this purpose. We have already finalised nine sites with a

value of Rs. 21 crore. This would mean that when the Authority comes into existence, it will take care of all the vacant lands to determine how best they can be utilised either for Railways or for commercial purposes. As hon. Member, Thiru A. Krishnaswamy has mentioned, we can have joint ventures also. We are going to provide for joint ventures along with Railways. To start with, we provide thirty years' time as lease period, which can be extended or renewed for another thirty years. It is because sufficient time should be given to developer to recover the money.

The other suggestion that was made was regarding *jatropha* cultivation. There is a National Mission for *jatropha* cultivation. It is a very good suggestion. In fact, the Railways have already cultivated 75 lakh *jatropha* trees till last year. This year we are planning to grow 60 lakh *jatropha* trees. We are very much interested in this project. The Railways themselves will absorb the bio-diesel that is produced. We have already started this at the Perambur Loco Works. Thiru C. Kuppusami, Hon. M.P. is present here. He knows about it. He is well associated with this factory. There we have already put that on trial to see how this bio-diesel could be used by the Railways. This is found to be economical and it is technically very relevant and reasonable. So, the Railways themselves have taken up a big project. We are going to implement at least one scheme in each Division this year.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAXMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): Lalaji talks a lot for the poor. Radhakrishnanji has just suggested to entrust this work to cooperative societies and give some work to the poor. I think the Government is not doing that and it is going on exploiting it commercially.

*[English]*

Why do you not give something to the social sector?

SHRI R. VELU: I am coming to that. I have not yet completed.

Through *jatropha* cultivation we can provide so much of employment. We are giving thirty years' time. These trees can give returns thirty years hence. A good crop, a good return will give employment to the youth. Last week a Question was raised on this and I answered like that. It is a question of provision of employment and income to the people. That way we have taken up *jatropha* cultivation on a big scale. This Land Development Authority will identify such areas and see that it is taken on a big scale.

Shri Shailender Kumar said that these lands could be given to Class IV employees. We have already given some lands to the Class IV employees where they can grow vegetables etc. It is mainly to see that they enjoy the fruits of

[Shri R. Velu]

it. Secondly, it will prevent encroachment. So, these things are taken care of. The hon. Member's point is very well taken. What further improvement can be done on that will be looked into.

The other point was raised by our hon. friend from Kerala, a very senior Member, Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan. He made a very useful suggestion. But as I mentioned earlier, the local bodies can come with the Railways to have a joint venture. You can build shops, malls and hotels jointly. It is a welcome suggestion. The development authority is going to examine this aspect and wherever it is possible, we are going to associate individuals and associate local bodies. I think, the suggestion is good. But we cannot give the land on a permanent basis. Whatever we have given on lease, the title will still be with the Railways. That way, the suggestion is taken. They can come in a joint venture.

The other point which was raised by the Member of Parliament from Orissa was whether the land would be returned and because the land is acquired by us free of cost, it must be returned when it is required. Well, this has been debated and somebody also went to court. Now, it has been decided by the court that the land acquired for public purpose need not be returned. On the other hand, Railways should put the land to alternative use. Even if they dispose of the land, the proceeds should be utilized for the public projects. That is a settled one. There is no question of returning the land to the State Government either on less cost or free. That is not possible. I make it further clear that once the land development authority comes into existence, the kind of projects that we are going to have will definitely yield income. We have realized Rs. 200 crore by having commercial utilization etc. of Railway land last year. The Railways are getting about Rs. 200 crore annually. Maybe, we will have such a perspective planning to have better utilization of the lands which are now available with us for the purpose of generating additional revenue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Special Mentions.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: You are doing a lot of service to the poor people. Yesterday also, during discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grant. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can ask him personally and meet.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Prevention is better than

cure. The poor and downtrodden people have put their huts and houses on the encroached lands. Where will these poor and downtrodden people go if they are evicted at this juncture? You may at least waive the eviction order of these people. ...(Interruptions) Would you help these poor people?

SHRI R. VELU: That is not possible. What I am saying is you must now try with the State Government to provide them alternative sites for the purpose of housing and these people may be rehabilitated. We have no scheme of rehabilitation or resettlement with Railways. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not permitted under the rules.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat Mr. Krishnaswamy.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no need of it now.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up special Mentions.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Special Mentions. The syllabus in the BJP ruled states is being safronised. Recently, the Deputy-Leader of our party, Shri Ramji Lal Suman had raised the matter regarding Chhattisgarh. In the same context, I would like to inform you that in Rajasthan. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAXMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): The history of India is being changed here. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Is it safronisation to write about Maharana Pratap and nationality? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. You speak on your turn.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: You can read page no. 103 of the sociology book of class - II prescribed in the current session itself in Rajasthan Secondary Education Board, Islam is projected in a bad way in it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please do not interrupt. I will expunge whatever irrelevant thing is spoken. You will not get chance to speak if you interrupt like this. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: It is said in that book that Islam is opposed to freedom of people. Besides this, numerous objectionable things are written therein about our freedom which I do not find worth quoting here. It is stated in that book that practices like child marriage, slavery, Sati-pratha and widow-marriage among Hindus are a result of Islamic influence. Islam grants more powers to men than women. Sikhism is stated to be a practical form of Hinduism. It is stated in that book that Sikhism was promoted to defend Hinduism from Islam. The Book also mentions that Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh brought about unity, brotherhood and patriotism in the society. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendraji, now you conclude, you have already taken your two minutes.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hindu mythology mandates the parents to arrange marriages of their children on their attaining proper age. A husband should remarry after demise of his wife. A girl who chooses not to marry, never goes to heaven, objective of Hindu marriage is to get blessed with a son and only the son facilitates a father to reach the door of heaven — such things are written in that book. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You say what you want to say.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Scene was created in Rajasthan over the NCERT book some time back. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: On what issue you want to draw the attention of the Government?

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I am coming to the same.

They rejected the CBSE books by saying that education is a State matter. The academicians and sociologists have termed it as an academic tragedy for Rajasthan. When the State Education Minister was approached, he expressed ignorance and disassociated himself from the issue. Whereas the Chairman, Secondary Education Board admitted that. *...(Interruptions)* What is wrong in it? *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the version of Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I want to request the Minister to remove it immediately from the books and think about the hammering done on the religion. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently the Prime Minister had convened a meeting of the District Collectors of the country with a view to streamline the administrative machinery. Now, he is going to convene a conference of more than 350 Superintendents of Police from all over the country in the month of September in Delhi. In the agenda of the conference, it is said that the conference is an initiative to streamline the tardy administrative system. In addition to this, the ways and means to curb the increasing naxalite and terrorist activities in the country are also to be discussed in the said conference.

I would like to say we have got federal system in our country. There is division of powers as well as responsibilities between State and Union Governments. In the federal structure, district collectors and police superintendents are accountable to state governments and not to the Government of India. This is an assault on the federal structure and I strongly feel that such conference, be it the conference of police superintendents or district collectors is not justified. If naxalism and terrorism are to be curbed, then the Government of India should call the conference of chief ministers for deliberations and formulation of policies as the programmes and policies framed by the state government are to be executed by district collectors and police superintendents. This is a wrong tradition.

I, through you, would like to say that this trend of intervention in the federal system does not auger well for the country nor is it justified. There is division of responsibilities between State Government and Union Government. District Collectors and police superintendents are accountable to the State Governments. I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the government and would also expect that the Union Government would not do any thing which may infringe upon the autonomy of the State Government. This is no way justified.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a small request to make that there is ESI hospital in Jaipur which was acquired by the state government in September 2002. The D.G. of ESI, New Delhi acquired it in the year 2002. As many as 16 ESI model hospitals were opened to provide better and quality health care facilities to the poor and labour patients of the entire country. Medical and paramedical staff are on deputation

\*Not recorded.

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

from the state government in those hospitals. As per the written contract of state and ESI, the staff working in there model hospitals would get the pay and allowances equal to their counter parts in the Central Government. Besides, they would be provided with modern instruments, Operation Theatre, ICU units etc. but nothing happened.

This model hospital located at Jaipur was allocated about 13 crore of rupees in the year 2002 but no work was done in the said hospital. No instruments or furniture was purchased for the hospital. The department got tiles fitted in the exteriors and claimed that good work was done. For lack of staff, ICU is closed. The base management plant in the hospital involving the cost of 16 lakhs of rupees is also lying closed. The premises are filled up with dirt and filth. The poor, weaker sections and labourers are being deprived of health care facilities. One nullaha passes through the very mid of this hospital and one can imagine, what treatment will be undertaken there. The entire premises are filled up with dirt and filth. There is a serious problem of contaminated water in the residential complex and the hospital and water treatment plant has not been setup there. Each employee of ESI was to be paid bonus every year, but it has not been paid to them. The number of nursing staff, paramedical and other staff are 50 per cent less than their sanctioned strength. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhargava ji, come to the main point.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Single nurse has to attend duties in two-three wards. The entire hospital is in shambles. Staff are quite distressed. Their pension dues are outstanding. They are neither getting pension nor any bonus nor the staff strength is being raised. They have not been provided with necessary instruments. I would therefore, request you to provide all necessary facilities in this hospital as it caters to the poor and labour class patients. Besides, the employees who have become Central Government employees should get their dues.

[English]

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN (Adoor): Thank you Sir. I want to bring to the notice of the House some very astonishing facts of misappropriation and non-utilisation of Central funds released to Kerala during the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. As we know, the Central Government runs a number of schemes for the welfare of SC and ST community and also releases funds for the same.

18.29 hrs.

(SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*)

During the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, the Central Government released an amount of Rs. 20 crore to help the SC and ST students in providing coaching for IAS exams; starting para-medical courses for them; and giving them education in information technology, etc. This fund was completely at the disposal of the Kerala Government. The Ministry of Social Justice was the nodal agency for implementing and promoting these activities. But, the Annual Report of Accountant General shows that in the year 2002-2003 only Rs. 6.98 crore and in the year 2003-2004 only Rs. 6.85 crore were utilised. This is a matter of grave concern that the Government of Kerala has not utilised Central funds completely whereas lakhs of people of SC community are living below the poverty line and striving hard to lead a respectful life. Not only this, the Accountant General has also expressed his grave concerns regarding misappropriation of public funds.

The report says that the Government had allotted Rs.1.75 crore on IAS coaching for SC/ST students, but coaching did not start at all. The AG Report has raised serious doubts whether this money is being utilised at all. Further a fund of Rs.2.70 crore was released to medical colleges of Alleppey, Kottayam and Calicut for starting para-medical courses. But these countries have not been started in these colleges so far. People of Kerala want to know who have pocketed this money. We would like to know whether this money has been diverted to some other purposes or it is lying with the management. The Government should give an explanation in this regard.

Sir, in the light of the above facts, it is felt that a monitoring committee should be constituted to keep a strict vigil on the utilisation, non-utilisation and misutilisation of the public funds. I also suggest that this monitoring committee should be headed and adequately represented by the elected representatives of the State so that the scheme implementing agencies can be made more responsible.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue. Reservation based on religion in educational institutes is unconstitutional and destructive. Ever since the formation of the Congress-led UPA Government, the old game of minority appeasement has been resumed. Announcement of reservation for Muslims in jobs in the Congress-ruled Andhra Pradesh State, the assurance given by the Chairperson of the Congress to

provide reservations for Muslims in the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies and the announcement of 50 per cent reservation for Muslim students in the postgraduate courses in Aligarh Muslim University by the Union Human Resource Development Minister, are the divisive steps leading towards another partition of the country.

Sir, when India attained independence in 1947, at that time Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel was the Home Minister. A Consultative Committee on Constitution was set up under his Chairmanship. The Committee had recommended that reservation based on community should be outrightly rejected. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who was the greatest embodiment of secularism in our country and was the first Prime Minister of our country, had stated in a meeting of this Committee that to follow this path would not only be foolish but it would be destructive also. But, I am sorry to say that to revert to the policy of appeasement and grant 50 per cent reservation in educational institutes would be unconstitutional and harmful for the country.

Sir, granting reservation based on religion in AMU is not going to result in any benefits for the Muslim community since 80 per cent of the students there belong to the Muslim community. In such a case what is the use of giving 50 per cent reservation? In Aligarh Muslim university, 25 per cent reservation is already given to the students who graduate from that university. It is a matter of grave concern that in today's milieu of global competition which company will consider the students of AMU as qualified candidates to get a job where 75 per cent of the students pass various examinations by virtue of belonging to a reserved community. This is a Central University and all the money is given by the Central Government. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Central Government that the reservation being given in AMU on religious basis is unconstitutional and it is a divisive step. It may be repealed and the Muslims be brought into the mainstream. The Supreme Court has said recently that the distinction between minorities and majorities should be stopped. The work of compiling lists being carried out by the National Minority Commission is by no means a good step. Hence, the provision of reservation in AMU based on religion is unjustifiable, it should be withdrawn.

[English]

**SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY** (Kokrajhar): Respected Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of both the august House and the Union Government to a long pending matter of urgency and serious public importance, which pertains to the dire necessity of issuing Centre's directive to the State Government of Assam

asking the concerned Provincial Government to take appropriate action to fill up the huge backlog of vacancies of posts reserved for ST (Plain), ST (Hill) and SCs in the State services without any further delay.

As on today, total 29,672 posts are still lying vacant as backlog against the reserved quota meant for STs (Plains), STs (Hills) and SCs in the State services, and even the State Government of Assam has already admitted this fact vide letter No. TAD/BC/142/96/PT/173 dated 16th September, 2002. In this regard, it is worthwhile to mention that very surprisingly the State Government of Assam has agreed to fill up only 1,000 posts out of 29,672 vide Notification No. TAD/BC/186/2002/165 dated 7th May, 2005 which has been a matter of serious concern and regret as well as a great humiliation and insult for the STs and SCs. This is a clear testimony to the sheer violation of the minimal Constitutional rights of the STs and SCs guaranteed by the Constitution of India under Article 16 (4A) and (4B) and it amounts to the denial of the Fundamental Rights to the most vulnerable sections of the society in relation to the State of Assam. As a mark of resentment and protest, a huge number of unemployed ST and SC youths have recently staged a vigorous demonstration on the last 8th August at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi demanding immediate fulfilment of the existing backlog quota. The present unrest situation arising out of the acute unemployment problem prevailing among the young generation has compounded today's overall volatile situation in Assam to a great extent.

In view of the ongoing unrest situation and crucial circumstances prevailing in Assam, as I stated above, I would like to strongly urge upon the Government of India, through your honour, to help issue necessary strictures and directives to the State Government of Assam to take appropriate step and action to fill up all the existing 29,672 vacant backlog posts of STs and SCs within time frame without any further delay before the situation gets aggravated further. Thank you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would like to make an observation. During Special Mention you are not permitted — and it is not proper — to read a lengthy statement. You can mention about the thing and even refer to some document only for the sake of reference and not reading. But, unfortunately, most of the hon. Members are reading lengthy statements during Special Mention. This must be discouraged.

**SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY** (Berhampore, West Bengal): I would like to draw the attention of this House to the girl trafficking that has been increasing menacingly throughout India much to the discomfiture of the civil society, let alone sexual violence being committed against women folk of our country.

[Shri Adhir Chowdhury]

Hundreds of hapless and destitute girls are destined to languish in red light areas. This is a blot on a civil society. Furthermore, cocking a snook at the legal system, the girl traffickers are carrying out their job with impunity.

Most recently, I am very much concerned with the news that West Bengal has become a hot bed of girl trafficking. Not only this, the State of West Bengal, on account of its porosity, has become and transformed into a conduit for girl trafficking from across the border.

Sir, even masquerading as a groom and sometimes under the disguise of the service provider, those pimps and middlemen are luring away the victim and they dupe those destitute girls only to be lodged in brothel houses. Already a number of girls have been rescued from a Pune brothel house, who have been originated from West Bengal. That is why, I would request the House and the Government, through you, Sir, that stringent laws must be enacted to prevent this crime, which is against humanity.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, Sir, to a very important issue concerning not only my constituency and my State but also the interest of the Railways.

Connecting the mine head with the port head has become the priority for the last many years. Constructing the second line from Talcher to Paradip has been going on since the Eighth Plan. But the construction of the second bridge over the river, Mahanadi is yet to be completed, and the construction of the second line from Talcher to Paradip is going on at a snail's pace. That should be expedited.

Secondly, I urge upon the Government to expedite the construction of the second bridge over Mahanadi. At the same time, with the construction of the second line, a place in my constituency called Rajhansa, the whole village, is getting divided into two parts. Thousands of people who are on the other side of the second line will have little access to come to take the benefit of the post office, of the school and of the dispensary. Repeatedly, the State Government has drawn the attention of the Railways for the construction of a level crossing at Rajhansa but it has fallen on deaf ears.

I would like to urge upon the Government, through you, Sir, that the Railways should take up this issue with full urgency because connecting the mine head with the rail head, with the second line to Paradip has become more essential after a number of steel plants which are coming up in Paradip. We have to have a second line but to have a second line, we have to have a level crossing at Rajhansa.

Under the MPLAD Scheme, I am willing to pay the cost, whichever is available but the Railways should also come up for maintaining the level crossing at Rajhansa.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Sir, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture has issued a notification on 17th May, 2005 inviting application for issuing licences to deep sea fishing trawlers. This notification has been issued in the midst of the protest and demands from the part of various fishermen groups, trade unions, organisations and people's representatives to withdraw the existing licences and also to avoid renewing of the licences given to the deep sea trawlers.

One of the recommendations of the Murari Committee constituted in 1995 for reviewing the deep sea fishing policy was to review the deep sea fishing policy in every three to five years. As per this, the Government has appointed an Expert Group with the Deputy Director General (Fisheries), ICAR as the Chairman. Pending recommendation from this Expert Group, the Government have given licences to the foreign vessels behind the label of Indian-owned foreign vessels. No tenure has been fixed to these vessels. At present, 25 Indian companies have been allowed to acquire 95 numbers of vessels. Also licences given to some of the Indian companies as per the Charter Policy, 1986 are also fishing in the Indian territorial waters and Indian Exclusive Economic Zones. As a result of the over exploitation of Marine resources by the unscrupulous round the clock fishing by these factory mother ships and many baby ships, marine fisheries is facing severe depletion of resources. Various species of fish have become extinct. Out of the marine resources, 58 per cent is distributed in inshore, 34.9 per cent is in offshore and only seven per cent is in deep sea. In order to explore and exploit these resources in deep sea, existing fishing vessels are more than sufficient.

Further licensing of deep sea trawlers will result in encroachment of territorial waters, which is the operational area of traditional crafts, by the deep sea trawlers and over exploitation and depletion of resources. It also creates unrest in this occupational field. This move is also a departure from the accepted recommendation of the Murari Committee Report.

In order to exploit the marine resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, technically upgraded motorised traditional craft is adequate. No factory ship is required for that.

In view of all these factors and pending report of the expert group to review the deep sea fishing policy, I would request the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of

Agriculture to abandon the move to issue new licences to deep sea fishing trawlers. They should also withdraw the licences already issued and also the notification issued in this regard. Thank you.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, I would like to say something regarding Pooja Express Train Number 2414. It runs from Jammu-Tawi to Jaipur via Delhi. The departure time of this train from my constituency, Alwar, is eight o'clock in the morning and thereafter it arrives at Jaipur around ten in the morning. Sir, earlier sitting reservation facility for passengers going from Alwar to Jaipur was available for this train. From 10th July onwards, only reservation for berths is being provided in the train. Merely one and a half coach is available in the train for general class passengers. Sir, no place for sitting is available for thousands of commuters who board the train from my constituency. Therefore, through this House I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways that sitting reservation facility in this train be restored or alternatively five or six general class coaches should be attached.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, a short while ago we were discussing the issue of child labour and the Union Government has also provided assistance to the states under the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and various other campaigns. But I would like to draw your attention towards the problem we are facing in Uttar Pradesh. The amount that was to be provided to Uttar Pradesh during the previous year 2004-2005 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Vocational Education for Secondary Classes for 10+2 pattern has not been released till date. Due to this, there is no work left for hundreds of teachers and this has also had an adverse affect on the studies of children who were studying under this programme.

Through you, I would like to urge the Union Government to pay attention towards this issue. If the Government intends to educate each and every child through such schemes, then how will the work of these schemes be carried forward if grants are not released. Hence as such, it is my request that the Union Government should pay due attention towards this issue. The Union Minister of Human Resource Development may please note that Uttar Pradesh was to be given a grant of about Rs.400 crore in 2004-2005 and because the amount has not been released, education under the scheme is being adversely affected. He should address this issue and expedite action in this regard.

[English]

DR. P. P. KOYA (Lakshadweep): Hon. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important issue. My constituency, Lakshadweep is a remote place where the education system has completely

paralysed because of the students' strike and agitation. Why are they on strike? It is a sequel to a trivial incident that took place at the Calicut University Centre where the Lakshadweep students, who were undergoing higher studies of post-graduation, M.Phil., and doctorate, are charge-sheeted. An FIR has been filed against them and a case has also been registered in the Parapanangadi court on the charges that they have boycotted a function... \*...\*

Since the reference and the contents of the function were not liked by the students, in a very disciplined and in a democratic way nearly 30 to 40 students went out of the hall, and they waited outside for the Lakshadweep Administrator to come out. Then they had submitted a memorandum and left for their hostels.

The authorities have taken this incident in a bad taste, and I am told that. ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): It is an allegation against a Central Minister. I want to know whether a permission has been obtained for this. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to draw your attention that whenever you have to raise an allegation against a particular Minister, there is a procedure, which you have to follow, and not through Special Mention. ... (Interruptions)

DR. P. P. KOYA: I withdraw that part of my speech. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have any complaint against any Minister, there are rules for that.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SISH RAM OLA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it should be expunged from proceedings. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): Sir, it should be expunged. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any allegation against any particular Minister will not go on record.

... (Interruptions)

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\*...\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.



SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: It is an allegation. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SISH RAM OLA: You are a senior member. What are you talking about? You know all the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

DR. P.P. KOYA: You address to the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Alleged interference is what he has written here. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Nalanda): Hon'ble Minister was in the function and boys went away. How does it amount to levelling an allegation?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SISH RAM OLA: It does not deem fit to level charge against any Central Government Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Hon'ble member is narrating about the incident. He has not levelled any allegation. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SISH RAM OLA: This issue should be viewed in right perspective ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

DR. P.P. KOYA: Please speak to the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: This should be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Where has he alleged anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already ruled that any personal allegation against any Minister will not be on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been expunged. You may conclude your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not allowed.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: My point is that he can do it according to the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot do it through Special Mention.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the way. You can refer to the Rule book.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Let him do it according to the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can refer after getting proper permission.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): You have to protect him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will be on record.

*(Interruptions)\*...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any allegation against anybody will not be on record. There is a proper way for this.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: If somebody makes an allegation against Minister without giving proper notice to the Minister that should be expunged. But he is making certain submission and you have to allow him to make his submission. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: I have an objection. It has to be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any allegation against the Minister will not go on record. If you have any complaint, raise it through proper means. But about the students, you can say.

*\*Not recorded.*

...(Interruptions)

DR. P. P. KOYA: Yes, that is it, and please advise them according to that. Treasury Benches are supposed to keep up the dignity of the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have given a notice for withdrawal of criminal cases against Lakshadweep students.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SISH RAM OLA: I am talking to you properly. You must also respond properly. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. P. P. KOYA: Please look at the Desk. ...(Interruptions)

Why are you looking here? ...(Interruptions) You look at the Chair. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your statement within a minute.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SISH RAM OLA: Sir, the name of Minister should not figure. ...(Interruptions) I am not saying anything wrong. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not recorded, and your please conclude it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: You have given a ruling to expunge it and it should be expunged. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: How can they challenge the ruling? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is already expunged.

...(Interruptions)

DR. P. P. KOYA: The Chair is at a liberty. ...(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you can conclude.

...(Interruptions)

DR. P. P. KOYA: You have not allowed me to speak. All my time has been consumed by others, and you now want me to conclude. ...(Interruptions) I would rather prefer to walk out telling this. ...(Interruptions) I may be wrong, I am not experienced. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: That is the ruling. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

DR. P. P. KOYA: Now, the students are harassed. They are taken one-by-one to the police station. They are taken one-by-one to the court. No protection is given. There is nobody to save them. I am their elected representative. Sir, I have to beg before you and, through you, I have to send the message to the Government. I have to send the message to the authorities. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Let him do according to the rules. ...(Interruptions)

DR. P. P. KOYA: Thank you very much. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has completed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No comment will go on record except the speech of Shri Ramdas Athawale.

(Interruptions)\*...

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is Atrocity Act, an act namely Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 for safeguarding the interests of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But according to the recent statement of the Supreme Court, if anybody is arrested or a case is filed against him under the said Act, he would not be liable to bail. Earlier in order to eradicate

\*Not recorded.

casteism if a person used to be put behind the bars for at least 14 days for casting aspersion on anyone in the name of caste but now he would not even be liable to anticipatory bail. Sir, it so happened that on 26th April IDBI\* ... whose liaison officers belonging to SCs/STs in IDBI called on him and was discussing about filling the backlog vacancies of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The name will be expunged.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Chairman of IDBI called them 'you are useless Ambedkar' and any such comments promote casteism. My demand is that we should contemplate to take action against such

officer. If at all we are serious to bring about social equality along with economic equality we must take stem action against any officer or person who behaves this way. I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India that if the Chairman of IDBI has said anything like this, then action should be taken against him.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, the 16th August 2005 at 11 a.m.

18.57 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 16, 2005/Sravana 25, 1927 (Saka).*

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\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

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