

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourteenth Session (Part-II)
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, October 22, 2008/Asvina 30, 1930 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am glad that the former friends are in position.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

[Translation]

Sit down. Please listen to your leader. It has now become a norm to rise every new and then.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, the Indian Scientists today.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Thomas, are you not concerned about it? Please keep quiet.

... (Interruptions)

11.01

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

[English]

Congratulating the team of scientists and technicians of ISRO regarding launch of Chandrayaan - I and the Indian Cricket Team for their victory against Australia at Mohali, Punjab

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, the Indian Scientists today have achieved another great landmark which has made the country proud when India's first unmanned moon spacecraft – Chandrayaan-I – embarked on a two-year mission from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota Andhra Pradesh, at about 6.22 a.m., on board the indigenously-built rocket, PSLV-C11.

I made it a point to get up and saw it. It is very exhilarating to see that wonderful launch.

This historic event marks India's entry into select band of lunar explorer countries and its growing stature as an emerging space power.

Let us on this occasion join together to congratulate Dr. G. Madhavan Nair, Chairman ISRO and his dedicated team of Scientists and Technicians whose untiring efforts have made this possible.

We wish them further and further glorious successes.

Hon. Members, Indian cricket team's emphatic 320 run victory, their biggest ever against the visiting Australian team at Mohali, Punjab yesterday, is a matter of great pride and joy for all of us. Let us compliment the splendid performance by the Indian Team and wish them all success in their ongoing test series and forthcoming One Day International Matches.

I also hope that sportsman spirit will prevail in this House also.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I will try to accommodate as many as possible. Shri Basudeb Acharia, please allow the Question Hour. I will call you; I promise I will call you.

[Translation]

Nothing is heard by creating uproar. This is not my fault.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 61 – Shri Ananta Nayak.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you after the Question Hour one by one. I will try to call you after the Question Hour one by one. I will allow as many as possible.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know what do you want. How can I hear all of you together? All of you are speaking together. How can I hear you and how can I take a decision? I will go one by one. I will try to accommodate as many as possible.

[Translation]

What is going on.

[English]

Hon Members, I appeal to you.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing to be recorded – not one word from the beginning except my observations.

...(Interruptions)*

11.05 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Srichand Kriplani and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Have you given any notice?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Have you given any notice?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : On what subject have you given the notice?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may speak at 12 noon after the question hour.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: After the Question Hour, I will call you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Those who are in the Well or in the aisle, their names are taken down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Those who are standing there, their names will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Sujatha, go back to your seat. Now, your name is being recorded.

*Not recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Those who are in the Well or in the aisle, their names will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We are so proud of our scientists. We are so proud of our sportspersons and the whole country is ashamed of the Parliamentarians.

11.09 hrs.

(Shri Srichand Kriplani and some other hon. Members then left the House)

...(Interruptions)

11.10 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Don't record anything. Either Question Hour or nothing.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I hope nothing comes out in the media about what is happening inside the House. I would request them to take note of my request. Please see that it does not come out in the media.

...(Interruptions)

11.12 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have agreed to allow discussion on every issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, I have promised you that I would allow a discussion on this issue. You are not concerned with the discussion, I am sorry to say. You don't want to have Question Hour in this Session. The whole country is watching us. What is happening here? Please save this country, please save the institution of Parliament, I appeal to you.

*Not recorded.

I am not keen to suppress any subject, but it has to be done in a proper manner. This is the Question Hour. Please allow the Question Hour to go on. I will allow important matters to be raised after the Question Hour. We have to discuss important issues. The Supplementary Demands of Railways are listed for discussion and voting today. I take it that everyone is interested to take part in it. But what can be done?

When I am told that it is the duty of the Chair to maintain order, how does one maintain order in a House like this? Are we going to be known as the most unruly people in this country? Please consider what you are doing to the House.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Shah Nawaz Hussain, you want to raise an important issue and discuss it. But is this the way to do it? I would have given you an opportunity. What can I do? Please tell me.

... (Interruptions)

11.15 hrs.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE MEMBER FROM THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do?

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Come and sit here.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Abdullakutty, do not show that.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I warn you.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I hereby direct Mr. Abdullakutty, whose conduct is grossly disorderly, to withdraw immediately from the House and I direct him to withdraw. He shall absent himself during the remainder of the day's sitting.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Abdullakutty, you have to leave the House.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Abdullakutty, I have directed you to leave the House.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have to leave the House.

11.17 hrs

(Shri Abdullakutty then withdrew from the House.)

... (Interruptions)

11.17½ hrs

(At this stage, Shri Ramchandra Paswan, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

... (Interruptions)

11.18 hrs

(At this stage, Shri P. Karunakaran and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

... (Interruptions)

11.18¼ hrs

(At this stage, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal and some other hon. Members came and stood on the Floor near the Table.)

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not sitting mum. You go there. I am going to suspend all of you. I will do it.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only say that you are behaving in the most despicable manner. I have never said 'no' to any subject being discussed. You are deliberately disturbing the proceedings of the House. You are most irresponsible.

Mr. Ram Kripal Yadav, you are the most irresponsible person. If you show any paper, I will ask you to go out. I have asked Shri Abdullakutty to go out; I will ask you to go out.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am determined; I will not rise.

... (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Poaching of Tigers

*61. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of poaching of tigers that have to the notice of the Government since the creation of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau in 2007 and the action taken thereon;

(b) the specific steps recommended by the Tiger Task Force to stop the poaching of tigers; and

(c) the action taken thereon by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) In all, 13 tiger deaths reportedly due to poaching have come to light since the creation of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau on 6th June, 2007. The details including the action taken by the Government are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The Tiger Task Force constituted by the National Board for Wildlife chaired by the Prime Minister, suggested a set of urgent recommendations for strengthening tiger conservation in the country, which, inter alia, include establishment of the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau), preparation of database relating to tiger crime, creating the National Tiger Conservation Authority and preparing specific strategy for protection of each reserve, including insurgency/naxalite affected areas.

(c)(i) The wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been constituted with effect from 6th June, 2007, based on enabling provisions provided in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, through an amendment made in 2006. The existing regional/sub-regional wildlife offices at Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Amritsar, Cochin, Guwahati have been brought under the Bureau and their jurisdiction has been defined. A new regional office has also been created at Jabalpur under the said Bureau. The mandate of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau mainly includes networking and tracking of offences having national/international ramifications, collection and dissemination of wildlife crime related data to States and other enforcement agencies, coordination with States and other enforcement authorities, and implementation of obligations under various international conventions and protocols.

(ii) The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been constituted with effect from 4th September, 2006.

(iii) The National Tiger Conservation Authority has obtained recommendations from a Committee constituted by it for suggesting a strategy to deal with tiger reserves affected by extremist engineered disturbances. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006, provides for preparing reserve specific Tiger Conservation Plan to conserve tigers.

(iv) The penalty for committing an offence in a tiger reserve has been made more stringent.

Statement

Details of Tiger Deaths due to Poaching Noticed/Reported since the Creation of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

1. As reported by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

Year	Name of State where seizure was done	Details
1	2	3
2008	Haryana	The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (Northern Region) and Gurgaon Police jointly made a seizure of body parts/bones of a tiger on 7.7.2008, and a First Information Report (No. 167) dated 7.7.2008 has been lodged with the local police against the accused, and investigation is ongoing.
	Himachal Pradesh	The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (Northern Region) actively associated with the Himachal Police during seizure of two tiger skins and body parts. In this context, three persons have been arrested and First Information Report (No. 10) dated 20.7.2008 has been lodged with the local police against the accused, and investigation is ongoing.
	West Bengal	The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (Eastern Region) facilitated investigation of tiger poaching incident (1st week of October, 2008) at the Sundarbans Tiger Reserve by coordinating with the State and Central Forensic Lab, Kolkata Police and the Field Director, Sundarbans Tiger Reserve.
2007	Assam	The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (Eastern Region) has made an enquiry on tiger deaths (2nd and 10th of October, 2007) at the Orang National Park, Assam.

1	2	3
Total tiger deaths due to poaching noticed/reported with the involvement/association of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau		3

2. As reported by States*

Year	Name of State	Number of tiger
2007	Kerala	4
	Assam	2
	Andhra Pradesh	1
	Uttar Pradesh	1
	Total	8
2008	Kerala	1
	West Bengal	1
	Total	2

*NB : Case details relating to prosecution/investigation done by States are not collated at the Government of India level.

Shortfall of Manpower in PHCs/CHCs

*62. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY :

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

(a) whether as per the recent report on the National Rural Health Mission, there is a shortfall of doctors, lab technicians and pharmacists in a large number of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) in the country;

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

(c) whether absenteeism of a large number of doctors from duty, posted in the rural areas, has been reported;

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

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken to fill up the vacant posts and to ensure proper healthcare facilities for the rural poor in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the "Bulletin on Rural Health Statistics, 2007", there is a shortfall of 1410 Doctors at Primary Health Centres [PHCs],

2341 Physicians at CHCs 9455 Specialists at CHCs, 9795 Laboratory Technicians and 4910 Pharmacists at PHCs and CHCs as per earlier norms. The Indian Public Health Standards set higher norms for institutions. The Government is cognisant of the shortfall and is taking various measures under NRHM to mitigate the problem. There has been a significant addition of human resource under NRHM. As reported by the States (August 2008), a total of 10,489 medical doctors, 2231 Specialists, 3933 Ayush doctors, 17,979 Staff Nurses, 32,321 ANMs, 7,590 Paramedics and 831 Ayush paramedics have been engaged on contract under NRHM. This is in addition to 6.24 lakh ASHA volunteers engaged as community workers under NRHM.

(c) and (d) No State has reported large scale absenteeism of doctors under NRHM. However, the issue of non availability of doctors in rural areas has been reported. Health is a State subject and health manpower is in the domain of States. The service matters including recruitment, posting and disciplinary matters are the concern of the respective States/UTs Governments. Action in this regard is taken by the respective State/UT Governments as per rules. However, NRHM has attempted to strengthen their accountability to PRIs/Rogi Kalyan Samitis etc. It has also encouraged institution specific contractual employment based on local criteria to ensure availability of resident health workers.

(e) Human resource engagement is a major thrust area under NRHM and is a priority being pursued with the States. Various initiatives include contractual engagement of health staff based on local residence criteria, multi-skilling of doctors and para-medics, provision of incentives to serve in rural areas like blended payments, difficult area allowances, PG allowance, case based payments, improved accommodation arrangements, provision of Ayush doctors and paramedics in PHCs and CHCs as additional doctors in rural areas, block pooling of doctors in underserved areas, engaging with the non-government sector for underserved areas through contracting in or contracting out of human resources, empowering the community to exercise greater control over health care facilities, provision of untied and flexible funds are a few of the many measures being undertaken to ensure proper health care facilities for the rural poor in the country. A national workshop on human resources was organized from 16-18 October, 2008 with all State Health Secretaries/Directors Health & Mission Director NRHM.

Promotion of Traditional Games

*63. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to preserve and promote traditional games/sports;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the names of traditional games/sports identified for the purposes;

(c) the quantum of funds allocated in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken for the promotion and development of sports infrastructure particularly in rural/tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) The existing schemes of Government of India and Sports Authority of India (SAI) lay adequate focus on the promotion of traditional and indigenous games.

(b) Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), the sports federations dealing with indigenous/traditional games, such as Archery, Chess, Kho-Kho, Tug of War, Kabaddi, Wrestling etc. have been given Government recognition, and are provided with financial assistance, for promotional and developmental activities in their respective disciplines.

(c) The details of financial assistance to the sports federations dealing with indigenous/traditional games under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs during the last three years are given below :-

(Rs. in lakh)				
Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Archery Association of India	51.75	94.68	81.67
2.	All India Chess Federation	78.94	112.46	239.94
3.	Atya Patya Federation of India	12.00	15.50	8.50
4.	Kho-Kho Federation of India	12.00	2.00	0.00
5.	Indian Hockey (Men) Federation	96.46	92.09	125.18
6.	Indian Hockey (Women) Federation	78.81	111.64	191.65
7.	Indian Amateur Kabaddi Federation	24.69	13.95	25.68

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Tug of War Federation of India	11.50	20.75	3.50
9.	Wrestling Federation of India	209.82	32.58	6.15

In addition to above, the SAI also operates specific schemes for promotion and development of traditional/indigenous games. Under the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme, SAI has adopted 27 schools, and provides comprehensive support to the identified athletes, in terms of training and participations in competitions. SAI also operates Special Area Games Scheme, which are specifically aimed at promoting local sporting talent in tribal areas.

(d) The Government has recently launched a national programme titled Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Ahiyan (PYKKA), which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure in all villages and block panchayats in a phased manner over a period of 10 years and access to organized sports competitions at village and block panchayat level. The scheme lays special emphasis on promotion of traditional and indigenous games.

Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal

*64. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN :
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Indo-US Civil Nuclear Agreement and its present status;

(b) the adverse impact, if any, in the event of India deciding to go for nuclear test(s) for security interests of the country;

(c) whether India has also signed agreements with Russia and France for civilian use of nuclear energy;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the benefits that are likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The "Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy" was signed by External Affairs Minister and US Secretary of State on October 10, 2008 at Washington. The purpose of the Agreement is to enable civil nuclear energy cooperation between India and the United States covering nuclear reactors and aspects of the associated nuclear fuel cycle including enrichment and

reprocessing. The Agreement contains a full reflection of the key understandings of the July 18, 2005 and March 2006 Joint Statements and our Separation Plan. The agreement enables the creation of a strategic reserve of nuclear fuel to guard against any disruption of supply over the lifetime of India's reactors. The Agreement grants prior consent to reprocess nuclear material obtained through international cooperation, under IAEA safeguards. The Agreement specifically provides that India's strategic nuclear programme, three-stage Nuclear Programme and R & D activities will remain unhindered and unaffected.

There is no reference to testing in the bilateral agreement.

The Agreement provides for a multilayered consultation mechanism to protect our interests as regards uninterrupted operation of our reactors in case either party decides to terminate. The Agreement meets the concerns of both sides and fulfils all the assurances made by Prime Minister to Parliament on August 17, 2006.

(c) and (d) Government have signed the "India-France Inter-Governmental Agreement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation" for cooperation in civilian use of nuclear technology with the Government of France, on September 30, 2008. The Government expect to sign a cooperation agreement with Russia later this year.

(e) These agreements mark a resumption of nuclear trade and commerce with the international community. This will help us to increase the share of nuclear power in our energy mix, to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and will contribute to our energy security. The conclusion of these agreements also marks an end to the technology denial regimes targetted against India, and will lead to an expansion of high technology trade in the future.

AIIMS-Like Institutions

*65. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL :
SHRI B. MAHTAB :

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States to establish AIIMS-like Institutions in their States;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government has any proposal to upgrade certain medical colleges and hospitals in various States to the level of AIIMS; and

(d) If so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (d) Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) envisages setting up of AIIMS-like institutions and upgradation of medical college institutions in order to provide tertiary healthcare services and also quality medical education in the country.

In the first phase of PMSSY, six AIIMS-like institutions are being set up, one each in the States of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh), based on various socio-economic indicators like human development index, literacy rate, population below poverty line and per capita income and health indicators like population to bed ratio, prevalence rate of serious communicable diseases, infant mortality rate etc.

In addition, 13 existing Government medical college institutions are being upgraded in terms of infrastructure and equipments. List of institutions being upgraded is enclosed as Statement.

Proposals were received from three States and one Union Territory for setting up new AIIMS like institutions. However, in view of resource constraints, it is proposed to establish only two more AIIMS-like institutions in two States. Besides it is proposed to upgrade five existing Government medical college institutions during second phase of PMSSY.

Statement

Upgradation of medical college institutions in the first phase of PMSSY

1. Government Medical College, Jammu (J & K)
2. Government Medical College, Srinagar (J & K)
3. Kolkatta Medical College, Kolkatta (W.B.)
4. Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow (U.P.)
5. Institute of Medical Sciences, BHU, Varanasi (UP)
6. Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad (A.P)
7. Sri Venkateshwara Institute of Medical Sciences, Tirupati (A.P.) (50% cost of upgradation will be borne by the TTD Trust)
8. Government Medical College, Salem (T.N.)
9. B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
10. Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore (Karnataka)

11. Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram, (Kerala)
12. Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Ranchi
13. Grants Medical College & Sir, J.J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai, (Maharashtra)

Upgradation of the above institutions was approved by CCEA on 22.6.2006 except RIMS, Ranchi, for which CCEA approval was obtained on 26.4.2007.

[Translation]

Bomb Blast Near Indian Embassy in Kabul

*66. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a bomb blast has taken place near the Indian Embassy in Afghanistan recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of casualties and loss of property;
- (c) whether the Government has taken up the issue with the Government of Afghanistan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government of Afghanistan thereto;
- (e) the details of the compensation paid/being paid and other assistance to the victims and their families;
- (f) whether the Government of India has also conducted their own investigation into the said incident;
- (g) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (h) the steps taken by the Indian Government to ensure safety and security of the Indians working in Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (h) On 7th July 2008, at 0831 local time, a vehicle borne improvised explosive device was exploded by a suicide bomber near the entrance gate of the Indian Embassy in Kabul. The attack resulted in the tragic deaths of Shri V.V. Rao, Counsellor, Brig. R.D. Mehta, Defence Attache in the Embassy and their Afghan driver Mr. Neamatullah who were in an Embassy vehicle. Constable Ajay Singh Pathania (ITBP), Constable Roop Singh (ITBP) and 55 Afghan nationals (including 11 security personnel and 17 school children) were also killed. More than 150 persons received injuries. A large number of vehicles, both inside and outside the Chancery premises, were badly damaged. The Chancery building was also badly damaged. The attack on our Embassy is viewed with grave concern by

Government as a dastardly terrorist attack perpetuated by the enemies of peace in Afghanistan and our region. The response of the Government of Afghanistan has been very positive in terms of investigating the attack and increasing security for our personnel. The Government of India have provided compensation and assistance. The investigation into the attack and to identify all its perpetrators is continuing. The security of the Embassy, Consultates and its personnel has been augmented after the attack. The Afghan Government has been fully sensitised on providing adequate protection to Indian project workers and personnel in different parts of Afghanistan.

[English]

Road Accidents

*67. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of road accidents and the casualties as a result thereof have gone up in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the effective measures taken by the Government to check the increasing number of road accidents;
- (d) whether the Government plans to introduce Highway Traffic Management System in all the States including Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As per the latest available data, the number of road accidents in the country and casualties during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006, is given below :-

Year	Road Accidents on all roads	Persons killed on all roads
2004	429910	92618
2005	439255	94968
2006	460920 (P)	105749 (P)

P-Provisional

Road accidents and fatalities are caused mainly due to a number of factors such as driver's fault, mechanical defects in the vehicles, fault of pedestrians, bad roads, bad weather, heterogeneous traffic etc.

- (c) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. This

Department however has taken several steps to improve road safety, which are given below :

- (i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.
- (ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
- (iii) Refresher training is being imparted to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector through Department of road Transport & Highways.
- (iv) Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have been involved in road safety activities by the Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI.
- (v) Model Driving Training Schools have been set up in 13 states in the country by the Department of Road Transport and Highways.
- (vi) Publicity as well as Awareness campaigns on road safety have been conducted through audio-visual-print media by the Department of Road Transport and Highways.
- (vii) National Award is conferred every year to voluntary organizations/individuals for outstanding work in the field of road safety by Department of Road Transport and Highways.
- (viii) Safety standards of vehicles are tightened from time to time.
- (ix) Cranes and Ambulances are provided to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme by Department of Road Transport & Highways. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.
- (x) Widening and improvements of National Highways are being made from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

(d) and (e) Under the public funded projects, Highway Traffic Management System (HTMS) is not planned in all States. However, NHAI is planning to implement HTMS on the following sections :-

- (i) Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway (Gujarat)

- (ii) A section of approximately 150 Km on East-West corridor (Asian Development Bank funded projects) in the States of Rajasthan/Madhya Pradesh/Uttar Pradesh

In Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) projects under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase III and Phase V, provision is being made for HTMS. It is already operational on Jaipur-Kishangarh section (BOT Project) on NH 8 in the State of Rajasthan.

Genetically Modified Food Products

*68. DR. R. SENTHIL :

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Genetically Modified (GM) food products and seeds permitted/banned in the country by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) constituted under Environmental Protection Act, 1986;

(b) whether some of the banned products are still available in the market;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) As of date, the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), the statutory body constituted under the 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineering Organisms or Cells, 1989' notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has approved the commercial release of only Bt cotton in India. While there is no ban on GM products and seeds, approval of GEAC is mandatory prior to their commercial use. The GEAC had received request only for import and commercial use of GM Soybean oil in India which was granted in July 2007. No other request has been received so far.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, if any GM produced is found to be illegally marketed in India, punitive action will be taken under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992.

[Translation]

Exploitation of Indian Workers Abroad

*69. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian workers engaged in construction works abroad especially in the Gulf countries are being exploited and subjected to atrocities by the local companies/contractors there;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard during the last two years; and

(d) the effective measures taken by the Government to protect the interests of the Indian workers abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (c) Instances of exploitation of Indian emigrant workers have come to the notice of the Government from time to time. Over 90% of such workers are employed

in Gulf countries. The complaints received relate to various issue including instances of exploitation by recruitment agents. During the last two years, the number of complaints received are as under :

Complaints against Unregistered Recruiting Agents

Year	No. of complaints	Prosecution Sanctions issued	Cases referred to State Governments/ POEs for action
2006	78	21	57
2007	41	7	34
2008 (upto 09/2008)	71	37	34

Complaints against registered recruiting agents

Year	No. of complaints	Show Cause Notices issued	No. of Registration Certificates suspended/ cancelled	No. of complaints dropped/ resolved	Cases pending and being followed up
2006	167	167	80	84	03
2007	98	94	12	51	35
2008 (30.09.2008)	89	89	17	30	42

Besides the above, 345 foreign employers have been placed under prior approval category based on such complaints.

(d) With a view to protect the interests of the Indian workers going abroad, the following steps have been taken:-

• Attestation of employment documents by the Indian missions concerned in respect of six countries viz. Yemen, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, Sudan and Kuwait for all categories of workers (skilled & unskilled) has been made against unregistered agents are as under :

Complaints against unregistered recruiting agents

Year	No. of complaints	Prosecution Sanctioned issued	Cases referred to State Government/ POE for action
2005	53	8	45
2006	78	21	57
2007	41	7	34
2008 (30.9.2008)	71	37	34

On receipt of such complaints, the Protectors of Emigrants (POEs) are directed to file complaints/FIRs against such unregistered recruiting agents for violation of Section 10 of the Emigration Act 1983.

Further, whenever amnesty is declared, permitting illegal workers to return to India, by any foreign country, this Ministry co-ordinates with the Ministries of Home, External Affairs and Civil Aviation and the Indian missions abroad, to facilitate their return. Such repatriations on large scales have been facilitated from UAE, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia etc.

This Ministry also co-ordinates with the Indian missions abroad in resolving the problems of such workers by taking up issues of concern to them with the Foreign Employers and local authorities and provides appropriate assistance and support for repatriation of illegal emigrants from time to time.

Rise in Malaria, Dengu and Chikungunya Cases

*70. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

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

(a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has predicted a steep rise in Malaria and Dengue cases in the country;

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

(c) whether cases of Dengue, Chikungunya and Malaria have surfaced recently in the country including Maharashtra, West Bengal and Delhi;

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

(e) the number of cases reported and the number of persons died from these diseases during the last three years and the current year, State-wise disease-wise; and

(f) the effective measures taken/being taken by the Government to eradicate these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. WHO has not prepared any report containing predictions concerning malaria and dengue cases in the country.

(c) to (f) The cases of Dengue, Chikungunya and Malaria have not surfaced recently in the country. Instead, the country including the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Delhi have fighting against these diseases for a long time.

The first outbreak of dengue was reported in 1965 from Vellore district in Tamil Nadu. Currently, it is being reported from 18 Stes and 4 Union Territories of the country including the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Delhi have been fighting against these diseases for a long time.

The first outbreak of dengue was reported in 1956 from Vellore district in Tamil Nadu. Currently, it is being reported from 18 States and 4 Union Territories of the country including the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Delhi.

Chikungunya was first reported in the country during the last millennium in the years 1963 in Kolkata, 1965 in Pondicherry and Chennai in Tamil Nadu, Rajahmundry, Vishakapatnam and Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh; Sagar in Madhya Pradesh; and Nagpur in Maharashtra and 1973 in Barsi in Maharashtra. Thereafter, no cases were reported for 3 decades but it has re-emerged in the country in 2006 and affected 16 States including Maharashtra, West Bengal and Delhi.

Dengue and chikungunya are outbreak prone viral diseases transmitted by same vector viz. *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. *Aedes aegypti* mosquito prefers to breed in man made containers in which water stagnates for more than a week. The occurrence of these diseases has shown an increase in recent years due to rapid urbanization, life

style changes and deficient water management including improper water storage practices leading to increase in vector mosquito breeding sites. Besides, improved global travel has also increased the chances of entering or re-entering of the viruses in the country from the endemic countries.

Malaria is endemic in the country including the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Delhi. As per the reports received from the States/UTs, Malaria cases in the country and States of West Bengal and Delhi shows overall decline. However, slight increase in cases is reported from the State of Maharashtra compared to the corresponding period (January-September) of previous year as indicated in the table below :

Country/State	Year (Jan-Sept)	Malaria Cases
ountry Total	2007	653827
	2008	599906
Maharashtra	2007	36149
	2008	39348
West Bengal	2007	43796
	2008	25476
Delhi	2007	120
	2008	59

The state-wise and disease-wise number of cases reported and the number of persons died from Dengu, Chikungunya and Malaria during the last three years and the current year, are given in the enclosed Statement-I, Statement-II and Statement-III respectively.

For prevention and control of Dengue and Chikungunya in the country, Government of India has already formulated a specific disease control programme. Further, a strategic Action Plan for implementation of programme strategies has been developed and sent to the States on 27-01-07 for implementation. The following are the activities under this programme:

1. For strengthening monitoring and surveillance, Sentinel Surveillance Centres have been set up in 137 different existing hospitals spread over 20 States and Union Territories. Apart from these Sentinel Surveillance Centres, 13 labs have been identified as Apex Referral Labs spread out in existing hospitals in different parts of the country for the confirmation of Dengue.

2. For Dengue testing, dengue testing kits (IgM MAC Elisa kits made by National Institute of Virology, Pune) are being supplied to the Sentinel Surveillance Hospitals and Apex Referral Labs. These Centres are also being funded to some extent by Government of India.
3. States are being funded for procurement of fogging machines.
4. Capacity building through training is being done.
5. Need based operational research is being conducted.
6. Epidemic preparedness, Monitoring and Evaluation, and IEC for awareness generation of the community, are other important activities undertaken in this programme.

Separate budget has been allocated for Dengue and Chikungunya in the 11th Five Year Plan for this purpose. During 2007-08, an amount Rs. 2.50 crores was sanctioned which has been increased to Rs. 16.69 crores in 2008-09. In addition, amounts of Rs. 21.60 crores and Rs. 8.75 crores were released during 2006-07 and 2007-08 respectively to the Chikungunya affected States as emergency packages.

In respect of Malaria, the Government of India provides technical assistance and logistics support including anti malaria drugs, insecticides, larvicides, Rapid Diagnostic Kits etc. under the National Vector Borne Disease Control

Programme. For control of Malaria, following strategies are being implemented through States/UTs:

- I. **Disease Management**
 - Early case detection and complete treatment.
 - Strengthening of referral services
 - Epidemic preparedness and rapid response
- II. **Integrated Vector Management for reducing mosquitoes density**
 - Indoor Residual Spraying in selected high risk areas
 - Use of Insecticide treated bed nets
 - Use of Larvivorous fishes.
 - Anti-larval measures in urban areas including bio larvicides
 - Minor environmental engineering
- III. **Supporting Interventions :**
 - Behaviour Change Communication
 - Public Private Partnership & Inter-sectoral convergence
 - Human Resource Development through capacity building

Statement-I

Dengue Cases and Deaths in the Country

Sl.No.	State	2005		2006		2007		2008 till 15th Oct.	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99	2	197	17	587	2	111	1
2.	Bihar	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Chandigarh	2	0	182	0	99	0	85	0
4.	Delhi	1023	9	3366	65	548	1	860	2
5.	Goa	1	0	1	0	36	0	25	0
6.	Gujarat	454	11	545	5	570	2	440	2
7.	Haryana	183	1	838	4	365	11	899	10
8.	Karnataka	587	17	109	7	230	0	232	3
9.	Kerala	1028	8	981	4	603	11	380	3
10.	Maharashtra	349	56	736	25	614	21	326	20
11.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Punjab	251	2	1166	6	28	0	94	0
13.	Rajasthan	370	5	1805	26	540	10	296	2
14.	Tamil Nadu	1142	8	477	2	707	2	314	1
15.	Uttar Pradesh	121	4	639	14	132	2	22	2
16.	West Bengal	6375	34	1230	8	95	4	308	3
17.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	274	0	32	0
18.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	16	0	51	2	0	0
20.	Orissa	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	24	1	0	0	0	0
22.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	51	1	0	0
Total		11985	157	12317	184	5534	69	4424	49

Statement-II

Epidemiological profile of Chikungunya Fever in the Country

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2006		2007		2008 (till 15th Oct.)	
		Total Suspected Chikungunya fever cases	No. of deaths	Total Suspected Chikungunya fever cases	No. of deaths	Total Suspected Chikungunya fever cases	No. of deaths
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	77535	0	39	0	5	0
2.	Karnataka	762026	0	1705	0	46033	0
3.	Maharashtra	270116	0	1762	0	440	0
4.	Tamil Nadu	64802	0	45	0	15	0
5.	Madhya Pradesh	60132	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	75419	0	3223	0	172	0
7.	Kerala	70731	0	24052	0	24631	0
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1549	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	560	0	203	0	3	0
10.	Rajasthan	102	0	2	0	3	0
11.	Puducherry	542	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Goa	287	0	93	0	18	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Orissa	6461	0	4065	0	0	0
14.	West Bengal	21	0	19138	0	0	0
15.	Lakshadweep	35	0	5184	0	0	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	4	0	4	0	0	0
17.	Haryana	0	0	20	0	23	0
Total		1390322	0	59535	0	71343	0

Statement-III*State-wise Annual Malaria situation (2005-08)*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	2005		2006		2007		2008 (upto September 2008)	
		Positive Cases	Deaths	Positive Cases	Deaths	Positive Cases	Deaths	Positive Cases	Deaths
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	39099	0	34081	0	27406	2	16671	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31215	0	39182	196	34125	0	8621	0
3.	Assam	67885	113	126178	304	93555	152	64470	70
4.	Bihar	2733	1	2744	1	1595	1	75	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	187950	3	190590	3	145949	0	29251	0
6.	Goa	3747	1	5010	7	9755	11	6365	11
7.	Gujarat	179023	54	89835	45	71296	56	28010	5
8.	Haryana	33262	0	47142	0	30895	1	24841	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	129	0	114	0	104	0	76	0
10.	Jharkhand	193144	21	193888	4	184878	31	57326	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	268	0	164	0	223	1	93	0
12.	Karnataka	83181	26	62642	32	48415	18	30310	7
13.	Kerala	2554	6	2111	7	1769	5	127	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	104317	44	96160	56	90709	0	41678	0
15.	Maharashtra	47608	104	54420	133	69844	174	39348	84
16.	Manipur	2071	3	2709	8	1194	4	467	2
17.	Meghalaya	16816	41	29924	167	33979	237	20431	49
18.	Mizoram	10741	74	10668	120	6563	75	3878	40
19.	Nagaland	2987	0	3361	75	4748	26	3399	13
20.	Orissa	396573	255	380216	257	365593	214	113258	60

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21.	Punjab	1883	0	1888	0	2017	0	1260	0
22.	Rajasthan	52286	22	99529	58	55043	46	7356	0
23.	Sikkim	69	0	93	0	48	0	24	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	39678	0	28219	0	20523	0	11967	0
25.	Tripura	18008	20	23375	31	17933	40	19411	44
26.	Uttaranchal	1242	0	1108	0	953	0	591	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	105303	0	91566	0	83019	0	39750	0
28.	West Bengal	185964	175	159646	203	86132	100	25476	55
29.	Andamand and Nicobar Islands	3954	0	2993	1	3973	0	2790	0
30.	Chandigarh	432	0	449	0	340	0	227	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Havelli	1166	0	3786	0	3780	0	2196	0
32.	Daman and Diu	104	0	140	0	99	0	71	0
33.	Delhi	1133	0	928	0	182	0	59	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	44	0	50	0	68	0	33	0
Total		1816569	963	1785109	1708	1496705	1194	599906	441

[English]

Clinical Trials

*71. SHRI MANIK SINGH :

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :

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

(a) whether cases of death due to clinical trials have been reported from different parts of the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of babies/infants have died during clinical trials at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the drugs tested during clinical trials were manufactured by the multinational companies;

(f) if so, the details of such companies and the drugs manufactured by them for clinical trials;

(g) the action taken by the Government against the guilty doctors/companies responsible for the death of babies/infants and to check such incidents;

(h) whether the Government has paid any compensation to the families of the deceased children; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Some deaths have been reported due to clinical trials from different parts of the country during the last three years. Detailed information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) and (d) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi (AIIMS) has informed the Government about some cases of deaths of children at AIIMS, New Delhi during clinical trials. A total of 49 deaths of children have occurred out of 4142 children enrolled in 42 clinical studies at AIIMS, New Delhi. AIIMS has, however, stated that these deaths have occurred mainly due to serious/life threatening disease conditions. A Committee was constituted by Director, AIIMS to examine the issue following media reports regarding

deaths among children in clinical trials. The key findings of the report are as follows :

- (1) All studies had scientific rationale and had undergone necessary scientific review. All the study protocol were approved by the Ethics Committee of AIIMS.
- (2) None of the deaths reported during clinical studies could be attributed to treatment modality under trial and they were due to underlying high risk illness and serious co-morbid disease conditions that the children suffered from. The deaths occurred despite institutions of standard therapy for all subjects irrespective of whether they belonged to study or the control group. None of the mortality rates reported under these trials is higher than that reported in patients with similar illness. Further, the committee noted that rather additional lives were being saved because of intensive monitoring required for trial per se.

(e) There were no deaths in the trials in which the drugs manufactured by the multinational companies were used.

(f) to (i) Do not arise.

Non-Reporting of Medicinal Side-Effects to WHO

*72. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
MOHD. MUKEEM :

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

(a) whether India has not reported a single instance of medicinal side-effects from drugs during the last three years to an international drug monitoring database set up by the World Health Organization (WHO) as reported in the 'Mint' dated 28 July, 2008 ;

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

(c) whether the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) puts a condition of Pre-Market Surveillance Studies (PMS) on the new drugs' approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the names of companies which have not submitted the PMS data; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

India has not reported Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs) to the WHO Uppsala monitoring system during the period 2005 to 2007 because of the software and the attendant

fees issue. However, now a decision has been taken to link the Indian Pharmacovigilance data with the WHO sponsored Uppsala system.

(c) Pre-Marketing Surveillance (PMS) Study is not required to be submitted during the process of approval of new drugs. However, Phase-I, II and III clinical trials data in accordance with the requirement of Schedule Y of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules are taken into consideration.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

HIV-AIDS among Children

*73. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA :
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

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

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey on the number of children including orphans, suffering from HIV/AIDS;

(b) if so, the outcome of the survey conducted in this regard, State-wise;

(c) whether the National AIDS Control Board proposes to set up care centres/orphanages solely meant for such children;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the expenses to be borne by the Government;

(e) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding discrimination against such children in schools; and

(f) if so, the action taken by Government to address these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (f) No nation-wide survey has been conducted to estimate the number of children/orphans infected with HIV. Programme data available under the National Anti-retroviral Programme, 42,106 HIV + children have identified and among them eligible children put on Anti-retroviral Treatment. State wise list is enclosed as Statement.

While the policy under the National AIDS Control Programme Phase-III is to encourage adoption of infected/affected children due to HIV/AIDS, keeping in view the possibility of none being available to take care of such children, setting up of 10 Community Care Centres has been approved for taking up during the current financial year. A Community Care Centre for children is envisaged for 50 children. For each such centre, financial assistance is in

the form of non-recurring assistance of Rs. 4 lakh for renovation and refurbishment, fixed assets and equipment and recurring expenditure for food, medicines, salary of personnel and operational expenses @ Rs. 17.5 lakh per annum.

There have been some complaints regarding discrimination of HIV + children in schools and suitable action has been taken at the local level. Advocacy is being done through media and training to ensure no stigma and discrimination against HIV+patients including children.

Statement

Children registered for ART as on September, 2008

S.No.	State	No. of ART centre	Children ever-registered	Children found eligible and patient on ART
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tamil Nadu	25	6050	1891
2.	Maharashtra	28	9984	3059
3.	Andhra Pradesh	25	9708	2433
4.	Karnataka	27	5713	1642
5.	Manipur	6	1650	388
6.	Nagaland	4	327	62
7.	Delhi	9	1238	403
Total in GFATM States		124	34670	9878
8.	Chandigarh	1	343	145
9.	Rajasthan	4	831	307
10.	Gujarat	6	1450	353
11.	West Bengal	4	410	123
12.	Uttar Pradesh	6	979	314
13.	Goa	1	196	39
14.	Kerala	5	516	167
15.	Himachal Pradesh	1	122	61
16.	Pondicherry	1	90	44
17.	Bihar	4	468	86
18.	Madhya Pradesh	3	389	148
19.	Assam	3	74	17

1	2	3	4	5
20	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2	0
21	Mizoram	1	73	22
22	Punjab	3	512	161
23	Sikkim	1	1	1
24	Jharkhand	2	186	32
25	Haryana	1	241	45
26	Uttarakhand	1	67	24
27	Jammu and Kashmir	2	54	27
28	Orissa	1	283	32
29	Chhattisgarh	1	145	89
30	Tripura	1	0	1
31	Meghalaya	1	4	1
Total in Non-GFATM States		55	7436	2238
Total patients in NACO Centres		179	42106	12116

Forest Land in the Country

*74. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of forest land in the country, State-wise during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether any special scheme is being implemented for the States, having less forest land, to bring them at par with the level of national average;

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

(d) the estimated amount likely to be spent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) The extent of land described in the government records as forests is 7,69,626 sq. kms. as per the State of Forest Report - 2005. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, there is no special scheme being implemented for States having less forest land to bring them at par with the level of national average.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Statement***Details of recorded forest areas in the country*****(area in sq. kms.)**

State/UT	RF	PF	UF	Total	% of geo area
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	50479	12365	977	63,821	23.20
Arunachal Pradesh	10546	9528	31466	51,540	61.55
Assam	17864	0	8968	26,832	34.21
Bihar	693	5779	1	6,473	6.87
Chhattisgarh	25782	24036	9954	59,772	44.21
Delhi	78	7	0	85	5.73
Goa	237	0	987	1,224	33.07
Gujarat	14067	696	4199	18,962	9.07
Haryana	249	1158	152	1,559	3.53
Himachal Pradesh	1896	33043	2094	37,033	66.52
Jammu and Kashmir	17643	2551	36	20,230	9.10
Jharkhand	4387	19185	33	23,605	29.61
Karnataka	28690	3931	5663	38,284	19.96
Kerala	11123	142	0	11,265	28.99
Madhya Pradesh	61886	31098	1705	94,689	30.72
Maharashtra	49226	8195	4518	61939	20.13
Manipur	1467	4171	11780	17418	78.01
Meghalaya	1112	12	8372	9496	42.34
Mizoram	7909	3568	5240	16717	79.30
Nagaland	86	508	8628	9222	55.62
Orissa	26329	15525	16282	58136	37.34
Punjab	44	1137	1903	3084	6.12
Rajasthan	11860	17652	2976	32488	9.49
Sikkim	5452	389	0	5841	82.31
Tamil Nadu	19368	2183	1306	22877	17.59
Tripura	4175	2	2117	6294	60.02
Uttar Pradesh	11509	1837	3450	16796	6.97
Uttaranchal	24638	9862	131	34651	64.79

1	2	3	4	5	6
West Bengal	7054	3772	1053	11879	13.38
Andaman and Nicobar	2929	4242	0	7171	86.93
Chandigarh	31	0	2	33	28.95
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	199	5	0	204	41.55
Daman and Diu	0	6	0	6	5.72
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4,19,028	2,166,05	1,33,993	7,69,626	23.41

Source : State of Forest Report - 2005, FSI

National Sports Policy

*75. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any national policy for sports;

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

(c) the time by which the said sports policy is likely to be formulated and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M. S. GILL) : (a) National Sports Policy, 2001 is in operation. At present, there is no proposal to formulate a new policy for sports.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Implementation of RTI Act

*76. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to set up any committee to study the Right to Information (RTI) Act in a new perspective to plug the loopholes in the implementation of the RTI Act;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study to know if the Central Information Commission (CIC) is serving the purpose for which it has been created;

(d) If so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome of the study; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the supply of information to the general public to make the RTI Act more meaningful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government has taken several steps to expedite the supply of information to the general public. These include training of the public information officers, publication of the particulars of the public information officers and the appellate authorities, disclosures of information under section 4 of the Act, creation of central points within the public authorities to receive applications and appeals, issuance of guidelines for the information seekers, public information officers, appellate authorities, public authorities, etc. Steps have also been taken to create awareness about the Act by holding seminars, workshops, conferences etc. at the State level also.

Acquisition of Shipping Vessels

*77. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to acquire a large number of ships and shipping vessels to lift cargo for export purposes;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which these ships/vessels are likely to be acquired?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD, TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) and (b) Under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP). Shipping Corporation of India has planned for acquisition of 76 new vessels as per details given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The estimated cost of these vessels is Rs. 15,000 crores.

(d) Out of the 76 new vessels planned for acquisition by SCI under NMDP, till date SCI has placed order for 34 vessels out of which 2 vessels have already been delivered, 3 vessels are scheduled for delivery very soon and remaining 29 vessels would be delivered in a phased manner between the year 2009 and 2012. The remaining 42 vessels are proposed to be acquired in the remaining part of the 11th Plan period.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Project	Nos.	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Very Large Crude Oil Carriers	2	Vessels delivered
2.	Very Large Crude Oil Carriers	2	Contract signed
3.	LR-I Product Tankers	6	Contract signed
4.	4,400 TEU Vessels	2	Contract signed
5.	MR Product Tankers	2	Contract signed
6.	LR-II Product Tankers	2	Contract signed
7.	Aframax Tankers	4	Contract signed
8.	Anchor Handling, Towing & Supply Vessels	4	Contract signed
9.	Handymax Bulk Carriers	6	Contract signed
10.	Panamax Bulk Carriers	4	Contract signed
11.	Capesize Bulk Carriers	4	Under process
12.	Very Large Crude Oil Carriers	4	Under process
13.	5,000 TEU Container Vessels	2	

1	2	3	4
14.	Chemical Carriers	4	
15.	LPG Carriers	2	
16.	Chemical Carriers	4	These projects would be processed during the remaining period of the 11th Plan
17.	Handymax Bulk Carriers	4	
18.	MR Lighterage/Product Tankers	2	
19.	Suezmax Tankers	2	
20.	Panamax Bulk Carriers	4	
21.	Handysize Bulk Carriers	4	
22.	5,000 TEU Container Vessels	2	
23.	Anchor handling, Towing & Supply Vessels	4	
Total		76	

[Translation]

Conversion of Four-Lane NHs Into Eight-Lane

*78. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to convert the four-laned National Highways into eight-laned National Highways;

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

(c) the percentage of the four-laned, six-laned and eight landed National Highways to that of the total length of National Highways as on date, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the National Highways where work has not started even after receiving the sanction alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to convert four-laned National Highway into eight-laned National Highways. However, some stretches of certain National Highways have been widened to eight lanes as per traffic requirements.

(c) The State-wise details of the percentage of four-landed, six-landed and eight-landed National Highways to that of the total length of National Highways are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) One work of widening from four-lanes to eight-lanes from km 5.7 to km 6.8 of NH-24 in Delhi, which was sanctioned in January, 2008, has not started and tenders have been received for this work.

Statement

The State-wise details of the percentage of four-landed, six-landed and eight landed National Highways (NH) to that length of National Highways

Sl.No.	Name of State	Percentage of total NH length in State		
		4-Lane NH	6-Lane NH	8-Lane NH
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	35%		
2	Assam	1%		
3	Bihar	9%		
4	Chandigarh	47%	53%	
5	Chhattisgarh	2%		
6	Delhi	26.5%	30%	43.5%
7	Goa	10%		
8	Gujarat	43%	1%	
9	Haryana	26%	3%	1%
10	Jammu and Kashmir	2%		
11	Jharkhand	10%		
12	Karnataka	18%		
13	Kerala	4%		
14	Madhya Pradesh	6%		
15	Maharashtra	25%		
16	Manipur	2%		
17	Orissa	11%		
18	Puducherry	7%		
19	Punjab	20%		

1	2	3	4	5
20	Rajasthan	28%	2%	
21	Tamil Nadu	26%		
22	Uttar Pradesh	20%		
23	Uttarakhand	0.4%		
24	West Bengal	16%		

Development of Villages through Panchayati Raj System

*79. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO
RENGE PATIL :
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI
SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether a balanced development of villages have failed to take place through Panchayati Raj System due to various reasons including the alleged discriminatory partisan attitude of the members in several Panchayats;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for ensuring balanced development of villages and also putting a check on the misuse of funds of the Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER) : (a) to (c) The institution of Gram Sabha in a Gram Panchayat area provides a good check on possible partisan attitude of members of the Gram Panchayat. In general, the State Legislatures have vested the Gram Sabhas with the powers to consider, as also to make recommendations and suggestions to the Gram Panchayat, in respect of the following matters:

- (i) selection of schemes, beneficiaries and locations.
- (ii) the annual statement of accounts of the Gram Panchayat and report of the audit of such accounts;
- (iii) the report of the administration of the Gram Panchayat relating to the preceding financial year;
- (iv) the promotion of unity and harmony among all sections of society in the village.

Panchayats are subject to normal accounting and auditing system. States have made provisions regarding financial control and audit in their Panchayati Raj legislations and have also framed rules about maintenance of budget

and accounts. States are being encouraged to adopt the Technical Guidance and Supervision (TGS) model developed by C & AG for strengthening the accounting and auditing system for Panchayats.

De-Salination of Sea Water

*80. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether de-salination of sea-water is possible by application of nuclear technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up any project in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the estimated cost of conversion of water per litre; and

(f) the mechanism evolved by the Government to ensure the cost effectiveness of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) De-salination of sea water is possible by using either Reverse Osmosis (RO) or Thermal processes. Electrical and/or thermal energy from atomic power station or nuclear research reactor can be used for this purpose.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) BARC has developed desalination plants based on both RO as well as thermal processes. RO plants have capacities ranging from five thousand litres per day to eighteen lakh litres per day. Multi Stage Flash (MSF) evaporation based thermal process has been demonstrated up to the level of four lakh litres per day and a MSF plant with capacity of forty five lakh litre per day is under construction.

(e) The cost of conversion of seawater into potable water using the above technologies varies between 5 to 10 paise/litre for a 5 MLD plant using RO and MSF technology respectively at an electricity tariff of Rs. 3 per KWh.

(f) When large scale plants are built, the economy in scale will provide further reduction in cost. BARC has also taken up R & D Projects on desalination and water purification technologies for development of cost reduction strategies through technological innovations. Some of these projects are:

(i) Development of Members for RO Process

(ii) Advanced Desalination Technology Studies

(iii) Solar driven desalination systems

(iv) Experimental studies for recovery of valuables from brine

[English]

Survey on Poverty

623. SHRI E. DAYAKAR RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the recent National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) survey the rate of reduction in urban poverty was far lower than that of rural poverty;

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof during the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage and number of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level, separately in rural and urban areas from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years following the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group of Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor. The latest estimate of the percentage and number of persons living below the poverty line is available for the year 2004-05 based on the large sample survey of consumer expenditure data of the 61st Round of NSS. As such, the poverty estimates in rural and urban areas for the last three year and the current year are not available. The two latest comparable estimates of poverty in rural and urban areas, available for the year 1993-94 (estimated from NSS 50th Round Consumer expenditure data) and 2004-05 (estimated from NSS 61st Round expenditure data) are given below.

Percentage of Poor
(as Estimated by the Planning Commission)

Year	Rural	Urban
1993-94	37.3	32.4
2004-05	28.3	25.7

During the period 1993-94 to 2004-05, the poverty ratio reduced on an average by 0.8% point per year in the rural areas and 0.6% point per year in the urban areas. Higher population growth in the urban areas, caused largely by the migration of poorer persons from rural areas, may be identified as the likely reasons behind slower decline in the rate of reduction of urban poverty as compared to rural.

(c) The Eleventh Five Year Plan has set the growth target for the economy at 9% per year for the Plan period (2007-12) and aims at putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory with a growth of approximately 10% by the end of its period. The central vision of the Eleventh Plan is to trigger a development process, which ensures broad based improvement in the quality of life of the people, especially the poor, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, minorities, etc. The Government is implementing a number of anti-poverty programmes, such as wage employment and asset generation programmes to raise the income of poor, in addition to the income generated from the general growth process. In alleviating poverty and improving the standard of living of the poor, the Swarn Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana is being implemented in the urban areas. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) aims at ensuring basic services for the urban poor. The Eleventh Plan has the following objectives for urban poverty alleviation : (i) to provide affordable shelter and decent living and working conditions, (ii) to help in developing self-employment enterprises and job creation for the wage employment earners.

Externally Funded Project in NE States

624. SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI : Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects being run in the North Eastern States including Sikkim with the assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB);

(b) the details of States from North Eastern Region (NER) which have sought assistance from the ADB and WB for the future projects; and

(c) the amount of funds received by each of the State in NER from the ADB and WB?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR) : (a) to (c) The ADB World Bank pipeline proposals in the northeast region processed in the Ministry for Development of Northeastern Region are as follows:

1. ADB Assisted North Eastern State Trade and Investment Creation Initiative (NESTICI) project is scheduled for the year 2011 at an amount of \$100 million.
2. ADB assisted North Eastern States Road Project (NESRP) proposal is scheduled for 2010 at a cost of \$ 200 million.
3. ADB assisted North Eastern Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Management Project for Assam (NEIFREMP) project proposal at a cost of \$120 million is scheduled by end of 2009.
4. ADB assisted North Eastern Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Management Project for Arunachal Pradesh (NEIFREMP), Technical Assistance project proposal at a cost of \$ 80 million is scheduled in 2010.
5. World Bank assisted North Eastern Region Livelihood Project (NERLP), which is at the detailed project preparation stage for which a project preparation facility of \$1.215 million has been loaned by the World Bank to the Ministry of DONER.

Indians Languishing in Jails in Gulf Countries

625. SHRIMATI C. S. SUJATHA : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian nationals are languishing in jails in Gulf countries, being victims of recruitment agencies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the release of these people?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (c) As reported by the Indian Missions in the Gulf countries, cases of Indian nationals who are victims of Recruitment of Agencies being in jails have not come to their notice.

Projects under Public Private Partnership

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

(a) the number of projects undertaken in different sectors under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) along with the benefits accrued therefrom;

(b) the status of skilled and trained manpower available in Private and Government Sectors for deployment to ensure successful completion/execution of these projects;

(c) whether the Government proposes to encourage Public Private Partnership projects in different sectors and to have training programmes for Government officials deputed to PPP projects; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) In 2006-07, 32 PPP projects with an envisaged investment of Rs. 14,258.21 crore were received and appraised by PPP Appraisal Committee. During the year 2007-08, 24 PPP projects with an investment of Rs. 21,608.24 crore in roads, ports and power were appraised.

(b) In the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the thrust will be on creating a pool of skilled personnel in appropriate numbers with adequate skills, in line with the requirements of the ultimate users such as the industry, trade and service sectors.

(c) The Eleventh Five Year Plan recognizes that since various social sectors and livelihood support programmes for the poor would have first charge on public resources, the strategy for infrastructure development has been designed to rely as much as possible on private sector investment through various forms of Public Private Partnership.

(d) The Planning Commission is taking various steps including organizing training programmes for capacity building for Government officials deputed in PPP projects. The Planning Commission is organizing a training Programme at IIM, Ahmedabad from 17th November 2008 for senior officers from central/state Governments.

[Translation]

Encroachment on Forest Land

627. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether forest land are being used for other purposes;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a need to amend the existing laws to prevent encroachment on forest land; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Forest land can be diverted for non-forestry use under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. About 11.59 lakh hectares of forest land has been diverted for 18,080 developmental projects upto 30th September, 2008.

(c) and (d) There are sufficient provisions under various Acts/Rules/Guidelines such as section-35 of the Indian Forest Act 1927, relevant sections of State Forest Acts, Guideline dated 18.9.90 under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to prevent encroachment on forest land.

[English]

Four-Laning of National Highways in Maharashtra

628. SHRI VASANTRAO MORE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going four-lane projects of National Highways in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government has sanctioned four-laning proposal of National-Highway No. 6 from Dhule to Bhusawal;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the current status of the work on the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) The Statement is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Bids are likely to be invited for carrying out the feasibility study for four laning of this section of NH-6 during the current year.

Statement

Status of ongoing projects in Maharashtra

S.No.	Stretch	NH No.	Length	Length completed	Present cost (Rs. in crore)	Present status	Completion date (estimated completion date)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NHDP Phase II (Port Connectivity)							
1.	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Phase II	SH 54	14.35	12	143	Under implementation	Dec. 2008

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NHDP Phase II (North South Corridor)							
2.	Borkhedi-Jam (NS-22/MH)	7	27.4	22.25	110	Under implementation	March, 2009
3.	Jam-Wadner (NS-59/MH)	7	30	20.92	145	Under implementation	March, 2009
4.	Butibori ROB/NS-29/MH)	7	1.8	0	26	Under implementation	November, 2008
5.	Wadner-Devdhari (NS-60-MH)	7	29	0	145	Under implementation	June, 2009
6.	Devdhari-Kelapur (NS-61/MH)	7	30	20.92	144	Under implementation	March, 2009
7.	Kelapur-Pimpal Khatti (NS-62)	7	22	0	117.4	Under implementation	June, 2009
NHDP Phase III							
8.	Kondhali-Telegaon	6	50	50	212	Under implementation	March, 2009
9.	Dhule-Pimpalgaon	3	118	104	556	Under implementation	March, 2009
10.	Gonde-Vadape (Thane)	3	100	43	579	Under implementation	April, 2009
11.	Nagpur-Kondhali	6	40	12.5	168	Under implementation	December, 2008
12.	Chhattisgarh/Maharashtra Border-Wainganga Bridge	6	80.055	0	424	Under implementation	October, 2010
Other projects							
13.	Construction of four lane missing link from Zarap to Patradevi on NH-17 in Maharashtra	17	21.5	0	183.43	Under implementation	October, 2010

[Translation]

Bharat Nirman Yojana

629. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets set and the achievements made three against under the Bharat Nirman Yojana (BNY) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether non-allocation of funds is a major hurdle in achieving the target under the scheme ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure success and achievement of the targets under the BNY Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) the details of targets set and achievements made during the last three years, and in the current year are give in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The year-wise budgetary allocations made are as under.

Year	Budget Allocation for Bharat Nirman Schemes (Rs. crore)
2005-06	12160.00
2006-07	18696.00
2007-08	24603.00
2008-09	31280.00

(d) Bharat Nirman Yojana is being reviewed by the respective Ministers, Planning Commission and Committee on Rural Infrastructure for ensuring its success and achieving the targets.

Statement

Component	Target for 4 years 2005-2009	Target for three years 2005-2008	Achievement in three years 2005-2008	Target for 2008-09	Achievement reported in 2008-09
Irrigation (In million hectare)	10	7.15	5.00	2.85	Expected to be available by December 2008
Drinking Water (Number of habitations)	6,03,639	2,84,889	3,85,353	2,19,783	46,567
Roads					
(a) Habitations	66802	43,235	20,871	18,100	1,948
(b) Up-gradation and new connectivity in Km	3,40,316	2,20,044	1,46,905	87,940	16,656
Housing Number of houses	60 lakh	51.01 lakh	50.41 lakh	21.27	6.82
Electrification Number of villages	125000	90,366	48,176	25,000	3,114
Number of BPL household	230 lakh	80 lakh	22.94 lakh	60 lakh	12.49 lakh
Telephone connectivity Number of villages	66822	40093*	51973	26729 \$	3108

*Target from Dec 2004 to November 2006

\$Target from Dec 2007 to August 2008

*[English]***Transfer of Money by Nizam of Hyderabad**

630. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Minister of the then Nizam of Hyderabad had transferred a million pounds to National Westminster Bank of London, which were further transferred to the account of Pakistan High Commission in the same bank;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith its current value; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to bring back this money to the country?

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

(b) On 20th September 1948 an amount of over

one million Pound Sterling ((1,007,940 Pound Sterling and 9 Shillings) from an account of the Nizam of Hyderabad's Government in National Westminster Bank, London, was transferred into an account in the name of the then High Commissioner of Pakistan in London. The transfer was without the consent of the Nizam's Government. The fund stood at Pound sterling 31,966, 253.77 (Pound Sterling thirty one million nine hundred sixty six thousand two hundred and fifty three and Shillings seventy-seven only) in January 2008 and has been redeposited.

(c) From 1960 onwards, the issue has been discussed at various levels with Pakistan. India and Pakistan are making efforts to reach an out-of-court settlement with the heirs of the Nizam of Hyderabad.

Sunder Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management

631. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :
SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE :
Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the action taken on the recommendations of the Sunder Committee on road safety and traffic management;

(b) whether the Government proposes to create National Road Safety and Traffic Management Boards as recommended by the Committee;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has also created Road Safety Fund;

(e) If so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the funds have been utilised since its inception including the number of organisations benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) The Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, former Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport, submitted its report 20.2.2007, inter-alia, recommending creation of the National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board and also creation of a dedicated fund namely 'National Road Safety Fund'. The Committee of Secretaries (CoS) in its meeting held on 4.3.2008 has in-principle accepted the proposal for creation of the Board recommended by Sunder Committee. As directed by the CoS, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) headed by Secretary (Expenditure) has been requested for consideration of the proposal for creation of the Board and also the National Road Safety Fund.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of (d) above.

Welfare Fund for Emigrants

632. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL :
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established a welfare fund for the benefit of emigrants;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released and utilised therefrom so far;

(d) whether there is any scheme for upgrading the skills of emigrants to enhance their prospects; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (c) A proposal to establish an 'Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF)' to provide funding support to the Indian Missions in the Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) Countries for the welfare of the workers who are in distress is under the consideration of the Government. The details of the Scheme are being finalized.

(d) and (e) The Ministry has undertaken a Scheme for Skill Up-gradation and Pre-departure Orientation of Prospective emigrant workers. The objective of the Scheme is to upgrade the skills of the Indian workers. The objective of the Scheme is to upgrade the skills of the Indian workers and equip them with the basic knowledge about laws, language and culture of the destination Countries with a view to enhance their prospects in the overseas employment market and to enable them to move up in the wage chain. The Scheme is being implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), select State Governments, apex Industrial Associations and leading NGOs in the field. The Ministry is extending financial assistance @ Rs. 5000/- per trainee to these implementing Agencies.

Inspection of Factories and Mills by CPCB

633. SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has inspected factories and mills causing environmental pollution in different States during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of companies, mills and factories which have been found violating the environment norms; and

(d) the action taken against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the environment surveillance programme is undertaking surprise inspections of industries for monitoring compliance to the prescribed standards for pollution control. 465 number of inspections have been carried out by CPCB during last three years. The State-wise, year-wise details of the inspection are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The number of units found violating the pollution control norms, year-wise is as under :

Year	Number of violating Industries
2005-06	74
2006-07	140
2007-08	62

(d) The action taken against the violating industries include :

- (i) Issuance of directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act 1986.
- (ii) Issuance of directions under Section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards/Committees.
- (iii) During the last three years closure directions have been issued in respect of 102 units i.e. 64 units in 2005-06, 26 units in 2006-07 and 12 units in 2007-08.

Statement

Statewise inspections carried out during the last three years

Sl.No.	State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	8	6
2	Assam	0	1	9
3	Bihar	6	0	4
4	Chhattisgarh	2	4	6
5	Goa	0	0	5
6	Gujarat	11	134	9
7	Haryana	1	1	15
8	Himachal Pradesh	2	3	2
9	Jammu and Kashmir	0	1	4
10	Jharkhand	7	4	7
11	Karnataka	1	2	3
12	Kerala	0	1	3
13	Madhya Pradesh	4	3	6
14	Maharashtra	6	4	18

1	2	3	4	5
15	Meghalaya	0	1	0
16	Orissa	5	3	12
17	Punjab	0	0	2
18	Rajasthan	6	0	16
19	Tamil Nadu	0	16	10
20	Tripura	0	0	4
21	Uttaranchal	0	10	3
22	Uttar Pradesh	5	9	2
23	West Bengal	21	9	8
24	Chandigarh	0	12	0
25	Daman	3	0	2
26	Delhi	0	0	3
Total		80	226	159

[Translation]

Golden Triangle Scheme for Ayurveda

634. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce golden triangle scheme for research in Ayurveda;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate any scheme for improvement in the quality and the clinical trial of existing Ayurvedic medicines;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of funds allocated for the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The Government is implementing the Golden Triangle Partnership Scheme since 2004.

(b) The scheme aims at setting up an Integrated Technology Mission for the development of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic system based on synchronized working of modern medicine, traditional medicine and modern science, through a trilateral partnership between Department of AYUSH/Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR). The objectives of the scheme are :

- i. Undertake scientific validation and development of safe, effective and standardized Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU and H) products for identified disease conditions and to develop new products effective in disease conditions of national/global importance.
- ii. Utilize appropriate technologies for development of single and polyherbal products to make them globally acceptable.
- iii. Promote collaborative research on AYUSH with modern medicine/modern science institutions.

(c) and (d) to ensure the quality of ASU & H drugs, the following steps have been taken :

- * The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Quality Control of ASU & H drugs is being implemented by the Department. Under this scheme 29 drugs Testing Laboratories and 46 Pharmacies in the Government sector and 48 GMP manufacturing unit in the private sector have been provided financial assistance in the Xth Plan for setting up modern state of the art equipment for testing and manufacture off ASU&H drugs. In the XI Plan financial assistance to the tune of 30% of expenditure incurred (limited to Rs. 30.00 lakhs) is being provided to manufacturing units desirous of establishing or upgrading their in-house quality control labs.
- * Under the Central Sector Scheme for 'Development of AYUSH Industry Clusters' financial assistance is envisaged for setting up common testing facilities for a cluster of manufacturing units in the small and medium sector. Assistance would be restricted to 60% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crores.
- * The 'Golden Triangle Partnership' scheme has a component of clinical trial which will be conducted in collaboration with CMR using integrated protocols at different selected centres (Ayurveda and Modern Medicine) throughout the country.

(e) The following allocations have been made during the XI Plan.

- * Golden Triangle scheme - Rs. 75.00 crores.
- * Scheme of Quality Control of ASU & H Drugs - Rs. 225.00 crores.
- * Development of AYUSH Industry Clusters Rs. 100 crores.

Proposals Regarding Ecological Balance

635. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise details of the proposals on ecological balance pending with the Government for approval during the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) the schemes which have been accorded approval by the Government in this regard during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the details of the cost involved and the manner in which these schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) There is no specific scheme as "ecological balance" under implementation by the Ministry and hence no proposals is pending with the Ministry.

(b) and (c) However, a scheme named "Eco-Development Forces" is being implementation by the Ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence. The 'Eco-Development Forces' scheme aims at Ecological restoration of terrains rendered difficult either due to severe degradation or remote location or difficult law and order situation. The Scheme provides reimbursement of expenditure incurred to the Ministry of Defence towards overhead cost of Eco Development Force deployed at different strategic stations for Afforestation work and tree planting in remote areas through engagement of personnel from regular Army/Territorial Army and Ex-Servicemen personnel. State-wise details of the financial assistance provided under the EDF scheme during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

Setting up of 2 new EDFs in Assam has recently been approved.

Statement

State-wise details of Amount Released during the last three years to various Battalions

(Rs. Lakh)				
Year	2005— 06	2006— 07	2007— 08	2009— 09*
1	2	3	4	5
State				
Uttarakhand (Batt. 127 & 130)	371.93	338.91	470.38	79.14
Rajasthan (Batt. 128)	360.14	291.14	347.69	208.08

1	2	3	4	5
Jammu & Kashmir (Batt. 129)	125.77	88.73	140.02	74.09
Total	857.84	718.78	958.09	361.31

* Expenditure as on 20.10.2008

Eco-friendly Organisms

636. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether eco-friendly organisms are decreasing in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect eco-friendly organisms to maintain ecological balance and also to protect environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) There is no recognized term called 'eco-friendly organisms'. All organisms have a role to play in the environment. A number of steps are being taken by the Government to maintain ecological balance and to protect environment which include policy, legislative and institutional measures.

Scrutiny of Allocation of Coal Blocks by the Steering Committee

637. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI : will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has allocated the coal blocks, which were under the scrutiny of the Steering Committee to various steel companies; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) and (b) There is no Steering Committee for scrutiny of coal blocks allocation. However, there is an Inter-Ministerial and Inter-Governmental Committee called the Screening Committee, which screens the applications received for allocation of captive coal blocks and makes its recommendations for allocation of coal blocks to eligible companies. Block allocation is a continuous process and meeting of Screening Committee are held from time to time as and when coal blocks are offered for allotment. The last meeting (36th Meeting) of the Screening Committee was held on 3rd July, 2008. On the recommendations of the 36th meeting of the Screening

Committee, Government have taken a decision with regard to allotment of blocks.

[English]

Environment Clearance for Sidhumber Irrigation Scheme

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

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted proposal for reconsideration to the Union Government for Environment Clearance for Sidhumber Irrigation Scheme of Dharampur Taluka in Valsad (Gujarat); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal?

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

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

Ecologically Sustainable Policy for Himalayan Region

639. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes an ecologically sustainable policy for Himalayan region;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefit that are likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Gobind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development (GBPIED), and autonomous institute of Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), with headquarters at Almora, Uttarakhand and four regional units at Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Srinagar-Garwal (Uttarakhand), Pangthang (Sikkim) and Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh) is acknowledge as a focal agency, to advance scientific knowledge, to evolve integrated management strategies, demonstrate their efficacy for conservation of natural resources and to ensure environmentally sound development in the entire Indian Himalayan Region (IHR). In addition, a National Mission for sustaining the Himalayan ecosystem has been set up under the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

(c) As a result of the work of the GBPIED the benefits interalia include restoration and rehabilitation

Packages for degraded lands, watershed management, water resource development, impact assessment and mitigation plans for hydropower projects, solid waste management, mountain risk engineering, disaster risk reduction, sustainable livelihoods and capacity building.

**External Affairs Minister's
visit to Australia**

640. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether he recently visited Australia;
- (b) If so, the main objective of the visit; and
- (c) the details of the agreements signed with Australia during his visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Minister of External Affairs visited Australia on June 23, 2008.

(b) EAM visited Canberra for the Fifth Round of India-Australia Foreign Minister's Framework Dialogue. During the visit, he met Australian Foreign Minister as well as Prime Minister and discussed bilateral and international issues of importance. The visit provided opportunity to take stock of the existing bilateral relations and strengthen the ties in diverse fields.

(c) During the visit, Extradition Treaty and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty were signed.

Academic Standards in Dental Colleges

641. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Dental Council of India has expressed deep concern over decline in the academic standards of dental colleges in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for upgrading the standards of the Dental Colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS) : (a) to (c) There is acute shortage of teaching faculty, causing concern. In order to overcome this problem and also in the interest of maintaining the highest standards of dental education in the country, the Central Government, on the recommendations of the Dental Council of India, allowed the engagement of teaching faculty between the ages of 65 to 70 for the teaching posts.

Further, as per revised MDS Course Regulations, 2007, part-time teaching faculty are also eligible provided they put in four hours a day and can have only one PG student under them.

The Dental Council of India conducts inspections of the Dental Colleges from time to time for verification of the teaching and infrastructural facilities to ensure that the minimum facilities are available in dental colleges.

Negotiations with NSG Countries

642. SHRI BHAI LAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has stated any negotiations with Nuclear Supply Group (NSG) countries;
- (b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the countries with which such negotiations have been initiated;
- (c) whether any NSG countries came forward with supply of reactors and nuclear fuel; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In order to increase the share of nuclear energy in the overall energy mix of the country, it is necessary to augment the limited domestic Uranium supplies either through indigenous resources or through imports. India has therefore been in dialogue with members of Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) like US, France and Russia to open up civil nuclear trade with India. India has signed a cooperation agreement with the Government of French Republic on the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy on 30.09.2008. India has also signed an agreement for cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America concerning peaceful uses of nuclear energy on 10.10.2008. India has also initiated an agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on cooperation in the construction of additional nuclear power plant units at Kudankulam site as well as in the construction of additional nuclear power plant units at sites in the Republic of India. India is also in the process of pursuing civil nuclear cooperation with other countries which may be interested in the developing such cooperation with India.

*[Translation]***Construction of By-Passes and Bridges**

643. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of construction work of by-passes and bridges on the East-West corridor including Kota by-pass in Rajasthan alongwith the amount spent therein;

(b) the details of remaining work and amount to be spent therein;

(c) the reasons for delay in the completion; and

(d) the time by which these works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD, TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Most of bypasses and bridges being constructed under the East West Corridor project are

being constructed as part of various civil work construction packages, which includes roads also. Being part of civil construction package, separate costs for such works are not being indicated. Details of bypasses and major bridges under construction in the East West Corridor are given in the enclosed Statement.

Kota bypass also includes construction of a Cable Stayed Bridge over river Chambal, which has been taken up as a separate package. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 340 crore. The physical progress in this project is 18% and the expenditure incurred till now is Rs. 78.6 crore. Delay has occurred in the project mainly because work could commence in full swing only after final forest clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest.

(c) and (d) Work has been delayed in the East West Corridor due to problems associated with land acquisition, shifting of utilities, delay in obtaining clearances for cutting of trees, and adverse law and order problems etc. The East West corridor stretches are likely to be substantially completed by December, 2009.

Statement*Details of bypass under construction in the East West Corridor*

Sl.No.	State	Bypass	NH No.	Date of anticipated completion
1	2	3	4	5
1	Assam	Under bondh bypass (3.11 km)	54	Jun-09
2	Assam	Nagaon bypass (15.836 km)	37	Jun-09
3	Assam	Balhata Chariali bypass (1.58 km)	31	Jun-09
4	Assam	Daboka bypass (4.2 km)	54	Jun-09
5	Assam	Maibong bypass (3.35 km)	54	Dec-09
6	Assam	Lumding bypass (2.00 km)	54	Dec-09
7	Assam	Mahour bypass (2.00 km)	54	Dec-09
8	Assam	Lanka bypass (5.25 km)	54	Sep-10
9	UP	Gorakhpur bypass (km 279.80-251.70)	28	Oct-09
10	UP	Ramasaneha Ghat bypass (6.6 km)	28	Dec-09
11	UP	Barabanki bypass (12.40 km)	28	Dec-09
12	UP	Ayodhya bypass (6.05 km)	57	Dec-09
13	UP	Lucknow bypass (22.5 km)	56 A & B	Terminated on 24.03.08
14	UP	Jhansi Bypass (15 km)	25	Dec 09
15	UP	Oral Bypass	25	Dec 09

1	2	3	4	5
16	UP	Chirgaon bypass (7.035)	25	Dec 09
17	Bihar	Moth bypass	25	Dec 09
18	Bihar	Muzaffarpur bypass (10 km)	28 & 57	Dec 09
19	Bihar	Darbhanga bypass (9.1 km)	57	Dec 09
20	Bihar	Jhangharpur Bypass (10.7 km)	57	Dec-09
21	Bihar	Forbesganj bypass (4.95 km)	57	Dec-09
22	West Bengal	Islampur bypass (10.31 km)	31	Dec-09
23	Madhya Pradesh	Shivpuri bypass (23.879 km)	76	Oct. 08
24	Rajasthan	Pindwara bypass (5.45 km)	76	Dec 08
25	Rajasthan	Jashwantgarh (3.5 km)	76	Dec. 08
26	Rajasthan	Udaipur bypass (19.724 km)	76	Dec. 08
27	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh bypass (17.3)	76	Dec. 08
28	Rajasthan	Kota bypass (25 km)	76	Dec.09
29	Rajasthan	Anta bypass (5.10 km)	76	June 09
30	Rajasthan	Baran bypass (15.5 km)	76	June 09
31	Gujarat	Upleta bypass (8.00 km)	88	Nov. 08

Details of Major Bridges under Construction in the East-West Corridor

Sl.No.	State	Name of bridge/location	NH No.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1	Assam	Bridge over Dipro Nala (km 189.102)	54 (E)	In progress
2	Assam	Bridge over river Dolu (km 282.065)	54(E)	In progress
3	Assam	Bridge over river Madura (km 300.717)	54(E)	In progress
4	Assam	Bridge at km 113.678	54	In progress
5	Assam	Bridge at km 116.675	54	In progress
6	Assam	Bridge at km 95.850	54	In progress
7	Assam	Bridge at km 97.225	54	In progress
8	Assam	Bridge at km 110.650	54	In progress
9	Assam	Bridge at km 110.850	54	In progress
10	Assam	Bridge at km 44.950	54	In progress
11	Assam	Bridge at km 51.645	54	In progress
12	Assam	Bridge at km 57.400	54	In progress
13	Assam	Bridge at km 216.422	37	In progress

1	2	3	4	5
14	Assam	Bridge at km 220.089	37	In progress
15	Assam	Bridge at km 231.076	37	In progress
16	Assam	Bridge at km 250.786	37	In progress
17	Assam	Bridge at km 252.807	37	In progress
18	Assam	Bridge at km 254.316	37	In progress
19	Assam	Kallang bridge at km 3.865	37	In progress
20	Assam	Bridge on km 2.012 on Daboka bypass	54	In progress
21	Assam	Pagladia bridge (km 1066+300)	31	In progress
22	Assam	Sessa bridge (km 1068+329)	31	In progress
23	Assam	Baralia bridge (km 1083+685)	31	In progress
24	Assam	Puthimari bridge (km 1092+428)	31	In progress
25	Assam	Buradia bridge (km 1059+805)	31	In progress
26	Assam	Pahumara bridge (km 1025+505)	31	In progress
27	Assam	Digaru river (km 183+675)	37	In progress
28	Assam	Katakalia bridge (km 184+500)	37	In progress
29	Assam	Brahmaputra river bridge (km 1121-1126)	31	In progress
30	Assam	Harafuta bridge (km 1.335)	31C	In progress
31	Assam	Garufela bridge (km 22.275)	31C	In progress
32	Assam	Lange bridge (km 41.241)	31C	In progress
33	Assam	Sapkata bridge (km 45.133)	31C	In progress
34	Assam	Sapkata bridge (km 45.470)	31C	In progress
35	Assam	Saralbhanga bridge (km 46.846)	31C	In progress
36	Assam	Hela bridge (km 34.00)	31C	In progress
37	Assam	Champa bridge (km 62.830)	31C	In progress
38	Assam	Aie River bridge (km 963.894)	31C	In progress
39	Assam	Manas River bridge (km 75.233)	31C	In progress
40	Assam	Bhaiukdoba river bridge (km 988.304)	31	In progress
41	Assam	Beki River bridge (km 965.95)	31	In progress
42	UP	km 15.554, 72,600, 1.865 & 3.450- Ayodhya bypass, 194.393, 214.449, 241.949, 289.00, 310.00 311.00 328.00 346.00-12 Nos.	28	In progress
43	Bihaar	km 423.00, 443.00 - 2 Nos	28	In progress

1	2	3	4	5
44	Bihar	km 1.375, 3.8, 5.495, 31.575, 35.910, 38.554, 39.662, 061.41, 501.43, 708, 48.3, 0.53, 178, 55. 275, 57.425, 64.60, 66.987, 67.838, 68.825, 94.730, 104.47, 135.35, 144.675, 155-165, 199.032, 210.588, 213.559, 219.163=30 Nos	57	In progress
45	Bihar	9 Nos (km 417, 424.71, 426.59, 428.45, 429.15, 430.59, 432.27, 436.96, 439.10)	31	7 completed, 2 in progress
46	West Begal	6 Nos (km 446, 520.65, 533.12 and ch 0.75, 6.275 & 9.2 of new Islampur bypass	31	1 completed, 5 in progress
47	West Bengal	5 Nos. (km 226.61, 231.70, 240.63, 244.48, 248.17)	31C	In Progress
48	Gujarat	9 Nos Bridge at km. 52/500-117/1000	8B	In progress
49	Gujarat	6 Nos. Bridge at km. 182/600-254/000	8A	In progress
50	Gujarat	8 Nos Bridge at km 281.300- 245/000	15	In progress
51	Gujarat		8A	n progress
52	Gujarat	1 No. Bridge at km 138.800-km 245.000	15	In progress
53	Gujarat	7 Nos. Bridges at km 458.000 - km 372.600	14	In progress
54	Rajasthan	11 Nos. bridges km 249.70-340 of NH 14 km 0.00 to km 104.73	14 & 76	In porgress
55	Rajasthan	2 Nos. bridge km 213-2km 53	76	In progress
56	Rajasthan	3 Nos. bridges km 509-km 579	76	In progress
57	Madhya Pradesh	2 Nos. bridges km 579 - km 610	76 & 25	In progress
58	Madhya Pradesh	1 No. bridge at km 15-km 50	25	In progress
59	Madhya Pradesh	2 Nos. bridges km 50-km 91	25	In progress

**Assistance for Youth and Sports
Programme in Punjab**

644. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released to Punjab for youth and sports programmes during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the proposals submitted by the Punjab State to the Union Government in this regard and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the activities undertaken by the Sports Authority of India and its centres in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) The amount released to Punjab for youth and sports programmes during the last three years and upto date during the current financial year is Rs. 1886.87 lakh.

(b) Out of 30 proposals received from the Government of Punjab, 18 proposals have been considered during the last three years and the current year.

(c) The activities undertaken by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and its centres in Punjab are as under (as on 1.6.2008) :-

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	No. of Centres	No. of Trainees
1.	SAI Training Centre Scheme	4	438
2.	Extension Centres	7	121
3.	Centre of Excellence	1	83
4.	National Sports Talent Contest Scheme	1	20
5.	Adopted Akharas	2	76

[English]

Recognition to Foreign Medical Colleges

645. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recognized some foreign medical colleges recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the facilities available to the students who are willing to pursue education in such foreign medical colleges;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to provide recognition to more foreign medical colleges in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (d) The Government have recognized the Post Graduate medical degrees being awarded by institutions in five countries viz, UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, to encourage the return of Indian doctors working overseas who may have acquired their specialist qualifications in these English speaking countries and also the Indian students desirous of pursuing higher studies abroad. Recognition of foreign medical degree is an ongoing process.

Coal Regulatory Authority

646. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Coal Regulatory Authority;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) to (c) a proposal for setting up of an independent regulatory body coal sector is under consideration of the Govt. Various Committees and expert groups in the past had made recommendations in this regard. Recently, Shankar Committee, which was set up to suggest road map for coal sector, has also suggested for setting up of an independent regulator, considering the large number of new and smaller entrants in the coal sector from private and State level public sector units. A draft Bill on the Coal Regulatory Authority has been prepared and is under inter-Ministerial examination. The said Bill would be introduced in the Parliament after the approval of the competent authority is obtained.

Marine Training Institutes

647. SHRI SURESH ANGADI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is ample scope for employment of youth in Shipping Industry in India and abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are only a few recognized Marine Training Institutes/Marine Officer Training Institutes in the country;

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

(e) whether Government proposes to set up more such Institutes in coastal States of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including the State of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Indian Seafarers (Officers and Ratings) given by Indian National Shipowners' Association (INSA) employed on Indian and foreign flagships as on 2005 are as under :-

Category	Indian Flag Vessels	Foreign Flag Vessels	Total
Officers	8900	18000	26900
Ratings	21000	34000	55000
Total	29900	52000	81900

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There are government training institutes as well as substantial number of approved training institutes in the

private sector imparting pre-sea and post-sea training in engineering and in nautical disciplines. The total number of such institutes is 125. The details are as under :-

Sl. No.	State	Number of training institutes
1	Andhra Pradesh	4
2	Andaman and Nicobar	1
3	Bihar	1
4	Daman and Diu	1
5	Delhi	4
6	Goa	6
7	Kerala	7
8	Maharashtra	48
9	Orissa	2
10	Pondicherry	2
11	Tamil Nadu	26
12	Uttar Pradesh	6
13	Uttaranchal	2
14	West Bengal	15
Total number of training institutes		125

(e) and (f) In 1997, the Government of India allowed the private sector to conduct maritime training courses. Presently, there are 125 Marine Training Institutes in the country which have been approved by Directorate General of Shipping. However, there is no approved marine training institute in Karnataka as Directorate General of Shipping did not receive any proposal in an acceptable form from that State when such Training Institutes were being sanctioned.

Extension of National Service Scheme

648. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT :

DR. K. S. MANOJ :

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to extend the National Service Scheme to High Schools;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to increase the Grant-in-aid for the purpose; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) to (d) Presently, the Government has no proposal to expand the National Service Scheme to High Schools. The Scheme is being continued as per existing parameters within an approved outlay of Rs. 425 crores during the 11th Plan period.

Improving Demographic Status of Tigers

649. SHRI MILIND DEORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal have decided to open their border for the Big Cats;

(b) If so, whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government to improve the demographic status of Tigers in the country;

(c) If so, the salient features of the scheme;

(d) the expenditure to be incurred on the scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (e) No Sir, no such decision has been taken. However, India and Nepal have a joint resolution on biodiversity conservation, which inter alia, includes mutual cooperation in research, training, promoting public awareness and establishing in-country mechanism for control of illegal trade in wild flora and fauna.

Mining in Captive Coal Blocks

650. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal mining companies can undertake mining of coal blocks reserved for captive use;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the perspective planning regarding demand and supply of coal including the indigenous availability of coal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) and (b) An independent coal/lignite mining company can be allocated a captive block on the condition that the entire coal/lignite so mined would

be transferred to an end user company(ies) for their captive consumption in the specified end uses; provided that the said mining company has firm back-to-back tie up with the specified end user company(ies), supported by legally binding and enforceable supply contract/agreement.

(c) As per the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) document, sector-wise projected demand of coal for the terminal year of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-12) is as under :-

S.No.	Sector	Projected Demand (Figures in Million Tonnes)
1.	Coking Coal	
	Steel/Coke Oven/cokeries	27.65
	Steel (Import)	40.85
	Sub-Total	68.50
2.	Non-Coking Coal	
	Power (Utilities)	
	Raw Coal	483.00
	Power (Captive)	
	Raw Coal	57.06
3.	Cement (Including CPPs)	31.90
4.	Sponge Iron/CDI	28.96
5.	Others (Raw coal)	61.68
	Sub-total	662.50
	Total-Raw coal	731.00

To meet the demand of 731.00 million tonne, source-wise indigenous production of coal for the terminal year of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-12) will be as follows :-

Source	Production in million tonnes (Prov.)
Coal India Limited	520.50
Singareni Collieries Company Limited	40.80
Others	118.70
Total Indigenous production	680.00

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Government to augment the indigenous availability of coal :-

- 91 projects were identified in Tenth Five Year Plan in Coal India Limited, out of which 87 projects have been approved.
- Additionally another 125 projects have been identified with capacity of 298 million tonnes in the Eleventh Five Year Plan Period.
- 193 captive coal blocks have been allocated to public and private sector companies from which 104 million tonnes of coal is likely to be produced by the terminal year (2011-12) of the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Essential Drugs in the Hospitals

651. ADV. SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the allocations and availability of essential drugs to treat diseases in the hospitals; and

(b) the State-wise data in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Health being a state subject, no such information is maintained centrally.

In so far as three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi, namely, Dr. R.M.L., Safdarjung and Lady Hardings Medical College & its associated hospitals are concerned, there is no separate budget allocation for essential drugs and medicines and the expenditure on essential drugs etc. are incurred from the total budget allocation of the respective hospitals. Essential drugs are available in the Central Government Hospitals.

Life Insurance to Coal Mine Workers

652. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA :
PROF. M. RAMADASS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government proposes to provide life insurance cover to the labourers working in coal mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(c) the amount of life insurance cover to be provided by the government to each labourer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) to (c) Insurance coverage to the labourers working in coal mines already exists in the case of all the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Coal. Hence there is no separate proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Contribution of Various Sectors to GDP

653. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the likely growth rate and the percentage contribution of each of the sectors such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandary and Fishery to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the Eleventh plan period and total outlays earmarked against each of them; and

(b) the specific thrust area identified to enhance agricultural productivity in the country outlining specific action plan envisaged in the Eleventh Plan, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) The growth rate and percentage contribution of each of the sectors such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandary and Fishery sectors to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), are not available separately. However, the target growth rate of Agriculture and allied sectors, which includes Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery sectors, is 4% per annum for the Eleventh Plan. In the sectoral allocation of public sector's resources, the combined outlay for Centre, States and UTs at 2006-07 prices for the Agriculture and allied sectors for Eleventh Plan is Rs. 136381 crore. This includes inter-alia, outlay for agriculture, animal husbandary and fishery sectors.

(b) The Eleventh Plan envisages action in the following broad areas to enhance agriculture productivity in the country.

- Bringing technology to the farmers;
- Improving efficiency of investments, increasing systems support and rationalizing subsidies;
- Diversifying, while also protecting food security concerns;
- Fostering inclusiveness through a group approach by which the poor will get better access to land, credit and skills.

Some recent initiatives to improve growth of agriculture include

- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched with an allocation of Rs. 25000 crore at current prices during Eleventh Plan over and above the other on-going programmes;

- Diversification towards horticulture and livestock through National Horticulture Mission along with a separate Technology Mission on Horticulture for North Eastern States including Sikkim, J & K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand which have been provided allocation of over Rs. 10,000 crore at current prices during Eleventh Five Year Plan.
- National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has been launched in mission-mode aimed at increasing food grains production by at least 20 million tonnes by the end of Eleventh Plan with an outlay of around Rs. 4882 crore at current prices covering three crops, namely wheat, rice and pulses.
- Agricultural extension is being strengthened for efficient transfer of technology through support to states for agricultural reforms and use of mass media;
- The Central Government has also been persuading the States for agricultural marketing reforms and strengthening marketing infrastructure and post-harvest infrastructure;
- During Eleventh Plan, in addition to increased outlay for irrigation and water management; an area of focused attention is natural resources management; especially watershed development in dryland and rainfed farming areas; and
- To ensure greater flow of institutional credit to the agriculture sector.

FDI for the NER

654. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposal for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in North Eastern Region (NER) under consideration of the Government; and

(b) the strategy adopted by the Government to encourage FDI in the NER?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has taken several initiatives to encourage investment in the North East during the last 2 years. Some of these are as follows :-

- (1) Sectoral Summits have been held by associating Central Govt. line ministries, state governments, expert organizations, civil society, business associations and all other stakeholders. So far, 9 Sectoral Summits have

been held on various themes, namely (1) Power Sector (2) Road & Highways Sector (3) Commodity Boards & APEDA including Flood & Erosion Control, Irrigation and Inland Water Transport (4) Tourism and Hospitality Sector (5) Air-connectivity issues (6) Railway-connectivity (7) IT & IT-Enabled Services and Telecommunication (8) HRD & Sports Sector including Art & Culture and (9) Agriculture & Allied Services.

- (2) A Special Summit was held on Banking, Industries and Credit issues in the NER on 4th October, 2008 at New Delhi, aiming at expanding the role of formal financing system, strengthening the micro finance movement and evolve strategies for sustainable economic development of the Region in future.
- (3) North East Business Summits, sponsored by this Ministry, evoked tremendous response. The 4th North East Business Summit was held in Guwahati on 15-16 September, 2008 which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice President of India. The Summit was attended by Chief Ministers & Ministers and officials of the North Eastern states as well as Ambassadors from 13 countries. From Central Government, Minister of State of Commerce & Industry and Minister of State for Food Processing Industries were also present in the Summit. These business summits have augmented economic interest, both by Indian and foreign entrepreneurs.
- (4) The Look East Policy emphasizes trade and commercial linkages through projects like Kaladan Multi-Modal Transport Project, opening of Nathu-La in Sikkim to facilitate border trade with China, improving telecommunication between Moreh in Manipur state and Tamu in Myanmar.
- (5) Ambassadors from ASEAN countries have expressed their keenness to visit North East in 3 groups in the ensuing months to explore possibilities for commercial linkages.
- (6) The Ambassadors from Nordic countries, Italy and Czech Republic have visited North Eastern states and expressed satisfaction with the economic possibilities as they exist and are in the process of development.
- (7) The Czech Republic has already shown interest in hydro-power sector, especially small hydro power projects, aviation sector/airport equipment, coal mining equipments and food processing sector.

Thus, it is obvious that the North Eastern Region is poised for Indian as well as foreign investment. Business organizations like Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Indian Chambers of Commerce (ICC), Federation of

Industries & Commerce of the North Eastern Region (FINER) and North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFI) have revised several expressions of interest for setting up industry and trading partnership in the Region. ICC has signed MoUs with firms from Thailand, Bangladesh and several domestic entrepreneurs.

[Translation]

Pesticides Residue in Bottled Drinking Water

655. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has seriously taken the matter of presence of pesticides residue in bottled drinking water of various brands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards proposes to change the standard of investigation in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) The Bureau of Indian Standards has informed that so far, presence of pesticides in packaged drinking water and packaged natural mineral water of various brands has not been observed during testing of ISI Marked packaged drinking water and packaged natural mineral water.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal in the Drinks and Carbonated Beverages Sectional Committee, Food and Agriculture Division 14 of Bureau of Indian Standards to change the norms of testing pesticide residues in bottled water.

[English]

Toxic Chemicals in Chinese Dairy Products

656. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

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

- (a) whether toxic chemicals are found in baby formula food and other Chinese dairy products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government imports milk and milk products from China; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) No such instances have come to the notice of this Ministry about toxic chemicals in baby formula and other Chinese dairy products in India.

(c) No Sanitary Import Permit (SIP) has been issued by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries for import of milk and milk products from China during the period from 01.01.2008 to till date.

(d) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has taken decision not to process any application for issue of Sanitary Import Permit for import of milk and milk product from China.

All Chief Secretaries of North Eastern States have been requested to keep close vigil so that no illegal entry of any Chinese dairy products in their respective States take place.

Construction of Gadhuli-Santalpur Road

657. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 3468 replied in Lok Sabha on 16 April, 2008 regarding grant of funds for the construction/improvement of Gadhuli-Santalpur road in Gujarat and to state:

(a) whether the amount Rs. 127.16 crores has been considered/approved by the Central Government for the purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status and the time by which the proposal of Gujarat Government is likely to be finally considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country. The Gadhuli-Santalpur road is not a National Highway. The proposal of State Government of Rs. 127.16 crore for Gadhuli-Santalpur road was returned to State Government for modification. The revised proposal amounting to Rs. 165.83 crore has since been received and is under consideration with the Government.

[Translation]

Joint Entrance Test for Admission in Private Medical Colleges

658. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has suggested a single joint entrance test for admission in private medical colleges in view of the falling standards of education in medical colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Commission has also suggested that self-financed medical colleges must clearly state the fee-structure in their prospectus;

(d) if so the details of the report of the Commission in this regard; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Knowledge Commission has recommended "Policies of admission and fee structure of private colleges have to be regulated, not only to stop them from becoming sources of political and financial power but also to arrest falling standards. There should be only one All India Common Entrance Test for all students who would like to get admission to Self Financing Medical Colleges. Since the CBSE conducted examination for the 15% All India quota in Government Medical is taken by a very large number of students, this would appear to be the ideal examination whose ambit can be expanded."

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The National Knowledge Commission has recommended "All self-financing Medical Colleges should announce their fees in their prospectus so that students can make their choice for admission. Information Technology should be used to increase transparency and efficiency in the admission, examination, administration, teaching, content delivery and other related processes." The recommendations of the National-Knowledge Commission are also available on the website www.knowledgecommission.gov.in.

(e) Implementing Ministry i.e. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is of the view that the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission can be considered while finalizing the Draft Central Legislation for regulating the fees and admission in private medical institutions.

[English]

Biometric Passports

659. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce biometric passports called e-passport to avoid fraudulent misuse and tampering;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such passports are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (c) Yes. In order to provide protection against fraudulent misuse and tampering, the Government have decided to introduce e-passports, also known as bio-metric passports, initially for diplomats and officials as a pilot project, which has already been launched on 25th June 2008. Based on the experience gained through the pilot phase of issuance of e-passports in the diplomatic and official categories, issue of e-passports in the ordinary passport category will be taken up by the end of 2009.

Hazardous Waste Management Rules

660. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of the steps taken by the Government to ensure compliance of Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2003 and the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : The Ministry had notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 for regulating management and handling of hazardous waste. Based on the experience gained in the implementation of these Rules, the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 have been notified repealing the earlier Rules with a view to ensuring effective implementation. The Ministry has also provided financial assistance for strengthening the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) for facilitating implementation of the Rules. Financial assistance has also been provided for setting up Common Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities for hazardous waste management. In addition, the Ministry and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) from time to time sponsor

training programmes for creation of awareness about the provisions laid down in the Rules. The CPCB has also published guidelines on various aspects of the hazardous waste management for ensuring compliance of the Rules.

As per the Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000, the Secretary-in-Charge of the Department of Urban Development of the concerned State or the Union Territory has the overall responsibility for the enforcement of the provision of these Rules in the metropolitan Cities. The District Magistrate or the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District has the responsibility for enforcement of these Rules with the territorial limits of their Jurisdiction. The CPCB has also issued directions, from time to time, to State Urban Departments for implementation of the Rules in their States. The Ministry and the CPCB has in addition provided financial and technical assistance to set up model landfill sites in a number of cities and for conducting training programmes on the subject.

Hijacking for Jordanian Vessel

661. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY :
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Jordanian vessel with crew members including Indians was hijacked off Somalian coast recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the safe release of Indian crew members?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) As per information available with the Ministry of Shipping, a Jordanian vessel M.V. "Victoria" was hijacked by pirates on 17.5.2008, 40 miles off Mogadishu at 0508 Hrs. There were 10 Indians in the vessel. The vessel was taken towards Habyo, 500 Kms. North of Mogadishu. The vessel was later released by the pirates on 23.5.2008.

Uneven Growth of Medical Institutions

662. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been uneven growth of medical institutions in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of medical colleges in the country, State-wise is given the enclosed Statement. As per the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, as amended and the Regulations made thereunder, it is for the State Government to decide the need to open a medical college. The Central Government is giving permission for opening of medical college based on the Essentiality Certificate given by the

respective State Government and availability of infra-structural facilities. However, under the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna, the Central Government has proposed to set up six AIIMS like institutions in underserved areas. There is also a proposal to set up two more AIIMS like institutions in the State of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Further, in order to rectify regional imbalance in the distribution of medical colleges, the Government has proposed to amend the MCI regulations.

Statement

Number of Medical Colleges in the Country State-wise as on 30.9.2008

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of Medical College		Total	Total Numbers of seats		Total
		Govt.	Private		Govt	Private	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	21	34	1775	2650	4425
2.	Assam	3	-	3	426	-	426
3.	Bihar	6	3	9	390	220	610
4.	Chandigarh	1	-	1	50	-	50
5.	Chhattisgarh	3		3	250		250
6.	Delhi	5	1	6	560	100	660
7.	Goa	1	-	1	100	-	100
8.	Gujarat	8	5	13	1205	550	1755
9.	Haryana	1	2	3	150	200	350
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-	2	115	-	115
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	1	4	250	100	350
12.	Jharkhand	3	-	3	190	-	190
13.	Karnataka	10	29	39	1050	3755	4805
14.	Kerala	6	14	20	950	1350	2300
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5	4	9	620	500	1120
16.	Maharashtra	19	22	41	2200	2460	4660
17.	Manipur	1	-	1	100	-	100
18.	Orissa	3	3	6	464	300	764
19.	Pondicherry	1	7	8	100	900	1000
20.	Punjab	3	5	8	350	470	820
21.	Rajasthan	6	4	10	650	500	1150

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Sikkim	1	-	1	50	-	50
23.	Tamil Nadu	16	14	30	1745	1820	3565
24.	Tripura	1	1	2	200	-	200
25.	Uttar Pradesh	10	9	19	1112	900	2012
26.	Uttaranchal	2	2	4	200	200	400
27.	West Bengal	9	1	10	1105	150	1255
	Total	142	148	290	16357	17125	33482

[Translation]

Infiltration of Terrorists from Pakistan

663. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has lodged its protest with Pakistan in view of the incidents of infiltration by the terrorists under the cover of heavy firing by Pakistani army from across the border;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents of infiltration of terrorist in connivance of Pakistan Army?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The matter of cross border infiltration and ceasefire violations has been taken up strongly with the Government of Pakistan including at the highest levels. The Government of Pakistan has been urged to implement its commitments that it would not allow

its territory or territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India in any manner.

(c) Government are committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguards the security of its citizens and territory.

Gender-Wise Distribution of AIDS cases

664. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1853 dated 12 March, 2008 and state the State-wise details of the present status of Gender-wise distribution of reported AIDS cases during the last three years and current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : The number of AIDS cases year-wise and gender-wise reported during the last three years and the current year, as per information provided by the State AIDS Control Societies is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Gender Break-up AIDS cases as on September, 2008

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Chandigarh	480	269	749	289	162	451	468	245	713	287	135	422
Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	20	87	36	8	44
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0			0			0
Damand and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0			0			0
Delhi	1,015	449	1,464	1,335	590	1,925	1464	599	2063	644	257	901
Goa	100	59	167	15	8	23	96	48	144	42	19	61
Gujarat	1280	675	1955	563	296	859	1285	470	1755	511	188	699
Haryana	123	75	198	126	76	202	154	53	207	145	53	198
Himachal Pradesh	39	34	73	3	3	6	67	22	89	24	19	43
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	22	12	34	154	57	211	122	41	163
Jharkhand	102	71	173	93	66	159	258	214	472	255	179	434
Karnataka	1228	991	2219	0	0	0			0			0
Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0			0			0
Madhya Pradesh	225	134	359	144	86	230	372	144	516	172	80	252
Maharashtra	3292	2391	5683	2518	1829	4347	1962	1054	3016	2277	1426	3703
Manipur	0	0	0	44	36	60	241	137	378	93	40	133
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	10	19			0
Mizoram	0	0	0	2	2	4	19	16	35	11	6	17
Nagaland	9	9	18	0	0	0	154	143	297	276	255	531
Orissa	115	62	177	75	41	116	46	12	58	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0			0			0
Punjab	60	43	103	140	99	239	181	85	266	27	8	35
Rajasthan	186	117	303	185	117	302	358	193	551	161	69	230
Sikkim	2	1	3	0	0	0	10	3	13			0
Tamil Nadu	2173	1683	3856	6470	5011	11481			0			0
Uttar Pradesh	201	138	339	406	279	685	124	99	223			0
Uttaranchal	29	20	49	0	0	0	44	19	63	6	0	6
West Bengal	0	0	0	0	8	8	72	31	103			0
Ahmedabad MACS	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	29	101			0
Chennai MACS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
Mumbai MACS	0	0	0	0	0	0	3557	1863	5420	1325	788	2113
Total	14962	10776	25738	18074	13356	31460	15266	8536	23802	8323	4977	13300

[English]

North-South Corridor

665. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of North-South Corridor project including Kerala;

(b) whether the work on Sengapalli to Cochin stretch of North-South Corridor project has been delayed;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure smooth progress of work on the project; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Under North-South Corridor project, a length of 3699 km has been envisaged for upgrading to 4/6/8 lane. Out of this, 4/6/8-laning of 1385 km have been completed. A length of 1724 km are under implementation and the balance 590 km are yet to be awarded.

(b) and (c) Partly, the work on Sengapalli to Cochin stretch i.e. Sengapalli to Walayar section in Tamilnadu and Walayar to Thrissur section in Kerala has been delayed due to delay in preparation of feasibility report and detailed project report by the Consultant.

(d) Regular monitoring is being done at various levels to expedite pre-construction activities such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environmental clearances, etc. so as to achieve smooth progress during construction.

(e) The work on Sengapalli to Walayar section in Tamilnadu and Walayar to Thrissur Section in Kerala is yet to be awarded. Work on Thrissur to Angamalli is targeted for completion by March, 2009 and 4 - laning of Angamalli to Cochin is already completed.

[Translation]

Health Insurance Scheme Under NRHM

666. SHRI GANESH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has stated a countrywide health insurance scheme under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM];

(b) If so, the details thereof and the present status of the said scheme; and

(c) the number of poor families likely to be benefited under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the National Rural Health Mission [NRHM] has prepared a framework for introducing health insurance scheme. The States have been requested to prepare need based, community innovative and flexible insurance policies for implementation on pilot basis.

Under NRHM, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare subsidizes the cost of the annual premium up to 75%, subject to a maximum of Rs. 300/- per BPL Family.

Pilot project for implementation of Critical illness Health Insurance Scheme from Andhra Pradesh for Anantapur, Mahboobnagar and Srikakulam Districts was received with request for providing funds to the tune of Rs. 46.20 Crores. An amount of Rs. 10 Crores was agreed as the scheme was not on the lines of NRHM framework, as share of Union Government during the year 2007-08. Government of Andhra Pradesh implemented the *Aarogyasri Community Health Insurance Scheme* in five more districts of Chittoor, East Godavari, West Godavari, Nalgonda and Ranga Reddy in Second Phase from 5th December, 2007. Proposal for extension of the Scheme to 15 more districts during the year 2008-09 in three phases has been received from the State Government. The State Government has sought for Rs. 10 Crores in the Programme Implementation Plan under NRHM for the Health Insurance Scheme during the year 2008-09 and the same has been approved by the Ministry. A total of 73.50 Lakh BPL Population is covered under the Health Insurance Scheme in the Andhra Pradesh.

Pilot project received from State Government of Rajasthan is in respect of *Sriganganagar, Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur and Banswara* districts of Rajasthan. The proposal has been considered in the Ministry and the approval for the same with some suggestions/modifications has been conveyed to State Government on 8th December, 2007. An amount of Rs. 23.64 Crores [75% of total premium] against the total premium of Rs. 37.82 Crores has been approved to the State Government, under the NRHM Flexipool for the year 2007-08. These funds under NRHM flexi-pool with the state during the year 2007-08 had to be utilized for the remaining period of that year.

The above proposals were approved with the condition that number of BPL families should be as per the guidelines

of Planning Commission, Government of India. The State Government to ensure that the amount received by the Government Health facilities from respective insurance agencies may be used for up-gradation as well as towards meeting recurring expenditures of the health facilities. States has been suggested to extend maternity benefits under the scheme as well as to integrate benefits of Janani Suraksha Yojana with the Scheme.

The process of expanding the pilot project to six more districts namely Pratapgarh, Jaisalmer, Baran, Dholpur, Sirohi and Bhilwara during the year 2008-09 has already been started by the State Government. During 2008-09, the state has made provisions for risk pooling in their PIP for 2008-09 to the tune of Rs. 39.29 Crores and has been approved for the 11 districts (5 earlier and 6 new) under NRHM.

It will be too early to assess the achievements of the Scheme. However, a total of 378066 patients were screened and 37558 cases referred for treatment in the State of Andhra Pradesh. While in the State of Rajasthan, 24452 BPL patients were given treatment under the scheme from 9th December 2007 to August 2008.

With the launch of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana of Ministry of Labour, health insurance coverage for BPL unorganized sector workers and their families have been provided as per its expansion plan.

[English]

Repairs/Re-Surfacing of NH in Gujarat

667. SHRI HARILAL MADHAVJI BHAI PATEL :
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether repairs/resurfacing works of various roads under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) in Gujarat State have been completed;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the stretches of National Highways damaged during the recent monsoon in the State; and

(e) the steps taken and fund allocated for their repairs and re-surfacing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Wherever 4/6 laning works under NHDP are under implementation, to keep the existing roads in traffic worthy condition, the maintenance of existing roads are carried out by the Contractor/Concessionaire as part of their obligations under contract/concession agreement. In case of sections entrusted to NHAI where, 4/6 laning have not yet started, the maintenance of existing roads are being carried out by NHAI directly or through State PWDs with funds provided by NHAI.

After completion of 4/6 laning works, the comprehensive maintenance are regularly carried out.

(b) and (c) The stretches where minor repair/resurfacing has been carried out are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) There were damages due to recent monsoon. However, roads have been maintained in traffic worthy condition during monsoon with funds allocated for maintenance and repair.

Statement

Repairs/Re-surfacing of NH in Gujarat

Stretch	Repair/resurfacing done
Vadodara-Surat Section of NH 8	Resurfacing carried out for 45 kms in 2007-08
Chalthan-Dahisar Km 263.4 km-381 of NH 8	Minor repairs like potholes, patch work has been completed
Ratanpur-Himatnagar section	Minor repairs are being carried out and the work is likely to be completed by Dec. 2008
Samakhyal-Gandhidham Section of NH 8 km 306-362.160	30 kms (2 lane) have been proposed for resurfacing out of which 27.5 km have been completed

Work on NH-2 in West Bengal

668. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on NH-2 near Pangarh Bazar of West Bengal has been completed;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

- (c) If not, the timeframe fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Either ends of Panagarh Bazar area i.e. up to km 515.236 and from km 520.103, are already four laned. The stretch of NH-2 at Panagarh Bazar is still two laned.

(c) A bypass to the Panagarh Bazar area has been envisaged under National Highway Development Project Phase-V. Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) is to be taken up shortly along with the DPR for 6-laning of Panagarh-Dankuni section of NH-2, for which DPR consultant has already been finalised. It is too early to mention the timeframe for its completion.

[Translation]

Free Treatment of Poor Patients

669. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a special scheme for providing free treatment and financial assistance to people living below poverty line suffering from life-threatening diseases in major hospitals in the country; and

- (b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The Ministry does not propose to formulate a special scheme for providing financial assistance for people living below poverty line suffering from life-threatening diseases in major hospitals in the country.

(b) Though the Ministry does not propose to formulate a special scheme as above, the Ministry has two schemes namely: Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi and Health Minister's Discretionary Grant under which financial assistance is provided to poor patients for operation/treatment at Government Hospitals. The guidelines/instruction issued by the Government are given in the enclosed Statements-I, II and III.

Statement-I

Health Minister's Discretionary Grant

Under the scheme Health Minister's Discretionary Grants financial assistance is granted to the poor and needy patients to defray a part of expenditure on hospitalization for under going major surgical interventions and treatment of major diseases for which grants are sanctioned for heart

ailments, Kidney transplant, Hip & Knee replacement, Cancer, AIDS, Hepatitis, Tumors etc.

The broad criteria laid down for sanctioning such grants are :

(A)

- (i) The applicant is expected to apply in the prescribed Performa for the purpose.
- (ii) The amount of the grant in any one case does not ordinarily exceed Rs. 20,000/-. The grant is sanctioned as 'one time' grant and is released to the Medical Supdt. Of the hospital where patient is taking treatment.
- (iii) For the purpose of sanctioning of financial assistance, an annual family income of upto Rs. 50,000/- (Rupee Fifty Thousand) only is taken as the upper limit for being eligible for assistance.
- (iv) After getting approval of Minister of Health & Family Welfare, a commitment letter is issued to the concerned hospital intimating sanction of financial assistance on receipt of a reply from the hospital about admittance/ date of operation of the patient, the amount of financial assistance is release to the hospital.

(B)

- (i) Government servants (Central State Government and PSUs Employees) are not eligible to receive financial assistance out of the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant.
- (ii) All grants are non-recurring nature and no recurring liability is undertaken.
- (iii) Re-imbursement of expenditure already incurred is not admissible.
- (iv) The sanction of grant is restricted to patients taking treatment in Govt. hospitals no assistance is provided for treatment in private hospital.
- (v) Financial assistance is not admissible for disease of common nature where treatment is not expensive.

A copy of guideline governing the scheme is enclosed (Annexure-I)

Annexure-I

1. Health Minister's Discretionary Grant

Financial Assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 20,000/- is available to the poor indigent patients from the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant to defray a part of the expenditure on Hospitalization/treatment in cases where free medical facilities are not available.

The board criteria laid down for sanctioning such grants are :

- (i) reimbursement of expenditure already incurred is not admissible under rules;
- (ii) prolonged treatment involving recurring expenditure is also not admissible under rules;
- (iii) financial assistance is not admissible for case of common nature where treatment is not expensive;
- (iv) financial assistance is not admissible for T.B. cases for which free treatment is available under National T.B. Control Programme;
- (v) Central as well as State Government employees are not eligible for grant under rules.

Statement-II

Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi

The National Illness Assistance Fund (NIAF) renamed Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) was set up under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare during 1997 with an initial contribution of Rs. 5.00 crores. State illness Assistance Funds have also been set up in 24 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamilnadu, Tripura, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, Gao, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh besides NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Pondicherry. These States/Union Territories have been released grant-in-aid as admissible under Scheme. Other States/Union Territories have been requested to set up the Fund. All 5 Union Territories (with out legislature) have also set up Committees to screen cases of medical treatment. These UTs were sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs each during the year 1998-99. In January, 1998 it was decided that Medical Superintendent of 3 Central Government Hospitals in Delhi and 3 Institutes of national repute, viz. Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, L.H.M.C. & Smt. S.K. Hospital, New Delhi, AIIMS, New Delhi, PGIMER, Chandigarh and JIPMER, Pondicherry may be sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10 to 20 lakhs each at a time from NIAF to provide immediate financial assistance upto Rs. 1,00,000/- (as substituted) from rs. 50,000 w.e.f. 02-06-2008 per case to patients living below the poverty line. This scheme was subsequently extended to NIMHANS, Banga-lore, CNCI, Calcutta, Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, Gandhi Memorial &

Associated Hospital, Lucknow, KGMC, Lucknow, NEIGRI-HMS, Shillong, and RIMS, Imphal which have also been given similar advances.

A copy of the guidelines of the scheme is enclosed (Annexure II)

(Annexure II)

Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi

The Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development in their 31st Report on the functioning of the Central Government Hospitals under the Department of Health, had expressed concern about inadequate facilities for the treatment of poor patients for major illness. The committee felt that it was essential to explore all appropriate sources of funds to assist poor patients coming to AIIMS or other Central Govt. Hospitals for their treatment of specific life threatening illness.

In view of the recommendations of the above Committee, it was decided to set up a National Illness Assistance Fund renamed Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) under the Department of Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The Committee on non-Plan Expenditure in its meeting held on 17th October 1996 approved the proposal for setting up of the fund. Accordingly the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi has been set up vide Resolution No. F-7-2/96-Fin-II dated 13/1/97 as published in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) and has been registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860, as an autonomous Society. This was set up with an initial contribution of Rs. 5 crores from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The Fund could also be subscribed by individuals in India or abroad with the approval of FCRA, Corporate bodies in private or public sector, philanthropic of FCRA, Corporate bodies in private or public sector, philanthropic organisations and all contributions made to this fund are exempt from payment of Income-Tax under section 80-G of Income Tax Act, 1961.

The Fund will provide financial assistance to patients, living below poverty line who are suffering from major life threatening diseases, to receive medical treatment at any of the super speciality Hospitals/Institutes or other Government hospitals. The financial assistance to such patients would be released in the form of 'one-time grant', which will be released to the Medical Supdt. of the Hospital in which the treatment has been/is being received. In a bid to speed up the assistance to the needy patients, the Scheme has been modified in Jan '98 and an advance of Rs. 10 to 20 lakhs has been kept with the Medical Supdts. of AIIMS, New Delhi, Dr. RML Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital, LHMC & Smt. S.K.

Hospital, New Delhi, and PGIMER, Chandigarh, JIPMER, Pondicherry, to enable sanction of an amount up to Rs. 1,00,000/- (as substituted from Rs. 50,000/- w.e.f. 02-06-2008) in each deserving case reporting for treatment in the respective Hospital/Institute. The advance amount would be replenished as and when the reports of its utilisation are received from the Hospital/Institute. NIMHANS, Bangalore and CNCI, Calcutta, SGPGIMS, Lucknow, Gandhi Memorial & Associated Hospitals (KGMC) Lucknow, NEIGRIHMS, Shillong, and RIMS, Imphal have also been given similar advances with suitable instructions to implement the scheme.

All State Govts./UT Administrations have been advised vide Ministry of Health & Family Welfare letter dated 11/11/96 to set up an illness Assistance Fund in their respective States/UTs. It has been decided that grant-in-aid from Central Government would be released to each of these States/UTs (with Legislature) where such Funds are set up. The Grant-in-aid to States/UTs would be to the extent of 50% of the contributions made by the State Govts./UTs to the State Fund/Society subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 crore to States with larger number and percentage of population below poverty line viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and Rs. 2 crores to other States/UTs. The State/UT level Funds could also receive contributions/donations from donors, as mentioned for NIAF. The illness Assistance Fund at the State/UT level would release financial assistance to patients living in their respective States/UT upto Rs. 1.5 lakhs in an individual case and forward all such cases to NIAF, where the quantum of financial assistance is likely to exceed Rs. 1.5 lakhs.

The following States/UTs (with Legislature) have set up illness Assistance Fund :- Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Kerala, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Goa, Gujarat, Sikkim, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi and Puducherry. The grant-in-aid released to these States/UTs, is indicated.

The following States/UTs have not yet set up the States illness Assistance Fund in spite of repeated reminders.

1. Assam
2. Manipur
3. Arunachal Pradesh
4. Meghalaya
5. Orissa
6. Nagaland

Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi is managed by a Management Committee, consisting of the following members:-

1. Health Minister - Chairman
2. Secretary (Health/Min. of Health & FW) - Member
3. DGHS-Member
4. Joint Secretary, M/o Health & F.W-Member Secretary
5. C.C.A., M/o Health & F.W. - Treasurer

There is also a provision of two non-official members to be co-opted from amongst the prominent donors to the fund.

There is a Technical Committee to advise the managing Committee on technical matters, such as nature of illness to be covered assistance under the Scheme and other ancillary issues. The Technical Committee comprises of the following.

1. DGHS
2. Joint Secretary
3. Medical Superintendent, Dr. RML Hospital
4. HOD, Cardiology, AIIMS, New Delhi

It has also been provided in the scheme that Union Territories (which do not have a legislature) will be sanctioned a budget outlay out of the NIAF, as and when the UT administration have set up an illness Assistance Society/Committee. It was decided in the first meeting of the Managing Committee held on 21-10-98 that each UT will be sanctioned a budget outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs. Accordingly the following UTs have been sanctioned a budget outlay of Rs. 50 Lakhs each, during the year 1998-99.

1. Lakshadweep
2. Daman and Diu
3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4. Andhra and Nicobar Islands
5. Chandigarh

An illustrative list of categories of treatment to be provided from the Fund is given in the Statement-III.

For more detailed information contact :

Under Secretary (Grants)
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi-110011
Tele : 23061986

Statement-III

All illustrative list of categories of treatment to be provided from the fund is as follows : (This list could be modified by the Technical Committee) :

1. Cardiology & Cardiac Surgery

Pacemakers disposable for interventional procedure including TMT, Echocardiography Coronary Angiography, Angioplasty Atherectomy, Heart surgery for Congenital and Acquired conditions including C.A.B.G., Vascular Surgery stents and Cardiac Transplantation, etc.

2. Cancer

Radiation treatment of all kinds.
Anti-Cancer Chemotherapy

3. Urology/Nephrology

Dialysis alongwith consumable goods (coils and dialysis solution etc.) Vascular shunts for Dialysis, P.C.N. & P.C.N.L. Kits, Lithotripsy (for stones)-disposable and stends for endoscopic surgical procedure in Urology and Gastroenterology, Renal & Hepatee transplantation.

4. Orthopaedics

Artificial prosthesis for limbs, implants and total hip and knee replacement external fixators, AO implants used in the treatment of bone disease and fractures.

5. Miscellaneous

Intra-ocular lens implants, hearing aids and shutns for hydrocephalus.

6. Investigations

Ultra-sound, Doppler shidres, Radiooneulcolide scans, CT scan, Mammography, Angiography for all organs, M.R.I., E.E.G., EM.G., Urodynamic studies.

7. Drugs

Immuno-supressive durg, Anti TB drugs, Anti D, Anti Haemophilie globulin, Erythropoiten, Blood & Blood products/Plasma for patietns of burn.

8. Other major illness considered appropriate for assistance by Medical Superintendent/Committee of Doctors could be added to the List.

[English]

Commonwealth Games - 2010

670. SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Games/Sporting Events that have been included in the ensuing Commonwealth Games, 2010 and the names of the stadia where these events are likely to be held;

(b) whether necessary infrastructure in this regard has been fully developed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) A Statement indicating the names of disciplines which have been included in the Commonwealth Games - 2010, alongwith their Venues/Stadia, is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The work related to the development/ Construction of the sports infrastructure projects related to commonwealth Games-2010, is in full swing and all the projects are likely to be completed by the end of 2009.

(d) Necessary funds have been released to various stakeholders for construction and upgradation of the Sports Venues. Monitoring of the on-going works is being done at various levels of the Govt. To facilitate monitoring of the projects, a Web based monitoring system has also been set up linking the various stakeholders and the monitoring agencies.

Statement**Sports Item for Commonwealth Games-2010**

Sl. No.	Discipline	Venue/Stadium
1	2	3
1	Athletics	J.L.N. Stadium, SAI
2	Lawn Bowls	J.L.N. Sports Complex, SAI
3	Weightlifting	J.L.N. Sports Complex, SAI
4	Hockey	Major Dhayan Chand National Stadium, SAI
5	Cycling	Velodrome, I.G. Sports Complex, SAI
6	Gymnastics	I.G.I. Stadium, SAI
7	Wrestling	I.G. Sports Complex, SAI
8	Shooting	Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range, SAI
9	Aquatics	Dr. S.P. Mukherjee Swimming Pool, SAI

1	2	3
10	Netball	Thyagaraj Sports Complex, Govt. of NCT of Delhi
11	Boxing	Talkatora Indoor Stadium, NDMC
12	Badminton	Siri Fort Sports Complex, DDA
13	Squash	Siri Fort Sports Complex, DDA
14	Table Tennis	Yamuna Sports Complex, DDA
15	Archery	Yamuna Sports Complex, DDA
16	Rugby	Deihi University
17	Tennis	R.K. Khanna Tennis Complex

SAI	- Sports Authority of India
GNCT of Delhi	- Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi
NDMC	- New Delhi Municipal Council
DDA	- Delhi Development Authority
JLN	- Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium
IGI Stadium	- Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium

Cost of Nuclear Power

671. SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the cost production of per mega watt (MW) of nuclear power at present in India;
- the likely cost of per MW of nuclear power production by the imported nuclear reactors in India;
- whether nuclear power is cost effective; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) The cost of setting of indigenous nuclear power reactors is about Rs. 5.8 crore/ MWe at 2008 prices.

(b) Recent decision by Nuclear Suppliers Group will open up possibility of setting up nuclear power reactors based on foreign cooperation. The cost of setting up such reactors will be known only after these contracts are negotiated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Nuclear Power is competitive with coal power at locations away from coal mines. During the year 2007-08, the average nuclear power tariff was Rs. 2.28 per kWh, which is considered quite competitive.

Delayed Central Projects

672. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- whether a large number of Central projects costing above Rs. 20 crore are running behind the schedule;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- whether due to delay of such projects, there is probability of cost escalation of such projects; and
- if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to complete such projects at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for projects running behind schedule include; lack of supporting infrastructure, delay in award of contracts, slow progress by the contractors, delay in land acquisition and related rehabilitation, law and order problems, fund constraints and geological surprises.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As on March 2008, out of 909 projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 346 projects are running behind with respect to their latest approved schedule. Cost overrun in 346 delayed projects is Rs. 24,689 crores which is 13.33 percent of the latest approved cost of Rs. 1,85,089 crore. The steps taken by the Government to complete such projects include :

- adoption of two-stage clearance system and stricter appraisal of projects before investment approval;
- taking up of projects for implementation only after funds have been fully tied up;
- in-depth review of projects on monthly and quarterly basis by the Government;
- follow up with the State Governments in respect of problems relating to land acquisition, rehabilitation related issues, forest clearances, infrastructure facilities, ensuring law and order at project sites, etc.
- setting up of an Empowered Committee in the administrative Ministries for review of departmentally executed projects;
- inter-ministerial coordination for resolving unresolved problem;
- setting up of Standing Committees in the Ministries/ Departments to fix responsibility for time and cost overruns;

- (viii) appointment of nodal officers for each project with continuity of tenure; and
- (ix) issue of guidelines on standard bidding documents for adoption.

[Translation]

Review of Indo-Nepal Treaty, 1950

673. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
YOGI ADITYA NATH :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Nepal for review of Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact of the proposed revision of the treaty on bilateral relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) During the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India from September 14-18, 2008, both sides noted that the multi-faceted and deep-rooted relationships between the two countries needed further consolidation and expansion in a forward-looking manner to better reflect current realities. In this context, it was *inter alia* agreed to review, adjust and update the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship, while giving due recognition to the special features of the bilateral relationship.

[English]

Ban on Smoking at Public Places

674. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY :

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

(a) whether the Government has proposed recently to impose the country-wise ban on smoking at public places, Government offices and other places in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy formulated and the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) The Prohibition of smoking in Public Places Rules, 2008 notified vide GSR No. 417 (E) dated 30th May 2008 has come into force from 2nd October 2008. The new Rules aim to protect the non-smokers from ill effects of passive smoking/environmental tobacco smoke (ETS).

Smoking is strictly prohibited in all public places. "Public Place" include auditorium, hospital buildings, health institutions, amusement centers, restaurants, public offices, court buildings, educational institutions, libraries, public conveyances, stadium, railway stations, bus stops, workplaces, shopping malls, cinema halls, refreshment rooms, discotheques, coffee house, pubs, bars, airport lounge etc.

Salient features are as under :-

- * Any violation of this Rule is a punishable offence with fine upto Rs. 200.
- * However, a Hotel having thirty or more rooms or restaurant having seating capacity of thirty persons or more & airports may provide/have a separate smoking area or space, as required by the rules.
- * The owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or in charge of the affairs of a public place shall ensure that:
 - (a) No person smokes in the public place (under his jurisdiction/implied)
 - (b) The board as specified in schedule-II of the rules; is displayed prominently at the entrance(s) of the Public place and conspicuous place (s) inside.
 - (c) No ashtrays, matches, lighters or other things designed to facilitate smoking are provided in the public place.
- * The owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or in charge of the affairs of a public place shall notify and display prominently the name of the person to whom a complaint of any violation may be made.
- * If the owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or the authorized officer of a public place fails to act on report of such violation, the owner, proprietor, manager, supervisor or the authorized officer shall be liable to pay fine equivalent to the number of individual offences.

[Translation]

Loss of Revenue on Stamp Duty

675. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States are suffering loss of revenues on account of registration and stamp duty in the balance of any kind of contract with the coal companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to repeal the Coal Bearing Areas Act, 1957 for this purpose; and

(d) If so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) to (d) Land under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 (CBA (A & D) Act, 1957) is acquired by complying with all the provisions of the said Act. The question of any loss of revenue on account of registration and stamp duty to the States does not arise. State Governments earn revenue on coal removed or consumed by coal companies in the form of royalty/dead rent etc. Land for coal mining is mainly acquired under the provisions of the CBA (A & D) Act, 1957 and at present the Government has no proposal to repeat the said Act.

[English]

World-No-Alcohol Day

676. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed at the World Health Assembly at Geneva that Mahatma Gandhi's Birth Anniversary on 2nd October every year may be declared as "World-No-Alcohol Day"; and;

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in his address at the World Health Assembly 2008 had proposed that a "World No Alcohol Day" should be observed on 2nd October every year, it being the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, one of the strongest proponents of alcohol abstinence and an apostle of non-violence.

Pollution due to Coal Handling at Mormugao Port

677. SHRI SARDINHA FRANCISCO COSME : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal handling at Mormugao Port results in dust pollution;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the dust pollution?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) There have been instances of dust emanating during high gusty winds while handling coal at Berth No. 11 where traditional equipment with semi-mechanization facility is used.

(c) Necessary pollution control measures have been taken in consultation with the Goa State Pollution Board viz spraying of water continuously to control the dust generated during operations, covering of coal/coke stakes, sweeping of roads, proper cleaning and coverage of the trucks etc. The Goa State Pollution Control Board regularly carries out Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (AAQM) through the HVAS stations set up in Vasco.

[Translation]

External Affairs Minister's Visit to China

678. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :
SHRI M.K. SUBBA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of External Affairs recently visited China; and

(b) If so, the details of the discussion held and the agreements signed between both the countries during the visit ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) EAM undertook an official visit to the People's Republic of China from 4 to 7 June 2008. He called on the Chinese Vice President, Mr. Xi Jinping, during which both leaders had positive discussions on the importance of India-China relations and the role of the two countries in the 21st century world.

In their talks, EAM and Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr. Yang Jiechi reviewed the understandings reached during PM's visit to China in January 2008, and also discussed how to promote more trust and understanding in concrete terms. It was mutually agreed that future high-level visits including the visit by NPC Chairman Wu Bangguo to India and by Rashtrapati to China would be a positive affirmation of bilateral ties. It was China would be a positive affirmation of bilateral ties. It was agreed that the Chinese Foreign Minister would visit India in 2008 [the visit took place on 8 September 2008]. The matter of trade deficit was raised with the Chinese side. Chinese Foreign Minister conveyed willingness to address this concern and also said that China would be sending a corporate purchasing mission (which has since visited India in October 2008). Both sides discussed future steps regarding finalisation of the India-China Regional Trading Arrangement and agreed that it would be discussed by the Commerce Ministers of the two countries. The two Ministers discussed the India-China Boundary Question and agreed that the Special Representatives should be encouraged to continue their discussions to find a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement. They reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace and

tranquillity in the border areas, pending final settlement of the boundary question. They agreed to hold the second joint military exercise and the second defence dialogue in India in December 2008. Functional cooperation in the areas of water resources, energy, environment, culture etc were discussed. The two Ministers also welcomed the decision to hold a 'Festival of India' in China and a 'Festival of China' in India in 2010 in order to promote greater awareness of each other's culture. The Chinese side said that they "understand and support India's aspiration to play a greater role in the United Nations, including in the Security Council." Both sides agreed to positively view each other's participation in regional processes, to strengthen coordination and consultation within regional mechanisms and to explore together and with other countries a new architecture for closer regional cooperation in Asia.

During the visit, an MoU for provision of hydrological information of the Brahmaputra River in flood season by China to India was signed. The other events included : formal inauguration by EAM of the new Consulate General of India in Guangzhou; address by EAM at Beijing University of 'India's Foreign Policy Today' EAM attended the ceremony organised for the joint release of stamps by India Post and China Post to mark the commemoration of India-China bilateral relations; and witnessed the handing over of the Padma Bhushan award to Prof. Ji Xianlin. EAM also had a meeting with Mr. Wang Yang, the Party Secretary of the Guangdong CPC Provincial Committee, in Guangzhou.

Dilapidated Condition of National Highways

679. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
YOGI ADITYA NATH :
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO :
SHRI AJIT JOGI :
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the several stretches of National Highways in different States are in dilapidated condition;
- (b) If so, the details thereof, stretch-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the condition of National Highways after the recent monsoon;
- (d) If so, the details thereof, National Highway-wise and State-wise;
- (e) whether proposal for repairs and maintenance of National Highways has been received from the State Governments;
- (f) If so, the details thereof, location-wise; and
- (g) the steps taken and fund allocated for repairs of these highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (g) The development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process and the NHs in the country are being kept in traffic worthy condition within the available resources, depending upon traffic density and inter-se priority of works. There have been damages on some NHs in various states due to floods, rains, etc. The State-wise details of the assessments made of damages on NHs due to the recent monsoon are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The State-wise details of the proposals received from the State Governments for repair and maintenance of these NH stretches damaged due to floods and rains etc. and the fund earmarked for their repair and maintenance during 2008-09 are given in the enclosed Statement-II. These proposals are under various stages of sanction as per availability of funds and inter-se-priority. Necessary temporary measures for restoration of these damaged stretches of NHs in traffic worthy conditions are in different stages of progress.

Statement-I

Details of assessments made of damages on National Highways (NH) due to the recent monsoon

Sl.No.	State	NH No.	Extent of Damage to National Highways
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4, 16, 18, 43, 63, 202, 205, 214, 214X, 219, 221	Potholes, surface damage, breach of road, cuts and erosion of embankments & earthen shoulder, damage to cross drainage (CD) , works and their approaches etc.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	52, 52A	Pot holes, breaches on road formation etc.
3.	Assam	31, 31B, 37, 38, 52, 53, 54	Pot holes, depression & erosion of of earthen shoulder damages to culverts, breaches on road formation etc.

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar	2C, 19, 28, 28A, 28B, 30, 30A, 31, 31C, 57C, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 110	Breach of road, potholes, damage to road crust, damage to CD works and their approaches, protection works etc.
5.	Chandigarh	21	Potholes, surface damage
6.	Chhattisgarh	6, 12A, 16, 43, 78, 200, 216, 217 and 221	Pot holes, damage to approaches of some bridges on NH-6, NH-78 & NH-200, surface damage, etc
7.	Goa	4A, 17, 17A, 17B	Pot holes, cracks, erosion of earthen shoulders, breach of road formation, surface damage, land slide etc.
8.	Gujarat	6, 8A, 8C, 8D, 8E 15, 59, 60, 113	Pot holes, erosion of earthen shoulders, breach of road formation, surface damages, to CD works & approaches etc.
9	Haryana	10, 20, 21A, 65, 71, 71A, 71B	Berm work crust damage, heavy potholes etc.
10	Himachal Pradesh	21, 21A, 22, 70, 72, 73A, 88	Patholes, damaged patches, land slides etc.
11	Jammu and Kashmir	1A, 1D	Damages of surface, breaches, washed out culvert on NH-ID.
12	Jharkhand	6, 23, 31, 32, 33, 75, 78, 80, 98, 99, 100	Pot holes, erosion of earthen shoulders, breach of road formation, surface damage, damages, to CD works and approaches, etc.
13	Karnataka	9, 13, 17, 63, 209, 212, 218	Pot holes, surface damage, breach of road, cuts and erosion of earthen shoulder, damage to CD works and their approaches etc.
14.	Kerala	17, 208	Pot holes, surface damage, cuts and erosion of earthen shoulder, damage to CD works etc.
15	Manipur	39, 53, 150	Pot holes, landslides, damage of culverts, approaches to CD works, breaches on the road formation, etc.
16	Meghalaya	40, 44, 51, 62	Pot holes, landslides, damage of culverts, breaches on the road formation.
17.	Mizoram	44A, 54, 150, 154	Pot holes, landslides, damage of culverts, breaches on the road formation.
18	Maharashtra	3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17, 50, 69, 204, 211, 222	Pot holes, erosion of earthen shoulders, damage to culverts, land slides, damage in selected stretches due to submergence on NH-204, etc.
19	Madhya Pradesh	3, 7, 12, 12A, 25, 26, 26A, 27, 59, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86, 92	Pot holes, damage to shoulder, damage to CD works and their approaches etc.
20	Nagaland	39, 61, 155	Depressions, pot holes, landslides, damage of culverts, breaches on the road formation.
21	Orissa	5, 6, 23, 42, 43, 75, 200, 201, 203, 203A, 215, 217, 224	Pot holes, depressions, breach to roads damage to shoulders, CD works and their approaches etc.

1	2	3	4
22.	Punjab	15, 20, 64A, 70, 71	Damaged patches, potholes, damage to retaining wall, potholes, etc.
23.	Rajasthan	8, 11, 11A, 11B, 12, 14, 15, 65, 79, 89, 90, 112, 113, 114, 116	Pot holes, heavy patches, damages to retaining walls, erosion to embankments berms washed away in approaches to bridges etc.
24.	Sikkim	31A	Depression, breaches, damaged retaining works, too walls and protection works, etc.
25.	Uttarakhand	29, 58, 72, 72A, 73, 74, 87, 94, 108, 109, 119, 121, 123, 125	Pot holes, damages to patches, washed out surface, breaches, etc.
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7, 19, 24, 27, 28, 28C, 29, 58, 76, 86, 91, 92, 93, 97	Pot holes, cracks, damages to road surface slides of berms etc.
27.	West Bengal	6, 31, 31A, 31C, 32, 35, 55, 60, 60A, 81, 117	Pot holes, alligator cracks, stripping, raveling, depression, undulation, submergence of roads damage to CD works & approaches to bridges, land slide, etc.

Statement-II

State wise details of the proposals received from the State Governments for repairs and maintenance of these National Highway stretches damaged due to floods and rains etc., the action taken thereon and the fund earmarked for their repair and maintenance during the 2008-09

Sl. No.	State	Proposals received from State Governments/Union Territories		Allocation of funds during 2008-09 (Rs. Lakh)
		NH No.	Estimated Cost (in Rs. Lakh)	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4, 16, 18, 43, 63, 202, 205, 214, 214A, 219, 221	1259.5	75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	52A	225	75
3.	Assam	52	31	125
4.	Bihar	19	383.91	1050
5.	Chandigarh	21	75	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	No proposals have been received		50
7.	Goa	4A, 17	257	50
8.	Gujarat	6, 8A, 8C, 8D, 8E, 15, 59, 113	1230	50
9.	Haryana	10, 21A, 65, 71, 71A, 71A	781.71	75
10.	Himachal Pradesh	21, 21A, 22, 70, 72, 73A, 88	5677	200
11.	Jharkhand	No proposals have been received		200
12.	Karnataka	No proposals have been received		150

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	No proposals have been received		175
14.	Manipur	39	174	50
15.	Meghalaya	No proposals have been received		50
16.	Mizoram	No proposals have been received		100
17.	Maharashtra	No proposals have been received		350-
18.	Madhya Pradesh	3, 7, 12, 12A, 27, 59, 59A, 75, 86	1838	75
19.	Nagaland	No proposals have been received		100
20.	Orissa	5	572	922
21.	Punjab	15, 20, 64A, 70, 71	462	50
22.	Rajasthan	89	120	75
23.	Tamil Nadu	45A, 49, 208, 210	1238	350
24.	Uttarakhand	58, 72, 72A, 73, 74, 87, 94, 119, 121, 123, 125	1767	50
25.	Uttar Pradesh	7, 19, 24, 27, 28C, 29, 56, 76, 86, 91, 92, 93, 97	683	696
26.	West Bengal	No proposals have been received		225

Upgradation of Medical Infrastructure*[English]***680. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :****SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:**

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the existing medical infrastructure in the rural areas; and

(b) If so, the steps taken by the Government in upgrading the medical infrastructure in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) in various States?

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

(b) The Primary Health Care is being provided in rural areas through a network of 145272 Sub Centres, 22370 Primary Health Centres and 4045 Community Health Centres as on March, 2007. Under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM], funds are released to State/UT Governments for upgradation of the existing SCs, PHCs and CHCs and for establishment of new SCs, PHCs and CHCs as per the requirement reflected by respective State/UT Government through their annual Programme Implementation Plan.

Expansion of AIIMS

681. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand the existing health services infrastructure in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of available accommodation as compared to patient load in the AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The present available infrastructure accommodation in AIIMS is inadequate compared to work load. Present available accommodation is 2332 beds and patient load is (patients treated during 2007-2008 indoors + outdoors) 16,12,090.

Statement**Expansions Plan of AIIMS**

1. Expansion of OPD.
2. Construction of E wing in ward Block.
3. Centre for Mother & Child Health
4. Centre for Nephrology/Urology.
5. Vertical Expansion of Dr. RPC X-Ray wing.
6. Construction of Multi storied Animal house.
7. Construction of Kitchen & Service Block.
8. Multi level parking for approx. 1500 vehicles.
9. Centre for Gastroenterology & GI Surgery.
10. Construction of Convention Hall & Library.
11. Construction of PC & Teaching block extension.
12. Construction of Administrative Block/College of Nursing/ Library.
13. Utility block for garages/Central Stores.
14. Hostel Blocks students/resident doctors/nursing students for approx. 700 beds
15. Advanced Centre for Geriatrics.

The West Ansari Nagar Campus shall be residential with multi-storied houses.

Status-The work of preparation of Master Plan of Ansari Nagar Campus and Masjid Moth Campus along with the specific buildings as above had been entrusted to CPWD in February 2008. However, due to their non-performance the project has been entrusted to HSCC in September 2008.

Estimated Expenditure :

S.No.	Activity	Total Rs. in Crores
1.	Centre for Mother & Child	285.78
2.	Construction of P.C. Block	99.87
3.	Construction of Surgical Centre	99.54
4.	Construction of A, B & C type Qtrs.	120.37
5.	Construction of Hostel	73.13
6.	Strengthening	158.52
Total		833.21

- 16 a) The National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, AIIMS proposes to expand its existing health services.
- b) Construction of Private ward (New)
- c) For JPNATC the proposal for further expansion in floor/building has already been mooted and agenda for additional staff was put up for approval in the recent EFC meeting. A proposal received from the Ministry for setting up for the Metro Blood Bank & Burn Unit was also under Plan.
- d) Construction of Special Wing for Adolescent and women patients
- e) District based De-Addiction Services and activities in 3 districts namely : Mandsaur, M.P. Moregaon, Assam and Meerut, UP have already begun.

**Involvement of Private Sector for
Development of Sports**

682. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major weaknesses noticed so far in the area of sports in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to involve the Private Sector in the development and management of sports in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M. S. GILL) : (a) The major weaknesses noticed in the area of sports in the country, relate to the uneven development of sports infrastructure, and the lack of access to organized sports and games, particularly in rural areas.

(b) and (c) Government welcomes and encourages promotion of sports by the Private Sector. For the promotion of sports at grassroots level, Government have launched a national programme titled Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Ahiyan (PYKKA), which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure and access to organized sports competition in all village and block panchayats, in a phased manner over a period of 10 years. Government provides seed capital for the promotion of sports infrastructure, and those panchayats that are able to mobilize additional funds through various sources, including private contributions, get preference for coverage on priority.

Similarly Government has set up the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for mobilizing resources from the non-governmental sources, including private/corporate sector and non-residential Indians for promotion of sports and games in the country. In order to encourage contributions to the Fund 100% exemption from Income Tax is available on all contributions. The funds available under National Sports Development Fund mainly are used towards the promotion of excellence at the national and international level. During 2007-08, Steel Authority of India Limited contributed Rs. 1.00 crore. BCCI contributed Rs. 150.00 crore out of Rs. 25.00 crore pledged by it for promotion and development of sports.

Compensatory Afforestation Fund

683. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has requested the State Governments to prepare action plans for a period of five years to utilize funds remitted by State Governments in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF);

(b) if so, the names of the States who have submitted action plan for utilization of the funds remitted to CAF during the year 2007-08;

(c) the funds remitted by State Governments to this Fund, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;

(d) the number of proposal pending with the Union Government for utilization of the funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) No, Sir. However, there is a provision in the Order No. S.O. 525 (E) dated 23rd April, 2004 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India constituting the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) for preparation of such Action Plan.

(b) A list of the States who have submitted Action Plan for utilization of the funds remitted to Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) during the year 2007-08 is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) A list indicating funds remitted by State Governments/Union Territories to Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) 22 proposals submitted by the States/Union Territories are pending with the Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) has not been authorized to release the money so far.

(e) Consequent on passing of the "The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Bill, 2008", for creation of Compensation Afforestation Fund along with operationalisation of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), the money will be released to the States/Union Territories in phases.

Statement-I

Name of States/Union Territories who have submitted action plan for utilization of funds remitted to Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) during the year 2007-08.

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UTs
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island
2.	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Arunachal Pradesh
4.	Assam
5.	Chandigarh
6.	Chhattisgarh
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli
8.	Goa
9.	Gujarat
10.	Himachal Pradesh
11.	Karnataka
12.	Madhya Pradesh
13.	Maharashtra
14.	Meghalaya
15.	Orissa
16.	Punjab
17.	Rajasthan
18.	Sikkim
19.	Tamil Nadu
20.	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Uttarakhand
22.	West Bengal

Statement-II**Funds remitted by States/Union Territories to
Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and
Planning Authority (CAMPA)**

As on 30.09.2008

Sl.No.	Name of the States/ Union Territories	Amount (In Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	109,297,921.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	7,447,821,682.48
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,467,579,907.74
4.	Assam	320,285,065.00
5.	Bihar	628,963,533.00
6.	Chandigarh	17,652,067.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	10,859,006,456.39
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11,829,000.00
9.	Daman and Diu	—
10.	Delhi	1,124,655,387.00
11.	Goa	1,062,176,638.40
12.	Gujarat	1,644,856,907.00
13.	Haryana	718,069,055.79
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2,162,673,122.60
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	—
16.	Jharkhand	8,006,847,672.28
17.	Karnataka	5,470,817,399.00
18.	Kerala	171,370,863.58
19.	Lakshadweep	—
20.	Madhya Pradesh	4,196,877,333.00
21.	Maharashtra	5,940,541,169.50
22.	Manipur	74,568,219.00
23.	Mizoram	—
24.	Meghalaya	6,840,186.00
25.	Nagaland	—
26.	Orissa	9,714,787,273.00
27.	Pondicherry	—

1	2	3
28.	Punjab	1,686,418,071.00
29.	Rajasthan	2,749,953,735.76
30.	Sikkim	565,951,665.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	161,988,835.00
32.	Tripura	314,200,45.00
33.	Uttar Pradesh	4,233,335,272.46
34.	Uttarakhand	6,785,060,307.65
35.	West Bengal	275,150,837.00

Emissions of Greenhouse Gases

684. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carried out any survey regarding the emission of greenhouse gases from different sources in the country;

(b) If so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Government of India prepared an inventory of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) of anthropogenic origin at 1994 level towards fulfilment of India's obligation for the preparation of India's Initial National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in the year 2004. The inventory provided information on the estimates of emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide from sectors such as energy, industrial processes, agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry and waste for the year 1994. The estimated emissions of GHGs from India were 1228 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. The emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide were 65%, 31% and 4% of the total emissions, respectively.

(c) The Government is engaged in the preparation of the inventory of GHGs under the aegis of India's Second National Communication to the UNFCCC for the year 2000 in the aforementioned sectors which is required to be reported to the UNFCCC in the year 2011.

[Translation]

Vaccines for Immunization Programme

685. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to include new vaccines for prevention of pneumonia and brain fever in National Vaccination Programme as published in 'Dainik Jagran' dated 26th June, 2008;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has estimated the number of children dying every year due to such diseases;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) the total number of children and targeted likely to be vaccinated each year; and

(f) the time by which the said vaccines are likely to be included in the programme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is considering introducing HIB vaccine in Pentavalent formulation in the Immunization Programme for preventing pneumonia and brain fever. However, no decision has been taken as yet.

(c) and (d) It is estimated that pneumonia and meningitis caused by Haemophilus Influenzae b (Hib) kill about 73,826 children under the age of five years in India every year.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Acquisition of Land for Coal Mines

686. SHRI BHAILAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) has acquired District Sombhadra (U.P.) land from the local people for coal mines;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NCL has given the compensation and other benefits as per the agreement;

(d) If so, the detailed thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) has acquired 1189 hectares of

tenancy land from local people for coal mines in Districts Sonebhadra (U.P.) under Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957 (CBA (A&D) Act, 1957).

(c) to (e) Compensation and other benefits have been paid as per the provisions laid down in the CBA (A & D) Act, 1957 and the Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R & R) Policy of Coal India Limited (CIL). The details are as given below :-

Tenancy land acquired (in hectares)	Compensation paid (Rupees in lakhs)	No. of Employ- ments given	No. of families to whom plots allotted at site	No. of families paid cash in lien of rehabili- tation & site
1189	380.90	1029	997	11

[Translation]

Share of Atomic Power Generation

687. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total power generation in the country and the share of atomic power generation in it;

(b) the details of action plan for atomic power generation;

(c) the sources from where nuclear fuel are obtained for atomic power generation and the quantity of fuel supplied to each plant alongwith per unit cost of atomic power generation; and

(d) the status of availability and use of domestic nuclear fuel for atomic power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) The total electricity generation in the country in the year 2007-08 was 7,04,469 Million Units with a nuclear share of about 2.4%.

(b) The present nuclear power capacity of 4120MWe will reach 7280 MWe by the year 2011 on progressive completion of projects under construction. XI Plan proposals envisage start of work on eight indigenous pressurized Heavy Water Resources of 700 MWe each and ten imported Light Water Reactors, each of about 1000 MWe and above.

(c) Of the 4120 MWe capacity in operation, 320 MWe (Tarapur Atomic Power Station-Units 1 & 2) is fuelled

by imported low enriched uranium (LEU), while the remaining 3800 MWe capacity comprising of Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) uses indigenous natural uranium, supplied by the Uranium Corporation of India Limited from its mines in Jharkhand. LEU for TAPS 1 & 2 is imported from different countries. The average tariff, including cost of generation, return on equity etc. of nuclear power in 2007-08 was Rs. 2.28/kWh.

(d) Currently, there is a demand-supply mismatch in respect of indigenous natural uranium. However this is temporary and the situation is expected to improve with the opening of new mines.

Increasing Number of Passport Applications

688. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of applicants for issue of passport has increased manifold in the country;

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

(c) whether additional arrangements at regional levels have been made in the States in this regard; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) Yes. There has been an increase in the number of applicants for passports.

(b) Details are enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) The Government had entrusted the National Institute of Smart Government (NISG), Hyderabad, with the task of undertaking a time-bound study on the passport issuance system, including its IT aspects with the objective to deliver passport related services to the citizens in a timely, transparent, more accessible, reliable manner. The Government accepted the NISG report as a result of which "Passport Seva Project" has been launched.

The proposal is to have 77 Passport Seva Kendras all over the country where the non-sovereign functions, involved in the passport issuance process, such as initial scrutiny of the application forms, acceptance of fee, scanning of the documents, taking photos, etc. will be performed by the service provider selected as a result of an open bidding process. The sensitive activities, such as verification of documents, decision on grant of passport, printing and dispatch of passports, will be performed by the Government staff. The project is expected to result in the issue of passports within 3 days and in cases, which require prior police verification, within 3 days after the completion of the verification process. The Project is expected to be implemented fully by the beginning of 2010.

Statement

Passport Applications received

Sl. No.	Passport Office	Name of State/ U.T.	Application received Jan-Sep 2007	Application received Jan-Sep 2008
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	297623	287682
2.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	59246	59645
3.	Guwahati	Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland & Arunachal Pradesh	18902	24051
4.	Patna	Bihar	107531	152884
5.	Chandigarh	Punjab (15 Districts), Haryana (12 Districts) Chandigarh U.T.	216910	227080
6.	Raipur*	Chhattisgarh	0	16006
7.	Delhi	Delhi & Haryana (8 districts)	198230	212756
8.	Panaji	Goa	22,051	23772
9.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	216003	216009
10.	Surat	Gujarat	71,989	69059
11.	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh	8,231	19314
12.	Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir	14145	10865
13.	Srinagar	Jammu and Kashmir	6986	8886
14.	Ranchi	Jharkhand	23575	32260
15.	Bangalore	Karnataka	206191	225279
16.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	113627	124691
17.	Cochin	Kerala	162186	170116
18.	Kozhikode	Kerala	113264	144872

1	2	3	4	5
19. Malappuram	Kerala	103546	117035	
20. Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	62401	55039	
21. Mumbai	Maharashtra	228693	237506	
22. Thane	Maharashtra	107591	116699	
23. Pune	Maharashtra	83426	92788	
24. Nagpur	Maharashtra	37601	42092	
25. Bhubaneswar	Orissa	29090	35472	
26. Jalandhar	Punjab	170839	155924	
27. Amritsar*	Punjab	0	27634	
28. Jaipur	Rajasthan	121012	136865	
29. Chennai	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	230587	213156	
30. Tiruchirappalli	Tamil Nadu	195361	103709	
31. Madurai	Tamil Nadu	0	113217	
32. Coimbatore*	Tamil Nadu	0	2051	
33. Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	201803	247081	
34. Ghaziabad	Uttar Pradesh	62189	72247	
35. Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	52682	59367	
36. Dehradun	Uttaranchal	0	12078	
37. Kolkata	West Bengal, Tripura & Sikkim	117080	136748	
Total		3,660,591	4,001,935	

Percentage increase = 9.32%

*These passport offices were opened subsequent to 09/2008.

[English]

Youth Hostels Scheme

889. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the Youth Hostels Scheme;

(b) If so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct more youth hostels in the country through Public-Private-Partnerships (PPP) mode; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Policy Committee (CPC) on Youth Hostels has reviewed the Scheme of Youth Hostel and the major decisions taken are as under :

(1) The selection of the site has to be done, keeping in mind the availability and suitability of the land, and effective utilisation of the youth hostels. The appropriate size of the plot, can be decided by the State Government, considering the fact that the location of the plot needs to be within the functional city area, which can be easily accessed by the youth. The recommended of plot will be finally considered and decided by the Government of India, after taking into account the feasibility and utility of the site.

(2) The executing agency, for the construction of youth hostel will be decided by the Ministry in accordance with the provisions of General Financial Rules (GFRs) of the Government of India and can be from amongst the following:

(a) CPWD

(b) Central PSU handling Civil construction work,

(c) State Government PWD, and

(d) State Government PSU or Civil construction agency of the State Government.

(3) While planning new hostels the need and requirements of youth in the current context may be relevant.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

India-Specific Safeguards Agreements with IAEA

890. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the agreement between International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Government of India regarding the India-specific safeguards;

(b) whether the IAEA through this agreement automatically gets the right to inspect the Indian atomic reactors;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to safeguard the interest and sovereignty of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) The draft agreement between the Government of India and the International Atomic Energy Agency approved by the IAEA Board of Governors on 1.8.2008 provides for the Application of Safeguards to Civilian Nuclear Facilities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) According to the terms of the agreement, cooperation between India and the International Atomic Energy Agency must be carried out with full respect for the objectives of the Statute and with due observance of the sovereign rights of India.

[Translation]

Measures to Control HIV/AIDS

691. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :
SHRI SHISHU PAL N. PATLE :
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

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

(a) whether the Government has taken measures for checking the spread of HIV/AIDS cases in the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the achievement made as a nearest thereof during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the number of AIDS cases has witnessed a declining trend during the current year; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS) : (a) and (b) In order to control the spread of HIV/AIDS, Government of India is implementing the National AIDS Control Programme as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme with the goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country over the next 5 years by integrating programmes for prevention, care, support and treatment. The programme adopts a four-pronged strategy:

1. Prevention of new infections in high risk groups and general population
2. Providing greater care, support and treatment to larger number of PLHA.
3. Strengthening the infrastructure, systems and human resources in prevention, care, support and treatment programmes at the district, state and national level.

4. Strengthening the nationwide Strategic Information Management System.

These are achieved by up-scaling targeted interventions among the high risk groups, behaviour change communication for improved awareness, expanding, counselling and testing services, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of opportunistic infections, provision of anti-retroviral drugs and mainstreaming of HIV interventions strategies.

(c) Based on the results of annual HIV Sentinel Surveillance, Adult HIV prevalence rate in the country has recorded a stable trend from 0.41% in 2004, 0.39% in 2005, 0.36% in 2006 to 0.34% in 2007. Behavioural Surveillance Survey was carried out in 2001 and 2006 and has shown an increase in the awareness level about HIV/AIDS from 67.4% to 80.4% and Condom use among general population during commercial sex has also increased from 40.1% to 58.3%.

(d) and (e) Due to the expansion of the Care and Support Programme in the country, more number of AIDS cases are detected and put on ART over years. The details of the AIDS cases detected and put on ART during the last three years are as below :-

Year	Cumulative Number of AIDS Patients on ART
2005-06	29,746
2006-07	70,276
2007-08	1,41,163
2008 (September)	1,77,808

[English]

Setting up of Cancer Hospitals

692. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of deaths due to cancer is increasing specially in the rural areas of the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up more Cancer Hospitals for research and treatment of this disease accessible to rural people during the next five-year plan; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) The exact number of deaths due to cancer in India is not known since it is not maintained centrally. According to ICMR based Population Based Cancer Registry, the estimated number of deaths due to cancer in India is about 4.4 lakh every year.

(c) and (d) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Government to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available to the cancer patients. Under the National Cancer Control Programme this Ministry has recognized 27 Regional Cancer Centres (RCCs) in different States/UTs to fill up the gaps in treatment of cancer. Based on State Govt. recommendation, new Regional Cancer Centres are recognised and Oncology wings in Govt. Hospitals are assisted financially.

[Translation]

Development of peripheral village by Coal India Limited

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

(a) the details of funds allocated and spent therefrom towards development of peripheral villages by Coal India Ltd. (CIL) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the government proposes to spend more money for the development of rural areas in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) Company-wise details of the amount allocated and actually spent under the head of Community Development Programme including development of peripheral villages during the last three years and amount allocated for the year 2008-09 are as under :-

(Figures in Lakh Rupees)

Company	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09
	Amount Allocated	Amount spent	Amount Allocated	Amount Spent	Amount Allocated	Amount Spent (Prov.)	Amount Allocated
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	220.00	107.36	200.00	125.98	200.00	387.68	240.00
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	200.00	128.33	230.00	156.44	240.00	185.79	252.00
Central Coalfields Ltd.	250.46	203.73	445.58	291.91	500.00	348.96	725.00
Western Coalfields Ltd.	375.00	335.52	432.00	374.97	439.07	351.46	435.12
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	800.73	957.75	830.00	746.39	885.00	734.66	937.91
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	907.00	379.47	820.00	395.89	800.00	980.21	880.00
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	272.45	183.27	512.00	235.78	520.00	441.33	*416.00
North Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	6.53	6.53	10.40	11.40	11.38	11.38	12.00
Total	3032.17	2301.96	3479.48	2338.76	3595.45	3441.45	3898.03

*Amount allocated in respect of NCL indicated up-to-Oct, 2008

(b) and (c) CIL has a well-defined policy for Community and peripheral Development, which includes development of facilities in rural areas also. Keeping in view the need and availability of funds, subsidiary companies allocate and spend funds on such programmes.

Auction of Medals by Sportspersons

694. DR. SHAFIQUIR RAHMAN BARQ : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sportspersons (wrestlers) were compelled to auction their medals as reported in the Hindi daily 'The Hindustan' dated 01 September, 2008;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) to (c)

The question of providing better facilities to sportspersons, both in terms of equipment and other facilities, has been constantly engaging the attention of the Government. Under its various schemes, the Government of India provides financial assistance to individual sportspersons in the form of cash awards for winning medals in international sports competitions, pension to meritorious sportspersons, which has recently been doubled and pension to sportspersons of yesteryears, living now in indigent circumstances, which has been quadrupled.

As for the broadcasting of the sports facilities, it is primarily the responsibility of the States Governments. However, the Government of India has recently launched a national scheme titled Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) which provides for creation of basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner over a period of next years. Under this scheme, the State Governments can select the village panchayats and block panchayats, which require creation of sports facilities on priority, and intimate the same to the Government of India for approval. Apart from one-time seed capital assistance, the Government also provides financial assistance for acquisition of equipment, routine repair and maintenance and holding competitions.

In the instant case, the Government has taken note of the news item referred to in the Question for taking appropriate action.

[English]

Deaths of Indians in Foreign Countries

695. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI E. DAYAKAR RAO :

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of suicides/deaths among the expatriate Indians is on the rise;

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

(c) whether the families of the deceased are facing lot of problems in getting the bodies back to India;

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reason for not providing adequate attention to the families of victims who die outside India; and

(e) the compensation paid to them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (e) The requisite details are being

collected from Indian Missions/Posts abroad and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Upgradation of NH-213

696. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for upgradation of NH-213 including construction of new bridges and by-passes;

(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 SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) National Highway No. 213 having a length of 126 km. is located in the State of Kerala only. Ministry has decided to upgrade the entire length under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase IV-A programme. Under this programme, National Highway will be upgraded primarily to minimum two lanes with paved shoulders with provision of capacity augmentation by widening to four lanes through Public Private Partnership (PPP) on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) pattern. The action has already been initiated for the appointment of technical consultant for preparation of feasibility report. Requirement of new bridges, bypasses etc., is to be assessed during the preparation of said report. However, preparation of feasibility report and preliminary project report is already under progress through a separate consultant for the construction of Mannarkkad bypass.

[Translation]

By-passes Around Jaipur

697. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Rajasthan for construction of by-passes around Jaipur city;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the time by which construction of these by-passes are likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI

K.H. MUNIYAPPA : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Rajasthan Government has intimated that State Government have already taken up Ring Road Project for Jaipur City through Jaipur Development Authority. Government of India had also approved ring road/by passed of Jaipur under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase VII. However, the State Government is not desirous of taking up the project under NHDP.

[English]

Mandatory Testing of Genetically Modified Packed Food

698. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) under administrative control of his Ministry has ordered for mandatory testing Genetically Modified Packed Food being sold in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken to ensure safety assessment of such packed food;

(c) whether such safety assessments are subject to public scrutiny;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) No Sir. However, approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), the statutory body constituted under the 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineering Organisms or Cells, 1989' notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, is mandatory prior to commercial use of genetically modified organisms and products derived therefrom. The GEAC is following a case by case system of approvals for which extensive rules and guidelines have been framed for evaluating their environmental and health safety. As of date, the GEAC has approved the environmental release of only Bt cotton in India. The GEAC had received request only for import and commercial use of GM Soyabean oil in India which was granted during July 2007. No other request has been received so far.

(c) and (d) The results of biosafety studies including toxicity and allergenicity data of all commercially released genetically modified crops are available in the public domain at www.envfor.nic.in and www.igmoris.nic.in. Stakeholder comments are taken into consideration prior to their commercial release.

(e) Does not arise.

Depleting Coal Reserves

699. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken and survey to know about the reported depleting quantity of coal reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the findings of the report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BARGODIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Integrated Coal Resource Information System (ICRIS) is being developed by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute which will have depleting data on Indian coal resources and the report is likely to be completed by 2011-12.

Projects Under SARDP

700. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects undertaken/to be undertaken under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme (SARDP) in the North Eastern Region including that of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, State-wise and stretch-wise;

(b) the details of the funds sanctioned and utilized therefrom against each project and time-frame fixed for the purpose;

(c) whether the construction of Bridge over Lohit Channel of river Brahmaputra between Dhola and Sadia alongwith extension of NH-37 up to Arunachal Pradesh have been completed;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the time-frame fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Special Accelerated Road Development Programme (project) in North East (SARDP-NE) is divided under Phase 'A' and Phase 'B' and Phase 'A' has been approved by the Government for implementation and Phase 'B' has been approved only for preparation of Detailed Project Reports. Details of roads under Phase 'A' and Phase 'B' of the project is enclosed State-wise and stretch-wise as Statement.

(b) An amount of Rs. 4,823 crore has been sanctioned by the Government for Phase 'A' of SARDP-NE. Out of this, Rs. 1319.00 crore has been spent upto September, 2008. Phase 'A' is targeted for completion by March, 2013.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise, as construction of the bridge in question has not been approved by the Government.

Statement

State-wise length of road included under SARDP-NE

State	Length in km								
	Phase 'A'			Phase 'B'			Phase 'A' + 'B'		
	National Highways	State roads	Total	National Highways	State roads	Total	National Highways	State roads	Total
Arunachal Pradesh	57	212	269	335	2372	2707	392	2584	2976
Assam	1174	0	1174	0	471	471	1174	471	1645
Manipur	39	108	147	92	58	150	131	166	297
Meghalaya	176	0	176	179	223	402	355	223	578
Mizoram	102	0	102	535	272	807	637	272	909
Nagaland	81	8	89	706	511	1217	787	519	1306
Sikkim	80	87	167	0	233	233	80	320	400
Tripura	330	0	330	110	336	446	440	336	776
Grand Total	2039	415	2454	1957	4476	6433	3996	4891	8887

Note :

Phase 'A' of SARDP-NE has been approved for execution

Phase 'B' of SARDP-NE has been approved for preparation of DPR

List of the roads under SARDP-NE

State : Arunachal Pradesh

Phase 'A'

Sl.No.	Category of road	Stretch/Scope of the work	Length in km
1	2	3	4
1.	NH 153 (Stilwell road)	2 laning of Ledo-Pansu pass section	32
2.	52A	4 lane connectivity to Itanagar (from Assam/Arunachal Pradesh border to Itanagar)	25
3.	State road	Improvement of road from Lumla to Tashigong road via Dudunghar (Indo-Bhutan road)	36
4.	Inter-Basin Road	Improvement/2 laning of Taliha-Tato road	100
5.	Inter-Basin Road	Improvement/2 laning of Migging - Bile road	76
Total (Phase 'A')			269

Phase 'B'

Sl.No.	Category of road	Scope/Section of road	Tentative Length (km)
1	2	3	4
1.	NH-52	2 laning of Jonai-Sitapani section	335
2.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Vijaynagar-Miao road	157
3.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Miao-Jairampur road	32
4.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Jairampur (NH-153)-Lalpur Bridge	9
5.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Lalpur Bridge-Manmao road	32
6.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Manmao-Changlang road	44
7.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 from Changlang to Khimiyang road	35
8.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Khimiyang - Sangkuhavi road	33
9.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Sangkuhavi - Lazu road	40
10.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Lazu-Wakka road	75
11.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Wakka-Khanu road	21
12.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Khanu - Konsa road	30
13.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Konsa-Panchao road	29
14.	Indo-Myanmar road	Improvement / 2 laning from Panchao - Nagaland Border road	25
15.	State road	Improvement/2 laning from Yingklong to Bishing (Porgo via Gette-Pugging-Likor-Paling-Jido) road	160
16.	-do-	Improvement / 2 laning from Zido-Singha road	94
17.	-do-	Improvement / 2 laning from Pango-Jorging road	90
18.	-do-	Improvement / 2 laning from Sarkam Point - Singa via Eko-Domping road	125
19.	-do-	2 laning of Yupia - Pappu road	10
20.	-do-	2 laning of Seppa-Nechipu road	96
21.	-do-	2 laning of Koloriang-Joram road	158
22.	-do-	2 laning of Yingklong-Pangin road	86
23.	-do-	2 laning of Anini - Meka road	235
24.	-do-	2 laning of Hawai - Hawa Camp Road	126
25.	-do-	2 laning of Along-Bame road	31
26.	-do-	2 laning of Tawang-Balipara road	283
27.	-do-	2 laning of Ziro Pahunera road	106
28.	-do-	2 laning of Lekabali-Daporizo road	210
Total (Phase 'B')			2707
Total (A+B)			2976

1	2	3	4
State : Assam			
Phase 'A'			
1.	NH 36	2 lining with paved shoulders in Daboka-Dimapur section	71
2.	NH 37	4 laning of Nagaon-Jorhat-Dibrugarh section	315
3.		Improvement of existing 2 lane and paved shoulders in Dibrugarh-Makum-Rupai section	73
4.	NH 38	Improvement of existing 2 lane and paved shoulders in Makum-Lekhapani section	56
5.	NH 44	2 laning of Ratacherra-Chrulbari section	29
6.	NH 51	2 laning with paved shoulders from Paikan to Assam/Meghalaya border section	22
7.	NH 52	2 laning with paved shoulders North Lakhimpur-Jonal and Dirak-Rupai sections	196
8.	NH 53	2 laning with paved shoulders from Badarpur to Jiribam	66
9.		Construction of 2 lane Silchar bypass	20
10.	NH 54	2 laning with paved shoulders in Silchar - Lailapur section	32
11.	NH 61	Improvement of existing 2 lane Janji-Assam/Nagaland border section with paved shoulders	18
12.	NH 152	2 laning with paved shoulders of Pathshala-Assam/Bhutan border section	38
13.	NH 153 (Stilwell road)	2 laning with paved shoulders in Lekhapani-Ledo section	24
14.	NH 154	2 laning with paved shoulders of Dhaleshwar-Bairabi section	89
15.	NH 37A, 52 & 52A	4 lane connectivity to Itanagar (from Silghat to Assam/Arunachal Pradesh border)	125
Total (Phase 'A')			1174
Phase 'B'			
1.	State road	2 laning of Golaghat - Rangajan road	7
2.	-do-	2 laning of Dipu-Manja road	16
3.	-do-	2 laning of Haflong-Jatinga road	8
4.	-do-	2 laning of Dhubri-Gauripur road	8.5
5.	-do-	2 laning of Baska-Bamara road	25
6.	-do-	2 laning of Morigaon-Jagi road	23
7.	-do-	2 laning of Barpeta-Howly road	12
8.	-do-	2 laning of Goalpara-Solmarl road	6.5
9.	-do-	2 laning of Kokrajhar-Karigaon road	18

1	2	3	4
10.	-do-	2 laning of Tawang-Balipara portion of road in Assam	32
11.	-do-	2 laning of Ziro-Pahumara road portion of road in Assam	18
12.	-do-	2 laning of Lekabali-Daporizo road portion in Assam	12
13.	-do-	2 laning of Alternative route between Barak Valley (Slichar)-Guwahati road via Harangajao-Turuk	285
Total (Phase 'B')			471
Total (A+B)			1645

State : Manipur**Phase 'A'**

1.	NH 53	2 laning of Jiribam - Imphal section (remaining portion)	39
2.	State road	2 laning of Maram - Paren road	108
Total (Phase 'A')			147

Phase 'B'

1.	NH 150	2 laning of Ukhrul to Yaingangpokpi section	92
2.	State road	2 laning of Tamenglong-Khonsang road	40
3.	-do-	2 laning of Pallel Chandel road	18
Total (Phase 'B')			150
Total (A+B)			297

State : Meghalaya**Phase 'A'**

1.	NH 40	4 laning Jorabat-Barapani section	62
2.	NH 40 & 44	Construction of 2 lane Shillong bypass	50
3.	NH 40 & 44	Improvement of existing 2 lane Barapani - Shillong section and flyovers in Shillong city	54
4.	NH 44	Construction of 2 lane Jowai bypass	10
Total (Phase 'A')			176

Phase 'B'

1.	NH-44E	2 laning of Nongstoin-Shillong section	83
2.	NH-62	2 laning from Assam/Meghalaya border to Baghmara	96
3.	State road	2 laning of Nongstoin-Rongjeng-Tura road	201
4.	-do-	2 laning of William nagar to Nengkhra road & other road (2 side connectivity with respective length of 14 & 8 km)	22
Total (Phase 'B')			402
Total (A + B)			578

List of the roads under SARDP-NE

Sl.No.	Category of road	Stretch/Scope of the work	Length in km
1	2	3	4
State : Mizoram			
Phase 'A'			
1.	NH 54	2 laning of Lallapur-Aizwal section	58
2.	NH 154	2 laning of Bairabi-Kolasib section	44
Total (Phase 'A')			102
Phase 'B'			
1.	NH-44A	2 laning/realignment of NH-44A from Km 11.500 to 130	119
2.	NH-54	2 laning of NH-54 from Aizwl to Tuipang section	380
3.	NH-54A	2 laning from Lunglei-Theriat section	9
4.	NH-54B	2 laning from Zero point to Saiha section	27
5.	State road	2 laning of Lunglei-Demagiri road	92
6.	-do-	2 laning of Champal-Thau road	30
7.	-do-	2 laning of Champal - Seling road	150
Total (Phase 'B')			807
Total (A+B)			909
State : Nagaland			
Phase 'A'			
1.	NH 39	4 laning of Dimapur-Kohima section and bypass of Dimapur and Kohima	81
2.	State road	2 laning of Maram-Paren road (Nagaland Portion)	8
Total (Phase 'A')			89
Phase 'B'			
1.	NH-61	2 laning of Assam/Nagaland border to Kohima section	234
2.	NH-150	2 laning from Kohima to Nagaland/Manipur border	132
3.	NH-155	2 laning of Mokokchung to Jessami section	340
4.	State road	2 laning from Pfitzero-Zhamel road	18
5.	-do-	2 laning from Athibung-Khelma	55
6.	-do-	2 laning of Phek-Pfitzero road	79
7.	-do-	2 laning of Longleng-Chantongya road	35
8.	-do-	2 laning of Tamlu-Merangkong road	50
9.	-do-	2 laning of Peren-Kohima road	96

1	2	3	4
10.	-do-	2 laning of Zunheboto-Chakabama road	128
11.	-do-	2 laning of Mon-Tamlu road	50
Total (Phase 'B')			1217
Total (A+B)			1306

*List of road under SARDP-NE***State : Sikkim****Phase 'A'**

1.	NH 31A	2 laning with paved shoulders from Sevoke to Gangtok	80
2.	State road	2 lane Gangtok bypass	22
3.	State road	2 laning from end of Gangtok bypass to Nathula road to NH Standards	65
Total (Phase 'A')			167

Phase 'B'

1.	State road	New alternative highway from Melli to Singtam	27
2.	-do-	2 laning of Gyalshing-Singtam road	80
3.	-do-	2 laning of Tarku-Namchi road	32
4.	-do-	2 laning of Legship-Jorethang road	26
5.	-do-	2 laning of Gangtok-Mangam road	68
Total (Phase 'B')			233
Total (A+B)			400

State : Tripura**Phase 'A'**

1.	NH 44	4 laning of Churaibari - Agartala-Sabroom section	330
Total (Phase A)			330

Phase 'B'

1.	NH 44A	2 laning/realignment of NH-44A from Manu to Tripura/ Mizoram Border	110
2.	State road	2 laning of Kailasahar-Kumarghat road	26
3.	-do-	Improvement of road Kukital to Sabroom	310
Total (Phase 'B')			446
Total (A+B)			776

Promotion of Sports by SAI

701. SHRI M. APPADURAI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has any plan to augment the infrastructure facility to promote sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the SAI proposed to set up sports centre at all Taluka/Block level to encourage sportspersons from rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Infrastructure facilities like providing of synthetic surfaces, hostel, modern fitness centre and sports science centres etc. are being provided at various places in the country by way of facilities to sportspersons.

(c) to (e) SAI has no scheme to establish Sports Centres at all Talukas. However, the Government has recently launched a national programme titled the Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan, which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchayats in the country in a phased manner, over a period of 10 years.

[Translation]

Blindness Among Children

702. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of children have become victims of blindness in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) As per the available information from the blind schools and refractive error studies in India, it is estimated that there are 3.5 lakh blind children due to visual impairment in the age group of 0-15 years. This pool of blind children is constant over about the last five years.

The main reasons for blindness among children in India are :-

- * Vitamin - A deficiency
- * Measles
- * Ophthalmia Neonatorum
- * Retinopathy of pre-maturity
- * Cataract
- * Glaucoma
- * Injuries

Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness, which is a centrally sponsored scheme, the following steps have been taken to control blindness among children :-

- * Setting up of Pediatric Ophthalmology Units in Medical Colleges/Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology/State level Eye Hospital in NGO and Private Sector
- * Setting up of Vision Centres in the periphery
- * Training of doctors and paramedics in eye care in children
- * School Eye Screening and provision of spectacles for poor children
- * Non-recurring and recurring grant-in-aid to Eye Banks and Eye Donation Centres
- * Development of training and IEC material for awareness about childhood blindness
- * Regular monitoring and evaluation of the programme.

Condition of NH in Metro Cities

703. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways (NH) passing through the metro cities are in dilapidated condition as reported in "Dainik Jagran" dated 17 June, 2008;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) th reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) The development and maintenance of National Highways, including those passing through the metro cities, are a continuous process and these are taken up depending upon the availability of funds, traffic density and inter-se priorities.

Water Crisis In Keoldev National Park

704. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Keoldev National Park has been facing severe water crisis for the past few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent any proposal to the Union Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the current status of the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT NAD FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) and (b) As reported by the State Government of Rajasthan, the Keoladeo National Park had faced water crisis during 2000-01 to 2004-05 and again during 2006-07 to 2007-08. However, during the current year, the park has received approximately 450-500 ft water from the Ajan Bangh and Chiksana Canal as against the annual requirement of about 540 m.cft of water.

(c) and (d) The Government of Rajasthan had submitted two proposals in the past to the Union Government for augmenting water supply to the Keoladeo National Park. The first proposal was submitted in 2005 with financial implication of Rs. 100.00 crores. It envisaged bringing water from the Chambal river through a regular supply to the Park. It was referred to the Planning Commission for further necessary action by the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

The State Government submitted another proposal in March, 2008 with an estimated cost of Rs. 61.23 crores involving diversion of flood waters from Govardhan drain to Keoladeo National Park to augment the water supply to Keoladeo National Park. The same was also recommended to the Planning Commission. In this connection, an expert team from the Planning Commission and already visited the site at Bharatpur August, 2008 for the feasibility of the project.

(e) Availability of water in the Keoladeo National Park depends on adequate rainfall in the areas. The following steps to address the water problem in the Park have been taken:

- (i) Four new deep bore wells and two new shallow bore wells have been dug inside the Park to address the emergency situation.
- (ii) The State Government has completed the Chiksana Canal Project, which along with the Ajan dam, would bring about 200 million cubic feet of flood water to Keoladeo National Park during the monsoon period.
- (iii) Provision has been made to supply water to Keoladeo National Park in the Dholpur-Bharatpur Chambal drinking water project.
- (iv) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has been providing financial and technical assistance to the

State Government for the better management of Keoladeo National Park. An amount of Rs. 28.00 lakhs has been released as the first instalment during the current financial year (2008-09) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance to Development of National Park & Sanctuaries."

- (v) An UNESCO funded project has been launched for better management of Keoladeo National Park.

Sale of Banned Medicines in India

705. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of medicines banned in foreign countries are being sold in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, There is no global system of banning of drugs. Drugs banned in one country may continue to be marketed in other countries on the basis of risk assessment process undertaken by the respective Government. There exists a system of evaluation of safety and efficacy of drugs in the country, in consultation with experts before permitting their market authorization or in the cases of reports of adverse events on the use of a drug.

(c) 1. The screening of drug formulations marketed in the country and considered harmful or irrational in the context of present technical knowledge was started in early 80's and the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 was amended in 1982 to empower Central Govt. to prohibit manufacture under the said Act.

2. Drugs, for which harmful effects are reported, or if therapeutic justification is considered inadequate in the context of current medical evidence, are examined by Expert Committee under Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DATB) on a continuous basis.

3. So far, 78 categories of Drugs/drug formulations have been prohibited for marketing in the country.

Tele-Medicine Facility to SAARC Countries

706. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend tele-medicine facilities to the 'SAARC' countries;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for extending the Tele-medicine facility to SAARC countries.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Constitution of Trans Himalayan Authority

707. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to constitute a Trans Himalayan Authority to address the environmental and agro climatic issues of Hill States;

(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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

(c) However, to address environmental issues in the Trans Himalayan regions, Gobind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, an autonomous institute of Ministry of Environment & Forest with headquarters at Almora in Uttarakhand and four regional units in Himalayas, is engaged in research and studies related to glaciers and cold desert regions. Cultivation of Seabuckthorn, a species suitable for cultivation in the cold desert/alpine areas in the Trans Himalayas is being promoted. Besides, potential site for designating a Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, covering States of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh is under consideration.

Disinclination Towards Medical Profession

708. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many students belonging to sciences stream are not inclined to pursue medical profession due to heavy cost and lengthy duration of the course; and

(b) If so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government to encourage such students to pursue medical profession?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) No data is available with this Ministry to indicate that students belonging to sciences stream are not inclined to pursue medical profession due to heavy cost and lengthy duration of the course.

Prevention of Avian FLU

709. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of a Avian flu in the country; and;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check further spreading of this disease in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The last incidence of Avian Influenza was notified on 16th May, 2008 in West Bengal, after which there has been no further outbreak of the disease. There has been no human case of Avian Influenza.

(b) The Government has action plan for preparedness, control and containment both for Health and Animal Husbandry sector which were put into operation during the above mentioned outbreak.

[Translation]

Proposals for Construction of Bridges

710. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposals for construction of bridges on the National Highways from various State Governments during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the number of bridges proposed to be constructed during 2007-08 and 2008-09, State-wise;

(d) the State-wise details of proposals pending for approval for construction of bridges over various rivers and national highways in the country; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government on the proposals of State Government for early approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, 238 numbers of proposals for construction of bridges on National Highways from various State Governments have been received during last three years and the current year. The State-wise details given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) 43 and 55 numbers of bridges were proposed to be constructed during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. The State-wise details given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) The State-wise details of pending proposals for construction of bridges over various river on national highways in the country for approval are given in the enclosed Statement-III. However the proposals are sanctioned subject to conformance to Ministry's guidelines, depending upon the availability of funds a inter-se priority of works.

Statement-I

Sl.No.	State	No. of bridges proposals received from State Governments				
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (as on 30.9.2008)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	6	5	2	14
2	Assam	0	1	0	1	2
3	Bihar	12	7	16	1	36
4	Chandigarh	0	1	0	0	1
5	Chhattisgarh	6	1	6	4	17
6	Gujarat	5	1	8	1	15
7	Haryana	1	5	3	0	9
8	Himachal Pradesh	1	10	1	2	14
9	Jharkhand	0	1	2	2	5
10	Karnataka	9	14	11	4	38
11	Kerala	1	1	1	1	4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12	Madhya Pradesh	0	2	0	11	13
13	Maharashtra	0	2	2	4	8
14	Meghalaya	0	3	1	2	6
15	Mizoram	2	0	0	2	4
16	Orissa	1	5	0	0	6
17	Puducherry	1	0	0	0	1
18	Punjab	1	1	1	0	3
19	Rajasthan	0	1	1	4	6
20	Tamil Nadu	1	6	6	2	15
21	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	1	5	6
22	Uttarakhand	7	0	2	1	10
23.	West Bengal	0	3	2	0	5
Total		49	71	69	49	238

Statement-II

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	No. of Bridges proposed to be constructed		
		2007-08	2008-09	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	6	6
2	Assam	0	1	1
3	Bihar	11	3	14
4	Chhattisgarh	2	3	5
5	Gujarat	1	6	7
6	Haryana	2	3	5
7	Himachal Pradesh	0	6	6
8	Jharkhand	0	1	1
9.	Karnataka	21	6	27
10.	Kerala	2	0	2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	0	1	1
12.	Maharashtra	0	1	1

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Orissa	2	3	5
14.	Puducherry	0	1	1
15.	Punjab	1	2	3
16.	Rajasthan	0	2	2
17.	Tamil Nadu	1	3	4
18.	Uttar Pradesh	0	1	1
19.	Uttarakhand	0	2	2
20.	West Bengal	0	4	4
Total		43	55	98

Statement-III

Sl.No.	State	No. of Bridge proposals pending for approval (as on 30.09.2009)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1
2	Assam	1
3	Chhattisgarh	4
4	Gujarat	2
5	Himachal Pradesh	2
6	Jharkhand	1
7	Karnataka	11
8	Kerala	1
9	Madhya Pradesh	9
10	Maharashtra	4
11	Meghalaya	2
12	Orissa	2
13	Orissa	2
14	Rajasthan	4
15	Tamil Nadu	2
16	Uttar Pradesh	4
17.	Uttarakhand	9
Total		61

*(English)***Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre**

711. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre with a view to extend counseling services to overseas Indian workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of overseas Indians who have availed of the assistance at these Centres?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (c) The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) established by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs services as a 'one stop shop' to promote overseas Indian investment into India and facilitate business to business partnerships between Indian businesses and overseas Indian businesses.

To extend counseling services to overseas Indian workers, the Ministry has also set up an Overseas Workers' Resource Centre (OWRC) for rendering counseling assistance to overseas Indian workers and those who are desirous of going abroad for employment. The objectives of the Centre are :

- Information dissemination on matters relating to emigration
- Registering, responding to and monitoring complaints received from emigrant workers
- Grievance redressal and follow up with stakeholders

The OWRC functions with a toll free number 1800 11 3090 accessible from anywhere in India for rendering help to the emigrant workers. The Helpline is presently functioning in seven languages, viz. Hindi, English, Tamil, Malayalam, Punjabi, Kannada and Telugu from 10.00 am to 10.00 pm, seven days a week. The Helpline has received a total of 4616 including 43 calls from overseas Indians, till date

National Family Welfare Programme

712. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is releasing funds under National Family Welfare Programme to the poor people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated to various States including Karnataka, during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (c) The Government is not releasing funds under National Family Welfare Programme to the poor people in the country. However,

funds are being released under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) through State Programme Implementation Plan, which is the flagship Programme of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. It includes all maternal and child health activities, family welfare activities, IEC, 6 disease control programme etc.

Marine Casualties

713. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of marine casualties and loss of ships in the Indian territorial waters during the last three years and current year;

(b) whether the Government proposes to create Marine Emergency Relief Fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether a Committee of Experts has been set up to look into all these aspects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) A Statement-I indicating the details of the maritime casualties involving the loss of ships in the Indian territorial waters during the years 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 is enclosed.

(b) to (e) A "Committee on Urgent Measures for Prevention of Marine Casualties and Emergency Response" was constituted in July, 2007 to study and recommended the measures to reduce the marine casualties in the Indian Coastal waters. The recommendations made by the Committee are given in the enclosed Statement-II. Keeping in view the recommendations of the Committee, a proposal for creation of Marine Emergency Fund is under the consideration of the Government.

Statement-I

Sl.No.	Name of Vessel	Date of incident	Location/Area	Remarks
Year 2005				
1.	Faiz	03.06.2005	Off sandheads, Bay of Bengal	Sunk
2.	Dumb Barge Rajgiri	04.07.2005	Off Mumbai	Sunk
3.	Samudra Suraksha	27.07.2005	Mumbai	Sunk
4.	J. Kennedy	03.08.2005	Tuticorin Port	Sunk
5.	M.V. IIDA	29.08.2005	Tuticorin	Sunk
6.	MV Edna Maria	09.11.2005	North Andaman	Grounded.
Year 2006				
1.	MSV Mars	28.04.2006	A & N Island	Sunk
2.	DCI Tug-VI	06.05.2006	Tuticorin	Sunk
3.	MV Ocean Seraya	30.05.2006	Karawar	Grounded
4.	Isabel 111	16.07.2006	Lakshadweep	Grounded
5.	MV Oel Vision	02.08.2006	Bombay	Sunk
6.	Tug Se Marian-2	11.08.2006	Little Island	Grounded
7.	MV Mac	17.08.2006	A & N Islands	Grounded
8.	Sea Panther	03.12.2006	Mumbai	Sunk
Year 2007				
1.	Mariam Trans	21.05.2007	Porbandar	Sunk
2.	Akash	04.06.2007	Dwarka	Sunk
3.	MV John Richardson	23.06.2007	Drifted to Myanmar	Presumed Sunk
4.	MV Den Den	23.06.2007	New Mangalor Port	Sunk
5.	Tug Winpo	23.06.2007	Calicut	Sunk
6.	Towed Dumb Barge	23.06.2007	Calicut	Grounded
7.	Tug Krishna I	24.06.2007	Mumbai	Sunk
8.	Tug Krishna II	24.06.2007	Mumbai	Grounded
9.	Barge Radha I	24.06.2007	Mumbai	Grounded
10.	Barge Radha IV	24.0.2007	Mumbai	Grounded
11.	Maria S.	25.06.2007	Kochi	Sunk
12.	Shujaa 3,	25.06.2007	Porbandar	Grounded
13.	MV Sea Glory	26.06.2007	Jhakau	Grounded
14.	MV Ronga	30.06.2007	Muldwarika	Grounded
15.	Clinker Carrier	04.07.2007	Mumbai	Sunk
16.	Sumudrika-10	09.07.2007	Mumbai	Sunk
Year 2008				
1.	Al Manara	03.05.2008	Porabandar	Grounded
2.	Al Murtaza	04.06.2008	Ratnagiri	Sunk
3.	Homi Bhabha	18.09.2008	Bhavnagar	Grounded

Statement-II

The main recommendations made by the Committee on "Urgent Measures for Prevention of Marine Casualties and Emergency Response" are as follows :-

(a) Immediate Preventive and Rehabilitation Measures:

- (i) Restriction on old vessels in Indian Territorial Waters and Exclusive Economic zone.
- (ii) Stringent inspections of vessels by the Directorate General of Shipping and Indian Register of Shipping.
- (iii) Introduction of Vessel Traffic and Information Management System (VTIMS) to regulate the movement of trading vessels.
- (iv) Provision of a "Place of Refuge" for vessels in distress.
- (v) Safeguarding port navigational waters through Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) using the Radar, Radio Communication System and Automatic Identification System (AIS) for the purpose of safety of navigational security.
- (vi) Creation of Emergency Fund.

(b) Emergency Response Mechanism :-

- (i) The Directorate General of Shipping at the National level and the Chairman/Chief Executives of the Ports at the local level to have authority for responding in emergency situations.
- (ii) Salvage companies of international repute need to be encouraged to set up themselves in India, at least one of each coast.
- (iii) Procurement of oil pollution recovery and salvaging vessels and Emergency Towing Vessels (ETVs).
- (iv) Coast Guards/Navy should maintain twin-engine helicopters and keep them on alert during monsoon season.

(c) Short Term Measures :

- (i) Information sharing on casualties by linking up the ship Reporting System operated by the Coast Guards and the communication center of the Director General of Shipping so that all the marine authorities and the ports are alerted for action, whenever required.
- (ii) Augmentation of coastal surveillance by the Coast Guards, Navy, Marine Police etc.
- (iii) To set up Long Range Identification Tracking (LRIT) system to enable early warning of any irregularity in safety and security standards to enable concerned

authorities, to initiate preventive and corrective measures.

- (iv) Compulsory Reporting of movement of foreign flags in Indian territorial waters.
- (v) Establishment of Casualty Investigation Bureau (CIB) to conduct investigations into shipping casualties for ascertaining the cause of accidents etc.
- (vi) Make appropriate legislative changes to deal with the emergency situations.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

714. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

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

- (a) the status of implementation of Janani Suraksha Yojana in various States including Gujarat alongwith the guidelines laid down in this regard;
- (b) the amount allocated for this purpose during the last three years and current year;
- (c) the number of people benefited under the Scheme; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (d) Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a safe motherhood intervention under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), was launched on 12th April, 2005 to promote institutional deliveries among the poor pregnant women. The Yojana is being implemented in all states including the state of Gujarat. The funds for implementation of the Yojana are released as part of RCH Flexi pool. A brief on the scheme (JSY) is enclosed as Statement.

The number of beneficiaries and expenditure reported on the scheme by the States (including the state of Gujarat) during 2005-06 to 2007-08 are as under :-

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)	No. of beneficiaries
2005-06	38.29	7,38,911
2006-07	258.22	31,58,317
2007-08	755.01	73,28,601
2008-09	173.68*	1126881*

*Figure available as on 30.6.2008 subject to change on receipt of further reports from the States.

Statement**Janani Suraksha Yojana**

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is a safe motherhood intervention under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched on 12th April 2005 to promote institutional delivery among the poor pregnant women. The Yojana is being implemented in all states and Union Territories. JSY is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme.

(2) The scheme focuses on the poor pregnant woman with special dispensation for states having low institutional delivery rate namely, the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Orissa, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir. While these states have been classified as Low performing States (LPS), the remaining states have been named as High Performing States (HPS). Besides the material care, the scheme provided cash assistance to all eligible mothers for delivery care.

(3) The Yojana has identified ASHA, the Accredited Social Health Activist as an effective link between the Government and the poor pregnant women in 10 low performing states, namely the 8 (EAG) - Empowered Action Group (EAG) states and Assam and J & K and the remaining NE States. Her main role is to facilitate pregnant women to avail Services of material care and arrange referral transport.

(4) Eligibility for Cash Assistance ;

In LPS States	All woman including those from SC and ST families, delivering in Government health centres like Sub-centre, PHC/CHC/FRU/ general words of District and state Hospitals or accredited private institutions.
In HPS States	BPL pregnant women, aged 19 years and above and the SC and ST permanent woman.

(5) Scale of Cash Assistance (in Rs.) for Institutional Delivery;

Category	Rural Area		Urban Area	
	Mother's Package	ASHA Package	Mother's Package	ASHA Package
In LPS	1400	600	1000	200
In HPS	700		600	

(6) Limitations of Cash Assistance for Institutional Delivery;

In LPS States	All births, delivered in a health centre-Government or Accredited Private Health Institutions
---------------	---

In HPS States	Up to 02 live births
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(7) ASHA package is available in all LPS, NE States and in the total districts of all states and UTs. In rural areas, it includes the following components;

- Cash assistance for Referral transport for pregnant women to go to the nearest health centre for delivery.
- Balance amount to be paid to ASHA in lieu of services rendered by her.

(8) The Yojana subsidizes the cost of Caesarean Section or for the management of Obstetric complications, upto Rs. 1500/- per delivery to the Government Institutions, where Government specialists are not in position.

(9) LPS and HPS States, all such BPL pregnant women, aged 19 years and above, preferring to deliver at home is entitled to cash assistance of Rs. 500/- per delivery, upto two live births.

[Translation]

Inquiry Report on Purchase of Machine Tools

715. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

the current status of inquiry ordered/conducted regarding misappropriation of funds in the purchase of machine tools in Ballarpur sector Western Fields (WCL)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : As informed by the Coal India Limited, as per the findings of inquiry conducted in the matter, proceedings for levy of major penalty have been initiated against five officials of Western Coal Fields for the alleged irregularities, in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)

Diseases caused due to Contaminated Drinking Water

716. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN :

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

(a) whether a large number of diseases are caused due to contaminated drinking water in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of children die due to drinking of such water every year;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) Yes, Sir, Water borne diseases are caused by the ingestion of contaminated water. Water-borne diseases include Cholera, Typhoid, Viral Hepatitis and Acute diarrhoeal diseases.

(b) to (d) As per details available, the cases and deaths due to water borne diseases during the last 5 years, including amongst children, (from 2002 to 2007) are given in enclosed statement. The data furnished in Statement does not, however, show any definitive trend.

(e) National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) issues technical guidelines on prevention and control of water-borne diseases and circulates them to State. In addition to this NICD investigates water-borne diseases' out break and carries out water quality monitoring activities at different levels.

Statement

Cases and Deaths due to Water Borne Diseases reported during 2002-2007 (All India)

Sl. No.	Disease	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007*	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1.	Viral Hepatitis	135859	914	151287	1006	203939	1122	152087	651	152623	694	97827	480
2.	ADD	9441456	3475	10510476	4709	9575112	2855	9046892	1647	10213917	3176	9478813	2328
3.	Cholera	3455	10	2893	2	4728	9	3155	6	1939	3	2635	3
4.	Enteric Fever	488033	542	596684	839	658301	805	567638	389	789004	658	789004	393

*Data for the year 2007 are provisional.

Source : CBHI, Ministry of Health & FW

[English]

Indo-Pak Joint Anti-Terror Mechanism

717. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the joint anti-terror mechanism between India and Pakistan has been reactivated;

(b) if so, the number of meetings held in this regard; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) During the meeting of Prime Minister with the President of Pakistan in New York on 24th September 2008 it was decided that a special meeting of the Joint Anti-Terrorism Mechanism will be held in October, 2008 to address mutual concerns including the bombing of the Indian Embassy in Kabul.

(b) Three meetings of the Joint Anti-Terrorism Mechanism have been held in March 2007, October 2007 and June 2008.

(c) In these meetings, the two sides reviewed the follow-up steps taken on the information shared during the earlier meetings of the Mechanism and agreed to work to identify counter-terrorism measures, assist in investigations through exchange of specific information and for preventing violence and terrorist acts. It is Government's expectation that the mechanism will be utility in implementing the assurance of 6th January, 2004 wherein Pakistan had assured India that it would not permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner.

[Translation]

Declining Income of Shipping Industry

718. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the earnings of Shipping Industry during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the reasons of decreasing, if any, in the earnings of Shipping Industry;

(c) whether by the year 2012, around 44 per cent ships are going to be put out of use;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being by the Government to improve the condition of Shipping Industry?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The details of the earnings of the Shipping Industry during the last three years are given as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1. Freight and charter hire earnings	9,180.25	10,788.52	11,587.00	3942.03
2. Sales proceeds of Ships	2,025.55	1,062.49	1,399.82	460.93
Total	11,133.80	11,851.01	12,986.82	4,402.96

(b) The earnings of the industry has been increasing over the years.

scrapped by the year 2012 due to old age/IMO phase out regulations.

(c) Yes Sir. Around 44% i.e. 3.97 million GT (6.29 million DWT) out of the existing Indian fleet will have to be

(d) The details are given below :-

Type of ships	No. of ships	Gt	Dwt
Dry cargo liners	34	54977	77702
Dry cargo Container vessels	10	104612	129311
Bulk carriers	71	1868523	3153152
Ore Oil Bulk Carriers	1	66926	123465
Crude oil tankers	21	609719	1060227
Product carriers	36	796743	1340548
Passenger-cum-cargo vessels	11	36571	18925
LPG Carriers	7	127712	159250
Supply Vessels	115	177980	155853
Dredgers	15	59544	22260
Others	110	63229	48978
Total	431	3966536	6289671

(e) The Government has been taking various steps from time to time for the growth of Indian tonnage. These include :

(i) The Government of India has formulated the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) under which 111 projects for Shipping & Inland Water Transport Sector have been identified for implementation by the year 2015 at cost of Rs. 44,535 crores. The activities covered under the Programme include tonnage acquisition, maritime training, coastal shipping, aids to navigation, shipbuilding and building up of IWT infrastructure. Under the NMDP, The Shipping Corporation of India plans to acquire 76 vessels at a total approximate cost of Rs. 15,000 crores.

(ii) Tonnage Tax has been introduced from 2004-05 where by in the matter of taxation a level playing field has been given to Indian Shipping Industry vis-a-vis international shipping industry.

(iii) The acquisition of vessels has been brought under Open General Licence. The Shipowners are free to decide on type of ships to be acquired and their area of operation etc.

(iv) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in Shipping Sector.

(v) The formalities of registration of newly acquired vessels have been simplified.

- (vi) The maritime training, examination and certification system has been streamlined to meet the market demands.

[English]

Migration of Doctors and Nurses

719. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of doctors and nurses are migrating abroad each year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Doctors go abroad either for obtaining higher qualifications/training or for prestigious assignment. However, keeping in view the total number of registered allopathic medical practitioners in the country as 7,13,428, the number of doctors going abroad is very less. As per Medical Council of India during the period from April 2005 to September, 2008, the Council has issued around 9825 Good Standing certificate to the doctors going abroad.

As regards Nurses, no data is centrally maintained. Currently the total annual intake capacity of the Nursing institutions in the country is 1,05,200. Generally the nurses go abroad for better prospects.

Maritime University in Gujarat

720. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish maritime University in Gujarat;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Per Capita Income and Expenditure

721. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income of States during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the per capita expenditure of States in social sectors, during the last three years and the current year State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : (a) The Statement-I giving per capita income of States during the years 2002-03 to 2006-07 as available from the respective State Directorate of Economics and Statistics is enclosed.

(b) As per Reserve Bank of India Study, "State Finances : A Study Of Budgets of 2007-08", the State-wise per capita expenditure in social sector is given in the enclosed Statement-II. The social sector comprises of Education, Sports, Art and Culture; Medical and Public Health; Family Welfare; Water Supply and Sanitation; Housing; Urban Development; Welfare of SCs, STs and OBCs; Labour and Labour Welfare; Social Security and Welfare; Nutrition; Expenditure on Natural Calamities and others.

Statement-I

Per Capita Income At Current Prices

Sl.No.	State/UT	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22041	23755	26226	29582
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19322	22185	22335	25836
3.	Assam	15487	17013	18211	20166
4.	Bihar	6861	7400	7930	9702
5.	Jharkhand	12951	17887	18803	20773
6.	Goa	54577	66135	70112	NA
7.	Gujarat	26922	28846	32991	37532
8.	Haryana	33910	37648	41988	49038

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	28333	31198	33817	36656
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	17528	18630	20799	NA
11.	Karnataka	20536	23576	26015	28830
12.	Kerala	25645	27864	30668	33609
13.	Madhya Pradesh	14306	14476	15304	16578
14.	Chhattisgarh	16098	18068	20151	NA
15.	Maharashtra	29165	32481	36090	41331
16.	Manipur	14728	18368	20326	22495
17.	Meghalaya	19830	21232	22847	24672
18.	Mizoram	21963	22417	23900	25679
19.	Nagaland	20821	20998	21083	NA
20.	Orissa	14252	16306	17610	20240
21.	Punjab	31182	33158	36759	40566
22.	Rajasthan	16507	16515	17306	19512
23.	Sikkim	21476	23791	26412	29521
24.	Tamil Nadu	24106	27137	29958	32733
25.	Tripura	21138	22836	25700	27777
26.	Uttar Pradesh	11425	12023	13316	14685
27.	Uttaranchal	20220	23069	24870	27800
28.	West Bengal	20804	22526	25041	28753
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	32670	34446	36829	NA
30.	Chandigarh	66512	75181	86629	NA
31.	Delhi	48566	53309	58655	66728
32.	Pondicherry	48547	44908	48477	52669

Source : Directorate of Economic & Statistics of respective State Governments.

Statement-II

State-wise Per Capita Expenditure in Social Sector*

(In Rupees)				
State	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
1	2	3	4	5
I. Non-Special Category				
1. Andhra Pradesh	1,700	1,738	1,854	2,600
2. Bihar	806	690	961	1,352
3. Chhattisgarh	1,491	1,644	1,913	2,950
4. Goa	4,940	5,584	5,972	7,006
5. Gujarat	1,698	1,882	2,012	2,353

1	2	3	4	5
6. Haryana	1,265	1,540	2,049	2,389
7. Jharkhand	1,532	1,789	2,114	2,500
8. Karnataka	1,521	1,765	2,085	2,733
9. Kerala	1,818	2,234	2,269	2,922
10. Madhya Pradesh	1,068	1,123	1,430	1,695
11. Maharashtra	1,870	1,992	2,330	2,830
12. Orissa	1,150	1,200	1,391	1,733
13. Punjab	1,396	1,464	1,563	2,260
14. Rajasthan	1,551	1,623	1,766	2,064
15. Tamil Nadu	1,814	2,114	2,202	2,870
16. Uttar Pradesh	743	949	1,107	1,384
17. West Bengal	1,086	1,160	1,349	1,687
Special Category				
1. Arunachal Pradesh	5,463	5,657	6,380	7,564
2. Assam	1,338	1,698	1,562	2,736
3. Himachal Pradesh	3,739	3,664	4,363	4,643
4. Jammu and Kashmir	2,362	2,896	3,705	3,940
5. Manipur	2,692	3,849	4,089	4,582
6. Meghalaya	2,670	3,053	3,120	3,923
7. Mizoram	7,098	6,956	7,667	8,571
8. Nagaland	3,131	3,020	3,813	4,619
9. Sikkim	7,267	8,465	8,742	11,495
10. Tripura	2,912	3,347	3,307	4,138
11. Uttarakhand	2,286	2,582	3,036	3,891
All States	1,386	1,533	1,743	2,216
Memo Item :				
1. NCT Delhi	2,317	2,773	2,884	3,385
2. Puducherry	NA	NA	7,385	7,214

RE : Revised Estimates

'NA' : Not applicable/Not available

* : Includes expenditure on social services, rural development and food storage and warehousing under revenue expenditure, capital outlay and loans and advances by the States Governments.

Source : The Reserve Bank of India Study, "State Finances : A Study of Budgets of 2007-08".

**Relocation of Tigers in Sariska
Tiger Reserve**

722. SHRI M.K. SUBBA :

SHRI MILIND DEORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to relocate Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the name(s) of the Tiger Reserves from where Tigers will be relocate;
- (c) the number of Tigers killed by poachers in Sariska Tiger Reserve; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) and (b) A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in Sariska Tiger Reserve from the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve of Rajasthan in June/July 2008, based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored by radio telemetry.

(c) As reported by the State, the ongoing investigation indicate poaching of 13 tigers from the Sariska Tiger Reserve.

(d) The steps to strengthen tiger conservation in the country, *interalia*, including the implementation of the Tiger Task Force recommendations are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

*Steps taken by the Government, interalia,
including the Tiger Task Force recommendations
to strengthen tiger conservation*

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for construction of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed

by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.

3. 100% Central Assistance provided to 17 Tiger Reserves as an additionalty for deployment of Tiger Protection Force, comprising of ex-army personnel and local workforce.
4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *interalia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, *interalia*, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in crore or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tigers reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including copredators, prey animals and assessment of habits status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. Around 31111 sq. km. of critical/core tiger habitat identified in 17 States.
10. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/ concerted implemented of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

Financial steps

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection of wild animals.

International Cooperation

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
13. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
14. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

Reintroduced of Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve

15. A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in the Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan), based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored by radio telemetry.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *inter alia*, contains action points relating to tiger protection. A one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore has been provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force. Action has been taken for the needful in this regard.

Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes

723. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the difference between Central schemes and Centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) the number of schemes under each of the two categories;

(c) the institutional mechanism to implement each of the schemes;

(d) the modes of financial delegation and financial sharing with the State Governments under the above two categories; and

(e) the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for Central schemes and Centrally sponsored schemes, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANA-SAMY): (a) and (c) The Centre Sector (CS) Schemes are those which deal with the subjects in the Union List and are funded and implemented by Central Ministry/Department or its agency. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) are those schemes which do not pertain to the subjects in the Union List but which are funded directly by Central Ministries/Departments and are implemented by States or their agencies irrespective of their pattern of financing.

(b) There were 993 Central Sector Schemes and 99 Centrally Sponsored Schemes in operation during 2007-08 as per Statement of Budget Estimates (SBEs).

(d) The percentage share of State and Central contribution in the Centrally Sponsored Schemes varies from scheme to scheme depending upon the nature and the objectives to be achieved. Central Sector Schemes are fully funded by the Union Government.

(e) Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms have been created at different levels of Central and State Governments as part of the programme guidelines of each scheme.

Adequate availability of Iodised Salt

724. SHRI S.K. KHRVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for use of iodised salt only throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the people living in many parts of the country have no access to iodised salt; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) The target fixed for production of iodised salt in the country during 2008-09 is 52 lakh MT.

(c) and (d) The production of iodised salt during 2007-08 was 49.61 lakh MT against the target of 50 Lakh MT. Thus the iodised salt is available in every part of the country. Further under the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme, the Government is promoting the use of iodised salt for prevention and control of iodine deficiency disorders. Various prototype publicity materials in the form of posters and pamphlets were prepared by different agencies and distributed to all States/UTs. Besides this, extensive Information Education Communication (IEC) activities are being conducted through Doordarshan, All India Radio, Directorate of Field Publicity, Song & Drama Division, Directorate of Advertisement and Visual Publicity, State Health Directorates etc.

[Translation]

Release of Forest Land

725. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of forest land released for various projects during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of cases pending before the Government for environmental clearance during the said period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) The proposals approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for various purposes during the last three years and current year involved 202,177.64 ha and 26,342.64 ha of forest land respectively. The details are enclosed as Statement-I and II.

(b) The number of cases pending for Environmental Clearance as on 30.09.2008, is 407. The sector-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(c) The projects are appraised as per the EIA Notification, 2006. For the projects falling under category 'A', Environmental Clearances are issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 105 days after receipt of complete details.

For the projects falling under Category 'B', Environmental Clearances are issued by the concerned State

Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA). The SEIAA for 20 States have already been constituted.

Statement-I

Details of forest land diverted for various projects during the last three years*

Sl. No.	Category of Projects	Number of Projects/Cases	Total Land Diverted (Ha.)
1	Defence	45	52,758.47**
2.	Dispensary/Hospital	4	41.737
3.	Disputed Settlement Claim	0	0
4.	Drinking Water	73	809.51
5.	Encroachments	8	2,556.08
6.	Forest Village Conversion	4	6,963.07
7.	Hydel	156	2,150.05
8.	Irrigation	266	14,066.73
9.	Mining	387	25,222.58
10.	Others	2496	80,897.89***
11.	Railway	90	1,512.33
12.	Rehabilitation	8	545.484
13.	Road	1520	9,316.43
14.	School	19	20.695
15.	Thermal	10	866.726
16.	Transmission Line	276	3,113.33
17.	VIII. Elec	3	0.798
18.	Wind Power	18	1,333.73
Total		5383	202,177.64

* The diverted forest land includes those lands which have been in principle diverted earlier but final orders issued in the present period. It also includes the already diverted forest land of 8229.41 ha for renewal of old mining leases..

** It includes 42725.04 ha. of already used forest land for firing ranges in Assam.

*** It includes in principle approved dereservation on 65,670.26 ha. of deemed forest land in Punjab.

Statement-II

Details of forest land diverted for various projects during 01.04.2008 to 30.09.2008.*

Sl. No.	Category of Project	Number of Projects/Cases	Total Land Diverted (Ha.)
1	Defence	24	7,077.26
2.	Dispensary/Hospital	1	1
3.	Disputed Settlement Claims	0	0
4.	Drinking Water	12	18.425
5.	Encroachments	1	214.112
6.	Forest Village Conversion	1	183.201
7.	Hydel	18	146.705
8.	Irrigation	60	3,486.28
9.	Mining	105	8,002.54
10.	Others	448	3,559.71
11.	Railway	8	240.389
12.	Rehabilitation	0	0
13.	Road	275	1,823.23
14.	School	6	202.529
15.	Thermal	0	0
16.	Transmission Line	73	948.294
17.	Vill. Elec	1	7.374
18.	Wind Power	8	426.591
Total		1041	26,342.64

*The diverted forest land includes those lands which have been in principle diverted earlier but final order issued in the present period. It also includes the renewal of mining cases. It also includes the already diverted forest land of 4318.09 ha. for renewal of old mining leases..

Statement-III

Sl No.	Sector	No. of pending cases
1	2	3
1.	Industry	68
2.	Thermal	31
3.	Nuclear	01

1	2	3
4.	River Valley & Hydro electric	10
5.	Mining	152
6.	Infrastructure & Miscellaneous	58
7.	Construction & Industrial Estates	87
Total		407

Deficiency of Iodine among Children

726. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several children in the country are suffering from huge deficiency of Iodine;

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

(c) the details of efforts being made by the Government to make up the deficiency of Iodine in the Children?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) As per survey conducted by Directorate General of Health Services, Indian Council of Medical Research, Health Institutes and State Health Directorates, out of 324 districts surveyed covering all States/UTs, 263 districts are endemic to Iodine deficiency disorders where the prevalence is more than 10%. Thus no State and UT is free from Iodine deficiency disorders. It is estimated that about 71 million people are suffering from Iodine deficiency disorders.

(c) Under the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme, the Government is promoting the use of Iodized salt for prevention and control of Iodine deficiency disorders. Various prototype publicity materials in the form of posters and pamphlets were prepared by different agencies and distributed to all States/UTs. Besides this, extensive Information Education Communication (IEC) activities are being conducted through Doordarshan, All India Radio, Directorate of Field Publicity, Song & Drama Division, Directorate of Advertisement and Visual Publicity, State Health Directorate etc.

[English]

Intake of Nursing Colleges

727. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY :
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM :

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

- (a) the present status of the proposed nursing colleges alongwith details of students intake in them;
- (b) whether it is proposed to increase the student intake in the coming years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the proposed new nursing colleges are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) It was proposed to upgrade the existing Schools of Nursing at Safdarjung, LPMC and Dr. RML Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital will start functioning from 2008 with intake of 50 students per year. The College of Nursing at Dr. RML Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital will start functioning from 2008 with intake of 50 students and 100 students respectively per year. Apart from this a College of Nursing has been setup at JIPMER, Puducherry with intake of 75 students per year and is functioning since 2006. Further EFC Memo for Rs. 120.00 crores has been approved for setting up of 6 Colleges of Nursing at the sites of AIIMS like institutions. It is proposed to increase the intake of students upto 100 per year per institutions in the coming years.

- (d) It is expected to complete the project during Xth five year plan.

Nurses in Healthcare Services

728. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of nurses as compared to the total health care workers in the country;
- (b) whether the nurses are often victims of needle stick injuries as compared to other hospital employees;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) It is estimated that nurses constitute about 30-40% of the total healthcare force.

(b) and (c) Nurses are exposed to blood borne infections including HIV and Hepatitis B due to injury through "sharps", such as needle stick. The most common device causing injury was the syringe used for withdrawing samples, injections and the injury resulted from attempting to re-cap the needle.

(d) The Central Government Hospitals provide the medicines and vaccines for post exposure prophylaxis for hepatitis B and HIV infections. These Medicines are provided free of cost.

Guidelines have been issued to Hospitals in this regard to organize reorientation for various category of staff of hospitals to follow strictly universal precautions to avoid such type of injuries.

Indo-US Bilateral Ties

729. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to improve Indo-US bilateral ties;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of issues likely to be focussed in the next high level Indo-US talks?

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

(b) and (c) India and the USA have bilateral cooperation in defence, counter terrorism, trade and commerce, energy, agriculture, education, science and technology, health, space, high technology, security and on issues of international significance such as environment and climate change, the Doha round and global peace and security. Cooperation in these areas is being strengthened through regular dialogue in the bilateral mechanisms established for each of the areas of engagement. High-level interactions with the US take place regularly which provides an opportunity to review all facets of our bilateral relationship.

Extraction of Coal from Abandoned Mines

730. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several people have lost their lives while extracting coal from abandoned coal mines in Jharkhand and other coal mines in the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken to prevent such illegal mining in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) and (b) As no mining operating are being carried out by colliery authority in the mines which have been abandoned by the competent authority, no feedback regarding loss of lives due to extraction

of coal from abandoned coal mines in Jharkhand and other coal mines has been received by Coal India Limited (CIL) and CIL does not maintain any record in this regard.

(c) The following measures have been taken to prevent illegal mining activities by the subsidiaries of CIL:-

- i) Regular monitoring through patrolling by the security squad at the suspected areas.
- ii) In case of any information of any illegal mining activities within leasehold areas, steps are being taken for spot raiding alongwith help of local police.
- iii) Fencing around the abandoned areas to stop encroacher.
- iv) Sealing of incline mouth by erecting concrete wall to stop entry in the abandoned mine.
- v) Dozing to fill the exposed coal seams at the suspected illegal mining locations.
- vi) Frequent meeting with district/state authority to curb suspected illegal mining operations.
- vii) FIRs being lodged to local police stations in case of incidences of illegal mining noticed within leasehold areas by the mine authority.
- viii) Displaying board (such as "Closed Mine", "Abandoned Mine Area", "Prohibited Areas" etc.) to stop entry of encroachers in the prohibited areas.

Employment on Compassionate Ground

731. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA :
PROF. M. RAMADASS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending for employment on compassionate ground and disbursing of compensation to the dependents of the deceased labourers of different coal companies during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in appointment on compassionate ground and disbursing of compensation;

(c) the time by which these cases are likely to be disposed of company-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for early disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) to (d) The information

sought is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

Environment Impact of CFL Bulbs

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States Agencies for International Development has revealed that manufacturing of about 50 per cent of Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL) bulbs in India are harmful for environment;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether various South Asian Countries have proposed any uniform benchmark for CFL bulbs;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether environmentalists in the country are also working on this project;

(f) If so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which new benchmark for CFL bulbs will be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Closure of CIL Mines

733. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the mines of Coal India Ltd. (CIL), that have been closed during the last three years and the current year;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for revival of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) and (b) The details of coal projects/mines/units of Coal India Limited (CIL) which have been closed during the last three years and the current year alongwith reasons for their closure are given as below :

Company	Name of Mine	Reasons for closure
Central Coalfields Limited	INcline No. 25 Chokobad	Adverse economics
Western Coalfields Limited	Chargaon Open Cast	Reserves exhausted
	Inder Under Ground	Converted to Inder Open Cast
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	Subhas Incline	Depletion of reserves
	Nowrozabad East Under Ground	Depletion of reserves
	Kotma West Under Ground	Depletion of reserves
	Kumda Old	Depletion of reserves
	Kotma Open Case	Depletion of reserves

(c) Since most of the mines have been closed due to depletion of reserves, there is no question of revival of these units. As far as Incline No. 25 Chakobad Under Ground mine under the Central Coalfields Limited is concerned, it may be offered to private/public sector for development.

[English]

**Public Sector Vaccine
Manufacturing Units**

734. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :
SHRI MOHD TAHIR :
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY :

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

(a) whether the public sector vaccine manufacturing units meet bulk of the requirement of primary vaccines for the National Immunization Programme ;

(b) If so, the details thereof including the names of such companies and their contribution in this regard during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has recently cancelled licenses of some of these units and issued order to suspend production forthwith;

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

(e) whether the Government has made any effort to revive these units in view of their contribution towards National Immunization Programme; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing details of companies and their contribution for the National Immunization Programme is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The licenses of the three manufacturing units, namely, (i) Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor; (ii) BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Guindy; and (iii) Central Research Institute, Kasuali were suspended with effect from 15th January, 2008 under the provisions of Rule 85 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 since they were found not complying with Good Manufacturing practices.

(e) and (f) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Drugs Controller General (India) has been constituted to study the possibility of revival of vaccine production at the three institutes. The Committee has given its recommendations and is under examination of the Government.

Statement

Status regarding Supply orders placed on the 3 Govt. Institutes

Vaccine	Total Qty ordered (in lakh doses)		Qty ordered on Vaccine Institutes (in lakh doses)		
			BCG	PII	CRI
1	2	3	4	5	6
Year 2005-06					
BCG	637	637	0	0	637
DPT	770		400	120	520

1	2	3	4	5	6
DT	210		150	60	210
TT	768		100	170	270
Year 2006-07					
BCG	894.8	894.8	0	0	894.8
DPT	1000	0	660	260	920
DT	332	0	170	120	290
TT	1212	0	962	100	1062
Year 2007-08					
		800			
BCG	800	(supplied only 61.12%)			800
DPT	1680	0	660	260	920
DT	425	0	200	135	335
			1000 (PII did not supply any quantity)		
TT	1235	0		235	1235
Year 2008-09					
BCG	600	0	0	0	0
DPT	1440	0	0	0	0
DT	475	0	0	0	0
TT	1700	0	0	0	0

PII Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor

CRI Central research Institute, Kasauli

BCG BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Guindy

Development of New Harbours

735. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Ministry of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to develop new harbours during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise including Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) to (c) The development of ports and capacity addition through construction of new berths and terminals in an ongoing process depending on the cargo projections and requirements of the maritime trade for the future. The Eleventh Five Year Plan has projected that the overall traffic handled by

the ports will be 1008.95 Million Tonnes (MT) by 2011-12 with the Major Ports handling 708.09 MT. To meet the projected increase in traffic, the Eleventh Five Year Plan has proposed feasibility and locational studies for developing some more ports. The development of the non-major ports is the responsibility of the respective State Government and the Eleventh Five Year Plan has projected that the capacity of the non-major ports is expected to increase from 228.31 Million Tonnes per Annum to 575 Million Tonnes per Annum.

Four Laning of National Highways Upto Bordumsa

736. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes 4-laning of National Highways upto Bordumsa bordering Arunachal Pradesh and Assam;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the progress made so far;

(c) whether the Government has taken up any scheme to improve the condition of roads of Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts in Assam; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry is concerned with the improvement and upkeep of National Highways. The improvement to 4-laning of NH-37 from Nagaon to Dibrugarh covering entire length in Dibrugarh District improvement to 2-lane with paved shoulders of NH-37 from Dibrugarh to Saikowaghat, NH-38 from Makum to Lekhapani, NH-52 from Rupai to Dirak and NH-153 from Lekhapani to Jalrapur (Assam/Arunachal Pradesh border) is included under phase 'A' of SARDP-NE and the works are targeted for completion by March, 2013.

[Translation]

Illegal Human Organ Transplantation

737. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :
SHRI KIREN RIJU :

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

(a) whether illegal human organ transplantation and trafficking been reported in many States of the country including that of Delhi; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) A Statement showing the details received from the State Governments/CBI/Delhi Police is enclosed.

(b) Sale and purchase of human organs is already banned under the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1954. The Appropriate Authorities appointed under Section 13 of the said Act by the Central and the State Governments, are empowered to investigate any complaints of breach of provisions the Act including those pertaining to sale and purchase of human organs. This Act already contains stringent provisions for punishing removal of human organs without authority and for commercial dealings in human organs.

Statement

Details of Cases of Illegal Kidney and other Organ Transplantations in various Government/Private Hospitals Reported and Action Taken - As received from various States/Union Territories :

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Details of cases reported
1.	NCT of Delhi	Delhi Police has registered six FIRs in respect of illegal kidney transplantations in Research and Referral Hospital, New Delhi, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, New Delhi, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi and Kakkar Hospital, Amritsar. As a result, ten people had been arrested by the Delhi Police.
2.	Maharashtra	Government of Maharashtra have informed that in January 2004 Dr. S.P. Trivedi of Bombay Hospital, Mumbai has been prosecuted for the charges of cheating and forgery that deal with illegal trafficking of human organs.
3.	Punjab	Government of Punjab have reported that sale of human organs for transplant, particularly kidneys was detected in a few cases in the State which are under investigation of the Special Investigating Team constituted for this purpose. As a result of the investigations, many people have arrested and one hospital, namely, Ram Saran Dass Kishorilal Charitable Trust Hospital, Amritsar has been deregistered. However, there is no large scale exploitation of the poor in the name of organ transplant in the State.
4.	Gurgaon, Haryana	CBI has re-registered two cases pertaining to Gurgaon (Haryana and Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh). CBI has arrested 8 suspected doctors and their associates.
5.	Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh	

Other States/Union Territories have not reported any commercial sale of organs.

Financial Support to Sportspersons

738. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY :
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA :
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA :
DR. RATTAN SINGH AJANALA :
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

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

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to enhance the financial support to outstanding sportspersons living in miserable conditions;;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the quantum of increase proposed in the salary of these sportspersons;

(c) the criteria laid down for selection of such sportspersons eligible for the financial support; and

(d) the number of sportspersons who availed financial benefit during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has enhanced the financial assistance to sportspersons, living under indigent circumstances, under the scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons, as per details given below:

- (i) Eligibility Ceiling for outstanding sportspersons in indigent circumstances revised from Rs. 36,000 per annum to Rs. 2.00 lakh per annum.
- (ii) Assistance for fatal injury to sportsperson raised from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 5.00 lakh.
- (iii) Assistance for sustaining injury other than a fatal injury enhanced from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 2.00 lakh.
- (iv) Pension for permanently incapacitated outstanding sportsperson increased from Rs. 2500 per month to Rs. 10,000 per month.
- (v) Pension in other cases enhanced from Rs. 2,000 per month to Rs. 8,000 per month.
- (vi) Assistance to families of indigent sportspersons increased from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 2.00 lakh.
- (vii) Assistance for medical treatment increased from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 2.00 lakh.
- (viii) Assistance to eminent coaches, referees and umpires enhanced from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000.

(c) An outstanding sportspersons or sportspersons living in indigent circumstances, are eligible for financial support under the Scheme of National Welfare Fund for

Sportspersons. Under the Scheme, a sportsperson has been defined, as a person who takes part in competitive sports at National Level (Senior, Junior or Sub-Junior), and works for achieving excellence and a high level of performance, and also for promotion and development of sports in the country. An 'Outstanding Sportspersons' has been defined as a persons, who has achieved a position within first 3 in individual events, or within first 2 in team events, in a recognized National Championship, or one who represents or has represented the country, in an International Competition at least twice.

(d) The number of sportspersons who have availed financial benefit during last three years and current year is given below :-

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Number of Sportspersons	47	42	34	30

[English]

Shortage of Uranium for Nuclear Power Plants

739. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI HEMANT KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the nuclear power plants in the country are facing shortage of uranium;

(b) If so, the details thereof including the estimated requirement of uranium for each of these nuclear power plants in the country; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the demand of uranium of these Nuclear Power Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 15 Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors with a total installed capacity of 3800 MWe are facing fuel shortage. The estimated annual fuel requirement is 180 tons of natural uranium per 1000 MWe of installed capacity.

(c) Efforts of the Government have been directed towards augmenting fuel supply for the entire capacity rather than specific plants. A new mine at Turamdih, Jharkhand is operational and a mill has also been set up. Work on a new mine at Tummalapalle, Andhra Pradesh has been started. Efforts are also being made to open mines at Lambapur (Andhra Pradesh) and Kylleng Pyndengeohlong Mawtha-

bah (KPM), Meghalaya. Various activities to set up new mines at Gogi (Karnataka), Rohil (Rajasthan), Wakhyn (Meghalaya) and Chitrial (Andhra Pradesh) are being pursued. In addition, the requirements of reactors to be put under safeguards can be met through imports, progressively, in accordance with the Separation Plan.

Additional Funds for Road Projects

740. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Governments including Kerala for grant of additional funds for implementation of Road projects within the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to receipt of proposals from various State Governments including Kerala for grant of additional funds under the Centrally Aided Schemes of Central Road Fund (CRF) including scheme of economic importance and inter-state connectivity (EI&ISC) for implementation of Road projects within the State. Proposals for grant of additional funds amounting to Rs. 640.71 crore have been received from seven State Governments. However, no such proposal has been received from the State Government of Kerala.

(c) Demand for additional funds for implementation of Road Projects within the States including scheme of EI & ISC are considered on the basis of availability of funds within the budgetary allocation under CRF and also after assessing the utilization of funds previously released to the States in this regard.

Hosting of Olympic Games

741. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to host/organize the Olympic Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of infrastructure to organize and conduct the Olympic Games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) There

is no such proposal under consideration of Government at present.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

Modified Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme

742. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :
SHRI HARILAL MADHAVJI BHAI PATEL :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes Modified Shipbuilding Subsidy scheme;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any subsidy has been granted to Alcock Ashdown Gujarat Ltd. (AAGL) under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the quantum of subsidy granted to AAGL?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for Liquidation of Committed Liability for payment of subsidy for ongoing shipbuilding contracts entered upto 14th August, 2007, the date of expiry of the subsidy scheme, is under consideration.

(c) and (d) The amount of subsidy receivable by Alcock Ashdown (Gujarat) Limited based on stge payments works out to a total of Rs. 7,73,34,088 and this amount has already been released in favour of Alcock Ashdown (Gujarat) Limited as claimed by the Shipyard. In addition, applications for in principle approval for grant of subsidy amounting to Rs. 86.00 crores (approximately) were received in the Ministry and were being processed, but in principle approval could not be granted before expiry of the scheme due to want of necessary clarifications, documents etc. from Alcock Ashdown (Gujarat) Limited. The shipbuilding subsidy scheme expired on 14th August, 2007.

Clinical Trials by MNCs In India

743. SHRI MANIK SINGH :
SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE :
SHRI UDAY SINGH :

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

(a) whether India has become the top destination in Asia for clinical trials of foreign drugs;

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

(c) whether there is presently any law in force to regulate/monitor such trials;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) Clinical Research has emerged as a very promising area in the country during last few years. Several leading multinational Pharmaceutical Companies are conducting their clinical trials through Clinical Research Organisations (CROS).

(b) The increased clinical trial flow to India is the result of several fundamental strengths such as : diverse genetic pool, Large patients pool with diseases such as cardiovascular, diabetics and psychiatric disorders, which are prevalent in industrialized countries, drug-native population and good hospitals where trials can be undertaken. Low cost in conducting trials, etc.

(c) to (e) In respect of the regulation of clinical trials in India, Government has streamlined the provisions under Drugs and Cosmetics Rules for conduct of Clinical trials. Rules - A to E have been amended for this purpose. Schedule Y of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules have also been amended in 2005. Good Clinical Practice (GCP) guidelines have been published in 2001.

[Translation]

Increasing Cases of Corruption in India

744. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :
SHRI E. DAYAKAR RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the list of corrupt countries released by an international agency Transparency International, India is ranked at 85th place as reported in the Times of India dated 24 September, 2008;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the reasons behind constantly increasing corruption in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the corruption in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the "Corruption Perception Index, 2008" published by the Transparency International, India is ranked at 85th place among 180 countries.

(c) to (e) Government is aware of the menace of corruption and is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government:-

(i) Enactment of Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003;

(ii) Enactment of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(iii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(iv) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance;

(v) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the Central Vigilance Commission.

Government organizations are also constantly engaged in improving their functioning through e-Governance, issue of Citizen Charters and simplification of procedures and system, which are aimed at eradicating corruption by improving transparency and accountability.

[English]

Closure of Business by Indians in Nepal

745. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to recent political developments in Nepal, many Indian businessmen are forced to close their business in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken this issue with the Government of Nepal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI , PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) In the ongoing political transition in Nepal, there have been incidents relating to extortion and intimidation that have affected business enterprises including some Indian businesses and joint ventures.

These issues have been taken up with the Government of Nepal, including at the highest levels. Following the Constituent Assembly elections, the new Government of Nepal has expressed its willingness to take further measures for the promotion of an investor friendly, enabling business environment to encourage Indian public and private sector investment in Nepal.

Percentage Share of Coal in Power Generation

746. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage share of coal in total power generation from all sources in the country;

(b) whether the production of coal has been declining over the years;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) As per the monthly report the month of September, 2008 of Central Electricity Authority (CEA), out of total monitored capacity of 133865 MW of power generation capacity in the country, 72249 MW is coal based, which is about 53% of total power generation capacity in the country.

(b) No, Sir. The total coal production in the country during 2005-06 was 407.039 million tonnes which increased to 430.832 million tonnes during 2006-07 and 457.003 million tonnes during 2007-08. During April-September, 2008, the All India coal production was 205.975 million tonnes (Provisional) as compared to 190.916 million tonnes during the corresponding period of previous year.

(c) and (d) Do not arise, in view of reply given in respect of part (b) of the question.

Royalty of Coal

747. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to revise the coal royalty rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the formula to be adopted to determine the royalty rates;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to each of the States as a result thereof;

(d) whether the some coal producing States have approached the Union Government for increasing the royalty rates on coal;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(f) the time by which the revised rates are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have revised the rates of royalty on coal and lignite with effect from 01.08.2007.

The formula for royalty on coal and lignite is based on a combination of specific and advalorem levies. The formula stipulated is as under:

R (Royalty) = $a+bp$, where 'a' is the fixed component, 'b' is the variable or ad valorem component and 'p' is the basic pithead price of Run of Mine Coal as per the invoice.

The likely benefit to the coal producing State would be in terms of 24% to 29% increase in revenue earnings from royalty on coal and lignite respectively as calculated based on production levels of 2004-05.

(d) and (e) Most of the coal producing States had approached the Central Government for revision of rates on coal. Some of them had sought switch over to a fully ad valorem regime of royalty. Taking into account all the factors including the recommendation of the two Committees, namely, the Study Group set up by the Ministry of Coal and the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, as well as the views of the State Governments, the Central Government had decided to adopt the hybrid formula indicated in reply to part (b) above.

(f) Revised rates on coal and lignite have been implemented with effect from 01.08.2007.

Trade Across the LOC

748. SHRI PRABODH PANDA :
SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to start trade across the Line of Control in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the modalities chalked out in this regard;

(c) the details of the routes and the commodities to be traded; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Cross LoC trade on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakot routes commenced from 21st October 2008. Twenty-one items for trade have been identified for duty-free passage. Items to be traded from Salamabad to Chakoti and Chakandabagh to Rawalakot are carpets, rugs, wall hangings, shawls and stoles, fresh fruits and vegetables, aromatic plants, dry fruits including walnuts, Kashmiri spices, spring rubberised coir/foam mattresses, furniture including walnut furniture etc. Similarly, items to be traded from Chakoti to Salamabad and Rawalakot to Chakandabagh are rice, precious stones, dry fruits including walnuts, medicinal herbs, fresh fruits and vegetables, furniture including walnut furniture, carpets and rugs, embroidered items, foam mattresses, shawls and stoles.

(d) The expansion of people-to-people contacts, including through trade and commerce will provide an effective platform to develop and strengthen bilateral relations.

Metal contents in Medicines

749. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medicines containing excess metal contents than the prescribed limit are sold across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its ill-effects;

(c) whether the Government has ordered any inquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani (ASU) medicines containing plants/herbal, herbo-minerals and herbo-metallic preparations are being manufactured in India on valid licenses under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, and Rules 1945. The herbo-mineral and herbo-metallic preparations are permitted to be used only after due purification and only in small quantities to act as catalysts for activation of other herbal ingredients in order to increase the efficacy of the medicines. The metallic preparations in the form of compounds of metals triturated in the form of Bhasmas are rendered safe after purification

with herbs and burning in fire for a prescribed number of times.

The following steps have been taken from time to time in order to ensure the safety and efficacy of ASU medicines;

(i) Mandatory testing for heavy metals has been introduced w.e.f. 01.01.2008 for herbal Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medicines which are being exported. This has been done to meet the regulatory requirements of importing countries.

(ii) State Drug Licensing Authorities have been directed to ensure full compliance by all ASU drug manufacturers with the provisions of Rule 161 (1) and (2) relating to displaying, on the label of the container or in a leaflet to be inserted in the package of an ASU drugs, a list of all the ingredients along with quantities used in the manufacture of the preparation.

(iii) Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 29 State Drug Testing Laboratories have been strengthened and 26 Private Drug Testing Laboratories and other NABL accredited laboratories have been approved for testing of ASU drugs in the country.

(iv) Captain Srinivasa Murti Drug Research Institute for Ayurveda, Chennai, India Toxicology Research Centre (presently IITR), Indian Institute of Toxicological Research, Lucknow and Sri Ram Institute for Industrial Research, New Delhi have analyzed about 800 plants and it was found that lead, arsenic and mercury levels were within the permissible limits.

(v) Good Manufacturing Practices have been made mandatory for all Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drug manufacturing units in the country through an amendment of Schedule T of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

(vi) In order to create quality consciousness among both manufacturers and consumers, a National Campaign on Quantity Assurance of AYUSH Drugs was launched on 10-11 June, 2008 through a National Workshop. The National Campaign is being taken forward countrywide through five Regional Workshops in the East, West, North, South and Central Regions.

[Translation]

Technical Assistance to Sports persons

750. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sportspersons of our country are taking part in international sports competitions at their own expenses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide funds and modern technical assistance to the sportspersons who bring pride to our country;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of funds released during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL) : (a) and (b) In the case of sports/games disciplines that are recognized by the Central Government, the participation of sportspersons in international sports competitions, is fully funded by the Government for mandatory events such as

Olympic Games, World Cups, World Championships, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian and Commonwealth Championships. In the case of other events, the Government allows participation in two events at full cost, and in two more events at air passage cost only.

(c) and (d) The Government provides funds and technical support to sportspersons through various Schemes, such as Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations, Scheme relating to Talent Search & Training and National Sports Development Fund. Under these Schemes, the assistance is provided for holding competitions, training, equipment procurement, hiring foreign coaches, providing scientific equipment, etc.

(e) The details of funds released during the last three years and the current year are as under :

(Rs. in crore)

Name of Scheme	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (Budget Estimate)
National Sports Federations	43.00	37.08	57.49	54.00
Talent Search and Training	0.50	2.80	3.00	5.00
National Sports Development Fund	0.04	0.05	5.00	5.25

[English]

Specialised Health Facilities for Poor Patients

751. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Indian population that has free access to specialized health facility;

(b) whether the Government has any plan to impose health-cess on the big corporate business houses and private hospitals to build a corpus for free specialized treatment of the poor;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve upon the availability of free specialized treatment to all the poor sections of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) While health facilities are set up on the basis of population, work load and distance, there is no data to ascertain the percentage of free access for specialized health facilities. However, NSSO 60th Round (2005) data shows out of pocket expenditure even at public facility for hospitalized treatment. There are many

specialized services like treatment for TB, immunization, cataract surgery, institutional delivery etc. that are available for all citizens.

(b) and (c) Under NRHM, allocation for public health is envisaged to be increased from 0.9% of GDP to 2-3% of GDP over the Mission period. The 11th plan has allocated Rs. 1,36,147 crore for health care which is substantially higher than earlier 10th plan (Rs. 33521.20 crore). As on date, there is no proposal to impose health-cess on the big corporate business houses and private hospitals to build a corpus for free specialized treatment of the poor under NRHM.

(d) The Government has taken several initiatives to improve the health care facilities at the district and sub-district level health institutions in the country. NRHM emphasis on creating a fully functional platform for health care at all levels, starting from the village, the Sub-Centre, the PHC, the CHC and the District Hospital. It has also articulated the need for partnerships with the Non-Governmental Sector. To reduce the out of pocket expenditure on health by rural poor, NRHM envisages social security nets in the form of need based, community oriented flexible insurance schemes. Financial assistance in the form of united fund, Annual Maintenance Grant, Annual corpus

fund at the level of village, Sub centre, PHC, CHC, sub-district and district level have been provided to meet unforeseen health problem. The States have been given the flexibility to design appropriate schemes to ensure proper and free treatment of patients.

[Translation]

Control of Meningitis

752. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :
SHRI ASAUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of meningitis resurface in the country every year despite the efforts of the Government to control it;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of the cases detected in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to review the measures taken earlier in the light of the resurfacing of such cases time and again in the country; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Meningitis shows a well-marked trend of seasonal variation and outbreaks of the disease occur more frequently in dry and cold months of the year. The incidence is more noticeable in the low socio-economic groups living under poor hygienic conditions.

The number of cases of Meningococcal meningitis reported in the country during the period from 2005 to 2007 and also during the current year are indicated below :

Year	Total No. of cases
2005	8367
2006	3438
2007	5067
2008 (till July, 08)	2027

(c) and (d) National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) provides technical and diagnostic support to the States to combat meningitis by sending Rapid Response Teams to the affected areas as and when required. A technical document "CD Alert on Meningococcal Diseases" has been circulated to all the affected states.

Under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project, a decentralized State-based surveillance project, Meningitis alongwith the other diseases is under continuous surveillance for early detection and prompt action.

Following the reporting of occurrence of meningococcal meningitis in Delhi and surrounding areas in NCR region, the situation has been reviewed by an expert group comprising officials from NICD, ICMR, Government hospitals of Delhi etc. and necessary measures to combat the disease have been taken by the State Government.

National Urban Health Mission

753. SHRI GANESH SINGH :
ADV. SURESH KURUP

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

(a) whether the Government has launched the National Urban Health Mission;

(b) If so, the details thereof outlining the details of healthcare extension services to the urban poor; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for the implementation of this Scheme/Mission during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) There is a proposal to initiate National Urban Health Mission in the cities having population 1.00 lakh and above. The proposal is in the process of being finalized.

[English]

National River Conservation Plan

754. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated and spent during the last three years and the current year under the National River Conservation Plan;

(b) whether Government has any plan to review the existing Plan;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken for ensuring better co-ordination among different departments and the States working on the conservation programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Details of the Budget Allocation and Funds

Released under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for the last three financial years and the current financial year are as follows :-

Year	Allocation	Rs. in crore
		Funds Released
2005-06	297.20	274.21
2006-07	275.92	275.92
2007-08	256.69	251.33
2008-09	249.00	155.37 (till Sept. 2008)

(b) and (c) The NRCP presently covers 164 towns located along identified polluted stretches of 35 rivers spread over 20 states. Review of the strategies of conservation and identification of additional towns and rivers under NRCP are continuous process aimed towards ameliorating the water quality in rivers. Preliminary meetings have been held for discussing the revamping of the National River Conservation Programme with concerned Ministries, independent experts in the field and Non Government Organizations (NGOs).

(d) The Steering Committee of National River Conservation Authority is having representations from the agencies/departments/ministries/State Governments and serves the objective of proper coordination necessary for implementation of the programme. Close coordination with the State Governments is ensured through correspondence both at official and Minister-level as well as by frequent field visits of Central Government officers to expedite progress of works in the States.

Discharge of Hazardous Waste by Pharmaceutical Companies

755. MOHD. MUKEEM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various pharma companies are discharging waste materials which result in environmental pollution;

(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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEEAN) : (a) to (c) The pharmaceutical industries, generate effluents, emissions including hazardous wastes which can result in environmental pollution, if not regulated. For

regulating effluents and emissions by the pharmaceutical industries, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified specific effluent standards and general emission standards which have to be strictly adhered to by the industry. The hazardous waste generated by the industry is also required to be regulated as per the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 which have been notified for proper management and handling of hazardous waste generated by such industries. As per these Rules, production/formulation of drugs/pharmaceuticals is one of the processes generating hazardous wastes and the industry is required to obtain authorization from the respective State Pollution Control Boards for treatment, storage, handling and disposal of hazardous waste generated by it.

[Translation]

South Asian University

756. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish a South Asian University in India with joint cooperation of the SAARC countries;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the details of land proposed to be acquired for the purpose; and

(c) the details of the disciplines and course curriculum likely to be offered and the number of students likely to be admitted in the proposed university?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Yes, Prime Minister had proposed establishing a South Asian University at the 13th SAARC Summit in Dhaka in November 2005. At the 14th SAARC Summit, held in New Delhi in April 2007, the SAARC leaders decided to establish a South Asian University and signed an agreement to this effect. An Inter-Governmental Steering committee comprising representative of SAARC Member States has been established. It decided to set up a Project Office and appoint an Interim CEO. The purpose of the Project Office is to oversee construction, draw up its Charter, Byelaws, Business Plan, main campus is expected to plan for 5000 students from SAARC Member States.

[English]

Contribution of Forest Sector to GDP

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

(a) the contribution of the forest sector to GDP during the last two years;

(b) whether Government proposes to bring one third geographic area of the country under forest-cover as per the National Forest Policy;

(c) if so, the details of the total area that has been brought under the forest-cover as of now; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve objectives of sustainable forest management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) The contribution of the forestry sector to GDP in the last two years is as below :

Sl. No.	Sector	Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost during the year at current prices (Rs. in crores)	
		Years 2005-06	2006-07
1.	Forestry and Logging	25839 (0.8)*	26855 (0.7)*
2.	Total GDP in the Indian Economy	3275670	3790063

*Figures in bracket are percentage share of forestry and logging sector out of the total GDP.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Change in forest cover in State/UTs during the last two assessments is as below :

Years	(In Sq. km)	
	2003	2005
Total area under forest cover in square kilometres in States/UTs between the 2003 and 2005 Assessments carried out by the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun	677,816	677,088

There is a net decline of 728 sq. km in total forest cover between the Assessment carried out between the years 2003 and 2005.

(d) The following steps are being taken to achieve the objectives of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) by the Government:-

- * An SFM Cell has been set up in the Ministry to act as a Nodal Agency in achievement of SFM objectives at the national level.

- * Similar SFM Cells are being set up in all forest department in each State/UTs.

- * Criteria and Indicators have been developed for Sustainable Forest Management. These will standardize the assessment and monitoring of the health of forests even at the level of the local Forest Management Unit (FMU). It is proposed to incorporate these Criteria and Indicators in the working plan of each FMU. As Working Plans are the basic management plans of the forest department, incorporation of Criteria and Indicators would institutionalize the entire process and help in the achievement of SFM Objectives and implementation through out the country.

Stolen Ivory

758. SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ivory worth of several lakhs has been stolen from a museum situated inside Corbett Tiger Reserve in Uttarakhand;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) If so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) and (b) As per the information received from the Government of Uttarakhand, two elephant tusks were stolen from Dhargarhi Museum of Corbett National Park on night of 11/12 June, 2008 weighing 18.6 kg and 18.2 kg respectively.

(c) to (e) As reported by the State Government, FIR has been lodged with Ramnagar Police Station on 12th June, 2008 for detailed investigation and action.

World Bank Assistance to Health Projects in India

759. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) the details of the health projects being financed by the World Bank;

(b) the names of States in which these projects are being carried out;

(c) whether World Bank proposes to stop loans to health projects in India; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating details of the World Bank assisted on-going Health Sector Projects is enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

The details of the World Bank assisted on-going Health Sector Projects

Amount (in US \$ million)

S.No.	Name of the Project	Year of Approval	Year of Completion	IDA Assistance Component
1	Uttar Pradesh Health System Development Project	2000	2008	110.00
2.	Rajasthan Health System Development Project	2004	2009	89.00
3.	Tamil Nadu Health System Project	2005	2010	110.83
4.	Karnataka Health System Development & Reforms Project	2006	2011	141.83
5.	Integrated Disease Surveillance Project	2004	2010	68.00
6.	Reproductive & Child Health Project	2006	2010	360.00
7.	Tuberculosis Control Project Phase-II	2006	2011	170.00
8.	National HIV/ AIDS Control Project-III	2007	2012	250.00

International Container Trans-shipment Terminal

760. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for International Container Trans-shipment Terminal near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the status of the work undertaken;

(c) the fund earmarked and allocated for the project; and

(d) the time-frame fixed for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for International Container Trans-shipment Terminal near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala by Government of India.

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

Dumping of Waste

761. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Britain dumps its garbage on Indian soil as reported in 'The Times of India' dated 9 September, 2008;

(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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) According to the investigations carried out by the Custom Authorities and Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board, no incidence of dumping of garbage from Britain came to their notice.

(c) Does not arise.

**Nepalese Prime Minister's
Visit to India**

762. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nepalese Prime Minister visited India recently;

(b) If so, the details of the discussion held and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the details of agreements signed during his visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Yes. During the recent visit of the Nepalese Prime Minister (September 14-18), the entire gamut of bilateral relationship came up for discussions. It was decided to reactivate all bilateral mechanisms with Nepal including those in water resources, trade, and transit and security issues. The text of the Joint Press Statement is enclosed.

Statement

*Joint Press Statement on Official visit of Rt. Hon'ble
Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Prime Minister
of Nepal to India (14-18 September 2008)*

The Rt. Hon'ble Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Prime Minister of Nepal, is on an official visit to India from September 14-18, 2008 at the invitation of H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India. The Prime Minister of Nepal is accompanied by Hon'ble Mr. Upendra Yadav, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon'ble Mr. Krishna Bahadur Mahara, Minister for Information and Communication, Hon'ble Mr. Bishnu Prasad Poudel, Minister for Water Resources and Hon'ble Mr. Rajendra Mahato, Minister for Commerce and Supplies. The delegation includes four members of the Constituent Assembly, senior officials of the Government of Nepal, a business delegation and a delegation of media representatives.

2. During his visit, the Prime Minister of Nepal called on H.E. Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the President of India, and on H.E. Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, the Vice President of India. The Prime Minister of Nepal had a meeting with the Prime Minister of India, which was followed by delegation level talks, led by the two Prime Ministers, on issues of mutual interest and concern. The Prime Minister of India hosted a banquet in honour of the Prime Minister of Nepal. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs, Prof. Saif-u-Din-Soz, Minister of Water Resources and Shri L.K. Advani, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha called on the Prime Minister of Nepal. The Prime Minister of Nepal had a meeting with Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) and the President of Indian National Congress. The Prime Minister of Nepal also visited Rajghat and paid homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi. An interaction with the Indian business community was jointly hosted by ASSOCHAM, CII and FICCI in honour of the visiting dignitary. During his stay in India, the Prime Minister is visiting Bangalore from September 17-18, 2008.

3. The Prime Minister of India extended a warm welcome to the Prime Minister of Nepal as the first Prime Minister of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction at the age-old close, cordial and extensive relationships existing between Nepal and India. Both Prime Ministers expressed their support and cooperation to further consolidate the relationship in the days ahead.

4. The talks were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and warmth. They shared their views and assessment of the situation. The two Prime Ministers acclaimed the importance of peaceful, political, democratic transformation of historic significance in Nepal.

5. The Prime Minister of Nepal appreciated the positive support extended by the people and Government of India throughout the peaceful political democratic transformation in the country.

6. The Government of India expressed full support to the peaceful, political, democratic transition in Nepal.

7. Both leaders recognized the historic changes that have taken place in Nepal with the elections to the Constituent Assembly and the declaration of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal according to the wishes of the people of Nepal.

8. The Prime Minister of Nepal stressed that following the Constituent Assembly elections, bringing the peace process to a logical conclusion, writing a new Constitution and accelerating the pace of economic development are the main priorities of the Government of Nepal in the days ahead.
9. The two sides felt the need to inject new dynamism into the relations between the two countries for a forward looking change in tune with the realities of the time as well as the wishes and aspirations of the people of both the countries.
10. Both sides agreed to reactivate the existing bilateral mechanisms in the evolving context.
11. Both sides noted that the multi-faceted and deep-rooted relationships between the two countries needed further consolidation and expansion in a forward-looking manner to better reflect the current realities. It was in this broader context that the two Prime Ministers agreed to review, adjust and update the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship and other agreements, while giving due recognition to the special features of the bilateral relationship. A High-Level Committee at the level of Foreign Secretaries will be set up for this purpose.
12. The Nepalese side informed that Government of Nepal will take further necessary measures for the promotion of investor friendly, enabling business environment to encourage Indian public and private sector investments in Nepal.
13. Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in handling cross-border crime and security concerns. Home Secretaries will meet soon to implement this decision.
14. Government of India will continue to assist the Government and people of Nepal in its peaceful, democratic transition; its economic development and reconstruction. The areas of assistance would include infrastructure, human resource development, health and education.
15. Both sides expressed concern over the large-scale damage caused by the breach of embankment by the river in the Kosi barrage area and decided to launch relief and rehabilitation measures for the victims and the reconstruction of the damaged infrastructure, and other measures as per the agreements, immediately, and take up preventive measures to avoid the recurrence of such events in the long term. They decided to take up preventive measures for the Gandak and other barrages under existing bilateral arrangements. Likewise, the two sides also discussed the problem of inundation in the border areas between Nepal and India and agreed to take up necessary work for its effective prevention on the basis of bilateral consultation.
16. Government of India will provide Rs. 20 crores as immediate flood relief to the people in Nepal. Government of India will also rebuild the segments of the East-West Highway, damaged in the recent Kosi floods.
17. Both sides agreed that Government of India will set up a camp office in Biratnagar for facilitating movement of Nepali vehicular traffic through Bihar for improved access to other parts of Nepal till the Highway is repaired.
18. A three-tier mechanism at the level of Ministerial, Secretary and technical levels will be established to rationalize and raise the efficacy of the existing bilateral mechanisms in order to push forward discussions on the development of water resources in a comprehensive manner, including hydro-power generation, irrigation, flood control and other water related cooperation. The Secretaries will meet in two weeks.
19. The two Prime Ministers directed the Inter-Governmental Committee (IGC) at the level of Commerce Secretaries to meet in one month to initiate a comprehensive review of the existing trade and transit arrangements with a view to promoting industrialization in Nepal, expanding complementarities of bilateral trade on a sustainable basis and removing the barriers to trade.
20. Both sides agreed to further enhance the pace of economic development between the two countries by extending support for the preparation and execution of mega projects, including infrastructure development such as road, rail and hydel-power projects. As a gesture of goodwill of the Government and people of India, Government of India agreed to implement the Naumure Hydro-electric Project on Rapti river.
21. In view of the shortages felt in Nepal for the essential commodities, Government of India will remove bans on the export of rice, wheat, maize, sugar and sucrose for quantities agreed with Nepal. Government of India will also provide a credit of up to Rs. 150 crores to Government of Nepal for the next three months to ensure uninterrupted POL supplies to Nepal.
22. The Prime Minister of Nepal extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India to pay an official visit to

Nepal at an early date. The Prime Minister of India accepted it with pleasure. The date of the visit will be decided through the diplomatic channel.

New Delhi,
September 17, 2008

Services of Postmen for collecting data

763. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to engage postmen for collecting data regarding essential commodities for compilation of Consumer Price Index across the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of postmen likely to be engaged in such act; and

(d) the details of remuneration likely to be given to these postmen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (d) Due to shortage of field investigators in the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), price collection work for compilation of Consumer Price Index for rural areas could not be taken up. The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) is, therefore, currently making efforts to find out suitable agencies including State/UT governments and the Department of Posts for price collection work in the rural areas.

Construction of AIIMS-like Institutions

764. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

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

(a) whether the construction work of the six AIIMS-like super-speciality hospitals proposed to be set up by the Union Government are progressing at a slow pace;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the progress made by each of these hospitals till date; and

(d) the time by which these hospitals are likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) The proposal for setting up of six AIIMS-like institutions was approved by CCEA on 16.3.2006. The bids for selection of single Project

Consultant and prototype architectural design for all the six AIIMS-like institutions turned out to be unresponsive or unviable due to high quoted price and hence were rejected. Therefore, the whole process had to be initiated de novo in December, 2006.

Accordingly, each AIIMS site has been taken as a separate and independent project instead of clubbing all six together. The construction of residential complex (housing and hostels) has also been separated from that of Hospital and Medical College.

The Design-DPR consultants have been selected for each site through an open competitive bidding and lay out/master plans as also the preliminary architectural designs for each site have been approved. Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Jodhpur and Rishikesh are likely to be made available by the end of November, 2008 and for the other remaining four sites by end of December, 2008. Project Consultant for each site has been selected for expeditious execution of work.

In so far as construction of residential complex (housing & hostel) at Jodhpur is concerned, work was awarded to Rajasthan State Road Development Corporation, Jaipur selected through competitive bidding. The work at the site started in November, 2007.

The construction agencies for residential complex have also been selected for all the five remaining sites through open competitive bidding. The contracts at Patna, Rishikesh, Bhubaneswar and Raipur sites have been awarded and the contractors have mobilized/started civil construction at all sites since September, 2008. The work at Bhopal site will be started in November, 2008.

The work of residential complex will be completed by 2009-10 and the hospital-medical college complex is likely to be completed by June, 2011. The institutions will be functional by the end of 2011.

Beijing Olympics-2008

765. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sportspersons who represented India in the Beijing Olympics-2008, discipline-wise;

(b) the total number of officials accompanying the sportspersons;

(c) whether the number of officials were more than the sportspersons participating in Beijing Olympics; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) 55 sportspersons have represented India at Beijing Olympics-2008. The discipline wise break-up is as follows:

Archery-4, Athletics- 16, Badminton-2, Boxing-5, Judo-2, Rowing-3, Yachting-1, Shooting-9, Swimming-4, Table Tennis-2, Tennis-4 and Wrestling-3

(b) to (d) 43 officials including 2 youth campers, whose participation was cleared at Government cost, have accompanied the Indian contingent of sportspersons for Beijing Olympics, 2008.

Priority Sectors for development of NER

766. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the priority sectors for development in the North Eastern Region (NER) in the Eleventh Plan Period; and

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilized, sector-wise, during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The priority sectors for development in the North Eastern Region (NER) in the Eleventh Plan period include Connectivity (Road, Rail, Air, Inland Water ways, Telecommunication), Power, Agriculture, Social Infrastructure (Health, Education, Tourism) and Capacity Building.

(b) As informed by the Planning Commission, the information regarding sector-wise allocation of funds and its utilization during the last three years and the current year is being collected from the States with reference to their performance in the State Plan.

Parallel bridge over river Zuari

767. SHRI SARDINHA FRANCISCO COSME: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Goa has sent a proposal for construction of a parallel bridge over river Zuari at Cortalim;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the proposal; and

(c) the details of other National Highways projects undertaken/to be undertaken in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new bridge over river Zuari on NH-17 parallel to the existing bridge is proposed as a part of the project of the 4 laning of the entire length of NH-17 in the State of Goa under NHDP-III, for which Feasibility Studies have been undertaken and are likely to be completed by December 2008.

(c) As regards other National Highways, the entire NH-4A between Karnataka/Goa border to Panjim (length of 69 km) is proposed to be widened to four lane under NHDP-III, for which bids have been invited; four laning of NH-17B between Verna Junction to Sada Junction has been completed in 13.1 km. out of 18.3 km length under Port Connectivity project and balance length will be taken up after encroachment free land is provided by the State Government. On NH-17 A (between Cortalim to Marmagao.), 4A and 17 three works amounting to Rs 8.67 crore have been sanctioned for improvement of riding quality and three works amounting to Rs 4.53 Cr have been sanctioned for road safety for NH-4A and NH-17.

Illegal Trans-shipment of Indian workers

768. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some private companies/ recruitment agents are involved in the business of sending workers abroad illegally;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of complaints received by the Government during the last three years and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether such workers are forced to live in unhygienic conditions and to face hardships;

(d) if so, the action taken against the erring agents/ private companies; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide legal and financial help to such workers?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (e) Complaints are received about illegal recruitment of Indian workers for employment abroad by unregistered recruiting agents which often results in their exploitation and harassment at the hands of law enforcing authorities and the employers. During the last three years complaints so filed and action taken against unregistered agents are as under:

Complaints against unregistered recruiting agents

Year	No. of complaints	Prosecution Sanctions issued	Cases referred to State Government/ POE for action
2005	53	8	45
2006	78	21	57
2007	41	7	34
2008 (30.9.2008)	71	37	34

On receipt of such complaints, the Protectors of Emigrants (POEs) are directed to file complaints/FIRs against such unregistered recruiting agents for violation of Section 10 of the Emigration Act 1983.

Further, whenever amnesty is declared, permitting illegal workers to return to India, by any foreign country, this Ministry co-ordinates with the Ministries of Home, External Affairs and Civil Aviation and the Indian missions abroad, to facilitate their return. Such repatriations on large scales have been facilitated from UAE, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia etc.

This Ministry also co-ordinates with the Indian missions abroad in resolving the problems of such workers by taking up issues of concern to them with the Foreign Employers and local authorities and provides appropriate assistance and support for repatriation of illegal emigrants from time to time.

New Ceiling of Creamy Layer for OBCs

769. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has raised the ceiling of creamy layer for OBCs;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal will come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Limit of income for determining the creamy layer status amongst OBCs has been raised to Rs. 4.5 lakh per annum with effect from 3rd October, 2008.

Atomic Energy Act, 1962

770. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 in the backdrop of the waiver by Nuclear Supply Group (NSG) and Civil Nuclear Agreement 123 with the US; and

(b) If so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Geological Resources of Coal

771. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total geological resources of coal available in the country;

(b) whether the existing reserve of coal can meet the requirement of coal of the country; and

(c) the details of the coal blocks allocated during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) As per inventory of Geological Survey of India, the total geological resources of coal in India as on 01.04.2008 are 264.535 billion tonnes.

(b) As per report of Working Group on Coal and Lignite for XI Plan the total coal demand of the country by the terminal year of XI plan (2011-12) is 731 million tonnes. Out of which, demand of coking coal is estimated around 68.50 million tonnes against which, the estimated supply from the country is 27.65 million tonnes, resulting a gap of about 41 million tonnes. In case of non-coking coal, gap between demand and supply is about 10 million tonnes. To bridge the gap between demand and supply for coal, import of coal is to be resorted to.

(c) During the last three years 127 number of coal blocks having a reserve of 32.92 billion tonnes and during the calendar year (upto 10.9.2008), 19 coal blocks having reserves of 2.97 billion tonnes have been allotted to various public and private sector companies in the field of Power, Iron & Steel, Commercial Mining, Cement etc.

Uranium deposits in the country

772. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uranium deposits are found in the country;

(b) if so, the details of sites where these deposits are located, State-wise;

(c) the quantum of Uranium deposits in each of these sites;

(d) whether mining in these sites are being done; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The state-wise and site-wise quantum of Uranium deposits are as given below:

State	Site	Quantum (te U_3O_8)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh (36196)	Lambapur	1450
	Peddagattu	6407
	Tummalapalle	8071
	Rachakuntapalle	12000
	Koppunuru	2468
	Chitral	5800
Chhattisgarh (3986)	Dhumath-Dhabi	500
	Bhandaritola	518
	Bodal	1530
	Jajawal	1438
Himachal Pradesh (784)	Rajpura	364
	Kasha-kali; Adi	200
	Tileli	220
Jharkhand (47809)	Jaduguda	6700
	Bhatin	1150
	Narwapahar	11780

1	2	3
	Turamdih	3550
	Banduhuran	5460
	Bagjata	1860
	Mohuldih	3330
	Turamdih (South)	4850
	Garadih	1270
	Kanyaluka	1910
	Nimdihi	880
	Rajgaon	1130
	Nandup	2910
	Central Keruadungri	1029
Karnataka (4233)	Gogi	3818
	Walkunji-Yealkki	415
Maharashtra (355)	Mogarra	355
Meghalaya (17245)	KPM (Domiasiat)	9500
	Wahkyn	5381
	Gomaghat	1000
	Phllongdilloin	
	Tyrnai	600
	Lostoin	764
Rajasthan (4880)	Rohil	3720
	Umra	1160
Uttar Pradesh (785)	Naktu	785
Uttarakhand (100)	Pokhri-Tunji	100
Total		1,16,373

(1 Tonne of U_3O_8 = 0.848 Tonnes of Uranium Metal)

(d) and (e) Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Department is operating five mines in Jharkhand. UCIL has started the construction of two additional mines in Jharkhand and a mine in Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh. UCIL has also planned

opening four mines in Nalgonda District which is awaiting clearance from National Environmental Appellate Authority (NEAA). In Meghalaya, a mine has been planned. Exploratory mining is under progress at Gogi Deposits (Karnataka) and Rohil Deposits (Rajasthan) to explore the possibilities of opening mines.

Relocation of Tiger-Reserves

773. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to relocate some tiger-reserves;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether State Governments have requested for special financial package to meet the immediate needs of national parks and reserves;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Funding support under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided to tiger range States for relocation of villages from the core or critical tiger habitat of a tiger reserve, identified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing inviolate space to tiger population.

(c) to (e) The ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, has been revised to include, interalia, an enhanced village relocation package (from Rs. 1.00 lakh/ per family to Rs. 10.00 lakhs/per family). The details of funding support (100%) provided to States in this regard since the last financial year are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of funds released for relocation of villages/ settlement of rights under project tiger scheme during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Sl.No.	Name of State	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4
1.	Karnataka	980.19	-
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1930.8968	1324.49
3.	Orissa	-	350.00

1	2	3	4
4.	Rajasthan	100.00	2412.00
1	2	3	4
5.	Uttarakhand	10.00	-
Total		3021.0877	4086.49

Healthcare Services

774. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of improvement achieved in the healthcare services in the country as a result of surveys conducted during National Family Health Survey-II and III;
- (b) the details of the areas where improvement could not be achieved as per the surveys; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Government to achieve the desired results in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Statement-I showing details of achievement noticed in the health care services in the country during National Family Health Survey (NFHS-III) as compared to NFHS-II, is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Prevalence of wasting, anaemia among children (6-35 months) and in women aged 15-49 years, increased during NFHS-III as compared to NFHS II. Efforts made by the Government to achieve the desired results are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of health care services achieved in the country during National Family Health Survey (NFHS-III) as compared to National Family Health Survey (NFHS-II)

Healthcare Services	NFHS-III	NFHS-II
1	2	3
I) Current Use of Family Planning Methods		
Currently using any method (%)	56.3	48.2
Currently using any modern method (%)	48.5	42.8
Currently using sterilization (%)	38.3	36.0
Currently using spacing method (%)	10.0	6.8
II) Antenatal Care Indicators		
At least 3 Antenatal Checkup (%)	52.0	44.2

1	2	3
Births assisted by Doctor/Nurse/ LHV/ANM/Other Health Personnel (%)	46.6	42.4
Institutional Births (%)	38.7	33.6
III) Immunization		
Full Immunization (%)	43.5	42.0
BCG (%)	78.1	71.6
DPT (3 Injections) (%)	55.3	55.1
Polio 3 drops (%)	78.2	62.8
Measles (%)	58.8	50.7
IV) Nutritional Status/ Anaemia among Children and Adults		
Children under 3 years breastfed within one hour of birth (%)	23.4	16.0
Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)	79.1	74.2
Trends in nutritional status of children under 3 years of age (%)		
Height-for-age (Stunted)	44.9	51.0
Weight-for-height (Wasted)	22.9	19.7
Weight-for-age (underweight)	40.4	42.7
Women whose body Mass Index is below normal (%)	33.0	36.2
Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	56.1	51.8
Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)	57.8	49.7

Statement-II

Efforts made by the Government

Measures taken by the Government to improve the health and nutritional status of children and women include the following:

- During the Eleventh Plan, a five pronged strategy has been adopted to accelerate the programmes to overcome micronutrient deficiency in the country through i) dietary diversification ii) nutrient supplementation iii) horticulture intervention iv) public health measures v) food fortification.
- Under the National Rural Health Mission (2005-12), the Government of India is actively pursuing a

programme for prophylaxis and treatment of anemia. Under this programme, all pregnant and lactating women are provided with one tablet (containing 100 mg of elemental iron and 0.5 mg of Folic Acid) daily for 100 days. Those who have severe anemia are provided with double dose of these tablets.

- Supply of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid to children till the age of 5 years and Iron & Folic acid Supplementation for Infants, preschool children, adolescent girls to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies.
- The Reproductive and Child Health Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) also promotes maternal and child health care through:
 - the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP);
 - Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY); promoting institutional deliveries, improved coverage and quality of ANC, skilled care to Pregnant women, Post-partum care at Community level; Immunization and Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood illness;
- Actively promoting exclusive breast feeding for the first six months of an infant.
- A National Nutrition Policy has been adopted in 1993 and National Plan of Action for Nutrition (1995) is being implemented through various departments of Government. The National Nutrition Mission has been set up by the nodal Ministry for Nutrition i.e Ministry of Women and Child Development.

[Translation]

IT Support to Panchayats

775. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether any resolution was adopted during the Seventh Round Table Conference of Ministers in-charge of Panchayati Raj for facilitating all panchayats with Information Technology (IT) support:

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of panchayats likely to be provided with such facilities; and

(c) the time by which all the panchayats in the country are likely to be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Seventh Round Table of the State Ministers of Panchayati

Raj held in Jaipur in December, 2004 resolved that capacity of Panchayats for fulfilling their constitutionally and legislatively mandated role would be strengthened through Information Technology & Communication. The relevant extract from the Resolution of the Seventh Round Table Conference is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) In keeping with the resolution adopted at the Seventh Round Table Conference, a proposal for extending I.T. support to all the Panchayats in the country has been formulated and is under consideration of the Government.

Statement

Relevant extract from the Resolution of the Seventh Round Table of Ministers in-charge of Panchayati Raj held at Jaipur on 17-19 December, 2004

IT enabled e-Governance :

1. It is recognized that IT (Information Technology and Communication) is a vital input of capacity for Panchayats so that they can perform their constitutionally and legislatively mandated functions better.
2. IT ought to be primarily positioned as :
 - (i) a decision making support system for Panchayats themselves;
 - (ii) a tool for transparency, disclosure of information to citizens; social audit
 - (iii) a means for better and convergent delivery of services to citizens;
 - (iv) a means for improving internal management and efficiency of Panchayats;
 - (v) a means for Capacity building of representatives and officials of the Panchayats;
 - (vi) an e-Procurement medium.

In this endeavour, the Round Table specifically proposes the following initiatives:

Process Re-engineering :

3. All States shall undertake a time-bound exercise of process re-engineering in consonance with the activity mapping already being undertaken by them for the functions transferred to the Panchayats, with a view to moving the processes of decision making, implementation, disclosure to the public, delivery of services and reporting and dissemination of information to Panchayat representatives to an IT-enabled environment.

4. In this exercise regard shall be had to avoid duplication of hardware and software initiatives by different State government departments and agencies.
5. Considering the functional domain of Panchayats that potentially extends to 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule, all e-Governance initiatives at the local level have to converge with the appropriate PRI as the nodal point.

Data Ownership :

6. Such re-engineered processes shall ensure that the ownership of the data collected at the Panchayat level is with that level in the first instance, as the system becomes sustainable when those who use the data feel that they own it.
7. While owning the data, the Panchayat could also operate, outsource or provide space to IT enabled multi service kiosk centers that provide IT enabled services to the people, including those that fall within the functions of the Panchayats.
8. The Community Service Centers being rolled out by the Ministry of Information Technology at the Centre may be located in the Panchayat officers so that Panchayats' services can also be delivered through these Common Services Centers (CSC).

Training :

9. There has to be a systematic approach on training of staff and Panchayati Raj members through a cascading mode on use of IT.
10. The opportunities offered by the satellite connectivity provided through the ISRO, including EDUSAT, can be used for undertaking training.
11. While developing training material, regard shall be had to design user friendly approaches that can facilitate training of the illiterate or the new-literate.

Software :

12. Development of common software application packages with provision for appropriate customization by states is preferred. In this connection, the National Informatics Centre (NIC), which being a government body present in all districts of the country and which has already done considerable software development for Panchayats, may be considered as the primary software provider.
13. It is recommended that NIC strengthens themselves at all levels and provide dedicated staff through creating a Panchayats informatics division, with a time bound

mandate to develop e-Governance solutions to all levels of Panchayats. This will include the strengthening of the District Informatics Office of the NIC to support the District Planning Committee and the Panchayats.

14. The National Panchayat Portal developed by the NIC for the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to become the information hub that links up Panchayats, the State Government and the Central Government for sharing of information, experiences and best practices. As a first step, all State governments may immediately link and port the content of their existing Panchayat Raj websites or portals to the National Panchayat Portal and all District, Intermediate and Village Panchayats can be enabled and facilitated to link up with the portal. The content can be regularly updated by the respective stake holders.
15. A repository of software solutions already developed by several states shall be maintained by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj or an institution nominated by it, so that they can be used by other states.
16. Software development shall be primarily undertaken in open source software, with Indian language interphase, so as to reduce cost of replication and licensing.

Hardware :

17. States should consider specifying a framework for common standards for hardware and put in place a system for transparent procurement through competitive bidding.
18. Funds for acquisition of hardware could be dovetailed from various sources and could include
 - (i) Infrastructure funds available in multilaterally funded projects;
 - (ii) Own incomes of Panchayats;
 - (iii) Funds recommended by the Finance Commission for the creation and maintenance of Databases;
 - (iv) Funds sourced from a fund to be created and managed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj;
 - (v) MP and MLA Local Area Development funds;
 - (vi) Purchases based on systems of annuity based purchases.
19. Considering the present power situation in the country, while procuring hardware, special attention shall be paid to providing reliable and uninterrupted power supply to computer systems. Special emphasis shall be placed on renewable energy devices and systems that consume less energy.

Infrastructure and connectivity :

20. It is recommended that the NIC expands its communication network, NICNET, to link all Panchayats at all levels by using State Wide Area Network funds provided by the Department of Information Technology, Government of India.
21. State governments can approach ISRO for providing satellite based connectivity in all the states to enable connectivity of all Panchayats. The Initial infrastructure cost could be considered to be met or supported by an infrastructure fund that could be operated by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Operationalisation of the plan :

22. The initiative of empowering Panchayats with IT capacity shall be treated on par with creating national infrastructure such as power, telcom and roads.
23. Formulate a mission mode/empowered committee mode for IT enabled automation of Panchayat institutions with NIC and other solution providers, keeping in view the national e-governance action plan of the Government of India.

[English]

Health Care Facilities to Children

776. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that more than 50 percent children under the age of 5 years in the country live without basic healthcare facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the government in ensuring basic healthcare facilities to all the children?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) As per the latest available National Family Health Survey 2005-06, among the children under the age of 5 years with symptoms of Acute Respiratory Infections and diarrhea, 69.0% and 59.8% respectively were taken to a health care provider. Coverage of the tuberculosis vaccine (BCG), the third dose of immunization for Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus (DPT), for the third dose of polio vaccine, and the measles vaccine are 78.1%, 55.3%, 78.2% and 58.8% respectively.

- (c) Steps are taken by the Government in ensuring basic healthcare facilities to all the children are implementation of the Integrated Management of Neonatal and

Childhood illnesses (IMNCI) strategy, which adopts a holistic approach to the management of the commonest causes of neonatal and childhood mortality - sepsis, acute respiratory infections, diarrhea, measles and malaria, all compounded by malnutrition. IMNCI shall be implemented throughout the country in a phased manner. In addition, thrust is being given to ensure institutional deliveries and train health personnel on essential newborn care so that skilled attendance at birth is available and all newborns receive specialized care. Efforts to deliver new born care, both facility based as well as home based, are being made. Micronutrient supplementation with Vitamin A, Iron Folic Acid and Zinc, Infant and Young Child Nutrition are being stressed. Immunization is one of the major thrust areas of the ongoing Reproductive & Child Health Programme. The National Rural Health Mission, launched in April, 2005 for a period of 7 years (2005-2012) is an overarching initiative with a holistic approach which provides multiple strategic additionalities, like provision for health infrastructure up gradation and a health care worker for every 1000 population, among others and has envisaged reduction in Infant Mortality and Neonatal Mortality as one of the prime goals to be achieved.

Four-laning of NHs in Orissa

777. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the on-going four-lane National Highway projects in Orissa;

(b) whether some portion of the National Highway No.5 is still incomplete in the State;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether four-laning work on Dhenkanal-Angul-Sambalpur stretch of National Highway is proposed to be commenced during the current year; and

(e) if so, the time frame fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The status of on-going four-lane National Highway projects in Orissa is as below:-

Sl. No.	Section	NH	Total Length (in km)	Length Completed (in km)	Present Status
1	Ganjam - Ichapuram (km 284.00 to km 233.00)	5	50.80	14.0	In progress
2	Sunakhala-Ganjam (km 338.00 to km 284.00)	5	56.164	21.03	Original contract terminated, balance work is yet to commence.
3	Khurda-Bhubaneswar (km 387.70 to 414.00)	5	27.150	27.15	In progress
4	Bhadrak - Balasore (km136.50 to km199.141)	5	62.64	35.56	Original contract terminated, balance work is yet to commence.
5	Paradip-Chandikhole (km 0.0 to 77.40)	5A	77.40	68.00	In progress

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, in some stretches on National highway 5, original contract of non performing contractor were terminated and the balance work were allotted/being allotted to new contractor.

(d) and (e) Dhenkanal-Angul-Sambalpur stretch is National Highways NH-42 having total length of 268 km entirely in the State of Orissa. On the demand of the State Govt., stretch from Manguli Chawk to Angul having aggregate length of 107 km has been identified for four laning. Accordingly, provisions have been made for preparation of feasibility study and DPR for four laning of this section in the

current year Annual Plan 2008-09. It is too early to indicate any time frame for its completion.

Diabetes and Cardiovascular Diseases

778. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes and Cardiovascular Diseases has been initiated in pilot phase in nine districts of nine States;

(b) if so, the details of achievements of this programme;

(c) whether the Government proposes to launch this programme in all the districts of the country;

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

(e) whether the Government also proposes to sanction special grant for upgradation of treatment in district hospitals for poor patients suffering from heart and kidney diseases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) The pilot phase of the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke has been initiated in ten districts of ten States this year. The names of the co concerned States are - (i) Assam (ii) Punjab (iii) Rajasthan (iv) Karnataka (v) Kerala (vi) Tamil Nadu (vii) Andhra Pradesh (viii) Sikkim (ix) Madhya Pradesh and (x) Gujarat. Countrywide launch of the programme is contingent to the outcomes of the Pilot Project.

Indian Fishermen in Pak Jails

779. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat and Members of Parliament from Gujarat State have taken up the issue of release of Indian fishermen languishing in Pak Jails;

(b) If so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the response of Pakistan Government thereto; and

(c) the number of Indian fishermen and boats including those belonging to Gujarat still under the custody of Pakistan (i.e. PMSA)?

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

(b) Issues relating to release of Indians including fishermen in jails in Pakistan are taken up with Government of Pakistan consistently in different bilateral meetings including at the highest level. During the visit of EAM to Pakistan on January 13-14, 2007, it was decided to form a Judicial Committee comprising retired judges from India and Pakistan to ensure expeditious release and humane treatment of prisoners and fishermen in either country. The Committee has held three meetings to date and has also visited jails in both countries to meet prisoners and fishermen in custody. Government expect the Government of Pakistan to implement the recommendations of the Judicial

Committee to release and provide consular access to all detained fishermen and prisoners.

(c) At present, there are 435 Indian fishermen and 379 boats in Pakistani custody.

Kailash Mansarovar Pilgrimage, 2008

780. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has cancelled the first two batches of the Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrimage this year;

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

(c) the present status of opening up of additional routes for pilgrimage to Kailash-Mansarovar?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Each year the Ministry of External Affairs sends 16 batches on the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra between 1 June and 30 September. Due to domestic reasons related to the Olympic Games, the Chinese side said they would not be able to accommodate six batches this year.

(c) During the visit of President Hu Jintao of China to India from November 20 to 23, 2006, the two sides agreed to explore the possibility of opening an additional route. We have proposed additional routes to the Chinese side for their consideration.

Fluoride content in Drinking Water

781. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of Health and FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UNICEF has supplied ion-meters to detect the fluoride content in the drinking water;

(b) If so, the names of States in which such meters have been installed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) and (b) UNICEF has supplied ion-meters for detection of fluoride content in drinking water to Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

(c) Fluorosis is mostly combated by provision of safe drinking water which is a State subject. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of State/UT Govern-

ments by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSF) of Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has approved a new initiative entitled 'National Programme for Prevention & Control of Fluorosis' to be implemented in 100 districts with an amount of Rs. 68 crores during the 11th Plan.

Deaths due to Breast Cancer

782. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of women die of breast cancer in the country every year;

(b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith their reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard to encourage women to go in for mammography tests?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) and (b) The exact number of deaths due to breast cancer in India is not known since it is not maintained centrally. However, according to Indian Council of Medical Research the estimated number of women died due to breast cancer in India during the year 2007 is 41,245.

(c) Health is a state subject and the National Cancer Control Programme is being implemented with the objectives of primary prevention through health education, secondary prevention through early detection and diagnosis of cancer and strengthening of cancer treatment facilities. In addition, the comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities including cancer testing facilities in respective regions/States are provided by 27 Regional Cancer Centres in different parts of the country. The public awareness about cancer is also being carried out through Electronic and Print Media including telecast of the Programme "Kalyani" on Doordarshan.

Preparations for National Games

783. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken on preparatory works for the next National Games;

(b) the amount of funds that have been allotted for the event so far;

(c) whether the venue of the National Games has been fixed;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) the facilities provided by the Government for organizing the previous National Games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) to (d) The next edition of National Games is scheduled to be held in Ranchi (Jharkhand) in December, 2008. As the National Games are allotted by Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to a State Government, preparation for organizing and conduct of National Games is made by the concerned State Government.

As far as assistance from Central Government is concerned, the Government of Jharkhand has received Rs.32 Crores during 2005-06 and Rs.35 Crores during 2006-07 for creation of Sports Infrastructure from the Union Government under State Plan Assistance.

(e) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has provided following assistance to State Governments for conduct of National Games in the past.

S.No.	National Games	Amount of assistance
1.	31st National Games, 2001, Punjab	Rs.7.00 Crore
2.	32nd National Games, 2002, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Rs.10.00 Crore
3.	33rd National Games, 2007, Guwahati, Assam	Rs.5.00 Crore

Four-laning of East-West Corridor

784. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the stretches of the four-laning of East-West corridor covering Assam and other North -Eastern States, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay and the target set for the time-bound completion of each project;

(c) whether the construction of four-laning of NH-52 from Bihata to Bandardowa under State Capital connectivity is being executed;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The work on stretch of East-West corridor from Srirampur to Silchar in Assam has already commenced and the overall progress of the project is 22 %. No stretch of East-West corridor is located in any other State of North East.

(b) The project is targeted for completion by September, 2010. The delay in completion is due to insurgency and law and order problems in the project area.

(c) to (e) Four laning of NH-52 from Jamgudi to Gohpur has been approved by the Government 'in-principle' and there is no proposal at this stage to carry out 4-laning of existing NH-52 from Bihata Chariali to Jamgudi and from Gohpur to Bandardowa.

[Translation]

Launching of Chandrayaan-II

785. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given approval for the launching of Chandrayaan-II; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which Chandrayaan-II is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has given approval for the launching of Chandrayaan-2.

(b) Chandrayaan-2 has been planned for in-situ scientific exploration of the polar regions of the Moon. Chandrayaan-2 will consist of an Orbiter and Lander-Rover. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will have the primary responsibility of realizing the Orbiter module and M/s Lavoshkin Association, Russia has the primary responsibility of realizing the Lander-Rover module.

The Lander will land at a suitable site on Moon and carry out in-situ analysis by excavating lunar soil by a robotic arm for scientific studies for detection of water-ice and He-3.

Chandrayaan-II is planned to be realized during the time frame 2011-2012.

Increase of Quota for Haj Pilgrims

786. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :
SHRI MILIND DEORA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has requested the Saudi Arabian Government to increase the quota for Haj for the year 2008;;

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

(c) the details of the break-up of charges for the pilgrims as well as the contribution by the Government; and

(d) the details of the arrangements likely to be made by the Government for comfortable stay of the pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India had requested the Royal Government of Saudi Arabia to provide an additional quota of 15,000 seats to India for Haj 2008 in response to which, quota for India has been increased by 10,991 seats. Thus, the total quota for India for Haj 2008 is 167,991 as compared to 157,000 for Haj 2007.

(c) and (d) Depending upon the category of accommodation provided, a pilgrim is required to pay a sum ranging from Rs. 73,759 to Rs. 84,240 each, towards accommodation / transportation charges and *Moallim* fees. Besides that each pilgrim would be paying a sum of Rs. 12700 towards air fare for the return trip to Jeddah and miscellaneous dues. The balance of the airfare would be provided by the Government to Air India as Haj subsidy. The Government of India make elaborate arrangements for the welfare of Haj pilgrims and strive to improve the facilities provided to them every year. Besides facilitating the transportation, accommodation and other logistical support for the Haj pilgrims going to Saudi Arabia through the Haj Committee of India, large contingent of seasonal local staff, supervisors, data entry operators, drivers and messengers is appointed by Consulate General of India, Jeddah during Haj period to assist in Haj arrangements. Besides that a contingent of about 600 personnel comprising Coordinators, doctors and nurses and other para-medical staff, Assistant Haj Officers, Haj Assistants, and about 200 *Khadim-ul-Hujja*, are sent every year from India on short-term deputation to Saudi Arabia. Extensive medical orientation is provided to the pilgrims in the community centres set up in Makkah and Madinah by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah which sets up two hospitals and various branch offices-cum-dispensaries in Makkah and Madina for Haj pilgrims. Medical teams are

deputed at Jeddah Airport to provide round the clock medical assistance to Haj pilgrims. Medicines provided at these dispensaries and hospital are being supplied from India and procured locally. Seventeen ambulances were pressed into service last year. A system of First Information Report is followed in the case of all the pilgrims who are 70+ years of age in order to ensure that the concerned pilgrims receive specialised medical care. The Government also makes arrangements in India for polio, meningitis and influenza vaccinations for the pilgrims. The Government provide adequate funds every year for these requirements. The Haj Committee of India in coordination with the State Haj Committees provides to the pilgrims information regarding confirmation of their seats, travel documents, transportation, accommodation, release of foreign exchange, embarkation points and departure dates etc.

Mixing of Naptha with Petrol

787. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether smoke of naptha mixed petrol has harmful consequences on the environment; and

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) When Naptha is mixed with petrol, emissions of harmful pollutants from vehicular exhaust like Hydrocarbons, Carbon monoxide and Particulate Matters increase.

Government have issued the Naptha (Acquisition, Sales, Storage and Prevention of Use in Automobiles) Order, 2000 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to prevent diversion and misuse of Naptha for adulteration. State Governments have been empowered under this Order to take action in cases of malpractices. The Governments conduct regular as well as surprise inspections of retail outlets, joint inspections of retail laboratories. Also, Oil Marketing Companies take action against the dealers under the Marketing Companies take action against the dealers under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines for adulteration in petrol.

[English]

Indo-Pak Peace Talks

788. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have resumed peace talks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the issues discussed/ likely to be discussed therein?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Fifth Round of the Composite Dialogue was launched on 21st July 2008 in New Delhi by the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan with discussions on peace and security, including confidence building measures, and Jammu & Kashmir. During Prime Minister's meeting with the President of Pakistan in New York on 24 September 2008, it was decided that the Foreign Secretaries of both countries will schedule meetings of the Fifth Round of the Composite Dialogue in the next three months which will focus on deliverables and concrete achievements. Dates for the meetings are being worked out through diplomatic channels. The Composite Dialogue meetings will comprise of Secretary level talks on Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, Slachen, Economic and Commercial Cooperation, Tulbul Navigation Project, Promotion of Friendly Exchanges and Sir Creek (at Surveyor General level).

[Translation]

Health Awareness Schemes

789. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes being implemented by the Union Government for creating health awareness alongwith success achieved thereon;

(b) the details of funds spent on the said schemes, State-wise; and

(c) the States which have achieved the set target under the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) The States/UTs are given funds under Mission Flexi Pool and RCH Flexi Pool for implementation of various national level health programmes of the Govt. of India which form part of annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) of a State. No separate funds are allocated for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities. The States take up IEC activities as per the programme needs. Apart from this, the ministry also launched various general IEC campaigns and organized Health Melas in Parliamentary constituencies by giving funds to States.

Apart from this, National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) have also taken up vigorous campaigns to generate

awareness on HIV/AIDS and to promote safe behaviours. Department of AYUSH have also launched certain campaigns for improving health seeking behaviour of people in Ayurveda and Homoeopathy etc.

The success of certain IEC activities cannot be gauged in quantifiable terms. However, its impact is visible on the masses. However, details of health awareness activities undertaken by Department of Health & Family Welfare, NACO and Department of AYUSH are given in the enclosed Statement-I to III respectively.

(b) Details of funds spent at central level on awareness through mass media, funds given to States under NRHM Flexi Pool, RCH Flexi Pool, funds given for general IEC activities, funds for Health Melas, funds given by NACO and by Department of AYUSH are given in the enclosed Statement-IV to X respectively.

(c) No targets are fixed under the activities.

Statement-I

Activities undertaken by Department of Health and Family Welfare

Health and family welfare issues like Janani Suraksha Yojana, ASHA (Accredited Social & Health Activist), Age At Marriage, Routine Immunisation, PNDT (Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques), Girl Child, Contraceptives, Breast Feeding, Use of Iodised Salt, New Born Care, Institutional Delivery, Maternal Care, Adolescent Health, RCH (Reproductive Child Health) & HIV/AIDS, Communicable and Non-Communicable diseases etc. are being highlighted through multimedia tools. Major activities undertaken are as per follows :-

* Activities through media unit of Ministry of I & B

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| (a) Doordarshan | - | Telecast of health & family welfare/RCH/National Rural Health Mission. |
| | - | Telecast of Pulse Polio Immunisation (PPI) spots |
| | - | Telecast of Kalyani-a magazine programme. |
| | - | Tele serial "Atamja" |
| (b) Date of Audio | - | Production and dubbling of spots. |
| Visual Publicity | - | Broadcast of spots/ programmes on private FM and private TV channels. |
| | - | Print Publicity |
| (c) Date of Field | - | Film shows, photo exhibitions |

Publicity

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| (d) Song & Drama Division | - | Puppet shows, dance, drama, talk shows etc. |
| (e) Film Division | - | Production of film on health family welfare issues. |
| (f) All India Radio | - | "Khushion Bhara Aangan" |
| | - | Lok Jhankar |
| | - | Programme on Adolescent Health |
| | - | Broadcast of spots audio through All India Radio and FM I & II. |
| (g) Press Information Bureau | - | Media coverage on important occasion i.e. World Population Day. |
| * States /UTs | - | General IEC activities like wall writings, JSY, printing of health Messages on prescription slips, organization of Health Melas |
| * Mahila | - | Inter-personal communication through Mahila Swastha Sangh (MSS) Swasthya Sangh |
| * Exhibition | - | World Population Day, IITF, Health Melas, Republic Day Tableau. |
| * Adolescent Health | - | Media advocacy through NGOs |
| * Print Publicity | - | Press Advertisement, |
| | - | Print software like pamphlets, posters, books etc. |
| | - | Wall calendar |
| | - | Hamara Ghar |

Statement-II

Activities undertaken by National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO)

National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) conducts campaigns from time to time to generate awareness and promote safe behaviours. NACO's awareness campaigns focus on reduction of stigma and discrimination attached to HIV/AIDS, promotion of services such as counselling & testing, ART, increasing condom use, Prevention of Parent

to child transmission and blood safety. Special emphasis is given to youth and women who are more vulnerable to HIV infection.

The following are the major initiatives undertaken :-

- 3453 special interactive programmes implemented in rural areas by Song & Drama Division and Directorate of Field Publicity.
- HIV/AIDS messages were disseminated in over 60,000 Gram Sabhas during their regular meetings.
- Over 73,000 Panchayati Raj Institutions and 1,20,000 Self Help Groups trained/sensitized on these issues.
- Booklet namely "Gram Sandesh" on safe sex distributed among the elected representatives of about 2,00,000 Gram Panchayats across the country.
- During 2007-08 along, NACO and State AIDS Control Societies participated in 4858 Melas, awareness programmes, advocacy workshops, training programmes, exhibitions etc.
- 7750 mid media programmes in the form of village theatre and condom demonstration outlets were organized in 14 States.
- Red Ribbon Express was launched in December, 2007 from Delhi to traverse over 27,000 kms. for promoting safe behavioural practices and awareness on HIV/AIDS.
- 20,000 Red Ribbon Clubs have been formed across the country to provide peer based HIV/AIDS education in schools and colleges.
- 54,083 video spots on counseling and testing, prevention of parent to child transmission, blood safety, HIV-TB co-infection, condom and for Red Ribbon Express were telecast.
- 10,447 audio spots were broadcast.
- Two weekly radio programmes - "Jeevan Hai Anmol" and "Let's Talk AIDS" were broadcast in 24 languages.
- A special 360 degree campaign - "Know Your Status" - was started at national and State level to increase the uptake of voluntary counselling and testing.
- Advertisements were released on Voluntary Blood Donation Day and on the launch of Red Ribbon Express.
- A special one month multimedia campaign on blood safety was organized for National Voluntary Blood Donation Day.

- NACO participated in various exhibitions at national level as well as the state level programmes.
- Booklets, posters, flip charts, HIV/AIDS updates, NACO newsletter, information booklet on HIV/AIDS for general population, booklet for panchayat members and folders and leaflets and other IEC material was printed and distributed.

Success Achieved

- As a result of sustained awareness programme, the awareness level about HIV/AIDS has increased to 80% in 2008 from 76.1% in 2001 as per BSS data

Statement-III

Activities Undertaken by Department of Ayush

- During 2007-08, grants were released to 18 States Health Societies for organizing national campaign on "Ksharsutra" at state level.
- Grant was given to Andhra Pradesh State Health Society for conducting State level Arogya Mela.
- Funds were released to 11 States for mother and child care in Homoeopathy.

Success Achieved

- Since no physical targets in quantifiable terms are fixed under these campaigns, the success cannot be gauged in physical terms. However, the impact of these campaigns on the masses is visible.

Statement-IV

Funds Spent at National Level on Health Awareness through Mass Media (2005-06 to 2008-09)

Rs. 444.17 crore

Statement-V

Release under Mission Flexipool for the year 2005-06 to 2008-09

		Rs. in crores
Sl.No.	State	Total Release
1	2	3
A.	High Focus States	
1.	Bihar	331.79
2.	Chhattisgarh	166.67
3.	Himachal Pradesh	51.80

1	2	3
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	174.32
5.	Jharkhand	146.70
6.	Madhya Pradesh	432.49
7.	Orissa	267.71
8.	Rajasthan	530.47
9.	Uttar Pradesh	822.18
10.	Uttarakhand	67.55
Sub Total		3013.88

B. NE States

11.	Arunachal Pradesh	54.36
12.	Assam	774.67
13.	Manipur*	42.92
14.	Meghalaya	56.27
15.	Mizoram*	47.38
16.	Nagaland	65.30
17.	Sikkim*	44.97
18.	Tripura	75.50
Sub-Total		1161.38

C. Non-High Focus States

19	Andhra Pradesh	466.37
20.	Goa*	3.92

1	2	3
21.	Gujarat	347.84
22.	Haryana	109.13
23.	Karnataka	246.66
24.	Kerala	254.31
25.	Maharashtra	482.27
26.	Punjab	92.86
27.	Tamil Nadu	434.84
28.	West Bengal	489.40
Sub Total		2927.61

D. Small States/UTs

29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6.09
30.	Chandigarh	2.68
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.13
32.	Daman	1.76
33.	Delhi*	29.14
34.	Lakshadweep*	1.22
35.	Puducherry	5.95
Others		33.38
Sub Total		80.85
Grand Total		7183.71

Statement-VI*Release under RCH Flexible Pool for the year 2005-06 to 2008-09**Rs. in crores*

Sl.No.	States	2005-06 Release	2006-07 Release	2007-08 Release	2008-09 Release as on date	Total Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. High Focus States						
1.	Bihar	29.38	113.14	0.00	160.38	302.90
2.	Chhattisgarh	27.46	43.96	35.76	42.80	149.98
3.	Himachal Pradesh	5.01	6.18	6.64	8.40	26.23
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.05	10.53	9.12	7.62	33.31
5.	Jharkhand	40.60	21.41	22.16	43.17	127.34
6.	Madhya Pradesh	66.20	114.35	230.65	216.84	628.04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Orissa	40.50	60.01	108.85	40.24	249.60
8.	Rajasthan	40.01	105.22	157.07	109.22	411.52
9.	Uttar Pradesh	169.73	156.00	192.72	212.52	730.97
10.	Uttarakhand	7.46	12.91	12.97	21.51	54.85
Sub Total		432.37	643.71	775.94	862.70	2714.72

NE States

11.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.35	6.74	12.08	2.15	28.32
12.	Assam	64.92	55.76	166.95	153.07	440.70
13.	Manipur	7.43	4.32	14.25		26.00
14.	Meghalaya	4.50	6.12	9.96	2.01	22.59
15.	Mizoram	11.82	1.44	7.53	6.25	27.04
16.	Nagaland	6.61	3.73	7.87	8.09	26.30
17.	Sikkim	1.00	2.18	3.31	3.81	10.30
18.	Tripura	6.00	7.69	14.34	2.47	30.50
Sub Total		109.63	87.98	236.29	177.85	611.74

Non- High Focus States

19.	Andhra Pradesh	58.85	134.39	141.34	117.07	451.65
20.	Goa	1.06	0.46	0.32	2.18	4.01
21.	Gujarat	33.83	49.35	67.01	38.51	188.70
22.	Haryana	11.43	30.13	27.75	25.49	94.80
23.	Karnataka	28.80	73.20	42.62	86.56	231.18
24.	Kerala	21.44	31.20	41.97	32.14	126.74
25.	Maharashtra	52.81	119.25	186.21		358.26
26.	Punjab	17.42	23.72	13.89	18.84	73.87
27.	Tamil Nadu	61.39	74.80	103.05	18.72	257.96
28.	West Bengal	59.83	65.82	71.10	53.10	249.85
Sub Total		364.84	602.30	695.26	392.61	2037.01

Small States/UTs

29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.45	0.48	0.40	0.56	1.89
30.	Chandigarh	0.74	0.82	0.42	0.90	2.88
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.35	0.48	0.17	0.30	1.30
32.	Daman	0.23	0.59	0.00	0.11	0.93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
33.	Delhi	7.27	13.38	6.19	16.83	43.67
34.	Lakshadweep	0.12	0.58	0.01		0.71
35.	Puducherry	0.87	1.38	1.26	1.37	4.88
	Others			0.00	2.56	2.56
	Sub Total	10.01	17.71	8.45	22.63	58.80
	Grand Total	898.84	1351.70	1745.94	1455.79	5422.27

Statement-VII**Funds Released to the States/Uts
Activity-wise upto 2006-07**

(Fig. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/ Uts	Funds Released General IEC Activities	Funds Released Prescription Slip	Funds Released Distribution of Outdoor Publicity	Funds Released Janani Suraksha Yojana
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Amdhra Pradesh	470.97	0.00	23.00	13.80
2.	Goa	75.34	0.00	2.00	1.20
3.	Gujarat	470.03	0.00	25.00	15.00
4.	Haryana	258.88	0.00	19.00	11.40
5.	Himachal Pradesh	94.25	18.68	12.00	7.20
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	121.74	20.07	14.00	8.40
7.	Karnataka	575.13	0.00	27.00	16.20
8.	Kerala	276.79	0.00	14.00	8.40
9.	Maharashtra	1032.60	0.00	35.00	21.00
10.	Punjab	689.62	0.00	17.00	10.20
11.	Tamil Nadu	405.78	0.00	30.00	18.00
12.	West Bengal	257.23	0.00	19.00	11.40
	Total	4728.56	38.75	237.00	142.20
13.	Bihar	218.00	40.37	37.00	22.20
14.	Chhattisgarh	907.92	31.05	16.00	9.60
15.	Jharkhand	280.00	30.60	18.00	11.40

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Madhya Pradesh	981.10	71.37	48.00	28.80
17.	Orissa	551.56	73.31	30.00	18.00
18.	Rajasthan	837.17	92.93	32.00	19.20
19.	Uttaranchal	244.37	14.94	13.00	7.80
20.	Uttar Pradesh	455.42	185.31	70.00	42.00
	Total	4475.55	539.87	264.00	159.00

U.Ts

21.	Andaman Nicobar Island	43.61	0.00	2.00	1.20
22.	Chandigarh	35.92	0.00	1.00	0.60
23.	Daman and Diu	40.30	0.00	2.00	1.20
24.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	29.08	0.00	1.00	0.60
25.	Delhi	253.12	0.00	9.00	5.40
26.	Lakshadweep	27.61	0.00	1.00	0.60
27.	Puducherry	55.31	0.00	4.00	2.40
	Total	484.94	0.00	20.00	12.00

N.E. States

28.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.75	6.17	15.00	9.60
29.	Assam	76.40	36.09	7.00	13.80
30.	Manipur	126.52	5.45	11.00	5.40
31.	Meghalaya	134.20	5.67	8.00	4.20
32.	Mizoram	194.50	4.48	9.00	4.80
33.	Nagaland	252.71	3.92	4.00	6.60

1	2	3	4	5	6
34.	Sikkim	104.41	1.89	23.00	2.40
35.	Tripura	188.91	3.83	4.00	2.40
	Total	1136.41	57.46	81.00	49.20
	Grand Total	10825.46	646.07	602.00	362.40

Statement-VIII*Funds Released for Health Mela For 2003-04 to 2006-07*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Names of States	Total Funds Released
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	672.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	72.00
3.	Assam	480.00
4.	Bihar	888.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	240.00
6.	Goa	32.00
7.	Gujarat	448.00
8.	Haryana	192.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	128.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	200.00
11.	Jharkhand	320.00
12.	Karnataka	432.00
13.	Kerala	328.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	712.00
15.	Maharashtra	760.00
16.	Manipur	88.00
17.	Meghalaya	64.00
18.	Mizoram	47.00
19.	Nagaland	32.00
20.	Orissa	520.00
21.	Punjab	208.00
22.	Rajasthan	624.00
23.	Sikkim	40.00

1	2	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	688.00
25.	Tripura	72.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1880.00
27.	Uttaranchal	120.00
28.	West Bengal	576.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.00
30.	Chandigarh	16.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24.00
32.	Daman and Diu	16.00
33.	NCT Delhi	104.00
34.	Lakshadweep	16.00
35.	Pondicherry	24.00
	Total	11079.00

Statement-IX*IEC Expenditure incurred by SACS during the Financial Year 2007-08**

Sl.No.	Name of the SACS	Budget Allocated	Expenditure Incurred
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	481	476.69
2.	Tamil Nadu	436.04	667.52
3.	Chennai Muni	163	142
4.	Karnataka	150	149.99
5.	Maharashtra	388.55	311
6.	Mumbai DACS	118	116.06
7.	Manipur	400	660.43
8.	Nagaland	320.07	121.58
9.	Gujarat	250	529.52
10.	Anemadabad	43.78	43.87
11.	Goa	145	54
12.	Pondicherry	74.45	30.79
13.	Assam	452.97	492.18
14.	Bihar	250	104.71
15.	Delhi	371.33	371

1	2	3	4
16.	Himachal Pradesh	70	95
17.	Kerala	169	68.35
18.	Madhya Pradesh	80	77.86
19.	Punjab	159	113
20.	Rajasthan	140	154.6
21.	Uttar Pradesh	375	177.68
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	600	250
23.	Chhattisgarh	50	21
24.	Jharkhand	120	122
25.	Orissa	260	211.54
26.	Uttaranchal	150	70
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	111	135.54
28.	Haryana	40	34
29.	Jammu and Kashmir	90	36.71
30.	Meghalaya	10	5.86
31.	Sikkim	75	22.62
32.	Tripura	88.15	13.65
33.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	51.61	13
34.	Chandigarh	30	18
35.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	14.38	10.71
36.	Daman and Diu	30.68	11.5
37.	Lakshadweep	8	8.15
38.	Mizoram	268.31	142.89
Total		7054.32	6085

Statement-X

1. Grants released to 18 States Health Societies during 2007-08 for organizing National Campaign on Ksharsutra at State level.

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount Released
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
2.	Chhattisgarh, State Health Societies	5 lakhs

1	2	3
3.	Delhi, State Health Societies	1 lakhs
4.	Haryana, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
5.	Himachal Pradesh, State Health Societies	3.06 lakhs
6.	Jammu and Kashmir, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
7.	Karnataka, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
8.	Maharashtra, State Health Societies	3.5 lakhs
9.	Rajasthan, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
10.	Uttarakhand, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
11.	Punjab, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
12.	Kerala, State Health Societies	4.99 lakhs
13.	Madhya Pradesh, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
14.	Uttar Pradesh, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
15.	Tripura, State Health Societies	2.96 lakhs
16.	Bihar, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
17.	Gujarat, State Health Societies	5 lakhs
18.	Maharashtra, State Health Societies	1.50 lakhs
Total		7,701,200.00

2. Grant released for State Level Arogya Mela under IEC Scheme

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount released
1.	Andhra Pradesh, State Health Societies	25 lakh

Funds Released under IEC Scheme for Mother and Child Care in Homoeopathy for the Financial Year 2007-2008

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount released in the financial year 2007-08
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 5 lakhs
2.	Assam	Rs. 5 lakhs
3.	Goa	Rs. 5 lakhs
4.	Gujarat	Rs. 5 lakhs
5.	Kerala	Rs. 5 lakhs

1	2	3
6.	Manipur	Rs. 5 lakhs
7.	Meghalaya	Rs. 5 lakhs
8.	Orissa	Rs. 5 lakhs
9.	Tripura	Rs. 5 lakhs
10.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 5 lakhs
11.	West Bengal	Rs. 5 lakhs

[English]

Sports Talent Hunt in Rural/Tribal Areas

790. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of camps/sports programmes organized by the Government to identify talented sports persons in rural/tribal areas; and

(b) the quantum of funds allocated for the establishment of Youth Development Centres in the rural/tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) Sports Authority of India (SAI), on the basis of performance at organised competitions and a battery of tests organised at centres locally, selects promising sports persons from all parts of the country including rural/tribal areas. Selected sports persons are then given training. SAI has more than 15,000 trainees who are being trained in 288 centres spread throughout the country, including rural and tribal areas.

(b) Youth Development Centres are given a one time financial assistance of Rs.30,000/- and serve as Centre of information, training and development of sports for the youth in the rural areas. No separate allocation is made for establishment of Youth Development Centres (YDCs) in the rural/tribal areas. Funds are allocated to Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) for implementing various schemes/programmes which includes running of the YDCs in each district of the country. During 2007-08, Rs.39.78 crores have been allocated to NYKS for undertaking its regular programmes including Youth Development Centres.

[Translation]

Use of Banned Drugs by Sports Persons

791. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI E. DAYAKAR RAO :

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

(a) whether some weight lifters have recently found been guilty of taking banned drugs;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M. S. GILL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ten cases of Doping have been detected in the discipline of weightlifting since January, 2008.

(c) Regular in and out of competition, dope testing is done to check doping in Sports. Similarly, outreach programmes are also held to educate athletes about the harmful effect of doping and promote clear sports.

[English]

National Service Volunteers Scheme

792. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons enrolled in the State of Karnataka under the National Service Volunteers Scheme (NSVS) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the State Government also contributes for honorarium to be paid to the volunteers;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to enhance the amount of honorarium in view of the increasing cost of living; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) The number of persons enrolled in the State of Karnataka under the National Service Volunteers Scheme (NSVS) during the last three years and the current Year are as under:

Year	Number of NSVs deployed	
2005-06	-	158
2006-07	-	162
2007-08	-	167
2008-09	-	268

(b) and (c) No Sir, the State Govt. does not contribute for the honorarium.

(d) and (e) The honorarium of National Service Volunteers (NSVs) has been enhanced from Rs.1000/- to Rs.2500/- per month with effect from 3rd September, 2008.

Expenditure by SAI

793. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been spent under various sports schemes in Haryana by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the extent to which the schemes have helped in tapping new talented sports persons in various sports disciplines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the expenditure on various schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI) incurred in respect of SAI Training Centres in Haryana are as under:-

Year	Infrastructure	Training of sports-persons under various schemes
2005-06	Rs.607.00 Lakhs	Rs.21,14,950/-
2006-07	Rs.207.00 Lakhs	Rs.34,35,965/-
2007-08	Rs.584.00 Lakhs	Rs.46,94,065/-
2008-09	An amount of Rs.25,07,963/- has been incurred upto September 2008.	

(c) The various schemes run by SAI in Haryana have groomed several talented sportspersons who have made a mark at international level, the details of such sportspersons in boxing discipline, in which Haryana has performed extremely well, is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Player/Discipline	Achievements
1	2	3
1.	Shri Sunil Kumar, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre	1. Gold medal (51 Kg.) in Junior International Boxing Championship held at Poland in May 2007. 2. Gold medal (51 Kg.) in Senior Commonwealth Boxing Championship held at England in July 2007. 3. Gold medal in Junior Asian Boxing Championship held at Kazakisthan in Nov./Dec. 2007.
2.	Manjeet Singh, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre	1. Bronze (75 Kg.) in Senior Commonwealth Boxing Championship held at England in July 2007. 2. Bronze in Junior Asian Boxing Championship held at Kazakisthan in Nov./Dec. 2007.
3.	Shri Vijender Singh, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre.	1. Bronze (75 Kg.) in Beijing Olympic 2008 2. Silver (75 Kg.) in Senior Asian Boxing Championship held at Mangolia in June 2007.
4.	Shri Jitender Kumar, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre	1. Reached in Quarter Final of Beijing Olympic -2008. 2. Bronze medal in Good Luck Cup International Boxing Championship held at Beijing in Nov. 2007.
5.	Shri Akhil Kumar, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre	1. Reached in Quarter Final of Beijing Olympic-2008. 2. Bronze medal (54 Kg.) in Senior Asian Boxing Championship held at Mangolia in June 2007.
6.	Shri Dinesh Kumar, Boxing	Participated in Beijing Olympic - 2008.

1	2	3
7.	Shri Suresh Kumar, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre	Participated in Junior Asian Boxing Championship held at Kazakisthan in Nov./Dec. 2007.
8.	Shri Naresh, Boxing, SAI Biwani Centre.	Participated in Junior Asian Boxing Championship held at Kazakisthan in Nov./Dec. 2007.

**Public Healthcare Infrastructure
under NRHM**

794. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
ADV. SURESH KURUP:

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

(a) whether the universalization of public healthcare infrastructure has been neglected under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the government to strengthen the primary health care infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Primary Health Care is being provided in rural areas through a network of 145272 Sub Centres, 22370 Primary Health Centres and 4045 Community Health Centres as on March, 2007. Under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM], funds are released to State/UT Governments for upgradation of the existing SCs, PHCs and CHCs and for establishment of new SCs, PHCs and CHCs as per the requirement reflected by respective State/UT Government through their annual Programme Implementation Plan.

Bridge across river Tapi

795. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the status of work of construction of additional two-lane bridge across river Tapi near Surat;

(b) whether the local organizations has represented to NHAI regarding the slow progress of work;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in execution of the work;

(c) the action taken by the Government for completion of work; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) A new three lane 442 m long bridge is under construction across river Tapi on NH 8 at km 246/4-8 near Surat. At present 2 nos. of RCC Slabs with girders for superstructure, 7 nos. of piers for substructures and 10 nos. of well foundations have already been completed at site and the remaining works are also in progress at site.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The matter of slow progress has been represented through VIP references as well as from Govt. of Gujarat. 12 representations have been received from various other sources during the period Dec. 06 to July 08. The reason for slow progress was inadequate mobilization of plant, material, machineries, poor managerial control etc. by the previous contractor who had been initially awarded this work.

(d) and (e) The contractor, who was executing this work, was terminated by NHAI and thereafter the balance work of this bridge was awarded to BOT concessionaire of the ongoing six laning project on BOT basis from Bharuch to Surat section under change in scope provisions of Concession Agreement and presently the execution of balance work of this bridge has been taken up by the BOT concessionaire. The likely date of completion is July 2009 i.e. by the completion time for construction work for six/laning of Bharuch-Surat Section on BOT basis.

**India's role for development of roads
and highways in Myanmar**

796. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, Thailand and Myanmar have undertaken a joint-project for development of roads and highways in Myanmar;

(b) If so, the details of highway projects and the cost involved therein alongwith the terms of the agreement between the three countries; and

(c) the benefits that are likely to accrue India as a result thereof?

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

(b) The idea of connecting India, Myanmar and Thailand by road was agreed at a meeting of Foreign Ministers of the three countries in April 2002. It was agreed that the proposed highway would connect Moreh (Manipur) in India to Mae Sot in Thailand via Bagan in Myanmar and will be approximately 1360 km long. In 2003, India and Thailand agreed to consider financing the upgradation of parts of the highways close to their respective borders. Preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the projects is being undertaken by India.

(c) The proposed trilateral highway would greatly enhance road connectivity between India, Myanmar and Thailand. Enhancing such connectivity is in accordance with our Look East Policy.

Indian students Stranded in Beijing

797. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian students got stranded in Beijing recently due to sale of fake air tickets to them by bogus travel agents as reported in the "Times of India" dated 15th July, 2008;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Chinese authorities to help the stranded students;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) As per available information 154 Indian medical students from Chongqing, Nanjing and Suzhou Medical Universities in China had purchased return fare e-tickets to facilitate their travel to India for the summer vacation from a Bangladeshi national Mohammed Jabbar Miah alias Farooq in July 2008. Some of these students were not issued boarding passes by Emirate Airways at Shanghai Airport on the grounds that the tickets had been bought through fake credit cards. Malaysian Airways also cancelled certain tickets purchased from them.

(b) to (d) The matter was reported by our Mission in China to the Exit-Entry Administration of the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau requesting their assistance in the matter. Details of Bangladeshi national along with his passport particulars were intimated to them. Air India

office at Shanghai was also contacted to accommodate the stranded students by providing discounted fare and priority booking.

Following the incident, Universities in Eastern China Region have appointed nodal officers to liaise with counterpart representative of Air India and Jet Airways for the purchase of tickets. The Universities concerned and students have been advised to be careful while purchasing tickets and follow this mechanism in future thereby obviating the need for travel agents.

Population Control

798. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Population took five years to hold its first meeting since its constitution as reported in 'The Times of India' dated July 11, 2008;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the targets fixed for population control and the result achieved;

(d) whether the Government has taken any new steps to contain the population; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Population was constituted by a resolution of the Planning Commission dated 11th May, 2000. The first meeting of the Commission was held on 22nd July, 2000. Thereafter as a step towards implementing the National Population Policy 2000, the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 13th October, 2004 took a decision to re-locate the Commission from Planning Commission, Yojana Bhavan to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhavan. The Commission was then reconstituted vide resolution No. N-23011/101/2004-Ply dated 11th April, 2005. The first meeting of the reconstituted Commission was held on 23rd July, 2005 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

(c) to (e) India is the first country in the world to start the National Family Welfare Programme in 1952 with the objective of reducing the birth rate to the extent necessary to stabilize the population at a level consistent with the requirement of the national economy. In keeping with the democratic tradition of the country, the Family Welfare programme seeks to promote responsible and Planned Parenthood through voluntary and informed choice of family planning methods best suited to individual acceptors.

The National Population Policy 2000 adopted in Feb. 2000 has identified the immediate objectives to achieve population stabilization as meeting the unmet needs for contraception, health care infrastructure and trained health personnel, to provide integrated service delivery and need to simultaneously address issues of child survival, maternal health with involvement of government, industry, voluntary and non-governmental sector. The Planning Commission fixed the decadal target of population growth as 16.2% for the period 2001-2011, keeping in view the past trends, the existing levels of birth rate, death rate and the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) and in consultation with a number of agencies like the Registrar General of India. The target growth rate of population is inconsistent with achieving a TFR of 2.1 in 2010 as targeted in the National Population Policy.

The Government is implementing population stabilization activities/programmes since 1952 and there has been substantial improvement in population indicators viz., Life expectancy has risen from 33 years to 64 years, Infant mortality Rate (IMR) has fallen from 148 to 55 per 1000, crude birth rate (CBR) declined from 41 to 23.8 and the crude death rate (CDR) has fallen from 25 to under 7.6. The Maternal Mortality Ratio defined as the number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births has declined from 407 per 100,000 live births in 1998 to 301 per 100,000 live births in 2001-2003. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR), which was over 6 at the beginning of 1960s, has declined to 2.8 in 2006. The growth of population can be assessed by taking into account these indicators.

On 14th April, Government has launched national Rural Mission (NRHM). The major goals of NRHM in respect of population stabilisation are reduction of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to live births, reduction of Maternal Mortality Rate to 100/100,000 live and reduction of Total Fertility Rate (MMR) (TFR) to 2.1 by 2012. NRHM provides a thrust for reduction of child and maternal mortality which would also influence in reduction of the fertility rate. Efforts are on to provide quality Reproductive Health Services (including delivery, safe abortions, treatment of Reproductive Tract Infections and Family planning Services to meet unmet needs, while ensuring full reproductive choices to women).

Simultaneously, improving the women's status economically and politically has been given a very high priority under NRHM. As a result, women are now becoming more conscious of concerns related to health, education and nutrition of their families and take decisions about their family size. The district administration and the health functionaries have been motivated under NRHM to make the family planning services/RCH services widely available all over the State, even in the remote areas. A large number

of doctors have been trained the female and male sterilization techniques and spacing methods in family planning are providing a wide choice to the eligible couples thereby addressing large unmet need both in terminal and spacing methods of contraception.

A key role has been played by the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) at the field level. She has been in the forefront in counseling eligible couples for family planning with focus to promote male participation in Family Planning, reduction of Infant Mortality Rate, greater convergent action to influence the wider determinants of healthcare like female literacy, sanitation, nutrition, gender and social empowerment; early childhood development, marriage after 18, spacing of children behavioral changes etc. All these efforts have combined to gain wide acceptance of the small family norm across the country.

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR), which was over 6 at the beginning of 1960s, has declined to 2.8 in 2006 as per National Family Health Survey-III; as such the Government is committed to achieve population stabilization through various activities enumerated in National Population Policy 2000 and NRHM.

Rail-Road Connectivity to Paradeep Port

799. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn up any scheme/plan to facilitate Rail-Road connectivity between Paradeep Port and the mining belt of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the various Rail-Road connectivity scheme/plan between, Paradeep Port and the mining belt of Orissa are as follows:

(I) Details Of the Rail connectivity

Paradeep Port is already linked to the mining belt of Orissa by Cuttack-Paradeep rail line. Apart from this, Daitari-Banspani Rail Link of 147 kms has been completed and commissioned. The work for construction of a new railway line between Haridaspur and Paradeep is in progress.

(II) Details of the road connectivity

(i) Four laning of Chandikhole-Paradeep on National Highway No. 5A is in progress and 90% work has been completed.

(ii) The Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) has cleared the following projects to be implemented through EOT (Toll) basis after selection of the bidder:

(i) On National Highway No. 200 four laning of Chandikhole-Duburi-Talcher.

(ii) On National Highway No.215 four laning of Panikolli-Keonjhar-Rimuli.

(iii) On National Highway No.215 four laning of Rimuli-Roxy-Rajamunda.

Pilferage of Coal

800. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

PROF. M. RAMADASS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified such coal mines in various parts of the country in which the incidents of pilferage of coal are increasing;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents that have come to light, company-wise and mine-wise during the last three years and the current year alongwith the quantity of coal pilferaged; and

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government to check such pilferage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) Theft/pilferage of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely and as such it is not possible to exactly specify the quantity of coal that might have been stolen and losses incurred on account of theft/pilferage of coal. However, as per the information given by the Coal India Limited, as per raids conducted by the security personnel of coal companies as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the approximate quantity of coal recovered during the last three years is as under:

Company	2008-09 (Till August 2008) (Prov)		2007-08		2006-07		2005-06	
	No. of Cases/ Incidents	Qty. of coal recovered (In tonnes)	No. of cases/ Incidents	Qty. of coal recovered (in tonnes)	No. of Cases/ Incidents	Qty. of coal recovered (in tonnes)	No. of Cases/ Incidents	Qty. of coal recovered (in tonnes)
ECL	483	4479.00	1456	13117.00	1473	11444.00	1382	12086.00
BCCL	26	4366.85	201	11071.52	212	8785.71	390	11723.96
CCL	02	1753.50	05	1803.07	08	517.50	11	626.50
NCL	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
WCL	18	216.65	38	250.01	22	109.75	25	322.94
SECL	23	533.83	99	1910.57	49	406.99	28	211.03
MCL	11	168.20	40	343.55	27	494.03	43	186.27
NEC	11	0.00	09	0.00	28	0.50	41	8.00
CIL (Aggregate)	574	11516.03	1848	28495.72	1819	21758.48	1920	25164.70

(c) The following steps are taken by the coal companies to prevent theft or pilferage of coal:

1. Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action/filing of FIR.
2. Installation of check posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
3. Construction of watch towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.

4. Erection of barbed wire wall fencing around pithead depots, static security mining including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.

5. Escorting of loaded rakes up to railway weigh bridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force (RPF) in the railways track which are prone to wagon looting.

6. Sealing of illegal mining spots.

7. Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.

8. Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in the theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior level.
9. Training of existing security personnel refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
10. The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities.

[Translation]

Impact of Climate Change

801. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been conducted by the Government to assess the impact of Climate Change;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the problem of climate change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As a part of the Initial National Communication of India to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); the vulnerability assessment and adaptation studies of climate change have been made in various areas such as water resources, agriculture, forests, natural eco-systems, coastal zones, health energy and infrastructure.

Further, the Expert Committee on Impact of Climate Change set up by the Ministry of Environment & Forests in June 2007 assessed the impact of climate change on six areas, and namely water resources, agriculture, Natural Eco-system, Health, Coastal Zone Management and Climate modeling. Reports of the Expert Committee in these areas have been prepared.

(c) The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was released by the Prime Minister on 30th June 2008. The National Action Plan outlines eight Missions in specific areas of Solar, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-System Green India Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change.

Besides, a range of policies and programmes have been initiated to address the problem of climate change in the context of sustainable development, such as :

- ensuring energy conservation and improved energy efficiency in various sectors as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- promoting use of renewable energy
- power sector reforms and active renewable energy programme
- use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- fuel switching to cleaner energy
- afforestation and conservation of forests
- promotion of clean coal technologies
- reduction of gas flaring
- encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems
- environmental quality management for all sectors

[English]

Mining of Uranium by ONGC

802. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has forwarded a proposal to Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) to enter the field of Uranium mining in the country;
- (b) if so the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) the plan of the Government to increase the production of Uranium in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to develop technology to recycle used nuclear fuel to sustain future demand of this country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken so far/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)

has received a proposal from Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) conveying their willingness to enter into an MoU for Joint exploration and mining of uranium within the country and overseas, which is under consideration.

(c) UCIL is setting up new mines & mills in Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh and also planning mining and milling in Meghalaya. Expansion of the production capacity of the existing two mines in Jharkhand has also been undertaken. Simultaneously exploration efforts to identify additional prospects by the 'Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration & Research have also been augmented.

(d) and (e) India has adopted a closed fuel cycle approach in which irradiated fuel is reprocessed. Under the three stage Nuclear Power Programme, which India is pursuing, reprocessing of the spent fuel is an important component. The spent fuel from the first stage of our power programme is already being processed to recover valuable fissile materials as well as leftover fertile material, for its recycling in the second stage of our programme.

Rise in Kidney/Diabetic patients

803. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether the number of kidney /diabetic patients are increasing in the country;

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

(c) the number of kidney/diabetic patients treated in Central Government hospitals during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government in facilitating better treatment of such patients at nominal cost?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) As per information provided by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the course has not conducted any study to document if there is any real increasing trend of number of kidney patients in the country over the years.

(c) The requisite information in respect of Central Government Hospitals in respect of Kidney cases is as follows:-

S.No.	Hospital	No. of patients treated during last three years
1.	Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi.	25844 (Including OPD patients)
2.	Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi	1723
3.	Lady Hardinge Medical College & SK Hospital, New Delhi	118
4.	AIIMS	99192 (Including OPD)

Similar information in respect of diabetic cases is not available.

(d) The Facility for treatment is available in some medical colleges and premier apex institutions like AIIMS, PGI, Chandigarh, SGPGL, Lucknow etc. The treatment for kidney/diabetes is either free or highly subsidized in Government institutions. Further assistance for treatment, if required by poor and needy patients is available under the National Illness Assistance Fund. In addition, healthy life style is being propagated through various multi media methods. The pilot phase of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke has also been launched in January, 2008.

Activities taken under National Rural Health Mission

804. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL :
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA :
SHRI GANESH SINGH :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

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

(a) the details of the special activities taken under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) scheme;

(b) whether the Government has achieved its target fixed under NRHM;

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

(d) the details of funds allocated and released there from under NRHM during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to include HIV and Cancer diseases under the special control measures of NRHM; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) NRHM provides overarching umbrella to several National programmes of Health and Family Welfare including RCH-II, National Disease Control Programmes and Integrated disease Surveillance. Further, it addresses the issue of health in a sector-wide manner addressing sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water as basic determinants of good health. Some of the special activities being undertaken under NRHM are as follows:

- Promote access to improved healthcare at household level through the female health activist (ASHA).
- Strengthening existing (PHCs) through better staffing and human resource development policy, clear quality standards, better community support and an untied fund to enable the local management committee to achieve these standards.
- Preparation and implementation of an inter sector District Health Plan prepared by the District Health Mission, including drinking water, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition.
- Integrating vertical Health and Family Welfare programmes at National, State, District and Block levels.
- Technical support to National, State and District Health Mission, for public health management
- Promotion of public private partnerships for achieving public health goals.
- Mainstreaming AYUSH - revitalizing local health traditions.
- Effective and viable risk pooling and social health insurance to provide health security to the poor by ensuring accessible, affordable, accountable and good quality hospital care etc.

(b) and (c) The NRHM is an initiative for undertaking comprehensive correction in the Public Health delivery system. Since the launch of NRHM, considerable progress has been made. The Institutional Framework of the MRHM has been established and operationalised in various States and Districts. Health Missions have been constituted in all States/UTs. The expected target of selection and positioning of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), has been far exceeded. More than 6.24 lakh ASHA have been selected and 5.54 lakh ASHAs have been positioned in villages after

orientation training. Merger of societies has been completed at the state level and at the district level. The state wise achievement of some of the critical activities under NRHM, as reported by the States/UTs is placed at Statement-I enclosed.

(d) The state-wise details of funds allocated and released out there from under NRHM during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(e) and (f) Inter sectoral convergence is one of the major interventions under NRHM. Convergence with HIV is being done at central, state and district level for better utilization of all service delivery under NRHM. National Cancer Control Programme is working as a separate entity in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. It is being implemented separately for the entire country.

Statement-I

Statewise Tentative Allocation during 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2007-08

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
High Focus				
1	Bihar	39822	59921	68070
2	Chhattisgarh	11800	17458	22523
3	Jharkhand	15769	22920	26292
4	Madhya Pradesh	28076	41310	54405
5	Rajasthan	26427	40791	54818
6	Orissa	19672	28468	34520
7	Uttar Pradesh	74669	114270	145942
8	Uttarakhand	5186	7189	8444
9	Jammu and Kashmir	5180	6583	8677
10	Himachal Pradesh	4358	5936	6770
11	Assam	24797	51322	64228
12	Arunachal Pradesh	2638	3188	4339
13	Manipur	3363	5375	6668
14	Meghalaya	3215	5287	6227
15	Mizoram	3121	2848	3670
16	Nagaland	3042	4914	5619

1	2	3	4	5
17	Tripura	5059	6635	8814
18	Sikkim	792	1451	1796
Sub Total		276987	425866	531823

Non High Focus

1	Andhra Pradesh	27760	42008	59784
2	Goa	635	949	1338
3	Gujarat	30682	31848	38058
4	Haryana	6933	11769	13760
5	Karnataka	18756	29829	39595
6	Kerala	11738	17721	21857
7	Maharashtra	31072	51295	67114
8	Punjab	7509	12844	16197
9	Tamil Nadu	21273	33855	43316
10	West Bengal	27729	43326	54020
11	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	563	910	609
12	Chandigarh	329	637	735
13	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	203	346	378
14	Daman and Diu	147	360	343
15	Delhi	3136	5725	7920
16	Lakshadweep	122	247	225
17	Puducherry	267	529	998
Sub Total		188855	284197	366247
Total*		465842	710063	898070

Note: * This doesn't include in-kind transfer of States/UTs.

Statement-II*Statewise Releases during 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2007-08*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
High Focus				
1	Bihar	31588	49012	48210
2	Chhattisgarh	11861	16443	17880
3	Jharkhand	14351	19159	15828

1	2	3	4	5
4	Madhya Pradesh	29814	47214	63691
5	Rajasthan	32522	45991	69235
6	Orissa	23108	23883	36045
7	Uttar Pradesh	93000	118024	153150
8	Uttarakhand	5666	5067	16214
9	Jammu and Kashmir	6769	5710	16557
10	Himachal Pradesh	5865	7897	5407
11	Assam	15413	37542	59375
12	Arunachal Pradesh	2900	5069	4225
13	Manipur	2698	3868	4764
14	Meghalaya	2156	3734	4003
15	Mizoram	2762	6066	2944
16	Nagaland	2960	4388	4453
17	Tripura	2877	4066	7228
18	Sikkim	947	2445	4208
Sub Total		287256	405578	533416

Non High Focus

1	Andhra Pradesh	36539	42328	63124
2	Goa	617	437	516
3	Gujarat	34628	31175	41789
4	Haryana	8514	13469	13179
5	Karnataka	19927	28402	31462
6	Kerala	11365	19062	29761
7	Maharashtra	33859	36611	70634
8	Punjab	9413	17350	11889
9	Tamil Nadu	24516	36547	59067
10	West Bengal	29988	44050	54868
11	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	845	1014	797
12	Chandigarh	337	698	477

1	2	3	4	5
13	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	178	289	134
14	Daman and Diu	179	359	51
15	Delhi	3283	5440	8136
16	Lakshadweep	161	175	50
17	Puducherry	431	617	478
Sub Total		214778	278024	386414
Sub-Total (including Cash & Kind Grants)		502033	683602	919830
Expenditure at Central Level		84224	52505	99073
Total Release		586257	736107	1018903

Development of Urban Areas of NER

805. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major schemes and the amount allocated thereunder for the development of urban areas of various states of North Eastern Region (NER) including Dibrugarh Town Protection Drain; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) As per information received from Ministry of Urban Development, urban infrastructure development, including in Dibrugarh, has been undertaken in the North East under the "Provision for the Projects/Schemes for the benefit of the North Eastern Region and Sikkim" and under an Asian Development Bank Project. This includes following components:-

- Improvement of existing/construction of new roads, pavement
- Improvement of existing drains/construction of new drains
- Water supply scheme
- Sewerage scheme

- Construction of retaining wall
- Solid Waste Management Scheme
- Construction of Bridges/Flyovers
- Construction of market complex/parking complexes/truck terminus
- Civic amenities like playground/community halls, night shelters, old age and destitute children home.

The details of state-wise number of projects sanctioned and funds released during the last 3 years, are as follows:-

(Rs. in crore)				
State	No. of projects sanctioned	Funds released in 2005-06	Funds released in 2006-07	Funds released in 2007-08
Arunachal Pradesh	48	39.61	35.28	64.46
Assam	28	22.12	38.54	26.90
Manipur	18	0.5	1.90	6.86
Meghalaya	13	9.73	6.58	3.37
Mizoram	13	32.62	7.12	37.55
Nagaland	45	28.15	7.79	35.55
Sikkim	20	3.00	19.64	4.083
Tripura	15	24.72	13.45	54.18
Total	200	160.00	130.30#	270.00

[Translation]

Growth of Indigenous Shipping Industry

806. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual growth rate of shipping industry in the country in comparison to the world shipping industry during the last three years, country-wise; and

(b) the concrete steps taken by the Government to increase the growth of the Indigenous shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The annual growth rate of Indian shipping tonnage in comparison to world shipping tonnage during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The Government has been taking various steps from time to time for the growth of Indian tonnage. These include :

- (i) The Government of India has formulated the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) under which 111 projects for Shipping & Inland Water Transport Sector have been identified for implementation by the year 2015 at cost of Rs. 44,535 crores. The activities covered under the Programme include tonnage acquisition, maritime training, coastal shipping, aids to navigation, shipbuilding and building up of IWT infrastructure. Under the NMDP, The Shipping Corporation of India plans to acquire 76 vessels at a total approximate cost of Rs. 15,000 crores.

(ii) Tonnage Tax has been introduced from 2004-05 whereby in the matter of taxation a level playing field has been given to Indian Shipping Industry vis-a-vis international shipping industry.

(iii) The acquisition of Vessels has been brought under Open General Licence. The Shipowners are free to decide on type of Ship to be acquired and their area of operation etc.

(iv) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in Shipping Sector.

(v) The formalities of registration of newly acquired vessels have been simplified.

(vi) The maritime training, examination and certification system has been streamlined to meet the market demands.

Statement

Shipping Tonnage of Principal Maritime Countries in the World Based on Country of Registration 2005-2007

Country of Registration	2004	2005		2006		2007	
	Cargo Fleet (mln grt)	Cargo Fleet (mln grt)	% of annual growth	Cargo Fleet (mln grt)	% of annual growth	Cargo Fleet (mln grt)	% of annual growth
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Panama	129.3	139.7	8.0	152.64	9.3	165.35	8.3
Liberia	52.5	58.4	11.2	67.15	15.0	75.27	12.1
Bahamas	33.7	36.6	8.6	38.82	6.1	41.29	6.4
Greece	32.0	30.7	-4.1	31.96	4.2	35.60	11.3
Malta	22.2	22.9	3.2	24.72	7.9	27.53	11.4
Cyprus	21.1	18.9	-10.4	18.9	0.0	18.80	-0.5
Singapore	25.8	30.4	17.8	31.54	3.8	34.97	10.9
Norway (NIS)	15.1	13.9	-7.9	14.52	4.5	14.39	-0.9
Japan	12.1	11.7	-3.3	11.72	0.2	11.74	0.2
China	19.4	21.2	9.3	22.38	5.6	23.64	5.6
USA	8.6	8.9	3.5	8.97	0.8	8.96	-0.1
Germany	8.0	11.3	41.3	11.16	-1.2	12.72	14.0
Italy	10.7	11.3	5.6	12.28	8.7	12.67	3.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
India	7.1	7.5	5.6	7.73	3.1	8.41	8.8
Marshall Islands	21.9	28.6	30.6	32.18	12.5	35.13	9.2
Hong Kong	26.0	29.8	14.6	32.66	9.6	35.79	9.6
South Korea	7.2	8.6	19.4	9.85	14.5	12.47	26.6
UK	10.4	10.5	1.0	11.41	8.7	12.69	11.2
World Total ((including other Countries)	601.7	642.67	6.8	687.98	7.1	730.29	6.1

(Source : World Fleet statistics 2007, Lloyd's Register - Fairplay)

[English]

Dholpur - Morena Highway

807. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Dholpur-Morena section of National Highway in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken to expedite the construction of four-lane roads under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) including the Dholpur-Morena section of NH-3?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Four laning of Dholpur - Morena Section from km 51.00 to km 61.00 of NH-3 including construction of Chambal Bridge was awarded at a cost of Rs 230.28 Crore with commencement date as 18.10.2007 and completion time of 36 months. Progress of work is one per cent. The slow progress of work is mainly due to difficulty in diversion of forest land for construction of new Chambal Bridge and delay in pre-construction activity.

(b) For Dholpur - Morena Section Land Acquisition process has been expedited and it is in advance stage. The proposal for diversion of forest land has been got cleared by Central Empowered Committee. For expediting Four laning projects under NHDP various steps have been taken such as regular monitoring, associating nodal officer from State Government in pre-construction activity, taking up urgent and important inter ministerial and State Government level problems through Committee of Secretaries mechanism, simplification of procedure for issue of notification for land acquisition, declaring poorly performing contractors as non performers and debarring them for award of future contracts, assisting the contractors facing cash flow problem through secured interest bearing advance etc.

Death of Big Cats

808. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether It has come to the notice of the Government that big cats are dying in Valmik Tiger Reserve in the country;

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

(c) the effective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Death of a tiger due to foot trap injury on 10.05.2008 in the Valmiki Tiger Reserve (Bihar) has been reported by the State. Steps taken by Government of India to protect tigers are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by Government of India to protect tigers

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing

funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel / home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication / wireless facilities.

3. 100% Central Assistance provided to 17 Tiger Reserves as an additionally for deployment of Tiger Protection Force, comprising of ex-army personnel and local workforce.
4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, interalia, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual / audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, interalia, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/ rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including copredators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are benchmarks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. Around 31111 sq.km. of critical/core tiger habitat identified in 17 States.
10. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/ concerted implementation of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

Financial steps

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
13. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
14. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

Reintroduction of Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve

15. A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in the Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan), based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored by radio telemetry.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, interalia, contains action points relating to tiger protection. A one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore has been provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force. Action has been taken for the needful in this regard.

**Criteria for Allocation of
Coal to States**

809. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria/norms followed for allocation of coal to a State from the Western Collieries Ltd., (WCL);
- (b) whether the State of Gujarat is allocated coal from the eastern coal belt;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government is considering to allocate coal to Gujarat from WCL;
- (e) if so, the details thereof outlining the modalities; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) The allocation of coal, including coal allocation from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), on long-term and short-term basis is made by Standing Linkage Committee, an Inter-Ministerial Committee, keeping in view the availability of coal logistic arrangements for evacuation of coal, qualitative requirement as per Ministry of Environment and Forest norms etc.

(b) to (f) Out of 5 power utilities located in Gujarat, main source of supply is South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL). Only one thermal power station viz. Sikka in Gujarat is getting coal from a mine operated beyond 1600 KMs. Other power stations of Gujarat are getting their coal from South Eastern Coalfields Limited which is next nearest source of Gujarat, apart from NCL and some portion of coal is supplied from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL). Further, as the power stations of Gujarat are located more than 1000 KMs away from Coalfields, to meet Ministry of Environment and Forest stipulations, coal of lower ash content from the nearest coalfields of Koraa-Rewa of SECL for arriving at desired blending mixed within stipulated ash content is being supplied. Keeping in view the existing coal commitments of WCL and with no perceptible growth prospect in coal

production in coming years at WCL, it may not be feasible to consider any further rationalization of source from WCL for power plants of Gujarat at this stage.

Road linkages to Naxalite Areas

810. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to link naxalite affected remote areas with highways to provide rapid access to paramilitary forces;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds earmarked and allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and
- (d) the strategy to implement this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways (Department of Road Transport and Highways) is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. Twenty one sections of National Highways (NH) covering a total length of 1320.53 km have been identified in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs and concerned State PWDs in Naxalite affected areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh to provide rapid access to paramilitary forces. State-wise National Highway details are given in the enclosed Statement. For upgradation of the identified stretches, the tentative cost of Rs. 1555.59 crore has been estimated. Presently, the development and the maintenance of National Highways are being done under Annual Plan from General Budgetary Support. Concerted efforts are being made to include and take up upgradation works of these NHs in the successive Annual Plans in a phased manner subject to availability of funds.

(d) The projects will be implemented through the designated executing agencies of the Ministry which in this case are Public Works Department of the respective State Governments and Border Roads Organization.

Statement
Details of identified National Highways to be upgraded/improved/constructed in Naxalite Areas

Sl. No.	State	District	National Highway	Length (Km)	Proposed Improvement	Tentative Cost (Rupees in Lakh)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam	(NH-221)-Vijayawada to Jagdhalpur road from Km. 168/6 to 236/150 Construction of HLB across Godavari river on (NH-202) Hyderabad-Bhopalapatnam road including forming of approaches 7.0 Km on either side.	67.550	Widening and Strengthening	6785.00	
			(NH-221)-Bhadrachalam - Chandruputla road from Km. 103/0 to 141/4	14.000	Construction of High Level Bridge	15000.00	
2	Bihar	Gaya	NH-99 (Km 0.00 to Km. 11.50)	38.400	Widening and Strengthening	3982.00	
		Jehanabad	NH-83(Patna-Jahanabad Section)	11.500	Widening and Strengthening	700.00	
			NH-110 (Km.36.00 to Km.68.00)	32.000	Widening & Strengthening and Construction of High Level Bridge in Km.43 across River Dardha in place of damaged and old bridge.	4500.00	Included in NHDP Phase-III.
3	Chhattisgarh	Bastar/ Dantewada	NH-221 from Jagdalpur to Konta;	32.000	Widening & Strengthening and Construction of High Level Bridge in Km. 53 across River Dardha in place of damaged and old bridge.	35000.00	Work sanctioned (Rs.24.35 crore) for widening of 11 km. and renewal of 82 kms.
			NH-16 from Jagdalpur to Bhopalpatnam	170.000	Widening to 2 lane		Work sanctioned (Rs.446.00 crore) and in progress.
				204.000	Widening to 2 lane		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
							Forest clearance is required.
		Bijapur	NH-202 from Bhopalpatnam to TarLaguda	36.000	Widening to 2 lane	10800.00	
4	Jharkhand	Chatra & Hazaribagh	(NH-100)-Chatra - Bagramore - Simaria -Hazaribagh- Bishnugarh-Bagodar	108.500	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	13020.00	
		Chatra	(NH-99)-Dobhi- Chatra- Bakumath-Chandiwa	86.000	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	10320.00	
		Gariwa	(NH-75)-Parwa More-UP Border (Km.183 to 260)	77.000	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	9240.00	
			(NH-98)-Helhargunj- Amba-Chatarpur Parwa More	55.400	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	8648.00	
		Lohardaga, Latehar & Palamu	(NH-75)-Ranchi - Daltonganj to Parwa More	100.000	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	12000.00	
		West Singhbhum	(NH-75Extn)-Ranchi (NH-33 Junction)-Khunti-Murhu- Chakardharpur-Chaibasa-Jaitgarh (Orissa Border)	143.000	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	17160.00	
			(NH-75Extn)-Ranchi (NH-33 Junction)-Khunti-Murhu- Chakardharpur-Chaibasa-Jaitgarh (Orissa Border)	59.900	Widening to 2 lane with widening of CD work & Strengthening	7248.00	
5	Uttar Pradesh	Sonbhadra	NH-75E from Km.211.20 to Km.215.00	3.800	Improvement of Riding Quality	200.00	
			NH-75E from Km.215.00 to Km.263.535	48.535	Periodic Renewal (PR) by Semi Dense Bituminous Concrete	1000.00	
			NH-75E from Km.263.535 to Km.278	14.465	Strengthening	778.00	
			NH-75E from Km.280.00 to Km.288.00	4.000	Strengthening	400.00	
			NH-75E from Km.288.00 to Km.302.478	14.478	Strengthening	778.00	
			Grand Total	1320.528		155559.00	

Border dispute with China and Bangladesh

811. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

YOGI ADITYA NATH:

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken initiative to solve the border disputes with China and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the modalities chalked out in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal for exchanging of enclaves in between India and Bangladesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the exchange of enclaves are likely to take place?

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

(b) During the visit of former PM Vajpayee to China from 22-27 June 2003, India and China agreed to each appoint a Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework for a boundary settlement. There have been twelve meetings of the Special Representatives so far. The two Special Representatives are exploring the framework for a final package settlement covering all sectors of the India-China boundary.

India and Bangladesh signed a Land Boundary Agreement in 1974 which has been implemented except for three issues pertaining to: (i) demarcation of 6.1 km of the border in three sectors, namely: Lathitilla-Dumabari (3 km in Assam sector), South Berubari (1.5 km in West Bengal sector), and Muhuri river/Belonia sector (1.6 km in Tripura sector); (ii) exchange of adverse possessions; and (iii) exchange of enclaves.

Government of India are keen on an early settlement of all boundary related issues including exchange of enclaves and adverse possessions with Bangladesh. The Joint Boundary Working Group (JBWG) between India and Bangladesh was set up in 2001 to resolve all pending issues relating to the implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement (LBA). JBWG has met thrice; the last meeting of the JBWG was held in Dhaka on July 15 & 16, 2006.

(c) to (e) There are 111 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and 51 Bangladesh enclaves in India. The agreed list of enclaves was signed between the officials of the two countries in 1997. The 1974 Land Boundary Agreement states that the enclaves should be exchanged expeditiously. The issue of exchange of enclaves is being discussed in

the Joint Boundary Working Group between both countries. Government of India are committed for an early settlement of all boundary related issues with Bangladesh.

Eradication of Leprosy

812. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of funds allocated for the purpose of eradication of leprosy alongwith the amount spent there from during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of success achieved, State-wise alongwith the names of States which have not so far achieved their target for eradication of leprosy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Funds allocated to the states and amount spent under National Leprosy Eradication Programme during last three years and current year is as below -

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2005-06	3762	3161.52
2006-07	3725	3256.76
2007-08	3650	2282.10
2008-09	4100.40	846.07
		As on Aug/ Sept.08

The State-wise details is given in the enclosed statement-I

(b) Spectacular success has been achieved against the disease after introduction of MDT. A total of 12.14 million leprosy patients were cured by MDT since its inception in 1982-83 till March 2008. The leprosy recorded case load came down from 57.60 cases per 10,000 population in 1980-81 to less than 1 case per 10,000 population at national level in Dec.'05. The country thus achieved the goal of elimination of leprosy as a public health problem i.e. prevalence rate (PR) of less than 1 case per 10,000 population at national level in December 2005 as set by National Health Policy, 2002.

29 States/UTs have achieved the goal of leprosy elimination.

6 States / UTs viz Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Chandigarh, and Dadar & Nagar Haveli have yet to achieve elimination. The state wise details regarding new leprosy detected during 2007-08 and cases on record as on March 2008 is given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement-I
National Leprosy Eradication Programme
Budget Allocation & Expenditure reported by the States for 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2008-09

S.No.	Name of State/UTs	(Rs. in lakhs)									
		Budget Allocation					Expenditure reported by the States			Release	Expenditure
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2008-09	upto Aug./ Sep.08
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	Andhra Pradesh	113.34	113.41	174.91	196.49	111.05	140.81	170.12	122.81	138.14	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	50.03	75.39	130.51	146.61	49.86	60.67	36.02	40.55	10.00	
3	Assam	54.45	88.91	161.77	181.73	48.74	119.64	46.84	57.47	23.42	
4	Bihar	388.37	358.42	290.97	326.88	198.29	134.90	134.56	28.04	0.00	
5	Chhattisgarh	204.73	209.99	130.09	146.14	216.54	186.12	69.83	96.31	47.68	
6	Goa	17.61	17.45	7.03	7.90	2.94	7.40	4.52	4.60	1.10	
7	Gujarat	130.35	157.93	159.15	178.79	88.74	129.17	104.75	89.10	102.71	
8	Haryana	38.84	38.72	64.39	72.34	44.39	46.92	52.34	49.10	22.34	
9	Himachal Pradesh	43.67	49.02	64.39	72.34	37.44	51.27	43.96	44.64	26.91	
10	Jammu and Kashmir	63.38	61.16	57.52	64.62	40.75	42.47	32.03	27.99	2.38	
11	Jharkhand	345.08	320.04	162.01	182.00	307.40	95.92	56.62	103.16	5.40	
12	Karnataka	83.99	59.21	136.40	153.23	65.35	126.81	107.45	36.93	6.00	
13	Kerala	30.39	36.57	102.43	115.23	43.85	53.90	14.65	33.70	3.63	
14	Madhya Pradesh	389.65	250.49	136.76	153.64	159.09	237.17	126.29	113.67	34.20	
15	Maharashtra	179.71	210.96	196.56	220.82	304.91	267.96	156.08	139.22	64.82	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	Manipur	32.09	31.50	41.84	47.00	17.43	47.63	22.48	17.00	20.00
17	Meghalaya	33.15	42.19	42.29	47.51	10.59	13.58	17.24	12.02	3.56
18	Mizoram	35.07	45.23	58.12	65.29	28.36	34.81	12.23	26.57	3.20
19	Nagaland	78.57	78.22	43.46	48.82	36.60	43.43	37.67	10.91	25.96
20	Orissa	261.33	242.20	147.96	166.20	167.54	219.03	107.55	82.85	32.58
21	Punjab	50.88	62.92	68.09	76.49	40.09	42.21	63.29	54.11	53.78
22	Rajasthan	82.02	76.47	125.41	140.89	126.02	109.48	82	83.25	5.53
23	Sikkim	23.92	23.00	33.11	37.20	17.35	21.31	19.65	12.63	7.65
24	Tamil Nadu	90.50	138.53	150.38	168.94	169.04	148.78	91.64	104.30	27.47
25	Tripura	21.12	21.00	35.64	40.04	23.87	15.96	3.47	0.34	1.34
26	Uttaranchal	109.19	432.98	76.94	86.43	54.62	82.57	54.38	20.45	8.36
27	Uttar Pradesh	447.03	81.80	454.06	510.09	383.69	463.25	380.57	393.36	72.50
28	West Bengal	234.70	275.96	287.29	322.74	268.12	237.69	169.13	138.47	72.28
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11.19	11.18	11.23	12.62	6.07	4.76	4.99	8.30	Awaited
30	Chandigarh	10.75	11.00	10.21	11.47	6.55	6.30	4.97	5.22	2.76
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.65	9.00	7.54	8.47	5.70	6.89	4.98	10.00	Awaited
32	Daman and Diu	15.54	15.00	17.52	19.68	14.69	7.58	6.69	0.00	Awaited
33	Delhi	63.41	61.00	55.65	62.52	57.36	40.02	36.26	39.96	18.25
34	Lakshadweep	7.02	7.00	2.03	2.28	2.52	0.78	0	0.00	Awaited
35	Pondicherry	11.28	11.15	6.34	7.12	5.97	9.57	6.85	6.12	2.14
Total		3762.00	3725.00	3650.00	4100.56	3161.52	3256.76	2282.10	2013.15	846.07

Statement-II**National Leprosy Eradication Programme****State-wise New Leprosy cases detected in 2007-08 and Cases on record as on 31st March 2008**

S.No.	States/UTs	New cases detected during 2007-2008	ANCDR/100.000	Cases on record as on March 2008	PR as on March 2008
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	10047	12.12	5817	0.70
2	Arunachal Pradesh	45	3.51	52	0.41
3	Assam	1268	4.22	1137	0.38
4	Bihar	19041	19.33	10262	1.04
5	Chhattisgarh	7808	33.46	5465	2.34
6	Goa	156	10.54	112	0.76
7	Gujarat	7228	12.41	4752	0.82
8	Haryana	379	1.52	319	0.13
9	Himachal Pradesh	246	3.62	201	0.30
10	Jharkhand	6799	21.86	3460	1.11
11	Jammu and Kashmir	209	1.74	201	0.17
12	Karnataka	4522	7.68	3059	0.52
13	Kerala	778	2.30	775	0.23
14	Madhya Pradesh	6058	8.63	4799	0.68
15	Maharashtra	12397	11.12	7870	0.71
16	Manipur	54	1.89	43	0.15
17	Meghalaya	14	0.51	13	0.05
18	Mizoram	26	2.44	18	0.17
19	Nagaland	54	1.93	70	0.25
20	Orissa	5685	13.97	3283	0.81
21	Punjab	964	3.50	897	0.33
22	Rajasthan	1201	1.79	1278	0.19
23	Sikkim	27	4.10	26	0.40
24	Tamil Nadu	5511	8.24	3665	0.55
25	Tripura	85	2.41	65	0.18
26	Uttar Pradesh	31028	15.94	18254	0.94
27	Uttarakhand	763	7.96	535	0.56

1	2	3	4	5	6
28	West Bengal	13551	15.07	9358	1.04
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18	4.28	24	0.57
30	Chandigarh	190	16.70	140	1.23
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	150	49.50	57	1.88
32	Daman and Diu	2	0.93	1	0.05
33	Delhi	1331	7.43	1195	0.67
34	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	1	0.15
35	Puducherry	50	4.51	24	0.22
Total		137685	11.70	87228	0.74

Domestic Waste Water Treatment

813. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes available for treatment of domestic waste water and its re-use in the country;

(b) whether these schemes are effective in ensuring purity of treated water;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the areas in which such water can be reused; and

(d) if not, the details of any alternate scheme being proposed for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (d) Urban Water Supply and Sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Governments/Urban local Bodies (ULBs) to plan, design, execute, operate and maintain water supply and sanitation projects including domestic waste water treatment schemes with State Plan funds. Under the Union Ministry of Urban Development, two State-sector mission-mode reform oriented programmes, namely, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) are presently in operation for supplementing the efforts of the State Governments & ULBs by providing Additional Central Assistance (ACA) as per guidelines of the schemes. Sewerage & sewage treatment (i.e. domestic wastewater treatment) schemes including treatment of sewage for release back into nature or reuse are among the admissible components of the programmes. Pollution abatement measures taken up under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) include setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treating the intercepted and

diverted sewage to the desired standards before it reaches the water bodies.

(b) and (c) Purity of treated wastewater essentially means treating of sewage/domestic wastewater to the mandated effluent standards. The wastewater can be treated at secondary, tertiary and more advanced levels depending upon the final applications of the treated wastewater. The reclaimed water can be used for direct and indirect applications for horticulture, agriculture, irrigation, industries, groundwater recharge etc. depending upon the degree of treatment achieved.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Protection of Tigers

814. SHRI GANESH SINGH :

SHRI MILIND DEORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has provided any financial assistance to campaign for the protection of tigers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of funds sanctioned by the World Bank for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(d) the manner in which the funds were/are being utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) :

(a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Question does not arise.

[English]

Supply of Coal to Industrial Units

815. SHRI B. MAHTAB:

SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanadi Coal Fields is unable to meet the required demand for coal to industrial units including NALCO and NTPC in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) Supply of coal to all industrial units including National Aluminum Company Limited (NALCO) is guided by Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) between consumer and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL). The total offtake to all consumers from MCL during April-September, 2008-09 is about 42 million tonnes (provisional) as compared to 39.4 million tonnes during same period last year. Further, during April-September, 2008, the supply of coal by MCL to NALCO was 2.37 million tonnes against commitment of 2.65 million tonnes, which works out to materialization of about 89%. In so far as power utilities of National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) are concerned, supply from MCL to these plants during April-September, 2008 was 9.124 million tonnes as against prorata allocation of 8.475 million tonnes, indicating materialization of about 108%. Due to frequent strikes and blockades by villagers, unprecedented heavy rains during the monsoon, strike by contractors, drivers, there was marginal shortfall in despatch of coal to NALCO. However, MCL is making all efforts to enhance the despatch by transporting more coal to railway sidings.

[Translation]

Primary Health Centres Under NRHM

816. MOHD. MUKEEM :

SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

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

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres functioning in the various States including Uttar Pradesh as on date;

(b) the number of Primary Health Centres targeted to be set up in various States in the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM); and

(c) the funds provided by the Government for setting up of Primary Health Centres during each of the last three years and the current years; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) A Statement-1 showing the number of Primary Health Centres in all State./UTs including Government of UP as on March, 2007 is enclosed.

(b) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), provides for setting up of Primary Health Centres and community Health Centres on the basis of population, workload and distance. Its objective is to provide a 24x7 Hospital in every Block.

The actual number of institution/health centres depends on the priority of the State Government as reflected in its Programme Implementation Plan under National Rural Health Mission.

(c) Under NRHM, funds are released on the basis of Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) submitted by States which are approved by National Programme Coordination Committee [NPCC]. These funds are released as a flexible pool for states to be spent on the basis of activities prioritized by them under the Flexipool approved by NPCC. A table showing State Wise funds released under Mission Flexipool activities including setting up of PHCs for the year 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 is enclosed Statement II.

Statement-I

Bulletin on Rural Health Statistics in India Number of PHCs Functioning (As on March, 2007)

Sr. No.	State/UT	PHCs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1570
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	85
3.	Assam	610
4.	Bihar	1648
5.	Chhattisgarh	518
6.	Goa	19
7.	Gujarat	1073
8.	Haryana	411
9.	Himachal Pradesh	443
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	374
11.	Jharkhand	330
12.	Karnataka	1679
13.	Kerala	909
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1149
15.	Maharashtra	1800
16.	Manipur	72
17.	Meghalaya	103

1	2	3	1	2	3
18.	Mizoram	57	27.	Uttar Pradesh	3660
19.	Nagaland	84	28.	West Bengal	922
20.	Orissa	1279	29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20
21.	Punjab	484	30.	Chandigarh	0
22.	Rajasthan	1499	31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6
23.	Sikkim	24	32.	Daman and Diu	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	1181	33.	Delhi	8
25.	Tripura	75	34.	Lakshadweep	4
26.	Uttarakhand	232	35.	pudducherry	39
			All India		22370

Statement-II*Release of funds under Mission Flexipool for the year 2005-06 to 2008-09**Rs. in crores*

S.No.	State	2005-06 Release	2006-07 Release	2007-08 Release	2008-09 Release	Total Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. High Focus States						
1.	Bihar	68.37	125.79	137.63		331.79
2.	Chhattisgarh	29.10	61.75	64.13	33.89	188.87
3.	Himachal Pradesh	16.15	30.29	5.36		51.80
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.68	31.39	122.05	2.21	174.32
5.	Jharkhand	32.48	46.53	66.47	1.22	146.70
6.	Madhya Pradesh	82.23	136.62	152.24	61.40	432.49
7.	Orissa	59.32	66.91	107.43	34.06	267.71
8.	Rajasthan	70.56	138.06	266.36	55.49	530.47
9.	Uttar Pradesh	129.52	241.77	417.21	33.68	822.18
10.	Uttarakhand	17.54	15.92	34.07		67.55
Sub Total		523.94	895.02	1372.97	221.95	3013.88
B. NE State						
11.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.05	31.07	13.24		54.36
12.	Assam	36.02	245.41	322.31	170.93	774.67
13.	Manipur*	7.52	20.48	14.92		42.92
14.	Meghalaya	7.22	19.51	23.22	6.32	56.27
15.	Mizoram*	6.01	32.43	8.95		47.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Nagaland	7.83	22.62	18.08	16.78	65.30
17.	Sikkim*	3.09	18.22	23.67		44.97
18	Tripura	3.92	12.97	38.06	20.55	75.50
Sub Total		81.65	402.70	762.45	214.58	1161.38
C. Non-High Focus States						
19.	Andhra Pradesh	46.20	119.19	179.89	121.09	466.37
20.	Goa*	1.86	1.12	0.94		3.92
21.	Gujarat	46.38	93.63	142.19	65.64	347.84
22.	Haryana	23.50	34.32	46.51	4.80	109.13
23.	Karnataka	48.84	84.38	88.54	24.90	246.66
24.	Kerala	25.26	44.60	143.11	41.33	254.31
25.	Maharashtra	65.33	113.94	177.88	125.12	482.27
26.	Punjab	24.37	42.41	26.08		92.86
27.	Tamil Nadu	31.63	97.93	226.83	78.45	434.84
28.	West Bengal	36.10	115.71	233.71	103.89	489.40
Sub Total		349.48	747.22	1265.68	565.22	2927.61
D. Small States/UTs						
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.49	0.63	3.97		6.09
30.	Chandigarh	0.44	0.47	1.77		2.68
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.47	0.54	0.12		1.13
32.	Daman	0.59	0.67	0.00	0.50	1.76
33.	Delhi*	1.37	4.54	23.23		29.14
34.	Lakshadweep	0.94	0.28	0.00		1.22
35.	Puducherry	1.76	1.64	2.55		5.95
Others			15.65	17.23		33.38
Sub-Total		7.06	24.42	48.87	0.50	80.65
Grand Total		962.13	2069.36	3149.97	1002.25	7183.71

[English]

Food Regulatory Authority

817. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up
Food Regulatory Authority;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a group of Experts has been constituted
to recommend any regulatory provision in this regard; and

(d) If so, the recommendations made by the Group
in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) and (b) Government has already established Food Safety and Standards Authority of India as per the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 vide the Gazette Notification S.O. 2165 (E), dated 5th September, 2008 comprising of the Chairperson and 22 Members.

(c) and (d) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is in the process of further constituting various expert bodies under the provision of the said Act.

Chinese Incursions across LAC

818. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of Chinese incursions across LAC into the Indian territory in the recent past as reported in the "Times of India" dated 10 September 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Chinese Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such Chinese incursions?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Government have seen the 'Times of India' report of 10 September 2008.

China disputes the international boundary between India and China. Since 1993, the two Governments have agreed to maintain peace and tranquillity along the line of actual control in the India-China border areas, without prejudice to their respective positions on the alignment of the line of actual control as well as on the boundary question. In the meantime, pending a final settlement, both sides have agreed to clarify the LAC and to take up perceived violations through established mechanisms including the Joint Working Group, the Expert Group, border personnel meetings, flag meetings and diplomatic channels.

[Translation]

Prime Minister's Visit to USA and France

**819. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has visited USA and France recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of issues discussed and the agreements signed during this visit?

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

(b) and (c) Prime Minister visited the USA from September 24 to 27, 2008. In New York, Prime Minister addressed the General Assembly of the United Nations on September 26, 2008. He also attended the Millennium Development Goals meeting on September 25, 2008 and met a number of world meeting on September 25, 2008 and met a number of world leaders on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. PM addressed a gathering of Indian community members in New York on September 26, 2008 where he announced the intention of Government of India to open two additional Indian Consulates in USA in the cities of Atlanta and Seattle.

On September 25th, Prime Minister made working visit to Washington and met with the US President, George W. Bush. The two leaders reviewed bilateral relations and discussed international issues of mutual interest. Both leaders expressed their faith in the importance of the India-US bilateral relationship.

Prime Minister visited France to attend the 9th India-EU Summit held in Marseilles on September 29, 2008 and the India-France Bilateral Summit in Paris on September 30, 2008. During the India-EU Summit, the two sides held discussion on regional situations, global issues and the strengthening of EU-India relations.

During the India-France Bilateral Summit, Prime Minister and President Sarkozy had discussions on bilateral, regional and international issues. Both sides reaffirmed the Strategic Partnership between India and France and their commitment to further strengthening cooperation in varied areas.

During the Bilateral Summit, the following Agreements were signed :-

- i) India-France Inter-Governmental Agreement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation.
- ii) India-France Framework Agreement for Cooperation in Outer Space.
- iii) India-France Inter-Governmental Agreement on Social Security.

Mental Hospitals

820. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of patients getting treatment in mental hospitals of the country, State-wise as on date; and

(b) the details of funds allocated to mental hospitals in the country along with its utilization during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) The data relating to the number of persons getting treatment in mental hospitals of the country, State-wise is not centrally maintained.

(b) The details of fund allocation to mental hospitals under State Government control and its utilization is not centrally maintained, as health is a State subject. There are three mental health institutes under this Ministry, viz. National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, LGB Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tejpur and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi. The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore had been given a grant of Rs. 4373, Rs. 4310 and Rs. 3700 lakhs during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 respectively. Out of these except the year 2005-06, all the allocation was utilized. During the year 2005-06, a sum of Rs. 205.35 lakhs was unutilized but this amount was utilized in the consequent year i.e. 2006-07. The fund allocated to the LGB Institute of Mental Health, Tejpur during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are Rs. 880, Rs. 1088 and Rs. 375 lakhs respectively. The Institute utilized Rs. 662, Rs. 821 and Rs. 779 lakhs respectively during the period.

The BE allocation of Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi for the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are Rs. 1850, Rs. 1870 and Rs. 1000 lakhs respectively. The expenditure during this period was Rs. 855.62 Rs. 1191 and Rs. 979 lakhs respectively.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released grant-in-aid to 23 Mental Hospitals for Modernisation under National Mental Health Programme during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08. List of these Mental Hospitals is enclosed as Statement. The modernization work is in various stages of construction/utilisation.

Statement**Grant-in-aid released under National Mental Health Programme****Mental Hospitals**

Sl. No.	States	Year	Name of the mental Hospital	Amount (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2005-06	Institution of Mental Health, Hyderabad	2,71,00,000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2006-07	Government Hospital for Mental Care, Visakhapatnam	3,00,00,000
3.	Assam	2005-06	Lokpriya Gopinath Boronchiol Regional Institute, Tejpur	3,00,00,000
4.	Gujarat	2005-06	Hospital for Mental Health, Ahmedabad	76,64,000
5.	Gujarat	2005-06	Hospital for Mental Health, Vadodara	2,99,50,000
6.	Gujarat	2005-06	Hospital for Mental Health Hospital, Jamnagar	82,28,000
7.	Jharkhand	2004-05	Neuro Psychiatry & Allied Scieces, Ranchi	2,45,00,000
8.	Karnataka	2006-07	Karnataka Institute of Mental Health, Dharwad	3,00,00,000
9.	Kearala	2005-06	Mental Health Centre, Kozhikode	2,85,00,000
10.	Kerala	2005-06	Mental Health Centre, Thirissur	1,10,00,000
11.	Kerala	2005-06	Mental Health Centre, Trivendrum	2,50,00,000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2006-07	Gwalior Mansik Arogyasala, Gwalior	2,13,00,000
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2006-07	Mental Hospital, Indore	2,99,75,000

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Maha-rashtra	2005-06	Regional Mental Hospital, Yavada/Pune	2,71,00,000
15.	Maha-rashtra	2005-06	Regional Mental Hospital, Thane	2,49,50,000
16.	Maha-rashtra	2005-06	Regional Mental Hospital, Nagpur	2,89,00,000
17.	Orissa	2005-06	Mental Hospital Institute, Cuttack	1,51,00,000
18.	Tamil Nadu	2005-06	Mental Health Institution, Kilpauk	2,69,00,000
19.	Uttar Pradesh	2005-06	Mental Hospital Bareilly	2,33,32,000
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2006-07	Institute of Mental Health and Hospital, Agra	3,00,00,000
21.	West Bengal	2005-06	Pavoni Mental Hospital, Kolkatta	94,40,000
22.	West Bengal	2005-06	Behrampore Mental Hospital Murshidabad	2,94,80,000
23.	West Bengal	2005-06	Institute of Mental Health Care, Purilla	1,00,00,000

[English]

Construction of CGHS Dispensaries

821. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has extended time to Central Public Works Department (CPWD) with regard to completion of construction work of various Dispensaries of the Central Government Health Scheme in the NCT of Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds incurred so far thereon including cost over-run, if any; and

(d) the time by which it is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (d) Construction of the following dispensaries, by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), is under different stages of completion:

1. Shalimar Bagh

2. Yojana Vihar

3. Dilshad Garden and

4. Kamala Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad

Funds have been placed with the CPWD in connection with the construction of these dispensaries.

Expansion and Development of National Highways

822. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation for the expansion and development of National Highways in the country has been continuously increasing;

(b) If so, the details of the funds allocated and released to each State including Maharashtra for the purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the funds utilized by each State during the said period;

(d) the reasons for under-utilization of allocated funds;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper utilization of the allocated funds; and

(f) the funds allocated and released for road safety programme, State-wise during the last three years and current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir, except in the year 2006-07.

(b) and (c) State-wise and year-wise details of allocation and utilization of funds for expansion and development of National Highways during the last three years and current year are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) There have been some short falls in a few States. Reasons for under-utilization of allocated funds by some of the States have been due to prolonged rainy season, availability of less working season, delay in land acquisition, delay in shifting of utilities, law and order problems, poor performance by some contractors, etc.

(e) The progress of works and utilization of funds are regularly monitored by the Ministry at different levels and necessary instructions to all executive agencies are issued from time to time.

(f) Funds allocated to this Ministry for Road Safety are utilized for implementing the schemes - Awareness Campaign for Road Safety, Refresher Training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers, Setting up of Model Driver Training School and for National Highways Accident Relief Service under which the cranes and ambulances are procured and provided to the State/UT Governments and NGOs for post accident care. Funds earmarked for road safety programmes/schemes are not allocated State-wise, however the details of funds allocated and spent on road safety programmes/

schemes by this Ministry during the last three years and current year are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Funds Allocated	Funds Spent
2005-06	43.50	29.70
2006-07	47.00	43.25
2007-08	52.00	42.87
2008-09	73.00	--

Statement

(Amount Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	76.23	69.65	65.76	65.40	82.44	81.59	95.66	81.80
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6.00	6.00	8.30	8.29	6.00	5.65	6.00	0.61
3	Assam	59.50	58.00	79.11	77.10	87.96	86.00	87.95	16.26
4	Bihar	79.00	66.21	108.00	106.17	96.82	90.28	92.92	37.38
5	Chandigarh	1.00	0.89	1.00	0.96	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.51
6	Chhattisgarh	51.40	49.08	39.45	36.19	42.19	40.15	50.76	18.03
7	Delhi	1.00	0.50	3.00	1.47	9.00	8.30	15.00	2.29
8	Goa	6.00	6.00	2.95	2.64	15.00	15.00	18.70	17.66
9	Gujarat	103.27	103.25	69.00	68.92	67.70	65.16	60.00	23.30
10	Haryana	57.42	57.42	64.00	64.00	81.25	81.24	70.33	47.24
11	Himachal Pradesh	39.00	39.00	39.50	39.44	57.00	57.00	55.00	33.94
12	Jharkhand	40.00	39.97	34.86	35.00	57.25	57.24	89.00	49.85
13	Karnataka	88.61	88.54	88.91	86.75	104.21	106.51	147.51	122.14
14	Kerala	70.96	65.99	58.02	54.44	58.48	50.10	72.79	34.73
15	Madhya Pradesh	90.10	77.92	93.73	91.71	80.88	76.40	82.17	32.48
16	Maharashtra	119.65	111.93	160.81	159.32	142.55	144.79	153.28	127.89
17	Manipur	20.07	20.00	14.74	14.65	12.14	10.34	40.12	5.56
18	Meghalaya	24.21	24.18	25.40	24.31	22.88	22.33	23.83	19.03
19	Mizoram	15.75	15.75	15.53	15.53	15.00	15.00	13.00	8.35
20	Nagaland	11.25	11.25	11.82	11.81	12.00	10.20	15.00	6.25
21	Orissa	67.63	67.27	73.37	72.22	139.31	138.87	139.87	75.78

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
22	Puducherry	2.65	2.64	5.00	4.99	7.55	7.49	9.00	0.66
23	Punjab	64.51	62.50	75.34	74.69	85.95	85.47	112.77	93.84
24	Rajasthan	88.36	84.60	81.87	80.78	103.18	102.81	110.44	84.50
25	Tamil Nadu	86.91	81.80	84.69	79.40	94.03	94.48	105.81	64.56
26	Uttar Pradesh	199.30	199.00	104.20	101.36	135.87	132.50	159.87	110.51
27	Uttarakhand	41.06	40.42	54.61	52.86	41.30	38.98	64.89	41.13
28	West Bengal	56.00	55.75	47.00	46.77	58.00	57.99	71.00	46.35
Total		1566.84	1505.51	1509.96	1477.17	1717.94	1683.87	1964.70	1203.63

Note: The amount includes allocation and expenditure under National Highways (Original) works and Permanent Bridge Fee Fund

**Expert Committee recommendations
on Sixth Schedule**

823. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee on "Planning for the Sixth Schedule Areas and those not covered by Parts IX and IX-A of the Constitution" has recommended strengthening of the village and autonomous councils;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government on the recommendations made by this Expert Committee?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. As regards the village councils, the Expert Committee was of the view that it would be ideal to have a democratically chosen village development Committee or Board with responsibilities for village planning, protection and management of natural resources. Till this happens, the Committee suggested some interim solutions to be adopted by the States concerned on the basis of their specific situation, such as use of the existing institutional mechanism for decentralized planning at habitation, village or cluster level, or usage of the mechanism set up for implementation of NREGA at the village cluster or habitation level, or adopting a system suggested in Section 4 of The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996. In respect of Sixth Schedule Areas, the district or Regional Council may be persuaded to set up Village Level Bodies on similar lines, in exercise of their powers in this regard as provided for in the Sixth Schedule.

As regards the District Councils, the Expert Committee recommended that the devolved functions should be fully transferred to them. In order to ensure that there is no overlap

in functions and roles between the Councils and State line departments, the functional responsibilities of both should be clearly demarcated. The Expert Committee has also recommended that the States should wind up parallel institutions or merge them with the Councils, in respect of transferred departments.

The report of the Committee has been forwarded to the Chief Secretaries of the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Planning Commission, Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region and the Central Ministries administering the major Centrally Sponsored Schemes. There have been inter-Ministerial consultations on the report of the Expert Committee.

Treatment in AIIMS Trauma Centre

824. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sweepers at the Trauma Centre at AIIMS are authorized to provide injection and even stitch the wounds of the accident victims as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 06 the May, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to inquire into such Acts of AIIMS authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against such acts?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Authorising sweepers to provide injection and stitching wounds of patients does not arise. In AIIMS Voluntary Social Workers are provided to the centre by Sulabh International Social Services Organisation and these voluntary social

workers are not "Sweepers" as reported in the above mentioned news in HT dated 06/05/2008. AIIMS has stated that these social workers assist the Doctors, Nurses and other staff of the centre in their work and are not directly involved in the patient care activities, in any way. The Institute has further stated that the Report in the Hindustan Times that the "Sweepers" working in JPNAT Centre are involved in suturing wound and giving injection are totally baseless.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Development of Port under MSDC Scheme

825. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for grant of fund to develop Magdalla and other ports including Bedi Port under Maritime State Development Council (MSDC) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether MSDC has taken any decision in this regard in its recent meeting;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken on the proposal of State Government?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, one non - major port from each Maritime State, including Magdalla in Gujarat, were identified for development under the National Maritime Development Programme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. But since no fund could be allocated for this purpose in the Eleventh Plan, the development of the non - major ports may be taken up by the State Government themselves.

Violation of Pollution Norms by Mining Companies

826. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some mining companies in the country are causing pollution by not following the pollution norms prescribed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of cases of violation reported in various States during 2006-07 and 2007-08; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on such mining companies, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes Sir, some mining companies in the country are causing pollution by not following the pollution norms prescribed by the Government.

The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are granting 'Consent' under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 for the mining projects in the respective States/UTs. The implementation of the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981 rests with the respective SPCB/PCC which are functioning under the administrative control of the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

(b) During 2006-07 and 2007-08, some of the SPCBs such as Orissa, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh have reported violation of pollution control norms by 21, 7 and 1 mining companies respectively as listed below:

Orissa

1. M/s. Sukrangi Chromite Mines (OMC Ltd.), Jaipur
2. M/s. Hungula OCP (M.C. Ltd.), Talcher, Angul
3. M/s. Hirakhand-Bundla Coal Mine (M. C. Ltd), Jharsuguda
4. M/s. Samaleswari OCP (M.C. Ltd), Jharsuguda
5. M/s. Bharatpur OCP (M.C. Ltd), Angul
6. M/s. Kalinga/Balaram OCP (M.C. Ltd), Angul
7. M/s. Bholamal Fire Clay Mine (J.K. & K.P.), Jharsuguda
8. M/s. Navayug Minerals Ltd. (Bondoguda Gemstone Mines), Kalahandi
9. M/s. Debar Gemstone Mines, Kalahandi
10. M/s. Badibahal Graphite Mine, Kalahandi
11. M/s. Balda-Palsa-Jajanga Iron Ore Mines (OMC Ltd.), Keonjhar
12. M/s. Deojhar Iron Ore Mines, Keonjhar
13. M/s. Bhanjapali Iron Ore Mines, Sundargarh
14. M/s. Khatkurbahal Lime Stone & Dolomite Mine, Sundargarh
15. M/s. Purnapani- Bhojpur Limestone & Dolomite Mines, (Kalinga Lime)
16. M/s. Katasahi Manganese Ore Mine, (FACOR), Keonjhar
17. M/s. Katasahi-Kolha-Rudkela Manganese Ore Mines, Keonjhar

18. M/s. Puranpani Quartzite Mines, Mayurbhanj
19. M/s. Nuagaon Iron & Manganese Mines (Tarini Minerals Ltd), Sundargarh
20. M/s. Teherai-sonua Iron & Manganese Ore Mines (Tarini Minerals Ltd.), Sundargarh
21. M/s. Tantra Iron Ore Mines, (Krop Resources Ltd.), Sundargarh

Gujarat

1. M/s. Ultratech Cement Ltd., Amreli
2. M/s. Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd. (Sugola & Jagantiya), Junagarh
3. M/s. Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd. (Rampara- Kukaras-Bhetado & Anandpara mines), Junagarh
4. M/s. GHCL, Ltd., (Khadasaliya), Dist. Bhavnagar
5. M/s. Rajul Stone Crusher (Sihor), Dist. Bhavnagar
6. M/s. Jalaram Quarry Works (Sihor), Dist. Bhavnagar
7. M/s. Ashapura Mine Chem Limited (Mahadevin, Taluka: Jamkalyanpur), Distt. Jamnagar

Madhya Pradesh

1. M/s. Hindustan Copper Project (Malaikhand), Balaghat

(c) The actions taken by the respective SPCBs against non compliant mining companies include: refusal of consents, issuance of show cause notices and issuance of directions under the Water Act, 1974 and the Air Act, 1981, as applicable apart from seeking bank guarantee to bind the company for compliance of pollution control norms in time bound manner.

Consumption of Unhygienic Meat

827. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: The steps taken by the Government to create awareness among the people regarding health hazards likely to be caused due to the consumption of unhygienic meat?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): To create consumer awareness among the people regarding health hazards likely to be caused due to the consumption of unhygienic meat, the following Pamphlets have been circulated to State Governments to give wide publicity:-

- (1) Prevention of Food Adulteration and Consumer Awareness - Tips to Consumers - Directorate General of Health Services.

- (2) Tips to Food Safety and Sound Diet - How to Avoid illnesses caused by unsafe food and Drink - Voluntary Organization in Interest of Consumer Education (VOICE)
- (3) A Guide on Safe Food for Travellers - How to avoid illnesses by unsafe food and drink and what to do if you get diarrhea - Voluntary Organization in Interest of Consumer Education (VOICE).
- (4) CII - Food Safety Tips for Housewives - jointly developed by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Confederation of Indian Industry and Quality Council of India.

These are the general guidelines given to the Consumers for their awareness to take safe food products including meat and meat products.

- (5) Under Kalyani Programme, captions on Food safety aspects are being telecast on Doordarshan and its regional Kendras. These are on going activities.

This Ministry has also developed a "Food safety website" which is available in the Ministry's website www.mohfw.nic.in/pfa.htm.

Improvement of Health Infrastructure and Medical Education

828. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to improve the health infrastructure and medical education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated and spent for each institution, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Under National Health Mission (NRHM), Primary Health Care Services are provided to the rural population across the country through a network of Sub-Centres (SCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs). The funds for this purpose are released to State/UT Governments for establishment/ upgradation of SCs, PHCs and CHCs. In order to provide health care to the public in rural areas especially in underserved areas, Mobile Medical Units have been provided, one per district under NRHM. As regards medical education, the Medical Council of India (MCI) regulates quality medical education in the country by conducting inspections for various undergraduate and

postgraduate courses and by offering recommendations in case of deficiencies of teaching faculty, clinical material and infrastructure etc.

The details of expenditure under Mission Flexi-pool for NRHM activities from the year 2005-06 to 2007-08 are given in the enclosed Statement. As far as medical education is concerned, there is a scheme relating to strengthening and upgradation of State Government medical colleges by

way of central funding during the 11th Five Year Plan. The funds are envisaged to be allocated to the medical colleges only after the finalization of the scheme. However, under the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna, the Central Government has proposed to set up six AIIMS like institutions in underserved areas. There is also a proposal to establish two more AIIMS like institutions in the State of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Statement

Release & Expenditure under Mission Flexipool for the year 2005-06 to 2008-09

(Rs. in crores)

		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08			2008-09				Total			
Sl. No.	State	Release/ Allocation	Exp	Release/ Allocation	Exp	Unspent balance as on 01.04.07	B.E./ Allocation	Release	Exp	Unspent Balance as on 01.04.08	B.E./ Release	Release	Exp. up to 30.06.08	Release	Exp.	Unspent As on 30.06.2008
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
A. High Focus States																
1	Bihar	66.37	0.00	125.79	7.02	187.14	256.31	137.63	12.18	312.58	186.28		1.14	331.79	20.34	311.45
2	Chhattisgarh	29.10	4.89	61.75	41.00	44.98	64.23	64.13	43.84	65.25	48.68	33.89	9.93	186.87	99.86	89.21
3	Himachal Pradesh	16.15	0.39	30.29	7.18	38.86	14.58	5.36	2.95	41.27	10.59		0.70	51.80	11.23	40.57
4	Jammu and Kashmir	18.88	0.11	31.39	3.54	46.41	24.08	122.05	35.49	132.97	17.50	2.21	4.80	174.32	43.94	130.38
5	Jharkhand	32.48	0.95	46.53	0.90	77.16	83.26	66.47	33.00	110.63	60.51	1.22	8.77	146.70	43.82	103.08
6	Madhya Pradesh	82.23	0.68	136.62	47.06	171.11	186.73	152.24	102.83	220.52	135.71	61.40	9.05	432.49	159.62	272.87
7	Orissa	59.32	6.99	66.91	28.46	90.78	113.58	107.43	36.50	161.71	82.55	34.06	8.50	267.71	80.44	187.27
8	Rajasthan	70.56	1.05	138.06	22.49	185.09	174.54	286.36	132.02	319.43	126.85	55.49	76.78	530.47	232.33	298.14
9	Uttar Pradesh	129.52	1.10	241.77	41.31	328.89	513.22	417.21	82.80	663.30	373.02	33.68	28.72	822.18	153.92	668.26
10	Uttarakhand	17.54	0.33	15.92	1.44	31.89	26.17	34.09	13.59	52.19	19.02		3.15	67.55	18.51	49.04
	Sub Total	523.94	16.48	895.02	200.39	1202.08	1456.70	1372.97	495.20	2079.85	1058.71	221.95	151.54	3013.88	863.61	2150.26
B. NE States																
11	Arunachal Pradesh	10.05	1.68	31.07	8.33	31.11	13.23	13.24	19.05	25.30	9.36		2.26	54.36	31.32	23.04
12	Assam	38.02	0.11	245.41	45.28	236.04	322.31	322.31	335.14	223.21	227.90	170.93	8.64	774.67	390.17	384.50
13	Manipur*	7.52	0.00	20.48	0.82	27.18	28.83	14.92	13.43	28.67	20.38		2.56	42.92	16.81	26.11
14	Meghalaya	7.22	0.02	19.51	2.54	34.18	27.88	23.22	9.71	37.89	19.72	6.32	3.46	56.27	15.73	40.55
15	Mizoram*	6.01	0.17	32.43	3.91	34.35	10.88	8.95	28.48	14.82	7.89		2.30	47.38	34.86	12.52
16	Nagaland	7.53	0.57	22.62	12.85	17.62	34.10	18.08	21.71	13.39	17.04	16.78	1.21	65.30	36.34	28.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	Bhikkim*	3.09	0.00	18.22	1.14	20.17	8.62	23.67	2.47	41.37	4.88		1.58	44.97	5.19	39.79
18	Tripura	3.92	0.30	12.97	2.93	13.88	38.75	38.08	5.84	45.88	27.40	20.55	2.25	75.50	11.32	84.18
	Sub Total	81.85	3.14	402.70	77.50	403.71	472.60	462.45	435.83	430.33	334.17	214.58	25.26	1161.38	541.73	618.65
C. Non-High Focus States																
19	Andhra Pradesh	48.20	4.83	119.19	59.39	101.17	179.89	179.89	91.80	189.46	130.74	121.09	18.50	486.37	174.32	292.06
20	Goa*	1.86	0.00	1.12	0.35	2.63	3.27	0.94	0.76	2.81	2.38		0.30	3.92	1.41	2.51
21	Gujarat	48.38	0.35	93.93	25.37	114.29	120.42	142.19	137.55	118.93	87.52	85.84	18.36	347.84	179.83	188.21
22	Haryana	23.50	1.12	34.32	2.23	54.47	50.25	48.51	24.12	76.88	36.52	4.80	5.95	109.13	33.42	75.71
23	Karnataka	48.84	0.00	84.38	4.25	128.97	125.48	88.54	41.86	175.65	91.20	24.90	4.14	248.88	50.25	196.41
24	Kerala	25.26	0.00	44.60	0.52	69.35	75.82	143.11	73.67	138.79	55.11	41.33	11.99	254.31	86.18	168.11
25	Maharashtra	65.33	0.00	113.94	8.89	170.38	229.55	177.88	132.88	215.58	166.83	125.12	22.59	482.27	184.16	318.13
26	Punjab	24.37	1.95	42.41	5.15	59.68	57.68	26.08	21.37	64.39	41.92		3.02	92.86	31.50	61.37
27	Tamil Nadu	31.63	8.68	97.93	27.34	93.55	147.19	226.83	91.77	228.81	106.97	78.45	8.95	434.84	136.74	298.11
28	West Bengal	36.10	4.17	115.71	4.85	142.78	190.80	233.71	8.74	367.75	138.52	103.89	36.12	489.40	53.89	435.52
	Sub Total	348.48	21.10	747.22	138.36	937.24	1180.15	1265.68	624.12	1578.80	857.71	565.22	127.92	2927.61	911.50	2016.10
D. Small States/UTs																
29	Andaman and Nicobar	1.49	0.00	0.63	0.05	2.07	0.89	3.97	0.60	5.44	0.65		0.36	6.09	1.01	5.08
30	Chandigarh	0.44	0.00	0.47	0.13	0.78	2.08	1.77	0.09	2.46	1.51		0.08	2.68	0.30	2.38
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.47	0.00	0.54	0.00	1.01	0.59	0.12	0.73	0.40	0.43		0.06	1.13	0.79	0.34
32	Daman	0.58	0.00	0.67	0.06	1.20	0.48	0.00	0.31	0.89	0.35	0.50	0.12	1.78	0.49	4.27
33	Delhi*	1.37	0.00	4.54	0.32	5.60	32.71	23.23	0.28	28.55	23.77		0.47	29.14	1.07	28.08
34	Lakshadweep*	0.94	0.00	0.28	0.06	1.16	0.24	0.00	0.01	1.15	0.17		0.08	1.22	0.13	1.08
35	Puducherry	1.76	0.03	1.64	0.57	2.79	2.38	2.55	0.87	4.47	1.73		0.26	5.95	1.73	4.21
	Others			15.65			6.18	17.23			5.80			33.39	0.00	33.38
	Sub Total	7.06	0.03	24.42	1.18	14.62	45.55	48.87	2.89	43.37	34.41	0.50	1.41	80.85	5.51	75.34
	Grand Total	962.13	40.76	2089.36	417.43	2557.65	3155.00	3149.97	1558.04	4132.35	2285.00	1002.25	306.13	7183.71	2322.36	4861.35

Double Laning of NH-52

829. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sectoral status and the target set for double laning of NH-52 including the bridges/by-passes constructed/to be constructed;

(b) the reasons for slow pace of work in this stretch;

(c) the action taken by the Government to expedite the pending work for targeted completion;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide paved shoulder along the double-laned part of NH-52 for Bihara to North Lakhimpur; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time frame fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The stretch of NH-52 from Bihata Chariali to North Lakhimpur is already 2-lane and improvement of NH-52 from North Lakhimpur to Jonai and Rupai to Dirak in Assam to 2-lane with paved shoulders has been approved by the Government and targeted for completion by March, 2011. The work of 2-laning with paved shoulders from Dirak to Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh has also been approved by the Government for completion by March, 2010. There is no proposal at this stage for double laning of NH-52 from Jonai to Namsai in Arunachal Pradesh.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The projects are being monitored regularly.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Increase in Infectious Diseases

830. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of patients suffering from infectious diseases in the country;

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

(c) the number of patients suffering from such diseases during the last three years and the current years, State-wise and disease-wise;

(d) the funds allocated and released by the Government for the prevention of such diseases during the above said period; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government for the prevention of such diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Spread of Hand-Foot-Mouth Disease

831. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is vulnerable to viral attack and Hand-Foot and Mouth disease (HFMD);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of persons died due to these diseases during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent the occurrence of such disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) As informed by National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), the country apparently does not have any evidence of epidemic of Hand-foot and mouth disease (HFMD), though sporadic cases due to Enterovirus (EV)-71 infection have been reported.

81 cases of papulovesicular lesions on skin and oral mucosa of children were reported in Calicut, Kerala during the period from October -November 2003. The cases, on the basis serological analysis, were confirmed to be caused by EV-71, which has been associated with the epidemics of HFMD. No case of HFMD has been reported from any other part of the country.

(c) and (d) In view of the recent outbreaks of HFMD in Asia-Pacific region, the Government has formulated an action plan in preparedness, the salient features of which are, as follows:

- To develop case definition (based on CDC/WHO and China's case definition).
- To develop guidelines for case management and sample collection.
- Circular to major hospitals for early case detection and reporting.
- NICD, Delhi and Enterovirus Research Centre (ERC), Mumbai to function as referral labs for diagnosis and viral isolation.
- Development of Prototype IEC material.

Power Generation by CIL

832. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) plans to enter into a Joint-Venture (JV) for generation of power from washery rejects and methane, a green house gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been carried out by the CIL to estimate the total power likely to be generated as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) At present Coal India Limited (CIL) has no proposal regarding Joint Ventures for generation of power from washery rejects. However, Tata Power has submitted a draft proposal for generation of power from the return air of Moonidih mine by forming a Joint Venture of Central Institute of Mine and Fuel Research (CIMFR) and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL).

(c) At present no study has been made by Coal India Limited,

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

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

Declining Population of Tigers/ Lions/Leopards

833. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of tigers/lions/leopards in the country is declining;

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

(c) the total number of these wild animals in each category and the number of killings that have reported therein during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the number of cases that have been booked for these illegal killings during the said period and the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government to protect the wild animals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per the findings of the recent all India estimation of tiger using the refined methodology, the total country-level population of tiger is 1411 (mid value); the lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. The new findings, which are based on statistical methods

and not comparable with the earlier estimates based on pugmark counts, indicate a poor status of tiger population outside tiger reserves and protected areas in the 17 tiger States. The tiger population, by and large, in tiger reserves and protected areas of such States are viable, while requiring ongoing conservation efforts. As informed by the State, the population of lion is 359±10, which has increased over the years. As a part of the recent all India tiger estimation, only the spatial occupancy of leopard within the 17 tiger States has been ascertained. The population of tiger, and spatial occupancy of leopard in tiger States are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The reasons for the present status of tiger and other wild animals, in general, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Details relating to killing of tiger, lion and leopard during the last three years and the current year, as reported by States, are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(d) So far, 131 persons have been arrested / apprehended in various States as per inputs provided by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau. Case details relating to prosecution / investigation done by States on individual poaching cases are not collated at the Government of India level, since they fall in the public domain.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to protect tiger and other wild animals are given in the enclosed Statement-IV enclosed.

Statement-I

Forest occupancy of leopard in tiger States, and population of tiger as estimated by the refined methodology

State	Leopard (km ²)	Tiger Numbers		
		No.	Lower limit	Upper limit
1	2	3	4	5
Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex				
Uttarakhand	3683	178	161	195
Uttar Pradesh	2936	109	91	127
Bihar	552	10	7	13
Shivalik-Gangetic (Total)	7171	297	259	335
Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex				
Andhra Pradesh	37609	95	84	107
Chhattisgarh	14939	26	23	28
Madhya Pradesh	34736	300	236	364

1	2	3	4	5
Maharashtra	4982	103	76	131
Orissa	25516	45	37	53
Rajasthan	-	32	30	35
Jharkhand**	131	Not Assessed		
Central	117913	601	486	718
Indian (Total)				
Western Ghats Landscape Complex				
Karnataka	20506	290	241	339
Kerala	8363	46	39	53
Tamil Nadu	14484	76	56	95
Western	43353	412	336	487
Ghats (Total)				
North East Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains				
Assam*	1500	70	60	80
Arunachal Pradesh*	670	14	12	18
Mizoram*	2324	6	4	8
Northern	1135	10	8	12
West Bengal*				

1	2	3	4	5
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra (Total)	5629	100	84	118
Sunderban	-	Not Assessed		
Total Tiger Population		1411	1165	1657

* Population estimates are based on possible density of tiger occupied landscape in the area, not assessed by double sampling.

** Data was not amenable to population estimation of tiger. However, available information about the landscape indicates low densities of tiger in the area ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 per 100 km².

Statement-II

1. Mortality of wild animals due to poaching.
2. Degradation of forest status outside Protected Areas / Tiger Reserves owing to human pressure, livestock pressure, and ecologically unsustainable land uses.
3. Fragmentation leading to loss of gene flow from source populations.
4. Mortality of wild animals due to man-animal conflicts.
5. Loss of reproduction owing to disturbance on account of heavily used infrastructure like highways, etc.
6. Lack of adequate protection in outside areas.
7. Loss of forest quality in terms of prey biomass to support large carnivores like tiger and leopard.
8. Insurgency / law and order problems in some tiger reserves / protected areas / forest areas.

Statement-III

Details relating to killing of tiger, lion and leopard during the last three years and the current year, as reported by tiger range States and Gujarat (only for lions)

Sl.No.	Tiger				Leopard (within and outside tiger reserves)				Lion			
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005	2006	2007	2008	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	17	14	30	10	14	17	08	08	35	35	52	Not reported

Statement-IV

Steps taken by the Government of India to protect tiger and other wild animals

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel / home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication / wireless facilities.
3. 100% Central Assistance provided to 17 Tiger Reserves as an additionally for deployment of Tiger Protection Force, comprising of ex-army personnel and local workforce.

4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, inter alia, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual / audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, inter alia, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/ rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including copredators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are benchmarks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. Around 31111 sq.km. of critical/core tiger habitat identified in 17 States.
10. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/ concerted implementation of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

Financial steps

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
13. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
14. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

Reintroduction of Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve

15. A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in the Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan), based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored by radio telemetry.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, inter alia, contains action points relating to tiger protection. A one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore has been provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force. Action has been taken for the needful in this regard.

Indo-US Bilateral Security Cooperation

834. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and the USA on bilateral security cooperation; and

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the modalities chalked out in this regard?

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

(b) The 'New Framework in the India-US Defence Relationship' was signed on June 28, 2005, during the then Raksha Mantri's visit to USA. The 'Framework' updates the 'Agreed Minutes on Defence Relations between India and USA' signed in January 1995. The framework seeks to advance common security interests such as maintaining security and stability; defeating terrorism; preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and related materials, data and technologies; and protecting the free flow of commerce.

The 'Framework' seeks to, inter alia, enhance the capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces to deal with terrorism, disasters, and spread of WMD, promote a defence trade, production and technology relationship with USA, exchange information and perspectives on international security issues and defence policies of common interest, enlarge India's options and bargaining power in acquisition of defence equipment and technology, and increase India's role in international affairs.

The New Framework established a Defence Procurement and Production Group and a number of other working groups under the Defence Policy Group to promote a defence trade, production and technology relationship with USA.

Dredging in Brahmaputra

835. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the dredging operation in river Brahmaputra in order to minimize the onslaught of floods and erosion in due course; and

(b) the funds sanctioned and spent therefrom for the purpose during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous body under the administrative control of this Ministry, undertakes dredging work in National Waterway-2 (River Brahmaputra from Sadiya to Dhubri) for maintaining 2 metre depth for navigation in the main navigational channel of the river. This dredging is carried out only during the months of October / November to February / March when water level in the river is low and during the last three years expenditure of Rs. 91.05 lakhs was made by IWAI for such dredging. IWAI however, does not take up any dredging in the river Brahmaputra in order to minimize the floods or erosion as this is not the mandate of IWAI.

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

[Translation]

Private Sector in Nuclear Energy

836. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRIMATI SUSHEELA BANGARU LAXMAN :
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to involve Private Sector in the nuclear energy sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof including policy guidelines in this regard;

(c) whether some foreign companies have offered to set up joint venture in this sector in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the names of these companies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Currently, Nuclear Power Stations can be set up only by Central Government or a Central Government Company in accordance with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act. Supply of equipment, services etc. for nuclear power station can however be done by private sector.

(c) to (e) Considering the possibilities of setting up of Light Water Reactors based on foreign cooperation, Rosatom (Russian Federation), AREVA (France), General Electric & Westinghouse (USA) have been holding exploratory discussions with Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL). All aspects of setting up such projects will be comprehensively considered by the Government before according approval.

Diseases caused by Medical Waste

837. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report of Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industries of India (ASSOCHAM) the medical waste thrown by National Capital Region (NCR) hospitals is giving rise to diseases like AIDS, Hepatitis B & C, Dermatitis, Gastro-enteritis etc; and;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against such erring hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Health being a State subject, such information is not centrally maintained.

In so far as Central Government Hospitals namely Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi and Lady Harding Medical College & Smt. S.K. Hospital, New Delhi are concerned, while disposing of their waste material, strict adherence to the Bio-Medical Waste material, strict adherence to the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 is maintained. No incident of posing serious threat to the health of the people by Bio-Medical waste has been reported.

[English]

Compensatory Afforestation Works

838. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to USQ No. 2768 answered on 19 March, 2008 in Lok Sabha regarding release of funds by adhoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) for diversion of forest land to non-forest land under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has envisaged any alternative means to meet the demand of States/Union Territories for funds for carrying on compensatory afforestation works;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has introduced "The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Bill, 2008" in the Lok Sabha on 5th May, 2008, which provides for the establishment of a Fund and crediting thereto the monies received from the user agencies towards compensatory afforestation, additional compensatory afforestation, penal compensatory afforestation, Net Present Value and all other amounts recovered from such agencies under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; constitution of an Authority for administration of the Fund and to utilize the monies so collected for undertaking artificial regeneration (plantations), assisted natural regeneration, protection of forests, infrastructure development, Green India Programme, wildlife protection and other related activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

After creation of the Fund viz. Compensatory Afforestation Fund and operationalisation of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), money will be released to the States and Union Territories including Gujarat.

Online Sale of Indian Tigers

839. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about an advertisement placed on the website based in Italy regarding online sale of Indian Tigers as appeared in the 'Navbharat Times' dated September 15, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) and (b) An online offer for sale of tiger cubs of "India breeding" at www.buytigers.com has come to the notice of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

(c) The matter has been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation for verification of authenticity or otherwise of the site.

Black-listing of Contractors by NHAI

840. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has black-listed certain domestic and foreign firms and put them in "non-performing" list for dragging Golden Quadrilateral Highways projects;

(b) if so, the names of such firms and the projects delayed by each one of them; and

(c) the action taken against the defaulting companies to check the recurrence of such things in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) On the basis of review of performance of various contractors in implementing contract packages in National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), 15 contracting firms (8 Indian and 7 Foreign Contractors) stand identified by NHAI as non-performing contractors, as on date.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The non-performing contractors are liable for penalty in the form of liquidated damages stipulated in the civil works contract (at specified percentage of contract value

per day subject to max. 10% of the contract price) for delay in completion of the project, the reasons for which are attributable to the Contractor.

As per policy of NHAI, the contractors put on the "non-performing" list shall not be pre-qualified for award of any

future contract in NHAI until such time their performance improves in course of subsequent reviews.

Due to consistent non-performance, the existing contracts of four-laning of Golden Quadrilateral were terminated in a few cases, the details of which are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Non-performing contractors & projects delayed by these firms

(Foreign & Indian)

S.No.	Name of the Firm	Projects Delayed
1	2	3
Foreign Firms		
1.	Bhumihighway Venture Berhad, Malaysia	Bhogpur to Jalandhar (NS- 16/PB) Ganjam - Iochapuram
2.	Centrodostroy, Russia	Fatehpur - Khaga (TNHP/II-C) Handia - Varanasi (TNHP/III-C)
3.	China Coal Construction Group Corpn., China	Shikohabad - Etawah
4.	Dolomite Industries Co. Sdb. Bhd, Malaysia	Chitradurga bypass
5.	Sticoo Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Sunakhala - Ganjam (OR-VII)
6	UEM Builders (6551 - K) Malaysia	Haveri - Harihar (Terminated) Harihar - Chitradurga (Terminated) Chitradurga - Sira
7	You-one Engineering Construction Co. Ltd. Korea	Srikakulam to Champawat Eight Laning of Haryana/ Delhi Border to Mukarba Chowk Gundla Ponchampalli to Bowenpalli
Indian Firms		
1.	Ashwani Construction Company India	Etawah Bypass
2.	A.L. Sudershan Cons. Co. Ltd. India	Tumkur Bypass Kalkallu village to Gundla Ponchampalli (NS-8) Chitradurga Bypass
3.	APIL (Subsidiary of Alcons Infrastructure Ltd.) India	Hubli-Haveri
4.	Bhageeratha Engineering Ltd. India	Bridges section (WB-III) Thumpipadi to Salem (NS-26/TN) 4-laning of Karur Bypass including additional bridge across river Amarawati Garhmukteshwar - Muradabad Etawah Bypass
5.	DD Builders Ltd. India	Ganjam - Iochapuram

1	2	3
6.	M/s Essar Group India	Haveri - Harihar (Terminated) Harihar - Chitradurga (Terminated) Chitradurga - Sira
7.	Lanco Construction India	Dalkola Islampur Sub section 2(EW/6) Purnea —Gayakota (EW-12/BR)
8.	Rani Construction India	Purnea - Gayakota (EW-12/BR)

Statement-II**Contracts Terminated**

Stretch	NH	Contractor
Chitradurga bypass	4	Dolomite Berhad Al Sudershan & Co.
Ganjam-Icchapuram	5	Bumi-Hiway-DDBL
Shikohabad-Etawah	2	China Coal Construction Group Corp., China
Srikakulam to Champawati (AP-1)	5	You One - Maharia
Etawah bypass	2	Bhageeratha Engineering Ltd. and Ashwani Construction Company (JV)
Haveri-Harihar	4	UEM - Essar (JV)
Harihar-Chitradurga	4	UEM - Essar (JV)
Sunakhala-Ganjam	5	Progressive Construction Ltd. - Sticco (JV)
Tumkur Bypass	4	Al Sudershan & Co.
Bridges Section (WB III)	6	Bhageeratha Engineering Ltd.

**Indo-US Nuclear Deal at
NSG Meeting**

841. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some reservations were raised by a few members of Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG) with regard to Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal;

(b) If so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any commitment for non-proliferation or comprehensive Nuclear Test ban in future; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The NSG adopted a decision by consensus on September 6, 2008 that would enable full civil nuclear cooperation with India.

(c) and (d) Government have reiterated the long-standing national consensus on non-proliferation and global nuclear disarmament.

Steps Taken to Improve Sports Performance

842. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the performance of Indian sportspersons in international sporting events;

(b) the result achieved or likely to be achieved as a result thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated for the development of sports in the country during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) Government supplements the efforts of the National Sports Federations to promote excellence in sports at international level. Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations, the Government provides financial support to federations for training & preparation of athletes for major international competitions, which, inter alia, includes training support, competition exposures, equipment support and scientific & technical assistance.

In addition to this, the Government provides liberal assistance to elite sportspersons for extending need based tailor made assistance to meet all their requirements for participation in major events.

The Government has recently approved a Scheme for Preparation of Indian Teams for the Commonwealth Games, 2010, which provides for state of art training facilities and world class coaching to the core probables. The Scheme has an approved outlay of Rs.678.00 crores.

(b) As a result of initiatives made by all stakeholders, including the assistance provided by the Government there has been consistent improvement in our performance at major international events, including the recent Beijing Olympics where India got one Gold and 2 Bronze medals, which is our best performance in Olympics till date.

(c) The amount allocated for the development of sports in the country during the last three years and the current year is as under:-

(Rupees in crores)			
2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
365.27	470.88	540.01	824.83

Tobacco Monitor Projects

843. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

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

(a) the details of the places where tobacco monitor projects have been launched so far;

(b) the extent to which the schemes have been able to achieve its objective; and

(c) the details of funds provided by Government under the said scheme during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Government of India has launched the pilot phase of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in 18 Districts of 9 States during the year 2007-08. The programme broadly includes:

1. Capacity building of State in the effective implementation of the Tobacco Control Act, 2003. It is proposed to set up State Tobacco Control Cells and District Level Monitoring Cells.
2. Train health workers, school teachers, etc. on ill effects of Tobacco.
3. Engage NGOs, to carry out school programme in the Government Schools.
4. Mass media/IEC campaign, tailored to regional needs.
5. Capacity building laboratories for tobacco product testing.

An evaluation of the programme shall be undertaken in due course during Mid term appraisal of 11th Five Year Plan to assess its impact.

Rs. 1.55 crore has been released to the State/ Districts for carrying forward the Programme during the financial year 2007-08. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

List of District / State

S.No.	State	Amount for the State Tobacco Control Unit (Rs.)	Districts	Amount for each District Tobacco Control Cell (Rs.)	Total (Col.3 + 5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Rajasthan	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Jaipur and Jhunjhunu	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
2.	Assam	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Kamrup and Jorhat	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
3.	Karnataka	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Bangalore (U) and Gulbarga	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	West Bengal	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Murshidabad and Coochbehar	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
5.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Kancheepuram and Villupuram	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
6.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Lucknow and Kanpur	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
	Gujarat	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Surat and Anand	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
8.	GNCT Delhi	Rs. 3,76,000/-	New Delhi and East Delhi	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-
	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 3,76,000/-	Gwalior and Khandwa	Rs. 6,74,000/- Rs. 6,74,000/-	Rs. 17,24,000/-

**National Action Plan on
Climate Change**

844. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has launched a National Action Plan on Climate Change; and

(b) If so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes Sir, India released the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) on 30th June 2008 to outline its strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change.

(b) India's National Action Plan outlines a national strategy that aims to enable the country adapt to climate change and enhances the ecological sustainability of India's development path. It stresses that maintaining a high growth rate is essential for increasing living standards of the vast majority of people of India and reducing their vulnerability of the impacts of climate change.

Eight National Missions, form the core of the National Action Plan, representing multi-pronged, long term and integrate strategies for achieving key goals in the context of climate change. These Missions are National Solar Mission, National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, National Mission for a Green India, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change. The National Missions are to be institutionalized by the respective Ministries and will be organized through inter-sectoral groups.

[Translation]

Afforestation Projects with External Assistance

845. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States in which afforestation projects are going on with external assistance as on date; and

(b) the State-wise forest area in square kilometers increased during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) Afforestation projects with external assistance are going on in eleven different states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The assessment of forest cover is done on the basis of satellite data biennially. The latest assessment has been done on the basis of satellite data of Nov.-Dec. 2004/Feb. 2005. The change in the forest cover has been analyzed by comparing forest cover of the latest assessment with that of the preceding assessment (year 2003). The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Forest Cover in States/UT

States/UT	Forest Cover in States (Km ²) (SFR 2005)	Forest Cover in States (Km ²) (SFR 2003)	Change
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	44,372	44,412	-40

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	67,777	67,692	85
Assam	27,645	27,735	-90
Bihar	5,579	5,573	6
Chhattisgarh	55,863	55,992	-129
Goa	2,164	2,164	0
Gujarat	14,715	14,814	-99
Haryana	1,587	1,576	11
Himachal Pradesh	14,369	14,359	10
Jammu and Kashmir	21,273	21,273	0
Jharkhand	22,591	22,569	22
Karnataka	35,251	35,246	5
Kerala	15,595	15,595	0
Madhya Pradesh	76,013	76,145	-132
Maharashtra	47,476	47,514	-38
Manipur	17,086	17,259	-173
Meghalaya	16,988	16,925	63
Nagaland	13,719	14,015	-296
Orissa	48,374	48,353	21
Punjab	1,558	1,545	13
Rajasthan	15,850	15,821	29
Sikkim	3,262	3,262	0
Tamil Nadu	23,044	23,003	41
Tripura	8,155	8,123	32
Uttar Pradesh	14,127	14,127	0
Uttaranchal	24,442	24,460	-18
West Bengal	12,413	12,389	24
Andaman and Nicobar	6,629	6,807	-178
Chandigarh	15	15	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	221	221	0

1	2	3	4
Daman and Diu	8	8	0
Delhi	176	174	2
Lakshadweep	25	25	0
Pondicherry	42	42	0
Total	677,088	677,816	-728

[English]

Conference of Sports Ministers

846. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state?

(a) whether a Conference of Sports Ministers was held in July, 2008;

(b) If so, the main issues discussed at the Conference and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Conference was of the view that there were less chances of winning any medals at the Beijing Olympics; and

(d) If so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Conference of State Youth & Sports Ministers was held on 9th July, 2008. Issues relating to implementation of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), creation of Sports Infrastructure and payment of committed liabilities for the period prior to 1-4-2005, role of Sports Authority of India (SAI) vis-a-vis States, draft Scheme for Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools, Colleges and Universities and Draft Scheme for Sports & Games for Disabled, Draft National Physical Fitness Programme, Review of Youth Hostel Scheme, National Service Scheme (NSS), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and launch of Scheme of National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development were discussed.

The Ministry has initiated action to implement the scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), Scheme of National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development and necessary follow up on other issues discussed during the Conference.

(c) No such view emerged in the Conference.

(d) Question does not arise.

Civil Nuclear Cooperation with Japan

847. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Japan has ruled out any negotiations for a civil nuclear cooperation/agreement with India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Japan was part of the consensus at the IAEA Board of Governors meeting that approved the India-specific Safeguards Agreement in Vienna in August 2008. Japan also supported the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)'s decision to adjust NSG guidelines to enable full civil nuclear cooperation with India.

At the 3rd India-Japan Ministerial-level Energy Dialogue held in Tokyo on 17 September 2008 between Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Japanese Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, both Ministers signed a Joint Statement which contains the following paragraph: "The two Ministers noted that the Nuclear Suppliers Group adopted by consensus the Statement on Civil Nuclear Cooperation with India. They confirmed that they will exchange views and information on their respective nuclear energy policy".

Ban on use of Gutka and Tobacco

848. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from various State Governments to put a complete ban on the use of gutka and tobacco;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of such proposals; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Government had received the request from the Govt. of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh in the year 2004 to ban manufacture and sale of Gutka in their State. The request were examined by the Govt. and a provision has been made under PFA Rules 1955 vide G.S.R. No. 491 (E) dated 21-8-06 (effective from 20-8-2007) which provide that tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food

products. However, the said rule has been challenged in a number of High Courts in many States viz Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra and stay on its implementation has been given by these High Courts. The matter has subsequently been transferred to the Hon'ble Supreme Court and therefore the matter is sub-judice.

Vessel Traffic Monitoring System

849. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 1804 dated 12 March, 2008 answered in Lok Sabha regarding setting up of Vessel Traffic Monitoring System (VTMS) in Gulf of Kutch, and to state:

- (a) whether the project has been completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay alongwith the present status of the work; and
- (d) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Due to slow progress of the work relating to the civil engineering component, the project has not been completed. About 47% of civil engineering work has so far been completed. The work is likely to be completed by August 2009.

Live Shows In and around Gir Sanctuary

850. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether live shows are organized in and around the Gir Sanctuary for tourists as reported in 'The Times of India' dated 23 April, 2008;
- (b) if so, the facts and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether cases of compensation claim for loss of livestock have also increased in these areas;
- (d) if so, the details of the compensation claim cases during 2007-08;
- (e) whether the Government has made any investigation/verification for such claims; and

(f) If so, the details and the steps taken by the Government to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) No Sir. As per the information received from the State Government, no such live shows are organized in and around the Gir Sanctuary for tourists.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) As reported by the State Government, there is some increase in the number of cases of claim for compensation for livestock killed by wild animals in Gir region. During 2007-08, 2018 claims of compensation for livestock were made in Gir Sanctuary region. The State Government makes investigation in such cases and only after verifying the supporting evidences like post mortem reports, the compensation is paid.

Health Policy for BPO Employees

851. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to frame a health policy for BPO employees;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this policy is likely to be framed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) At present, there is no proposal in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to frame a policy for BPO employees.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Second-Line Treatment for AIDS Patients

852. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medicines for IInd-line treatment of AIDS are not available in the Government Hospitals;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of measures being taken by the Government to make available medicines for such treatment in the Government Hospitals; and

(d) the cost incurred on the publicity campaign on AIDS awareness and its prevention?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National ART programme is providing first line ART

drugs. The second line ART is quite expensive (10 times costlier than first line drugs), require specialized laboratory tests, training of doctors, adherence counseling and monitoring mechanisms. These have to be in place before second line drugs can be provided in order to avoid resistance to these drugs and satisfactory patient outcomes.

(c) The second line ART was started at two sites GHTM, Tambaram and JJ Hospital, Mumbai from January, 2008 on a pilot basis. Based on the experience gained in the pilot phase, this is being expanded to 8 other proposed "Centres of Excellence" in the country at Delhi, Kolkata, Chandigarh, Imphal, Hyderabad, Varanasi, Bangalore and Ahmedabad.

The necessary preparatory activities for the expansion have been completed, such as the development of treatment protocols, monitoring tools and handouts, counseling material, job aids and patient education material. These centres are being linked to specialized laboratories with facilities for viral load testing. The Nodal Officers from these centres are scheduled to go to Thailand for training in November, 2008. Besides, all ART centers in Maharashtra are being linked to JJ Hospital and all ART centers in Tamil Nadu from 1st November, 2008.

In a phased manner all ART centres in the country will be linked to these 10 Centres of Excellence for second line ART.

(d) An expenditure of Rs. 18371 lakhs has been incurred on the publicity campaign done in 2007-08 and 08-09 in different states. The breakup of the expenditure is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Expenditure incurred during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09

Sl.No.	Expenditure	Financial year (2007-08) (Rs. in lakh)	Financial year (2008-09) (Rs. in lacs) till Sept.
1.	Publicity campaign through SACS	6085	4291
2.	DAVP	2613	1057
3.	Doordarshan	829	826
4.	AIR	1324	391
5.	NRHM	500	
	Total	18371	

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2 P.M.

11.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice for an adjournment motion. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to me first.

...(Interruptions)

14.0½ hrs.

(At this stage, Dr. K.S. Manoj and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table).

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request you to listen to me first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Acharia ji, Please listen to what do I want to say?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

14.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

- (1) North Eastern Region Vision 2020.
- (2) North Eastern Region Vision 2020-Annexures.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9008/08]

I would also like to seek your permission and of the House to move a motion for discussion on this subject. ...(Interruptions) As I have told already, I will be moving a motion for discussion on this subject. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai for the year 2007-2008.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 603(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 2008 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Regulations, 2008, under sub-section (4) of Section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9009/08]

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9010/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi

National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2006-2007.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9011/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008 under section 27 of the Indian Council of World Affairs Act, 2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9012/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): On behalf of Shrimati Panabaka Lakshmi, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2006-2007.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9013/08]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section(3) of Section 1 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006:-

- (i) S.O. 2127(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 2008, appointing 28th day of August, 2008 as the date on which the provisions of Section 90 of the

Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 shall come into force.

- (ii) S.O. 1758 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th October, 2007 appointing the 15th day of October, 2007 as the day on which the provisions of Sections, mentioned therein, of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 shall come into force.

- (iii) S.O. 1246(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th May, 2008, appointing 28th day of May, 2008 as the date on which the provisions of Sections 3 and 30 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 shall come into force.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9014/08]

- (4) A copy of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (Salaries, Allowance and other Conditions of Service of Chairperson and Members) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 497(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 2008 under Section 93 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9015/08]

- (5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 2165(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th September, 2008, establishing the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for the purposes of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 consisting of the Chairperson and the members, mentioned therein, with effect from the date of publication of the Notification, issued under sub-section (1) of Sections 4 and 5 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9016/08]

- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:-

- (i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (3rd Amendment) Rules, 2008 (published in Notification No. G.S.R. 467(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 2008.
- (ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (4th Amendment) Rules, 2008 (published in Notification No. G.S.R. 500(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th July, 2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9017/08]

- (7) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 383(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th May, 2008, containing Corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 491(E) dated the 21st August, 2006 issued under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9018/08]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007.
- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9019/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 2142(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st September 2008 making certain amendments to the principal order published in the Notification No. S.O. 594(E), dated the 20th June, 1988, which was subsequently amended vide order No. 932(E) dated 18th August, 2003 consequent upon change of Vice-Chairman incumbent of the Standing Committee, issued under sub-section (1) of Section 26 of the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9020/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-
- (i) S.O. 1088(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2008 regarding rates of bridge fee to be recovered from users of permanent Lamboti Bridge on National Highway No. 9 (Pune-Solapur section) in the State of Maharashtra.

- (ii) S.O. 1562(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2008 authorising the Special Land Acquisition Officer (General), Nagpur, as the competent authority to perform the functions of such authority for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of the National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad Section) in the State of Maharashtra.

- (iii) S.O. 1624(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 194(E) dated the 2nd March, 2001.

- (iv) S.O. 2043(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th August, 2008 authorising Officers mentioned therein to acquire land for building (widening/six-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of the National Highway No. 8 in the State of Maharashtra,

- (v) S.O. 1084(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 294(E) dated the 14th February, 2007.

- (vi) S.O. 1085(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 295(E) dated the 14th February, 2007.

- (vii) S.O. 1437(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of the National Highway No. 6 (Durg-Nagpur Section), including construction of bypasses, in the State of Maharashtra.

- (viii) S.O. 1126(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th May, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 8 (Manor-Dahisar Section) in the State of Maharashtra.

- (ix) S.O. 1228 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 12 (A. N. K. Nagar Section) in the State of Maharashtra.

- (x) S.O. 1390(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 14 (Palanpur-Radhanpur Section) in the State of Gujarat.
- (xi) S.O. 1391(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 2 (Mohania-Barun Section) in the State of Bihar.
- (xii) S.O. 1392(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 5 (Chattia-Bhadrak Section) in the State of Orissa.
- (xiii) S.O. 1565(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 5 (Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xiv) S.O. 1615(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 15 (Radhanpur-Adesar Section) in the State of Gujarat.
- (xv) S.O. 1646(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 authorising Concessionaire to collect and retain the fee on mechanical vehicles, mentioned therein, from the users of National Highway Nos. 1 to 5 in the State of Haryana.
- (xvi) S.O. 900(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of National Highway No. 6 (Kondhali-Talegaon Section) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xvii) S.O. 345(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. NE-II (Eastern Peripheral Expressway of Delhi) (Ghaziabad Section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xviii) S.O. 480(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 513(E) dated the 7th April, 2006.
- (xix) S.O. 481(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 2087(E) dated the 4th December, 2007.
- (xx) S.O. 275(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th February, 2008 regarding acquisition of Land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. NE-II (Eastern Peripheral Expressway of Delhi) (Ghaziabad Section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxi) S.O. 526(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th March, 2008 regarding acquisition of Land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 28 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxii) S.O. 2216(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 2007 regarding acquisition of Land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. NE-II (Eastern Peripheral Expressway) (Bagh-pat Section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxiii) S.O. 2217(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1791(E) dated the 22nd October, 2007.
- (xxiv) S.O. 541 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 6 (Durg-Nagpur Section) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxv) S.O. 474(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th March, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 633(E) dated the 18th April, 2007.
- (xxvi) S.O. 540(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. NE-II (Eastern Peripheral Expressway of Delhi) (Ghaziabad Section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

operation of National Highway No. 6 (Durg-Nagpur Section) in the State of Maharashtra.

- (xxvii) S.O. 787(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for construction of minor bridges along with geometric improvement of Pune, Nashik Road National Highway No. 50 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxviii) S.O. 475(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th March, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 (Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra Border to Dhule) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxix) S.O. 1501(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway Nos. 2 and 25 (Bhognipur-Bara and Qrai-Bhognipur Sections) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxx) S.O. 2063(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway Nos. 2 and 25 (Bhognipur-Bara and Qrai-Bhognipur Sections) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxxi) S.O. 2014(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 24 (Hapur-Moradabad Section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxxii) S.O. 2015(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 87 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 1198(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/

four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 72 in the State of Uttarakhand.

- (xxxiv) S.O. 1124(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th May, 2008 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 2015(E) dated the 24th November, 2006.
- (xxxv) S.O. 810(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 2008 authorising Special Land acquisition Officer, Hardwar, to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 58 in the State of Uttarakhand.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 1651(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 22 (Zirakpur-Panchkula-Kalka section) in the State of Haryana.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 1652(E) and S.O. 1653(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 10 (Rohtak-Hissar section) in the State of Haryana.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 807(E) to S.O. 809(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 15 (Pathankot-Amritsar section) in the State of Punjab.
- (xxxix) S.O. 854(E) and S.O. 855(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 1A (Jalandhar-Pathankot section) in the State of Punjab.
- (xl) S.O. 1838(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/

four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 58 (Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (xii) S.O. 1869(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Faizabad section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (xiii) S.O. 1883(E) and S.O. 1884(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 2 (Kanpur-Varanasi section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (2) Thirteen statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at Item Nos. (xvi) to (xxviii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9021/08]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under Sections 3 and 6 of the Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002:-

- (i) S.O. 1552(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 2008 making the certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 76(E) dated the 20th January, 2005.
- (ii) S.O. 1553(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 2008 making the certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1001(E) dated the 20th June, 2007.
- (iii) S.O. 1056(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 2008 making the certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1729(E) dated the 8th December, 2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9022/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Union Public Service Commission (Exemption from Consultation) Amendment Regulations, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 567(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 2008 under article 320(5) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9023/08]

- (2) A copy of the Orissa Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 300(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 2008 under sub-section (1) of 37 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9024/08]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9025/08]

- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:-

- (i) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Second Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 765 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th December, 2007.
- (ii) The Indian Forest Service (Pay) Second Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 766 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th December, 2007.
- (iii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Ninth Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 766 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 2007.

- (iv) The Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifth Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 795 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2007.
- (v) The Indian Police Service (Pay) Fifth Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 796 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2007.
- (vi) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 76 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2008.
- (vii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Second Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 77 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2008.
- (viii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Third Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 78 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2008.
- (ix) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 79 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2008.
- (x) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifth Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 80 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2008.
- (xi) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Sixth Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 229 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2008.
- (xii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Seventh Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 230 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2008.
- (xiii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Ninth Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 231 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2008.
- (xiv) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Eight Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 232 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2008.
- (xv) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Tenth Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 519 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2008.
- (xvi) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 520 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2008.
- (xvii) The Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 560 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2008.
- (xviii) The Indian Police Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 561 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2008.
- (xix) The Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Second Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 562 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2008.
- (xx) The Indian Police Service (Pay) Second Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 563 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2008.
- (xxi) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 609 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th August, 2008.
- (xxii) The Indian Forest Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 610 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th August, 2008.
- (6) Fourteen statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) to (xiv) of (5) above.

Source: Mr. Lib. No. See N. L. T. 9/15/08

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing Action Taken by the Government on the assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Minister during various sessions of Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth Lok Sabha:

TENTH LOK SABHA

1. Statement No. XXXVI Fifth Session, 1992
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9027/08]
2. Statement XXXVIII Seventh Session, 1993
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9028/08]
3. Statement XXXV Eleventh Session, 1994
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9029/08]
4. Statement XXXVIII Thirteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9030/08]
5. Statement XXVI Fourteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9031/08]

ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

6. Statement No. XXXVII Second Session, 1996
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9032/08]
7. Statement No. XXXVII Third Session, 1996
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9033/08]
8. Statement XXXVIII Fourth Session, 1997
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9034/08]

TWELFTH LOK SABHA

9. Statement XLIII Second Session, 1998
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9035/08]
10. Statement XXXVII Third Session, 1998
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9036/08]
11. Statement XXXIX Fourth Session, 1999
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9037/08]

THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

12. Statement XL Second Session, 1999
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9038/08]
13. Statement XLIV Third Session, 2000
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9039/08]
14. Statement XXXVII Fourth Session, 2000
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9040/08]
15. Statement XXXV Fifth Session, 2000
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9041/08]
16. Statement XLIV Sixth Session, 2001
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9042/08]
17. Statement XLIII Seventh Session, 2001
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9043/08]
18. Statement XXXI Eighth Session, 2001
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9044/08]
19. Statement XXX Ninth Session, 2002
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9045/08]
20. Statement XXVI Tenth Session, 2002
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9046/08]
21. Statement XXIII Eleventh Session, 2002
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9047/08]
22. Statement XXIII Twelfth Session, 2003
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9048/08]
23. Statement XX Thirteenth Session, 2003
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9049/08]
24. Statement XIX Fourteenth Session, 2003
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9050/08]

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

25. Statement XVII Second Session, 2004
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9051/08]
26. Statement XV Third Session, 2004
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9052/08]
27. Statement XV Fourth Session, 2005
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9053/08]

28. Statement XII Fifth Session, 2005
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9054/08]
29. Statement XI Sixth Session, 2005
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9055/08]
30. Statement X Seventh Session, 2006
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9056/08]
31. Statement VIII Eighth Session, 2006
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9057/08]
32. Statement VII Ninth Session, 2006
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9058/08]
33. Statement VI Tenth Session, 2007
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9059/08]
34. Statement IV Eleventh Session, 2007
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9060/08]
35. Statement III Twelfth Session, 2007
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9061/08]
36. Statement I Thirteenth Session, 2008
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9062/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-
 - (i) The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulations and Control) Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. S.O. 1561(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 2007.
 - (ii) The Environment (Protection) Third Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 344(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th May, 2008.
 - (iii) The Environment (Protection) Fifth Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 481(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2008.
 - (iv) The Environment (Protection) Sixth Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 579(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th August, 2008.

- (v) The Environment (Protection) Seventh Amendment Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 600(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) of (1) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9063/08]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai, for the year 2006-2007.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9064/08]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1121(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th May, 2008 constituting the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education Pension Fund Trust consisting of the trustees, mentioned therein, issued under section under Rule 37A of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9065/08]

...(Interruptions)

14.03 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND

BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA*

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

*Laid on the Table.

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill, 2008 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st October, 2008. "

Sir, I also lay on the Table the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill, 2008, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 21st October, 2008.

...(Interruptions)

14.03½ hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
75th and 76th Report

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (2008-2009):

- (1) Seventy-fifth Report on Action Taken on 51st Report of PAC (14th Lok Sabha) on "Property Management by Ministry of External Affairs" and
- (2) Seventy-sixth Report on Action Taken on 48th Report of PAC (14th Lok Sabha) on "Functioning of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)".

...(Interruptions)

14.03½ hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT
7th and 8th Report

[English]

SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR (Burdwan): I beg to present the Seventh and Eighth Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

14.03¾ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
20th Report

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): I beg to present the Twentieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table and Minutes relating thereto.

14.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION
20th and 21st Reports

[English]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): I beg to present the Twentieth and Twenty-first Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

14.04½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
25th and 26th Reports

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Sir, I beg to present the 25th and 26th Reports of (Hindi and English versions) on Government Assurances regarding requests for dropping of assurances.

14.04¾ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
10th and 11th Reports

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Water Resources (2008-2009):

- (1) Tenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Ninth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2008-2009) of the Ministry of Water Resources; and
- (2) Eleventh Report on "Inter Linking of Rivers."

14.05 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

210th Report

[English]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): I beg to lay on the Table the Two Hundred and Tenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day Meal Scheme and Integrated Child Development Services Scheme in the Union Territories.

14.05½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**

194th Report

[English]

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM (Nominated): I beg to lay on the Table the 194th Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment & Forests on The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Bill, 2008.

14.06 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL,
PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, LAW AND JUSTICE**

28th Report

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): I beg to lay on the Table the Twenty-eighth Report** (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice on the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2008.

... *(Interruptions)*

14.07 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

50th Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, I beg to present the Fiftieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

**The Report was presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on the 4th August, 2008, when the House was not in Session, under Direction 31(1) of the Directions by the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha and the Hon'ble Chairman was pleased to order the printing, publication and circulation of the Report. A copy of the Report was forwarded to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on the same date.

14.08 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(I) Situation in Sri Lanka*

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, this is a Statement on Sri Lanka. The hon. Members are obstructing to address our concern for the suffering civilians of Sri Lanka. ...*(Interruptions)*

With your permission, I beg to lay this Statement on the Table of the House. ...*(Interruptions)* This is most unfortunate. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I apprise this august House of the recent developments in Sri Lanka.

The situation in Sri Lanka is of serious concern to the Government, in particular, the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Northern part of Sri Lanka. We are concerned about the plight of the civilians caught in the hostilities and the growing number of internally displaced persons. We have emphasised to the Sri Lankan Government that the safety and the security of the civilians must be safeguarded at all costs and that food and essential supplies be allowed to reach them unhindered. We have been assured that the safety and wellbeing of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka will be taken care of. In this connection, Member of Parliament and Senior Adviser to the President of Sri Lanka, Hon'ble Basil Rajapaksa is due to visit India shortly.

Let me reiterate our conviction that there is no military solution to the ethnic conflict. What is required in Sri Lanka is a peacefully negotiated political settlement within the framework of a united Sri Lanka respecting the legitimate rights of the minorities including the Tamil community. The rights and the welfare of the Tamil community of Sri Lanka should not get enmeshed in the ongoing hostilities against the LTTE. We encourage the government of Sri Lanka to continue to nurture the democratic process in the Eastern Province as well.

The Government has also taken up with the Sri Lankan Government the need to ensure the safety of our fishermen. While it is important for our fishermen to respect the International Maritime Boundary Line, we have impressed on the Sri Lankan Navy to desist from firing on Indian fishermen. Our two governments have agreed to work towards concluding practical arrangements to prevent such incidents.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library See No. L.T. 9066/08]

14.08½ hrs.

- (II) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, I am laying the statement under Direction 73A of the Speaker on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs.

The 21st Report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs was presented to both the Houses of Parliament on the 15th April, 2008. Action Taken Replies (ATRs) of the Government on the recommendations/ observations of the Committee were sent to the Committee on 30th July, 2008.

However, as required, the present status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee is detailed in the Annexure to the statement which is laid on the Table of the House. The Hon'ble Members would notice that the Ministry has accepted all the recommendations contained in the 21st Report and acted upon them accordingly. I hope that they will be satisfied with the action taken by my Ministry.

14.09 hrs.

- (III) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 38th Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): Sir, I am laying this Statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-Eighth Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on the Rural Development in pursuance of the direction 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part-II dated September 1, 2004.

The Thirty-Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 17.4.2008. The report relates to examination of Demands for Grants of Ministry of Panchayati Raj for the year 2008-2009.

Action taken statements on the recommendations/ observations contained in the report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Rural Development in September, 2008.

* Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library. See No. 9067/08

* Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9068/08

There are 25 recommendations made by the Committee in the said report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to general analysis of Five Year Plans, progress of devolution of functions, functionaries and finances by State Governments/UT Administrations to PRIs, constitution of District Planning Committees, Twelfth Finance Commission, implementation of the PES A Act, 1996 and Scheme-wise Analysis.

The present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out all the contents of this Annexure. I would request that this may be considered as read.

14.09½ hrs.

- (IV) **Successful launch of Chandrayaan-I Space-Craft, India's First Unmanned Scientific Mission to the Moon***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, I am happy to inform this august House that India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C11 successfully launched Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft, India's first unmanned scientific mission to the moon, from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

Sir, with your permission I lay on the Table the rest of the statement. The launch of PSLV- C11 was the fourteenth flight in the PSLV series. The launch vehicle systems have performed satisfactorily.

The main scientific objective of Chandrayaan-1 mission is to orbit around the moon and carry out the high resolution remote sensing for preparing the 3-dimensional atlas of the moon and in carrying out chemical and mineralogical mapping of the lunar surface. The spacecraft has eleven scientific instruments from India and from universities and laboratories of European Space Agency, USA and Bulgaria.

Today, Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft has been placed into an elliptical intermediate orbit of 255 x 22,860 km around the earth. In the coming days, the spacecraft will be maneuvered using its own onboard propulsion system to attain an orbit around the moon which is nearly 4,00,000 km away from the earth.

I am sure that this august House will join me in congratulating the Chairman and the entire team at ISRO

* Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9069/08

who were involved in the realization and management of the complex India's unmanned scientific mission to the moon.

...(Interruptions)

14.10 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE

(I) National Shipping Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to move the following:

"That in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 read with rule 3 of the National Shipping Board Rules, 1960, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the National Shipping Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 read with rule 3 of the National Shipping Board Rules, 1960, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the National Shipping Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

14.10½ hrs.

(II) Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): I beg to move the following:

"That in pursuance of clause (k) of sub-section (1) of section 5 read with sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry Act, 2008, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such

manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (k) of sub-section (1) of section 5 read with sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry Act, 2008, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

14.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under rule 377 listed for today may be laid on the Table of the House.

(I) Need to issue a commemorative stamp in honour of Late Shri Viswanatha Doss, a great patriot and stage actor of pre-Independence era

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Sir, Viswanatha Doss, a prominent and a versatile stage actor of Tamil Nadu was born on 16 June 1886 at Sivakasi. He met Mahatma Gandhi in the year 1916 at Thoothukudi. Inspired by the leadership of Mahatmaji he joined the freedom movement. Whenever and wherever he acted in Purana dramas like - 'Harishchandra', 'Valli Thirumanam', 'Kovalam' and 'Kannagi' in the midst of the plays he took the opportunity for espousing the cause of freedom struggle and also against the then ruling Britishers which received unstinting and welcome support and repeated reception from the audiences.

For singing patriotic songs in the midst of dramas against Britishers he was arrested more than 15 times in his life. Songs like "white birds are flying" and "tricolour flagship is visible" were given thunderous applauses by the audience.

He also sacrificed his entire property for the cause of the freedom struggle.

* Treated as laid on the Table

He died on 31 December 1940 on the stage while acting for the play 'Lord Muruga'.

The Tamil Nadu Government has built one Kalyana Mandabam and a library which are named after him in Tirumangalam where he lived.

It would be a befitting tribute to him, if our Government arranges to issue a commemorative stamp in honour of Late Viswanatha Doss, the great patriot.

- (ii) **Need to consider Izzatnagar in Bareilly as an alternative site for setting up Rail Coach Factory proposed to be set up in Rai Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Sir, it has been learnt from the newspapers and other source that the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has expressed its inability in acquiring land for the Rail Coach Factory proposed to be set up in Rai Bareilly, U.P. in the interest of the farmers. Thus, it appears that it would not be possible to set up the said coach factory in Rai Bareilly. If the Government is looking for an alternative site for this coach factory, I propose Izzatnagar, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh my Parliamentary Constituency for the same. It is not the most appropriate place for this purpose. In 1984, this place was considered to be the most appropriate place for Rail Coach Factory, there is the office of the North Eastern Division of the Railways and the coach repair and the crane manufacturing factory and sleeper plant of the North Eastern Railways where only a tardy progress has been made. There is sufficient infrastructure for this coach factory in Bareilly and the Railways has so much land this coach factory in Bareilly and the Railways has so much land that it would not require the farmers' land and work can be started immediately. Through you, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways to take necessary action in this regard.

- (iii) **Need to accord the status of a Central University to Gorakhpur University**

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Sir, Gorakhpur, besides being a major religious, spiritual and cultural centre of Uttar Pradesh is a major commercial and educational centre of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. This is the only University situated in Gorakhpur which has a population of above 3 crore. The Gorakhpur University was established in the year 1956-57. This University caters not only to the Eastern Uttar Pradesh but is the only centre of higher education of Bihar and the foothills of Nepal. The vital role of a university in preserving the quality of education and in the cultural, social and economic development of the entire area has become extremely limited owing to the scarce resources of the State Government.

The Gorakhpur University may kindly be accorded the status of a Central University in view of its religious, cultural importance.

- (iv) **Need to provide pilgrimage facilities to the people desirous of visiting the Mausoleum of Prithvi Raj Chauhan in Afghanistan**

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (JALAUN) : Sir, King Prithvi Raj Chauhan was the last Hindu ruler of India who fought 17 times with the foreigner Muhammed Gauri. After defeating Gauri for 16 times he got defeated the 17th time and was taken prisoner by Gauri and taken to his country. King Prithvi Raj Chauhan was such a skilled archer that despite being rendered blind by Gauri he hit the sultan with his arrow straight in his chest by perceiving the voice of his Minister Chanderbardai Bhatji, as quoted in the book Prithvi Raj Raso.

'Char haath chaubis gaj angul asht praman, ta upar sultan hai ab na chuke chauhan' such a great King Prithvi Raj Chauhan who was able to shoot the arrow hearing the sound. He was the paragon of the local society. His tomb it is now the heritage of a foreign country situated in Afghanistan.

The Union Government is requested that all kinds of facilities on the lines of Haj pilgrimage be provided to the Indians visiting the tomb of the Great King Prithvi Raj Chauhan.

- (v) **Need to release power from Central Quota and Central assistance for tiding over situation arisen due to shortage of water in Madhya Pradesh**

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) : Sir, there is crisis of drinking water, irrigation and power generation from hydro-electric plants owing to less rainfall in Madhya Pradesh. Life is paralysed and agriculture is in crisis owing to shortage of water in Ujjain, Ratlam, Mandasor, Neemach, Devas, Shajapur, Indore and Bhopal divisions.

So, the Union Government is requested that necessary assistance and power supply from the Centre may be ensured to Madhya Pradesh in this situation of crisis of water shortage.

- (vi) **Need to extend social security benefits to the taxpayers in the country**

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur) : Sir, various tax payers have made significant contribution in running the economy. The taxpayer makes its contribution in meeting out the growth, security, education employment and other development related targets of the country.

however, he is not equally reciprocated by the Government. The Government should take measures to involve more taxpayers in Government Committees, felicitate the taxpayers in public functions and extend social security benefits to the taxpayers in case of failure of their business, sickness, death and the tax deposited by them should be spent on their social security.

(vii) Need to lift the ban imposed on catching of Sea Cucumbers

[English]

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Sir, for many centuries our fishermen in our coastal areas have been diving and catching sea cucumbers as a traditional occupation. Livelihood of thousands of such fishermen folk is dependent on these catchments as this has been providing them with job and daily bread.

In the name of conserving rare species in 2001, Government of India banned the catching of 56 kinds of sea organisms including sea cucumber. During the winter session of 2001, when members raised it, certain relaxations were announced. But the ban on sea cucumbers continues still.

It was announced that there would be a review of this ban after three years and the ban would be lifted after five years. But there is no re-look even after 7 years. A single country going for such a ban is not going to serve the purpose when other neighbouring countries are not banning the same. The views of experts on this lopsided ban must be seen in the light of the fact that there is no such ban by Sri Lanka which is just 20 Kms. away from Indian main land. So the ban by our Government is unjustified and meaningless as the sea cucumbers die a natural death after growing for a particular period under the sea. These soft creatures are devoured by crabs easily.

Efforts at saving these species must be restricted by the banning of big ships catching these sea cucumbers in a big way using giant nets. There can be a total ban during their reproductive season. Thus there must be check and balance but not an illogical total ban on fishing sea cucumbers. Protecting the traditional rights of our fishermen is also important along with efforts to preserving various species of the sea.

(viii) Need to make available adequate quantity of D.A.P. and A.P. fertilizers in the Co-operative Societies and markets

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Sir, due to scarcity of D.A.P. fertilizers in the country, the condition of

farmers is very pitiable. They have to stand in long queues for whole day because there is no availability of adequate quantity of fertilizers in the Co-operative societies and markets. They have also to wandering around various sales centres because there is no timely availability of fertilizers which they have to put into the fields of rice paddy, potato and wheat crops.

Through the House, I would like to say that the hon'ble Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers should ensure the availability of adequate quantity of fertilizers at the earliest increasing the quota of D.A.P. and A.P. fertilizers.

(ix) Need to start Rajiv Gandhi Vidyutikaran Yojana in Samastipur, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Sir, Samastipur district of Bihar is facing an acute power crisis though an industrial area, office of Railway Division and Rajendra Agriculture University are located in the district. Being a big horticulture and fruit growing centre, there is an urgent need of power for irrigation. Five years are going to be over even since a very ambitious scheme Rajiv Gandhi Vidutikaran Yojana was launched by the UPA Government. Earlier, on two occasions I demanded to start this scheme in Samastipur. Despite that it has not started so far over there, for which the Bihar State Electricity Board is responsible.

I, therefore, demand the Government to take a concrete step towards providing adequate power in the district and, at the same time, to start Rajiv Gandhi Vidyutikaran Yojana at the earliest over there.

(x) Need to issue stringent guidelines for the effective implementation of Agricultural loan waiver scheme

[English]

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK (Kolhapur): Sir, the announcement of the Debt waiver and Debt relief schemes by the Government, of India for small and marginal farmers has come as a great relief to farming community at large. The District Central Co-operative banks have been identified as nodal agencies for disbursement purpose.

Unscrupulous elements in various primary agricultural societies have used this wonderful scheme to their monetary advantage. The method adopted is very simple. Since, there is no restriction on amount of crop loan to be given to the farmers or there is no scale of crop loan advances per acre, unscrupulous agents and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACs) have shown very large amount as crop loans outstanding. The PACs have forwarded a list to

people against whom there is loan out standing. However, in many cases non-existing loans and individuals have been shown as defaulters. The main criteria i.e., out standing loans for agricultural and crop only and holding of land up to 2 ht. has been bypassed.

Honest farmers who were regular in repayment of loan are the biggest victims. The tendency to default in repayment shall grow. I have written letters in this regard to the Government, to issue stringent guidelines along with substantial benefit to regular loan repaying farmer community. I also, urge through your good office Sir, the Finance Minister, to carry out high level enquiry in these fraudulent practices and take strict action against guilty persons.

- (xi) **Need to take steps to ameliorate the plight of power-loom weavers of Karimnagar district, Andhra Pradesh facing unemployment due to crisis in power loom industry**

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, I would like to bring to your kind attention and the Government towards the plight of power loom weavers who are committing suicides in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh. The power loom weavers are committing suicide due to unemployment and increasing debt. They are unable to find work, as there is no market for the fabric produced on the power loom. Among other reasons that led to the power loom crisis is heavy taxes imposed on polyester yarn and other raw materials. Besides, the erratic power supply is also adding to the woes of the weavers in Sircilla. Recently, an all-party delegation also visited Sircilla. A number of power loom workers are not getting pension provided by the Government to poorer sections of the society. The distribution of house sites and houses to the workers under various schemes has also been a failure.

On 5th October, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour has also visited Sircilla to assess the problem of weavers in the region. The Committee suggested several measures including provision of social security network, medical insurance and housing to address the issue.

I urge upon the Central Government to intervene in the matter and announce necessary measures to put an end to the weavers' problems. The Government should announce the Sircilla region as a Textile Economic Zone, set up a Commissionerate in the town, enhance the pension of weavers which may enable the weavers to get treatment in big hospitals, establish a special government organization to purchase cloth produced on the power loom from the weavers and enhance the ex-gratia amount to Rs. Five lakh.

14.12 hrs.

**MOTION RE: SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE
TO INQUIRE INTO MISCONDUCT OF
MEMBERS OF LOK SABHA**

[English]

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvatipuram):
Sir, I beg to move the following:

"That this House do agree with the Second Report of the Committee to inquire into Misconduct of Members of Lok Sabha on 'Various facets of Misconduct and basic attributes of standards of conduct/behaviour expected of members' laid on the Table of the House on 30 April, 2008."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Second Report of the Committee to inquire into Misconduct of Members of Lok Sabha on 'Various facets of Misconduct and basic attributes of standards of conduct/behaviour expected of members' laid on the Table of the House on 30 April, 2008."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House is adjourned only for 15 minutes. The Leaders are requested to come to the Chamber of the hon. Speaker.

14.13 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twenty-Eight Minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.28 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twenty-Eight Minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

**DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS
(RAILWAYS) – 2008-09**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the House will take up Item no. 30-Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways). Shri Lalu Prasad.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD):
Sir, I request that all the Demands for Supplementary Grants (Railways) for the year 2008-09 may be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

[English]

"That the supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2009, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 16."

*Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways)
for 2008-09 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Supplementary Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House (Rs.)
16	Assets- Acquisition, Construction and Replacement <i>Other Expenditure</i>	
	Capital	1701,00,00,000
	Total	1701,00,00,000

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It some hon'ble members want to say anything, they can lay their speech on the Table of the House.

[English]

It will form part of the proceedings.

...(Interruptions)

*SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad North). Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, it is everybody's experience that in Karnataka that Indian Railway has always stepmotherly treated this State as far as railway developmental works are concerned. I have been time and again bringing it to the notice of the Government through you Sir.

During many discussion on Railway Budget 2008-09, I had insisted the Ministry for early completion of Gadag - Bagalkot Gauge conversion work and also start the run of the trains on this time. The conversion work is said to be over long back but now the S.W.R. is dilly-dallying the start of the trains on this time. I urge the Government to start the operations of passenger trains on this time.

Hubli-Ankola: Hubli-Ankola new line seems to have come in rough weather once again due to apathy on the part of S.W.R. The Government of Karnataka has already agreed to divert the required forest land for the alignment submitted by the S.W.R. But railway is not taking initiative to convince the ministry of Environment and Forest to approve

* Speech was laid on the Table.

the alignment and hence the problem. I urge upon this Government to expedite this process.

New Night trains to Bangalore and Mumbai from Hubli: I have repeated this demand innumerable times but nothing is forth-coming. At least one right train should be introduced between Hubli-Pune.

Recruitment for Group "D" Posts in S.W.R. Hubli: Last year the process for recruitment for about 4000 Group 'D' posts had begun in SWR Hubli, but came to be abandoned due to law and order problems which was caused in protest against the domination of outside candidates. There was agitation for reservation of posts for Karnataka candidates. I had stressed the need for changes in the recruitment rules providing for earmarking of posts for localities. Now I urge upon the Government to restart the process of recruitment by adopting some mechanism by which it should be ensured that local people should get better opportunities.

Extension of Intercity Train to Dharwad: The long standing demand of extension of Bangalore - Hubli Intercity till Dharwad to be honoured.

[Translation]

*SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Sir, it has come to my notice from various newspapers and other sources of information that the Stte Government has expressed its unwillingness to acquire lands for the Rail Coach Factory proposed to be set up in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh keeping in view the interests of the farmers of the area, due to which it appears as if the said coach factory will not be possible to be set up over there. If the Government are in search of any other place for this coach factory, I will propose the land at Ijlatnagar, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, which is in my Parliamentary Constituency. This is the most suitable place for the said factory. It was found very suitable even in the year 1984 for the setting up of the Rail Coach Factory. At present it has the DRM office, Rail Coach improvement and crane manufacturing factories of NER and sleeper plant where a little work is being undertaken these days. For the proposed coach factory, there is an adequate infrastructure available in Bareilly and sufficient land is available with the Railways itself so that there is no need to take land from the farmers and the work can be started at the earliest over there. Through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to take necessary action in this regard.

*SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Sir, on the Improvement of train services in the Laigola-Sealdah Section, Sealdah Division, Eastern Railway, I have to state that hundreds of people of the district of Murshidabad work in different parts of West Bengal in India and these people return home during the Saradia Puja. These people are to avail themselves of the train at Sealdah-Laigola Division, Eastern Railway for returning home. Again hundred of people, who work in different places in the country

* Speech was laid on the Table.

have to board trains at different stations of this section for returning to places of residences. But the compartments attached to all these trains running in this section are quite inadequate to fulfill the demand of these passengers. As a sequel to this, these passengers have to bear with untold misery during their journey.

In view of the facts stated above I have to request you to kindly look into the matter and to take the following steps to do away with the present state of affairs:

- (i) to increase numbers of compartments in all the passenger-trains running in the section.
- (ii) To add one additional chair-car to both the UP & Down Bhagirathi Express train running daily in this section.
- (iii) It is stated that in the 111 UP Lalgola-Sealdah Passenger there are 3 Sleeper Coaches, whereas in the corresponding 112 Down train there are only 2 Sleeper Coaches. To do away with the anomaly in the service, one additional coach should be added to the said train to serve the greatest interest of the passengers.

Again I have to mention that the two counters of the Computerized Reservation Centre of Berhampore Court Station remain open upto 2 PM. daily. This period of service is inadequate to the public demand.

You are requested to do the needful so that at least one counter of the said Computerized Reservation Centre is brought into operation with immediate effect.

I have to invite your attention to your declaration in the Parliament during the Railway Budget Session that a train named "Hazarduari Express" will be commissioned in the Sealdah-Lalgola Section, Sealdah Division, Eastern Railway shortly after the session. This Express train was scheduled to take start from Kolkata at 6-50 hrs in the morning and at 16-40 hrs in the afternoon from Murshidabad Station of the said section of ER. But it is a matter of regret that this train has not yet been introduced despite your commitment in the Parliament. In this context I have to mention that people of this district came to know of all these relating to this train and are now suffering from a sense of frustration for Railway inaction on this regard.

Now, considering the demand of the public I have to request you to look into the matter so that this "Hazarduari Express" is introduced without loss of any further time to fulfill the long-felt grievances of the people of the district.

*SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): Sir, at the outset I congratulate the Hon'ble Railway Minister for being a Champion of Secular Forces. The UPA Govt. under the

able & dynamic guidance of Hon'ble Congress President Smt. Sonia Gandhi ji and the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh ji, the Railway Ministry under you is really creating wonders. Indian Railways the world's largest network has exalted incomparable heights in the last 5 years. You are doing a commendable job for the people of this country, since the poorest of the poor, the middle and upper class are benefited as passenger fares are not hiked for the past 5 years in spite of severe hike of oil prices in International markets; which is appreciated by one and all. Moreover, I would like to say in the recent past Railway Department was considered to be loss making, but Lalu ji has brought everyone by surprise by making it as a profit making department, that too without fare hike. I would also like to add that every Indian has to be proud that Lalu ji not being a MBA Graduate has taken classes for MBA students, about converting sick companies to profit making ones.

Sir, Tamil Nadu people have a long pending demand that a Train service from Chennai to Lord Aliyappa Temple (Sabarimala) for pilgrims from Chennai, Hyderabad, Karnataka and Mumbai should go via Tamil Nadu. The train has to be routed via Dindugal, Vathalagundu, Periyakulam, Theni, Bodi, Kumbam, Koodalur and to the base station.

Sir, year by year Sabarimala pilgrims are increasing in large numbers and the people of Tamil Nadu are eagerly waiting for a direct train to go via the above mentioned routes. Sir, people are even prepared to pay Rs 200 to 250 more per trip for passing through Sabarimala Tunnel. Sir, I can assure that the entire amount invested can be collected by the Railways in a year or two. Sir, the Sabarimala pilgrims from other States have to go through hill side routes facing undue hardships for about 180 - 200 kms. They have to take a round trip, (forest routes) and also forest animals have rapidly increased in the area, (Elephants, bears and red dogs/wolfs) are causing trouble to the pilgrims facing life threats. Many such incidents are going unnoticed due to lack of time to the pilgrims as they have to go back to their native states after pilgrimage and to save time about the hardship faced.

I personally thank the UPA Govt. Lalujji, Velujji & Rathwa ji, for taking a survey up to Koodalur. Sir, Dindugal to Vathalagundu, Bodi Koodalur are rich agricultural and potential areas. The Spices Board Cardamon e-action centre is in Bodi; same way lot of tea plants/spice/coffee plants/ agriculture/paddy, and coconut farmers will be benefited. Opening of Railway Parcel Booking Counters in all the centres will benefit the Railways in large way in addition to agricultures along with Sabarimala Pilgrims.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri J. M. Aaron Rashid]

The Sabarimala Railway Line project to be implemented will be in the larger interests of the people of South India. Railways are for the general public. I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister, Railway Board and Officials to benefit the common man; as this scheme would benefit the Railways more commercially. If the project is implemented, I assure you even commercially it is viable because of a few million people are travelling to Sabarimala every year. By charging Rs 200 -250 the people would not find it difficult as they avoid travelling to 6 - 8 hours in hilly areas which costs them very much.

I hence request the UPA Govt. the Government of the people and the under privileged, to implement the scheme at the earliest as the public are really waiting for it to be implemented.

*SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways for the Financial Year 2008-09.

First of all, I would like to congratulate our Railway Ministers, Hon'ble Laluj, Shri Velu and Ratwaji for making Indian Railways as poor people's Air Service. After assumption of UPA at the Centre for the past 52 months, the rail fares has not increased even once and in fact the fares in some Classes/sections have been reduced. Since the Indian Railways offering low fares, it is well on the track to regain its popularity. Our Indian Railways network is an integrated system linking various parts of the country including the remote and far flung areas to enable transportation of passengers and goods from various parts of the country. In recent times, the passenger traffic also increases and earnings also increased simultaneously. For example, in Southern Railway, passenger volume increased by 12% and earnings by 16%. In fact, quarter of 2008-09, Southern Railway ferried nearly 28% more passengers on the Chennai - Bangalore line and revenue also from 15.55 crore to Rs. 16.25 crore. The Chennai - Madurai - Nagercoil section continues to be the biggest revenue earner for the Southern Railway. Throughout the country, the position is the same. That is why, Indian Railways has created revenue surplus of Rs. 68,812 crore. During 2004-2005, it was Rs. 8,664.23 crore, 2005-2006 - 14,710.00 crore, 2006-2007 - 20,338.49 crore, 2007-08 - 25,065 crore and for 2008-09 - it is expected to cross 31,000 crore. Another important factor I want to bring to the notice of the august House is about the achievement of Rail Land Development Authority. Railway Ministry has handed over 10 plots to RLDA in various cities including Delhi, Mumbai, Gwalior, Vishakhapatnam, Kanpur, Kolkata and Bangalore and the same is going to fetch Rs.4,000 crore to Indian Railways. Even now, in some of the popular areas, Indian Railways is having vast acres of

land and those were leased to private parties for a meagre amount. For example, in my Palani Constituency, Oddanchatram town is an important place and the same is on NH 209. Southern Railway is having railway land on the southern side of the above NH 209 and the same is in the heart of the city. Now it is leased to a private party for using it as a cycle stand for a very nominal amount. It is a very good place for constructing Shopping Malls and it will fetch very good income to Southern Railways. Hence I request the Railway Minister to cancel the existing lease and Southern Railway must come forward to construct Shopping Mall and it will be very useful to public and also very profitable to Railways.

Even though Indian Railways is getting huge income, we failed to provide necessary facilities to the railway passengers. Our Government has formulated an "Integrated Railway Modernisation Plan" for identifying activities with definite time frame for implementation within 5 years from 2005-2010. It is planned to induct modern coaches in all Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains, Expansion of Passenger Reservation System, Unreserved Ticketing System across the country and Environment Friendly Toilets in coaches but it is unfortunate that most of the Superfast Expresses are not having proper toilet facilities. In Tamil Nadu, important trains Viz., Cheran Express, Nilgiri Express, Yercaud Express and Pandian Express trains are not having proper toilet facilities. Toilets are not cleaned and maintained regularly.

We had announced E-Ticketing System and also permitted to reserve three months in advance. Now the passengers in Chennai are facing a very big problem to reserve the tickets. For all south bound Trains towards Madurai and Nagercoil now itself all the tickets were sold upto 1st February 2009. Every morning innocent poor public are standing in queue from 3 a.m. onwards but they are not able to purchase their tickets. The travel agents are able to purchase large numbers of tickets and selling them in black market. I am earnestly requesting the Railway Ministers to take immediate steps to solve this serious issue. Though the Railways have introduced Special Trains to cope with increasing rush of passengers, it is not served much and the same is the situation in the case of Special Trains also.

After assumption of UPA at the Centre, within the period of 3 years i.e. 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-07, Railway Ministry has announced number of projects and out of which for 127 projects, survey was also completed to the length of 12,749 kms. with the cost of Rs. 47,934 crore. Out of the above 127 new projects, 33 new line projects one were approved and sanctioned in Budget 08-09 and of project is Erode - Palani Via Dharapuram with 91.05 km. distance at the cost of Rs. 289 crore. For this project, Final Location

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Survey Tender Process was over by 18-08-08. This is an important scheme connecting four hill temples Viz., Chennimalai, Sivanmalai, Vattamalai and Palani hills. All are the abodes of Lord Karthik. I urge upon the Railway Ministry to direct the authorities to complete the Fund Location Survey for the above project without further delay and implement the scheme as early as possible.

Sir, one of the oldest metre gauge line connecting Dindigul - Palani - Udumalaipet - Pollachi - Palakkad - Pollachi - Coimbatore is an important line in south Tamil Nadu. After assumption of UPA Government at the Centre in the first phase, Rs. 30 crore is allocated for gauge conversion and the work is completed upto Pothanur. Now Rs. 70 crore is allocated for completing the gauge conversion from Dindigul - Palani and the work is also started by performing 'Bhoomi Pooja' two months back. There is a proposal to construct number of overbridges in this scheme also.

I am humbly requesting the Railway Ministry to take this work in a speedy manner and complete the project and allocate additional funds for completion of the work between Palani - Pothanur and the whole stretch may be converted as a BG line.

Sir, I congratulate the UPA Government for implementation of 6th Pay Commission and the Railways have also adopted the same. However, I understand that there are some grievances among railway employees. The Group 'C' Engineers feel deprived that the 6th Pay Commission have totally ignored the technical staff because there is no technically qualified Engineers in the Committee and they have requested for nominating an Engineer in the Anomaly Committee to upgrade the Group 'C' Engineers equal to Nurses and Teachers in Railways since Group 'C' Engineers are the backbone of Indian Railways.

With these words, I am completing my speech on the Supplementary Demands for Railways.

*SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE (Jalgaon): Sir, first of all I am thankful Hon'ble Speaker for giving a chance to speak on the discussion on Supplementary Demands for Railways.

I want to Congratulate Hon'ble Railway Minister for honouring New Trains for Maharashtra and my constituency Jalgaon. Recently our President of India Respected Pratibhatai Patil along with Hon'ble Railway Minister Shri Lalu Prasadji has shown green flag and inaugurated some of the trains running through Central Railway, Bhusawal Division. To name some recently started trains are Amravati-Mumbai Superfast Express, Amravati-Surat Fast Passenger.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Through Hon'ble Speaker I request Hon'ble Shri Lalu Ji to extend the Amravati-Surat train upto Ahmedabad, Bhusawal-Surat passenger upto Ahmedabad and Jamnagar-Nandurbar train upto Bhusawal to facilitate the many peoples traveling from interior of Gujarat State to their native place at Jalgaon and Buldhana District. I had also forwarded a letter to Hon'ble Minister for this extension upto Ahmedabad and Bhusawal.

The people and the local Political personalities has plenty of time raised the question through the then acting Member of Parliament from time to time to start a train which starts from Bhusawal going upto Mumbai CST. Lot of travelers are traveling from Jalgaon and Buldhana District at Bhusawal Division towards various direction of places for the purpose of the business or other. By inaugurating the New Amravati-Mumbai Super Fast Train recently the demand from the peoples are subside to some extent and for this I have requested vide my letter no. MP-HMJ/0162/2008 dated 11-03-2008 to Hon'ble Shri. Lalu Ji to provide One Three Tier AC Coach, Two Coaches for Sleeper and Two Coaches for General class to fulfill the demand finally. Also I request through house to provide One First Class AC Coach each for Goa Express(2779/2780) and Karnataka Express (2627/2628).

I also request Hon'ble Minister to provide some essential amenities to Nandura and Bodwad Station and to provide stoppage at these station for trains Nagpur-Pune(2136/2135), Azad-Hind Express(2130/2129), Gondwana Express(2405/2406) Bilaspur-Pune(2850), Nagpur-Pune Garib Rath(2114) and Newly stated Amravati-Mumbai CST (2112/2111).

I want to bring to the kind notice of the Hon'ble Minister for the anomalies in the revised pay structure of Loco Running Staff and request Hon'ble Laluji to look positively to upgrade the pay scale for this Loco Running staff. I also request to provide some additional benefits to compensate the loss of health permanently during the working conditions on service. In this case it observed that at the start of the 1st and 2nd Pay Commission the grades of Assistant Loco Pilot are higher at the start and lower at the end of the grades, with compare to that of Guards. As we move upwards the Pay scale has reversed and become higher for Guards (start and end of grades) as compared to ALP. what exactly has abruptly changed to effect this reversal of grades.

*SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sir, I like to draw your kind attention to the fact that the first phase of the double line project between Sonarpur and Ghutlari Sharif Stations along Sonarpur - Canning section, Sealdah South, Eastern Railways, has been completed. But the work of the

* Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal]

second phase double line along the section between Ghutuari Sharif and Canning Railway Stations is yet to be undertaken.

The commuters of this portion of the section have been facing enormous inconveniences, as before, due to the absence of the double line facility therein. Canning is the Gateway of Sundarbans. Sundarbans is a group of islands consisting largest delta of the planet, dense mangrove forests, famous Royal Bengal Tigers attracting foreign since October of every year bringing foreign exchange to the country and also the inland tourists. Therefore, expeditious completion of the second phase of double line upto Canning is very much important. It would definitely boost the economy of the region as well as the Railways. The double line not upto the Canning Station would not serve the purpose and if completed it would bring in more revenues to the Railways.

As the Gateway of Sundarbans, Canning Railway Station is being visited by thousands of inland as well as foreign tourists, it has been declared for upgradation of Model Station. However, still a lot of developmental works to be carried out in a war-footing manner. The encroachments around the Canning station is to be cleared on permanent basis as the encroachments cleared previously have come again there. The Divisional Railway Authorities there should be instructed to take strict action against the encroachers around the Canning Railway Station.

The Ghotiarisheriff is a pilgrimage place being visited by Muslim community people from various parts of the country thrice in a year to mark their religious functions. The second phase (Ghotiarisheriff to Canning) would ease the traffic therein. Further there are only 2 stations between Ghotiarisheriff and Canning and being a short distance, completion of the Second phase would ease if the steps taken for expeditious completion of the same.

Further, I would like to urge the Government to take up necessary steps for expeditious completion of the doubling of Baruiapur - Joynagar.

I urge upon the Government to take up the above mentioned railway works in Sundarbans for overall development of Sundarbans region.

*SHRIMATI K. RANI (Rasipuram): I support the Railway Budget wholeheartedly. The hon. Minister of Railways has done a tremendous job in presenting an unprecedented Railway Budget early this year, which is people-oriented and every section of the House has welcomed it. He had further taken many steps for the benefit of the common man.

He had reduced the fares of all classes of travel which is welcomed by all. Another welcome step is the introduction of eight new 'Garib Rathas' for the poor people to travel by

* Speech was laid on the Table.

air-conditioned coaches. Here, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister that the existing Garib Rath to Chennai departs from Delhi on Mondays which is a working day, as a result of which people traveling to Chennai find it inconvenient. I request him to kindly consider sanctioning one more train either on Friday or on Saturday, making it twice a week, instead of the present once a week.

I am thankful to the hon. Railway Minister for sanctioning funds for undertaking developmental work in the newly created Salem Division. But it seems that the funds allotted for this is not sufficient to meet the demands of that Division. I request that sufficient funds may kindly be allotted immediately so that the pending work progresses much faster and the work is completed very soon.

I have a point to make on 'releasing tickets' from the Emergency Quota. As the Members of Parliament, we send requisition slips for release of seats/berths, under the EQ for railway reservation to the DCM Office, Salem. But shockingly, they are not honoured by the concerned at that Office and the tickets are not getting confirmed, leading to unpleasant situations.

Moreover, when we ring up the Divisional Office, in advance, most of the times, the phones are not picked up. Moreover, we are shocked to find a situation where even the Fax machine is also switched off and we are told that the Fax number is changed quite frequently, putting severe hardship to us. I request him to kindly sort out this matter soon.

One last but a very important point that I would like to raise is about the Salem-Karur Broad Gauge Project, which is pending for quite long time now, without any solution in sight. It is a very small piece of line, running for only about 80 km. but it is unduly delayed because of many factors. This matter has also been raised by me in this very House on more than one occasion. But surprisingly, I do not find any allocation in this year's Budget. I request the hon. Railway Minister to please allocate more funds for this project, sort out all other outstanding issues early and complete this project soon so that people are benefited.

I once again extend my support to this Supplementary Budget and I thank the Chair for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion.

[Translation]

*SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur) : Sir, ever since Shri Lalu Prasadji assumed charge as the Minister of Railways, the Ministry of Railways has become a centre of figure juggling. Its development has been restricted to only announcements and the announcements too, which are

being made are not based on regional backwardness and requirements but keeping in view the political and party based equations. The result of this is that the areas, which could be evolved as a hub of Railways development are today suffering widespread neglect. In developed countries Railways have turned out to be a sophisticated means of transportation taking less time and providing better facilities whereas in our country railways are becoming a symbol of insecure and uncomfortable travelling. Sir, incidents like looting, theft, murder and rape are on the rise in trains. Railways' security agencies have proved to be a failure in preventing all these. Instead of tackling thieves, dacoits and criminals, the security agencies like RPF have been involved in barbarously beating of the Member of this very House, Shri Virendra Kumar. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole country has seen this unfortunate scene on television, but it is a matter of great concern that the Minister of Railways, Shri Lalu Prasadji, who is known for his statements on trivial issues, did not think it proper to deliver a single word on the aforesaid incident.

Sir, the worst suffer of the negligent behaviour of the Ministry of Railways is Madhya Pradesh and its Mahakoshal areas with its headquarters at Jabalpur is still waiting for proper development in respect of the railways since independence.

The area that could not be the capital of Madhya Pradesh only because of the lack of better railway facilities over there is still struggling for its development.

Sir, I want to tell you that the most important project for the development of this area is the Jabalpur Gondiya Gauge Conversion. After many years this long pending demand was met only by the hon'ble Atal Bihari Vajpayee led N.D.A. Government which sanctioned the railway project of about 265 k.m. long costing Rs. 511.86 crore and Rs. 109.32 crore were released for the project at that time. Mr. Speaker, Sir, as soon as the UPA Government came to power, it started neglecting the project. The proof of it is that the project was given a fund of Rs. 38.06 crore in 2004-06 and 25 crore in 2005-06. After my repeated requests to the hon'ble Minister of Railways and Chairman, Railway Board, Rs. 57.40 crore were sanctioned in the year 2006-07. After agitation in Jabalpur and gherao of the office of General Manager, Railways, Rs. 80.00 crore were sanctioned in the year 2007-08.

Sir, I regret to say that on arrival of the hon'ble Minister of Railways in Jabalpur, I, myself had given detailed information in regard to the importance of this project and the needs of Jabalpur and the entire Mahakaushal area on stage. After hearing all that, at that time the hon'ble Minister had announced from the stage that this scheme would be completed by the year 2010. But, the hon'ble Minister sanctioned only Rs. 60 crore for the year 2008-09 thereby

not fulfilling his own promise. If this amount is added, even then there is a shortage of Rs. 162 crore, out of the total project cost. Definitely, the cost of project has escalated and there should be separate provision for this cost escalation. I would like to ask whether the hon'ble Minister of Railways would be able to provide all these funds during 2009-10. I can say with conviction that this will not be possible. It means that the Minister of Railways had made a false announcement in Jabalpur.

Sir, I have been continuously raising demands related to railways during discussion every budget or Demands for Supplementary Grants. I also allege that the Ministry of Railways and the Railways Administration are creating doubts by giving wrong information in regard to the current cost of this project.

I marched from Katni to Jabalpur against the neglect shown towards Jabalpur and Mahakaushal area by the Ministry of Railways which was concluded in the form of 'Halla Bol' rally with gherao of the office of General Manager, in Jabalpur. Around 30 thousand men and women had thronged in this rally to express their resentment. Sir, as a result of this rally, as per our demand announcement in regard to introduction of train from Jabalpur to Mumbai and Katni-Jabalpur Itarsi passenger train was made in the rail budget, however, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister of Railways, that there is a lot of backlog, therefore, the development of Jabalpur and Mahakaushal cannot be done through this much only.

Sir, therefore, the Ministry should bring actual figures of cost required for completion of this gauge conversion work and the balance amount should be provided in lumpsum. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister of Railways that the Madhya Pradesh Government has ensured availability of required land for this project.

South-East Central Railways, the Executing Agency, for gauge conversion which has headquarters in Bilaspur of Chhattisgarh should be replaced by Western Central Railways, which has headquarters in Jabalpur in order to expedite this work.

The weekly train from Jabalpur to Jammu for visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine should be run at least four days a week.

Lakhs of followers of the Sikh faith reside in Jabalpur and its neighbouring areas, therefore, a direct train from Jabalpur to Amritsar should be introduced.

Sir, Jabalpur and Katni are both important stations in my parliamentary constituency and I have been demanding for the last several years that Jabalpur and Katni stations

should be given ISO 9001 certificate. From Bheraghat in Jabalpur city to Khamaria, with a population of approximately 20 lakh, a local train should be introduced, for which the required rail track is already present.

World famous tourist site Bheraghat should be developed as a tourist site with all facilities.

Sir, to decongest Jabalpur main station the work of developing Kacchpura station, located on the other end of the city with all passenger facilities and the work of developing Madam Mahal station on the lines of Habibganj (Bhopal) station should be expedited.

In view of the rise in the number of passengers commuting between Jabalpur to Delhi, Madhya Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express should be run daily.

There are many Bangla speaking people in Jabalpur, therefore a direct train from Jabalpur to Kolkata should be introduced. Besides, a new train from Jabalpur to Siwan via Allahabad-Chapra should be introduced, so that people from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh residing in Jabalpur may have facility to commute.

Chitrakut Express which is being run from Jabalpur to Lucknow should be extended upto Uttaranchal. Sir, there is a new train from Jabalpur to Bangalore. The proposals for running a direct train to Thruvanthpuram and for making the train numbers 6360 Rajender Nagar-Ernakulam as daily train which is presently a weekly train are being sent to Western-Central Railways Zone office for the last two years. A train from Jabalpur to Goa should be introduced once or twice a week.

As Western-Central Railway zone has headquarters in Jabalpur and Jabalpur is the largest city of Eastern Madhya Pradesh, I expect from the Minister of Railways to get the office of Railway Recruitment Board set up in Jabalpur.

Electrification of rail routes is being carried out in the entire country but despite the demand and requirement Itarsi-Jabalpur-Katni rail line is being neglected. A decision in regard to electrification of the said line with immediate effect should be taken.

A large number of followers of the Muslims faith live in Jabalpur, their Centre of faith is in Ajmer, therefore, Jabalpur-Ajmer Express should be extended upto Ajmer.

Sir, passenger facilities are negligible at the Pannagar station of Suburban Jabalpur. Stoppage of Mahakoushal, Rewanchal, Shakitpunj, Amar, Kantak Janta Express and Jabalpur-Rewa Link city should be provided at this station.

Computerized reservation Centre should be set up at Pannagar Station.

I would like to tell the Minister of Railways that Sihora is an important place of the Jabalpur district. Announcement has been made set up a new industrial area and S.E.Z. there. Therefore, in view of the traffic congestion an under bridge or over bridge should be constructed at Khitolla railway crossing.

Even after sanctioning of computerized reservation system at Sihora stations, U.T.S. system has not been made available over there, it should be completed at the earliest.

Stoppage of Delhi-Jabalpur Gondwana Express, the Amarkantak Express, and the Mahanagri Express be provided at Sihora Station.

123 acres of land adjacent to Sihora station belongs to the railways, it should be used for the maintenance of trains originating from Jabalpur. It should be used for setting up factories for the repair of bogies and for printing of stationery related to commercial, electronic and other departments.

Sir, Katni railway station is an important railway junction of the country. Therefore, it should be developed as per the specifications of I.S.O. 9001 certification. There is huge potential for the development of marble industry in this area. Therefore, a new train from Katni to Udaipur via Kota-Chittorgarh should be introduced.

An Inter-City Express between Katni to Bilaspur should be introduced. Stoppage of Indore-Bilaspur train should be provided at Madhav Nagar station in Katni.

Sir, Salimnabad station should be developed with all passenger amenities. Jabalpur-Rewa Intercity, Veena-Bhopal, and Jabalpur-Lucknow Chitrakoot Express should be given stoppage at this station.

Sir, the distance upto Damoh is 110 kilometres and due to non-availability of direct rail connectivity, one has to travel to Damoh via Katni, which is approximately 210 kilometres. If direct rail route is made available between Jabalpur and Damoh, then this distance will get reduced by 100 kilometres. The survey work of laying railway line between Damoh and Kundalpur should be started at the earliest.

Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that despite the neglect shown by the Railways towards Jabalpur and Mahakaushal area, since Independence, the people of the said area have shown great patience, but due to continuous neglect, and non-implementation of announcements made by the hon'ble Minister of Railways himself, the resentment among the people is increasing. I am sure that hon'ble Minister will no longer test the patience of the people of Jabalpur and grant sufficient funds for gauge conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia line as per the declaration made by him and present actual figures before the people and will take concrete and practical steps to get this work completed by the year 2010.

I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to express views on the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

[English]

*SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN (Coimbatore): Sir, the allocations made for the laying of new broad gauge lines and gauge conversion work fall too short to meet the actual estimated requirement for the completion of the project within the specified time. The already commenced projects between Villupuram and Katpadi, Tiruchi-Nagore-Karaikal, Manamadurai-Virudungar etc. and the proposed Nelli-Thenkasi and Madurai-Bodi gauge conversion will suffocate and suffer a severe set back with the financial crunch because the budgetary support do not at all reach anywhere near the required estimated cost. For instance, the estimated cost of gauge conversion between Villupuram and Katpadi is Rs. 276 crores and allocation is a mere Rs. 121 crores, Tiruchi-Nagore-Karaikal project, completed upto Tiruvarur has received Rs. 50 crores in addition to last year's Rs. 281 crores, still falls short of around Rs. 120 crores; the Manamadurai-Virudunagar project completion could be accomplished only with a further allotment of Rs. 84 crores in addition to the offered support of Rs. 60 crores. I appeal to you to review the allocation made as against the proposed cost and enhance the financial support to ensure completion of the projects in the stipulated time frame.

Besides, I am personally too deeply anguished to note the conspicuous exclusion of the Coimbatore region in your important and diligent exercise excepting a few sops such as the newly introduced 'Garib Rath' and the extension of the Kumbakonam-Coimbatore Janashadabti that would benefit the people of Tiruppur and Coimbatore halting in the Coimbatore and Tiruppur stations. Coimbatore is a commercial center recording a rapid and enormous economic growth. The multifold growth of the commercial and economic activities of the region calls for the speedy completion of the promised projects such as gauge conversion between Coimbatore and Dindigul. Not only that there are no new schemes for the region in consonance with the increasing demand, but also the budgetary support offered for the much envisaged Coimbatore-Dindigul gauge conversion is quite distressing, inflicting fear of eternal incompleteness.

The announcement of this particular project of 224.88km stretch was received with so much relief and enthusiasm of the people of Coimbatore region, reposing and enhancing faith on the Indian Railways' commitment to the passengers and the growing needs of the commerce and economy. But the budgetary support that the project

* Speech was laid on the Table.

attracts is very disheartening. The allotment of Rs. One crore in the year 2006 and the subsequent allocation of Rs.30 crores in 2007 and the announcement of a very paltry support of Rs. 65 crores in this budget only exposes the lackadaisical approach of the ministry to fulfill its most imperative tasks and commitments. The project cost is estimated to Rs.613.61 crores and the allocation in comparison is too small not larger than a peanut.

Presenting this for your careful and urgent consideration, I urge upon you to review and enhance the financial support for this project of Coimbatore-Dindigul gauge conversion as a one time, allocation to complete the most preemptory infrastructural requirement of the region that is growing rapidly as a pivotal commercial and economic hub in the country, positively before 31.3.09. In addition the following requirements of the region may please be addressed on the utmost priority basis to mitigate the hardship created by the lack of adequate and proper infrastructure.

The doubling of track between Coimbatore, North junction and Irugur may be expedited to complete before 31.3.09.

To address the growing traffic congestion in the fast developing city of Coimbatore, Circular track around the city and shuttle train services between Coimbatore and Tiruppur and Commuter services in the Ploachi Palakkad-Mettupalayam line should be introduced.

Tiruppur is identified in the world map as the 'dollar city' with its fast growing hosiery and garment exports. A new railway link between Tiruppur and Karur through Kangeyam and Vellakoli will provide a short distance route between Tiruppur and Thoothukudi port and will help in facilitating a free commercial freight besides an effective commuter facility.

A railway over bridge replacing the level crossing of Echanari on the NH 209 is the immediate requirement to facilitate decongestion of the arterial road of Coimbatore connecting it to the southern districts. A ROB at Avarampalayam Railway level crossing requires a serious and immediate consideration.

New trains for Coimbatore have become an increasing necessity due to the enormous growth attracting employment from the various districts of the state. Frequent or hourly train services between Coimbatore-Erode, Coimbatore-Mettupalayam, Coimbatore-Palakkad, Podanur-Pollachi should be introduced.

New passenger train services connecting Coimbatore with Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Pudukkottai, Sivagangal and Ramanathapuram, passenger services to Tirupathi and Tiruvananthapuram from Coimbatore

[Shri K. Subbarayan]

exclusive night train from Coimbatore to Bangalore may be considered immediately with utmost favour.

In addition I urge upon you to bring Coimbatore junction, Coimbatore North junction, Peelamedu station, Singanailur Station and Podanur Junction under the master plan development strategy. A state of the art infrastructure facility should be provided at the Coimbatore Station with the extension of platforms, special ticket counters, additional waiting rooms, more subways and refreshment rooms.

Having made the observations of the budget I have made my requests that, no doubt, you may concur with me, are very imperative. I appeal to you with the most earnest to consider implementing the demands of the region with financial assistance in this budget itself. I trust you will consider my pleas in the right and positive spirit and do the needful.

*SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN (Ramanathapuram): Thank you, Sir, for the opportunity given to me to participate in this important discussion.

First I want to express my limitless gratitude to our most respected leader and DMK Party supermo Dr.Kalaingar M.Karunanidhi and our beloved youth wing Thalapathi Thiru M.K.Stalin for having sent me to this August House and because of that chance I got from my party, I could speak about the important issues of my Constituency, Ramanathapuram. I already expressed my views about the want of E.G. Line up to Rameswaram and the Hon'ble Railway Minister Laluj and the MOS Thiru Velu has given us and now the people living all over the India use the BG Conversion upto Rameswaram.

At this point, I want to inform the August House that before the B.G.Convesion work was carried out, we had some more trains which were very useful to our people. They are the (1) Rameswaram to Chennai Egmore Express (2) Ramewsaram to Chennai Egmore Mail via Mayavaram (3) Rameswaram to Coimbatore Express via Madurai and Dindigul and (4) Rameswaram to Palghat passenger via Madurai and Dindigul (5) Rameswaram and Trichy (6) Rameswaram to Madurai Express.

Few days ago, I with Hon'ble Finance Minister Thiru Chidambadram and Hon'ble MOS Thiru. Ragupati met the Railway Minister Thiru Lalu and MOS Thiru Velu and we asked for these above mentioned trains. So, now I urge upon our Railway Minister to sanction these trains to our area, since the Sethu Express from Rameswaram to Chennai does not stop in apt time in our main stations.

I also request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to sanction the Rameshwaram to Varanasi Express (2) Rameswaram

to Bhubaneswar Express which are already announced in the previous budget.

We all know now an unwanted war is going on in Sri Lanka. Thousands of refugees daily come to Rameswaram. We need all these above mentioned trains to send these refugees to various parts of Tamil Nadu.

I also urge upon our U.P.A. Government to take immediate and urgent steps to stop the killing of poor Tamils in Sri Lanka and also the fishermen in our Rameswaram Coastal area.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for grants Railways on behalf of DMK Party.

[Translation]

*SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (UNNAO) : Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in ongoing discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Railways.

I express my gratitude towards the Minister of Railways for showing urgency in achieving new avenues of progress in the country by the Ministry of Railways. In the states like Jammu & Kashmir, new railway projects have been started by removing natural hurdles which shows that the Ministry of Railways can actually work in most difficult conditions. In this phase of recession, all departments, particularly, Ministry of Civil Aviation is distressed, whereas the Ministry of Railways is playing the role of transporting passengers to their destination.

The hon'ble Minister of Railways is known for translating his words into action. There are many leather factories in my constituency Unnao, and it is an industrial town. I would like to request him to introduce a daily Express train from Unnao to Delhi, because passengers from Unnao have to get train from Kanpur or Lucknow.

[English]

*SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I stand here to deliberate on Supplementary Demands for Grants of Railways for 2008-09. Railways which are the most preferred mode of transport for the masses in India, running 9 thousand trains, reaching 8 thousand stations and handling approximately 1.4 crore passengers per day has a number of commitments in its "Citizen's Charter on Passenger Services on Indian Railways" to provide safe and dependable train services to the passengers and ensure adequate passenger amenities in trains and at railway stations. This includes provision of clean and hygienic surroundings both at railway stations and in trains. But, I am sorry to mention that Indian Railways are the most dirtiest rail services ever found in this world.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Once "Operation Cleanliness" was launched and a Task Force was constituted to address the issues but nothing much has happened. Inadequacy of standards, action plan and norms on cleanliness, absence of an unified department responsible for cleanliness and involvement of multiple departments, insufficient expenditure on cleanliness and inadequacy of policy on waste management has contributed to this dismal state. Even today, in this 21st century, cleanliness is largely viewed as a secondary activity, subservient to other activities such as maintenance. Why can't a coach be certified fit for next journey as is being done by maintenance for cleanliness activities also. Once this is done responsibility can also be fixed. Similarly maintenance of cleanliness in the circulating area outside the station building and on platforms, in the concourse, waiting rooms, retiring rooms, toilets, tracks adjacent to platforms, foot over bridge and drains and sewers, inside the station premises is urgent as well as necessary. But everywhere it is found wanting. It is because there is no systematic mechanism in place to monitor it. Deficiencies in waste collection and disposal, inadequacies in the provision of infrastructure, passenger amenities, inadequate training, all have compounded to make the situation even worse. Multiple departments are involved in cleanliness activities leading to lack of coordination among them. There is no accountability, there is no responsibility. Failure to prevent unauthorized persons from entering station premises have compounded the problem. Railways have no mechanism to assess or control the level of expenditure on maintenance of cleanliness in stations and in trains nor there is any policy on waste management. Railways have neither developed any standards as benchmarks nor formulated any norms at zonal level for ensuring cleanliness and sanitation in railway stations, trains and tracks. Why can't you rope in reputed NGOs for the job of cleanliness and sanitation on Indian Railways? The system and practices followed in Delhi Metro have been appreciated by passengers in Delhi. Can't you incorporate some of these tried and tested methods? As there is no resource crunch with respect to maintaining and monitoring of cleanliness and sanitation, do you expect increase in allocation or need to prioritize the expenses on Railway sanitation? The Ministry had earlier proposed to take up five stations per division and turn them into model stations. What is the progress?

Earlier I had raised the issue of installing CCTV cameras in big stations. How many stations have been equipped with CCTV cameras? What is the current status? Are they effective in promoting sanitation on the railway premises? Do you have any effective mechanism in place for regulation of crowd in railway stations?

Now I come to the second aspect. It relates to safety.

We have been repeatedly told that the Railways' share of the total transport share has come down from 53 per cent in the 4th Five Year Plan to 37 per cent in the 9th Five Year plan. In 2004-05, Railways carried around 600 million tonne of freight comprising 64 percent of the total revenues earned by the Railways. This proves that freight operations needs to be strengthened for profitability of Railways. A sound, safe and efficient modern infrastructure is required for smooth passenger as well as freight operations. This can only be done by upgrading the existing infrastructure which may improve the passenger and freight operations. The other is providing facilities which are specifically aimed at creating infrastructure for improved freight operations. Proper upkeep, renewal of rails, strengthening of bridges fall in the first category whereas acquisition of more wagons and locos, acquiring new rolling stock suitable for hauling heavier loads etc. fall in the second category. Dedicated freight corridors and their feeder routes are also required to be strengthened and improved.

When the expenditure under major plan heads is an investment aimed at creating infrastructure for improved freight and passenger services, I fail to understand why it does not commensurate with the level of Railway earnings. Why the amount provided through various funds created by Indian Railways for infrastructure development has not been utilized in full over the past years? In this scenario, how does the Railways plan to provide a sound, safe and efficient modern infrastructure for smooth freight operations?

Increase in the axle load is an area of concern. This increase was permitted with the objective to carry more tonnes per wagon thereby reduce the unit cost of operations by saving on locomotives and additional wagons. These were to be done duly ensuring safety in train operations. Prior to November, 2004 wagons were allowed to be loaded up to (carrying capacity) CC+2 tonne where the permissible axle load was taken as 20.32 tonne. From November onwards, the loading was permitted upto CC+4+2 tonne. In March and May, 2005 you permitted running of these wagons loaded upto CC+8+2 tonne on 16 identified iron-ore routes. The extra loading was to be restricted to the maximum axle load of 22.82 tonnes. This was done without any study by any specialized agency on the technical feasibility. You say that this decision was taken on the basis of field experience. But are you aware about the cost implication involved in running the freight trains with increased load. Have you made any study on the effect of costs and earnings? There has been substantial growth in loading no doubt but have you reviewed the adverse impact on track, rolling stock and bridges? We are told all BG routes of Indian Railways have been notified as CC+6 routes. Iron-ore routes have been strengthened. But how many distressed routes you have?

[Shri B. Mahtab]

As on 1.4.2007 75 number of distressed bridges were reported by your zonal Railways out of which 55 were targeted to be rebuilt during 2007-08 and balance bridges were to be taken up subsequently. What is the progress? This is gross callousness.

It has also been found that wagons were loaded to the extent of 24.49 tonne per axle as against the permitted axle load of 22.82 tonne. This has occurred in rail fractures and weld fractures on Central and South Eastern Railway. What steps you have taken? Have you fixed any responsibility? Have you taken the erring staff into task? There is not a single instance? Yet you say you would take care of safety. Have you made assessment of the extra expenditure required for the repair and maintenance of rolling stock and also the impact of extra time required for such repairs? As per instructions issued by Railway Board in March and May, 2005, the enhanced loading on specified routes was to be permitted subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. One was installations of adequate number Wheel Impact Load Detectors called WILD on the Zonal railways. Why installation of WILD been delayed? All this clearly shows that adequate steps have not been taken to provide safe and dependable train services.

Third aspect is the high interest rates have begun taking a toll on key infrastructure projects. The Government accepted that there will be a massive 50 per cent increase in the financial estimate for modernization of new stations which are to be built of high world standard. Bhubaneswar station was identified along with New Delhi and Bangalore. But what is the progress? Modernisation programme is mired in controversy. Nobody knows when these projects will be completed. Fourthly, the unmanned level crossings are known to have taken a heavy toll almost every year. Isn't the Government aware that technology has been developed under which gates can be closed automatically when a train approaches. The pedestrians can be warned through an audio system. If the gate is not closed then train will be stopped. Has any attempt been made by the Government to procure the technology to operate a selected gates as a part of the pilot project? I would suggest, identify certain unmanned gates where such trial can be launched. Accidents have decreased from 72 in 2006-07 to 65 in 2007-08 no doubt but it is still a cause of worry when out of 34 thousand 152 level crossings in the country only 16 thousand 775 are manned. Since most of the unmanned level crossing accidents are caused due to negligence of road users, public awareness is necessary no doubt but attempt should be made to go in for faceless gates at the earliest through new technology.

Now I came to an oft repeated project of my constituency that is construction of second bridge over river

KATHAJODI in Cuttack which comes under East Coast Railways. I am informed that Indonesian company which was doing the job has fled and now there is some engineering problem for which the bridge construction is delayed. It was supposed to be completed by this year end but now more than one year is required. Can the Minister assure us, the exact date and time by which the second bridge over river KATHAJODI will be made available for operation.

The second opening of Cuttack Railway station is in operational because there is no direct connectivity to the main road. How could this happen? I urge upon the Railways to provide adequate funds to acquire the land for the approach road at the earliest so that the investment that is made for the second opening to Cuttack Railway stations is operational.

*SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL (Karad): Sir, Kindly allow me to lay down my written speech which is as follows on the Table of the House:-

Train Service

- 1) The frequency of Kolhapur-Ahmedabad weekly train be increased to three times a week.
- 2) A halt at Karad Railway Station be sanctioned to Kolhapur-Ahmedabad Express.
- 3) Vasco-H. Nizamuddin Goa Express is having only 3A boggie. Two more 3A boggies be attached, as this train is the most popular train from North Indians to visit pilgrimage Shirdi and tourist destination Goa.
- 4) Kolhapur-Rajkot holiday special train be run on regular basis as a weekly train with a further extension up to Dwarka (i.e. Kolhapur-Dwarka).
- 5) Pune-Ernakulam Poorna Express to be extended upto Trivandrum or Kanyakumari.
- 6) Kolhapur-Bangalore Rani Chennamma Express be run as Pune-Bangalore Rani Chennamma Express.
- 7) Timings of Kolhapur-Mumbai Sahyadri Express be changed. The train should reach Mumbai at 9:00 a.m. in the morning. The return journey timing from Mumbai to Kolhapur be kept the same.
- 8) Pune-Lucknow train to start from Kolhapur and be named as Shahu Express or Shahu Maharaj Express or Karveer Express.

Infrastructure Development :

- 1) Weather shed over loading/unloading platform at Karad Railway Station.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

- 2) Extension of platform no.2 at Karad Railway Station to facilitate accommodation of 22 boggie express train like Goa Express.
- 3) Doubling of Pune-Miraj - Kolhapur section.
- 4) To Expedite the Karad-Chiplun new B.G. Railway line Survey.

*DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar): My demand pertaining to development of my constituency, I draw the attention of the Minister whether the Railways proposed to formulate a high priority action plan for modernization, development and infrastructural expansion of the railway network.

In spite of my request materialize the flyover on Satyanagar and Sahidnagar and also Beerosurendrasai nagar in Mancheswar flyover work is highly delayed. Most of the people there dying because of the level crossing and the rush of the traffic so rampant it is very difficult to cross from this to other side takes more than hours.

So, I would like to draw the attention of the minister to immediately materialize this sanction. The new building of East Coast Zone is already constructed in my constituency after rapid requests while I was a Member of the Standing Committee - Railways. The same this is to be materialized as a full zone that the building to be inaugurated immediately in consultation with the Chief Minister.

The Khurda-Bolangir railway link is highly delayed inspite of people's agitation. The Central Government is highly neglecting. The only railway link is from Southern Orissa to Northern Orissa. This railway link is goes via adivasi, SCs and down trodden area. The details of the service conducted by the railways and the state wise particulars already submitted by the state government. The railway link is highly neglected in the state of Orissa. So, in railway's record we have the highest income and revenues ever paid to the Centre.

Minister has already assured for expansion of Bhubaneswar Railway Station to be International one and it is the high time to start the work immediately and in all India ratio our state is highly neglected in railways since independence.

*SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR (Aurangabad, Bihar): Sir, I rise to speak in support of the Supplementary Demands of the Railway Ministry for 2008-2009, I do so because of the excellent performance of the Railways. There has been a turnaround in its performance. This is displayed in the operating ratio of 76 a surplus of Rs. 35,000 crores and a

* Speech was laid on the Table.

cash back balance of Rs. 25,000 crores. A number of new initiatives have been taken such as, through my constituency, a daily inter city express train between Dehri on Sone & Patna, a survey of the only track upto Bihta addition of a Pantry Car in the Mahabodhi Express between Gaya and New Delhi. Most importantly, the inauguration of a railway line in J&K is a wonderful feat for which the Railway Minister Shri Lalu Prasad deserves congratulations.

I would however sound a word of caution about the need to guard the Railways against the ill effects of the global economics meltdown specially in respect of freightage etc. of cement & steel. It is to be recorded with the approval that the Railways have so far withstood the meltdown effect but they need to be cautious for the future.

I would however request Shri Lalu Ji to kindly approve the declaration of Godiha Halt on the Grand Chord section of the East Central Railway following near Rafiganj by station in public interest. Taking into account the security situation in that area. I also request Lalu Ji to kindly advise the concerned authorities to take up work for expeditious action on the MGR for the Nabinagar 1000 MW Thermal Power Project.

With these comments and suggestions I support the demand for an additional sum of Rs. 600 crores approx. in the Supplementary grant for 2008-2009.

[Translation]

*SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur) : Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2008-09 Railways have become life line for the people of the country. Crores of people avail benefits of railways in their daily life, but the people of my constituency who serve this country the most are deprived of the benefits of this industry. Through you, I demand that the budgetary provision should be made in this supplementary budget keeping in view some needs of my parliamentary constituency.

I demand for electrification and doubling of Balashah to Chandafort-Gondia rail line and upgradation of Chandafort as a model station as well. I also demand for the construction of ROB at Babupeth with 100 per cent funding by the Railways. The State Government are not in a position to provide their 50% share for the construction of this rail over Bridge. There is need to run a Shuttle train twice a day on Ballarshaha-Nagpur rail route and the operation of earlier trains should be restored as usual on Ballarshaha to Ghugus railway route. Durg Bilaspur bound trains from Madras should be extended up to Howrah. In my constituency there

* Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Hansraj G. Ahir]

should be a booking counter at Padaom Railway station and the goods shed should be set up at Tadaki station. Pit line work should be undertaken at the Ballarshaha station. All other trains running from Kalapnagri-Sewagram Nandigram and Gondiya should originate from Ballarshaha station. Apart from these works, I also demand for setting up of PRS at the main station.

*SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun) : Sir, I extend my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2008-09.

Sir, there is a need to have a stoppage at the Moth station for the inter city Puja Express trains running from Jhansi to Lucknow in Jhansi division under North-Central Railways so that the people of thousands of villages could get benefits of this train.

Sir, an overbridge should be constructed at the Etah station so that the passengers could go from platform no. 1 to 2 and the height of the platform no. 2 should be raised so that the passengers could alight easily from the train at that platform.

Sir, there is no direct train to Delhi for the people living in the areas between Jansi and Kanpur. It is, therefore, requested to extend the Delhi-Kanpur bound train Shram Shakti Express to Jhansi so that the people residing in villages around stations like Pukhrama, Kalanji, Urai, Etah, Moth, Chiragaon etc. could avail direct train service for Delhi.

Sir, there is no train for Allahabad from Urai, Kalanji, Etah-stations in the Jhansi Division of North Central Railways. I, therefore, request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to start operation of Jhansi-Bairangpur bound train from Jhansi to Allahabad so that the people around the areas may get direct train service for Allahabad, because the above train remains standing at Jhansi for five days a week.

Sir, there should be doubling of Jhansi-Kanpur single rail line in the Jhansi division of North-Central Railways to facilitate passengers journey in less time avoiding wastage of time in crossing of trains.

[English]

*SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I would like to lay my written speech on Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2008-09.

As you know, Sir, Orissa has vast mineral resources like iron ore, Manganese, bauxites etc. and has immense infrastructure potentialities due to its long coastal lines and road connectivity.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

As you know Sir, under the dynamic leadership of our Honourable Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik, Orissa has taken effective steps for a prosperous Industrial revolution. So Railway Ministry should give special priority for development of Railway Infrastructure in Orissa. Though on several occasions we have submitted several memorandums to the Honourable Railway Minister yet Railway Ministry did not pay any special heed to the same.

I would therefore draw the attention of the Honourable Minister that special priority be accorded to Orissa for survey of new railway lines, doubling of Railway lines, early completion of on-going projects in Orissa, increase of frequency of Express trains and introduction of pantry cars etc.

Though East coast Railway is contributing sizable profit to the Indian Railways but Railway Ministry is discriminating Orissa since Independence.

Railway Ministry is not allocating sufficient funds to Orissa for early completion of on-going projects.

As you know Sir, we have been demanding for early completion of Khurda-Bolangir Road which is a Tribal dominated area, similarly early completion of Haridaspur-Paradeep Railway line and so on. So also doubling of Khurda-Puri line. No uniformity is maintained by Railways for examination and recruitment of railway employees. We find in East Coast Railways only the employees of a particular state are dominating thereby depriving the people of my state. During last flood, Orissa had been severely affected but no special package was declared by Railways for flood affected people of Orissa in improving the quality of rail work.

We demand Railway Ministry should announce a special package for development of Railway Infrastructure in my State. We also demand that a new division at Rourkela be created and operated with immediate effect to ward off infrastructure bottlenecks in Orissa.

[Translation]

*SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV (Jaipur) : Sir, I want to express my views on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2008-09. I want to say that the hon'ble Minister of Railways had in the budget announced the introduction of four new trains for Rajasthan but I regret to say that among these not a single train has been introduced so far.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Sir, first of all I would like to extend my thanks to all those Members who have participated in discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2008-09. Several Members have put some demands before us

* Speech was laid on the Table.

pertaining to their respective constituencies and States as well. I would assure the hon'ble Members that all the points suggested by them will be paid due consideration and proper action will be taken in this regard.* For the current financial year, these Supplementary Demands for Grants of Rs. 526 crore and 170 thousand have mainly been presented seeking approval of the House with regard to the dividend free budgetary support of Rs. 526 crore provided by the Union Government for the national projects as well as 146 works to be undertaken out of turn on priority basis.

While sharing my information with the House I am very happy that our cash surplus has been Rs. 25 thousand and 6 crore in the year 2007-08 and Railways fund balance has increased up to Rs. 22 thousand and 297 crore. Indian Railways have continued to achieve the optimum level of progress during the last 4 years. About a decade before, the Indian Railways had reached a critical financial condition while implementing the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. However, this time with the financial turnaround of Railways we not only implemented the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission, but also did arrange very easily the arrears of last years' bonus apart from giving this year bonus at the enhanced rates. Even in this financial year unprecedented turnaround has been maintained as in the previous years.

There has been a loading of 401.9 million ton goods in the first six months of this financial year as a result of which the Railways have registered 19.7 per cent increase in their earnings from goods carriage and 12.9 per cent from passenger fares as compared to the corresponding period last year. However, there has been a good progress in the first six months of the financial year, but there has been a decrease in the growth rate in the first 20 days of October. In the month of October there has been a sharp decline in the loading of Iron-ores for export and there has also been a decrease in the growth in loading of manufactured cement and steel as well as in the loading of required raw materials for the manufacturing of these items. Probably the global economic recession prevailing in various countries has had its effects on this industry. But we hope that this is a transitory phase and there will definitely be improvement in the growth rate of loading in the remaining months of this financial year.

Our top priority is safety and security of passengers and trains. There has been a constant decline in the number of train accidents due to upgradation and modernization of

railway tracks, signals and rolling stocks. Consequently, the number of train accidents have declined from 473 in the year 2000-01 to only 194 in the year 2007-08. The number of train accidents was 91 till September 2008, though last year this number was 104 during the same period.

Our priority is to see smooth and safe road transport and ensure safety at busy railway crossings. In view of it, construction of 49 over and under bridges are proposed on cost sharing basis with State Governments. Besides that, 10 works related to easy loading/unloading of goods and improving and developing goods shed and goods terminals for giving better facilities to consumers are proposed.

As per the assurance given in the Budget 2008-09, transferring the ownership of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Limited, a public sector undertaking, from the Heavy Industries Limited to the Ministry of Railways is proposed. As per the assurance of providing better facilities to passengers given by me in the Budget 2008-09, there is a proposal to start a pilot project in regard to reserve tickets from mobile phone in sub-urban areas in Mumbai and Chennai. There are proposals to conduct survey for new lines from Parashnath to Madhuban, Bilaspur to Leh via Kullu, Manali, Nizamabad-Adilabad and gauge conversion of Pathankot-Jogindernagar line.

Indian Railways are committed to adopt Energy Efficient Technology for energy conservation. In light of it 4 bulbs will be replaced free of cost with C.F.L. in every railway quarter. This work will be funded by earning carbon credits under public private partnership. Besides, 're-generating braking' project being used in sub-urban railways, Mumbai will be registered for earning carbon credit. Indian Railways are conducting successful test of running double stake container train with electric engine between Jakhapura-Tumka division. The O.H.E. of 7.45 metre is the highest in the world. Experts from abroad have also praised this work.

Sir, I have taken note of all the issues raised by the hon'ble Members. I will soon inform all these Members in writing about the actual position and the action taken in regard to that. I again thank all the hon'ble Members for giving huge support to the Railways and request the House to grant approval to the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) and related appropriation Bill for 2008-09.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Supplementary Demand for Grants (Railways) for 2008-2009 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

*Speech was laid on the Table.

.... This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

"That the supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2009, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 16."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

14.30 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 4 BILL, 2008*

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, I beg to move that leave be granted to introduced a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the consolidated Fund of India for services of the financial year 2008-09 for the purpose of Railways ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09 for the purposes of Railways."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, I introduce** the Bill .

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the Hon'ble Minister may move the motion for consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, I beg to move :***

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II-Section 2, dated 22-10-2008.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

***Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed".

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

14.35 hrs.

**AIRPORT ECONOMIC REGULATORY
AUTHORITY OF INDIA, BILL, 2007**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 31. Shri Praful Patel.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): I beg to move*:

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Airports Economic Regulatory Authority to regulate tariff and other charges for the aeronautical services rendered at airports and to monitor performance standards of airports and also to establish Appellate Tribunal to adjudicate disputes and dispose of appeals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I place before this August House the official amendments to the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 2007, which was introduced in this House on 5.09.2007. ...*(Interruptions)*

As the hon. Members are aware, with the growth in the civil aviation sector, there has been a felt need to improve airport infrastructure. The Airports Authority of India Act, 1994 and the Aircraft Rules, 1937 were amended in 2004 to enable the participation of the private sector in airports, for improving quality, efficiency and for increasing competition. As a result of this initiative, greenfield airports have come up at Bangalore and Hyderabad in public private partnership mode. A similar airport was already fully operational at Cochin. Delhi and Mumbai airports have also been restructured through joint venture route for modernization and upgradation. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, airports are natural monopoly and therefore it is essential to ensure that tariffs are commensurate with the level of services rendered. Further, there is a need for creating a level playing field amongst different categories of airports. Besides, prospective investors are seeking certainty about regulatory regime over the concession period. Keeping these facts in background, it is imperative that an independent regulatory authority be set up to regulate tariffs of aeronautical services and to monitor set performance standards to ensure operation of efficient, economic and viable airports. ...*(Interruptions)*

It is with this view that I had, last year, introduced the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority Bill, 2007 in this House, which, besides setting up of the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA), also provides for establishing of an Appellate Tribunal to decide disputes between the stake holders and to consider appeals arising out of the orders of the regulatory authority. ...*(Interruptions)*

The Bill was considered by the Standing Committee, which made several recommendations. The major recommendations of the Committee relate to inclusion of non-aeronautical services in the ambit of AERA; fuel supply infrastructure at the airports to be brought under the regulatory ambit; and role of AERA and its functions to be extended to cover all airports irrespective of the size. Having given our

anxious consideration to the recommendations made by the Committee, Government are of the view that there is a scope of monopolistic practice developing in respect of the determination of throughput charges paid by the oil companies to the airport operator for use of airport infrastructure/ assets. Therefore, we are in agreement with the recommendations of the Committee on this count. We are also of the view that besides the same, services such as ground handling services and services relating to cargo facilities, also tend to be of a monopoly nature and, therefore, should specifically be brought in the ambit of AERA. ...*(Interruptions)*

As regards regulation of non-aeronautical services, it is felt that such services are usually provided through concessionaires, who are appointed through the open competitive bidding process wherein the market determines the value of concessions. Further, normally there are competing outlets at an airport in respect of most of the non-aeronautical services. These services are, therefore, not monopolistic in nature. As such, there is no need for regulation of charges of non-aeronautical services by AERA. At the same time, it is important to notice that internationally major airports earn bulk of their revenue through non-aeronautical stream, which enables them to moderate the aeronautical charges. In our country also there is a trend for increasing non-aeronautical revenue. ...*(Interruptions)*

Keeping this in view, it is felt that one of the factors relevant for determining the tariff for the aeronautical services could be revenue generated by the airport operator through non-aeronautical services. In other words, while charges for non-aeronautical service need not to be regulated, per se, the revenue generated therefrom may be taken as a factor relevant for determination of charges for aeronautical services by AERA. A few of other recommendations of the Standing Committee have also been accepted. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the official amendments, which I am moving now, take into account the recommendations of the Standing Committee to the extent indicated above. I commend this Bill for the consideration and passage of this August House. It is our earnest belief that with the passage of this Bill by the Parliament, we would be in a position to establish an autonomous regulatory regime for the expanding airport infrastructure sector in the country, which would ensure that airport services of highest order are provided to the traveling public and other users at reasonable charges. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

"That the Bill may be circulated to elicit opinion on the Bill by 26 February, 2009." I also demand that the Jaipur aerodrome should be renamed as Maharaja Man Singh International Aerodrome...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Airports Economic Regulatory Authority to regulate tariff and other charges for the aeronautical services rendered at airports and to monitor performance standards of airports and also to establish Appellate Tribunal to adjudicate disputes and dispose of appeals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

"That the Bill may be circulated to elicit opinion on the Bill by 26 February, 2009."

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Sir, I stand to support the Bill. ...(Interruptions) But I would like to make an appeal to the hon. Civil Aviation Minister – while supporting the Bill –regarding some of the problems being faced by the airports along the border-States of the country. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only the speech of Meinyaji will go on record ...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only Dr. Meinya's statement will be recorded, and whosoever speaks without my permission will not be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA : There are no night-landing facilities in the airports of the border-States, particularly, in North-East India including Imphal. ...(Interruptions) As a result of this we cannot come back late from our constituency to the capital. ...(Interruptions) The same is the situation with Bhubaneswar and some other smaller airports in Vizag and in the North-East side of the country including J&K. ...(Interruptions)

I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister to provide night-landing facilities in all these airports, particularly, the border-States including Imphal. Thank you very much.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Some of the suggestions that have been made by the hon. Member are important. ...(Interruptions) However, the Bill has express provisions to include more airports within the regulatory framework as and when required. ...(Interruptions) The Bill, as it stands today, does not ...(Interruptions) Therefore, there will be no problem in the future. ...(Interruptions))

I would request that the Bill, as placed, be passed. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 16 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Airports Economic Regulatory Authority to regulate tariff and other charges for the aeronautical services rendered at airports and to monitor performance standards of airports and also to establish Appellate Tribunal to adjudicate disputes and dispose of appeals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

Clause 2 Definitions

Amendments made:

Page 2, after line 10, insert –

- "(iv) for ground handling services relating to aircraft, passengers and cargo at an airport;
- (v) for the cargo facility at an airport;
- (vi) for supplying fuel to the aircraft at an airport; and
- (vii) for a stake-holder at an airport, for which the charges, in the opinion of the Central Government for the reasons to be recorded in writing, may be determined by the Authority;" (3)

Page 2, line 14, for "passenger", substitute "passenger or cargo" (4)

Page 2, after line 37, insert –

- '(o)' "stake-holder" includes a licensee of an airport, airlines operating there at, a person who provides

aeronautical services, and any association of individuals, which in the opinion of the Authority, represents the passenger or cargo facility users;". (5)

Page 2, line 38, for "(o)", substitute "(p)" (6)

(Shri Praful Patel)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 3 to 5 were added to the Bill.

**Clause 6 Terms of Office
and other conditions
of service, etc. of
Chairperson and
Members.**

Amendment made:

Page 4, after line 4, insert –

"Explanation.—For the purposes of this sub-section, a Member may be appointed as Chairperson of the Authority, but a person who has been the Chairperson shall not be eligible for appointment as a Member." (7)

(Shri Praful Patel)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 7 to 12 were added to the Bill.

Clause 13 Functions of Authority

Amendments made:

Page 6, after line 3, insert—

"(v) revenue received from services other than the aeronautical services;" (8)

Page 6, line 4, for "(v)", substitute "(vi)" (9)

Page 6, line 6, for "(vi)", substitute "(vii)" (10)

Page 6, line 9, for "(i) to (vi)", substitute "(i) to (vii)". (11)

(Shri Praful Patel)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 14 to 55 were added to the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

The Schedule

Amendments made:

Page 17, line 8, for "2007", substitute "2008". (12)

Page 17, line 17, for "2007", substitute "2008". (13)

Page 17, line 21, for "2007", substitute "2008". (14)

Page 17, line 23, for "2007", substitute "2008". (15)

(Shri Praful Patel)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Schedule, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Go to your seat, I listen to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seat, I will listen to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Go to your seat, I will listen to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seat, we will listen to you

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you want to speak, I will give you an opportunity.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : First listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3:15 pm.

14.47 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifteen Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifteen Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

15.15½ hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Vijay Krishna and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

AIRPORTS ECONOMIC REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA BILL, 2007 – Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up further clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

Clause 1 **Short title, commencement and application**

Amendment made:

Page 2, line 5, for "2007", substitute "2008" (2)

(Shri Praful Patel)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1, for "Fifty-eighth", substitute "Fifty-ninth". (1)

(Shri Praful Patel)

15.16 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri S. Ajaya Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted.

15.17 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri S. Ajaya Kumar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 23rd October, 2008 at 11 a.m.

15.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, October 23, 2008/Kartika 1, 1930 (Saka).

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