

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Tenth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXV contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, February 26, 2007/Phalgun 7, 1928 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM SPAIN

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

On behalf of the hon. Members of the House and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Javier Rojo, President of the Senate, and the Members of the Spanish Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

They arrived in India on Friday, 23rd February 2007. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Majesty the King, the Parliament, the Government and the friendly people of the Kingdom of Spain.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not even listening to the Speaker. I want to say something. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, may I say something? I wish to help.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What would you speak from here.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of asking them. If you do not want the House to run, then tell me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There are honoured guests present here. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Keep silence please.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Do not record one word of it.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow everyone to speak. The leaders of all the political parties should be allowed to speak.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Who will listen to me? Let them go back.

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Export of Foodgrains

*1. SHRI N.S.V.CHITTHAN:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

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

*Not recorded.

(a) the total stock of foodgrains in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total quantum of foodgrains released and lifted for export during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether foodgrains were released to the exporters at a subsidised rate;

(d) if so, the details of subsidy given to the exporters

during the said period, year-wise; and .

(e) the details of release, off take and price of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The foodgrains stock in the Central Pool during the last three years was as under:

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Foodgrain	As on 1.4.2004	As on 1.4.2005	As on 1.4.2006
Rice	130.69	133.41	136.75
Wheat	69.31	40.66	20.09
Coarse grain	6.47	5.64	9.38
Total	206.47	179.71	166.22

(b) The wheat and rice lifted for export from FCI are shown below:

(Qty. in lakh MT)

Years	Wheat	Rice	Total
2003-04	70.69	30.71	101.40
2004-05	07.45*	0.90*	08.35
2005-06	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	78.14	31.61	109.75

*Issue of fresh allocations/release orders for export of wheat and rice were stopped w.e.f. 11th August, 2003.

(c) and (d) The amount of subsidy incurred in the sale of wheat and rice for export during the past three years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Wheat	Rice	Total
2003-04	2290.80	1862.31	4153.11
2004-05	644.15	336.88	981.03
2005-06*	6.61	7.94	14.55

*This amount is in respect of arrears released to the FCI in 2005-06 for foodgrains sold during past years.

(e) The details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) under TPDS during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is as under:-

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Year	Allocation	Offtake
2003-04	712.53	239.30
2004-05	716.99	293.55
2005-06	716.21	311.05

The foodgrains are issued at Central Issue Prices (CIP) under the PDS. The prices applicable during the period are as under:

Commodity		APL (Rs. per qtl)	BPL (Rs. per qtl)	AAY (Rs. per qtl)
Rice*	(i) Common	795	565	300
	(ii) Grade- 'A'	830	565	300
Wheat*		610	415	200

*Applicable from 1.7.2002

[Translation]

Shortage of Fertilizers

*2. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) the demand and supply of fertilizers recorded in the country during 2006-07;

(b) whether there is shortage and delay in availability of fertilizers for the ongoing Rabi seasons;

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefore;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any new scheme to resolve the problems as reported in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated January 30, 2007;

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

(f) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the expenditure likely to be incurred on the said scheme; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):
(a) While the Demand, availability and sale of fertilizers in the country during 2006-07 (upto January' 07) were as follows, sufficient availability of fertilizers was ensured by the Department of Fertilizers in each of the months in Kharif and Rabi at the state level:

01.04.2006 to 31.01.2007 (In lakh MT)

Product	Demand (assessed before the season)	Availability	Sales
Urea	223.12	222.94	208.71
DAP	73.46	77.79	62.09
MOP	28.44	22.76	20.06

(b) and (c) Shortages at the local levels were reported in some states. Urea is the only fertilizer whose movement and distribution is under the partial control of the Government of India (GOI). GOI is responsible for supplying urea up to the state level. It is the responsibility of the state governments to ensure distribution of fertilizers as per local demand within the state.

(d) to (g) The Government has approved the New Pricing Scheme (NPS) Stage III on 1.02.2007 to be implemented w.e.f. 1.10.2006. Under the NFS III, the movement of urea will be monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system. The subsidy on urea will be paid only when urea reaches the district. Further, the Department will operate a buffer stock through the State Institutional Agencies/fertilizer companies in major consuming states upto a limit of 5% of the seasonal requirement.

As far as decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers are concerned, subsidy is released on sale of fertilizers. The responsibility of meeting the full requirement of decontrolled fertilizers in any state is with the concerned State Governments. State Governments have been advised to identify at least one State Institutional Agency which would deal with the required quantities of decontrolled fertilizers. Buffer stocking of decontrolled

fertilizers by the Government of India would be made only to meet any emergent requirement.

To ensure availability of urea in the remotest corners of the country, the freight reimbursement to urea units will now be on actual rail and road leads. The total additional impact of this provision is estimated at Rs.99.98 crores per annum.

[English]

National Pharmaceutical Policy

*3. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

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

(a) whether the Government had released during the recent past the first list of some generic drugs whose prices were reduced;

(b) if so, whether pharmaceutical companies have not reduced the prices of those drugs so far;

(c) if so, whether the Government has also fixed a dead-line for the said companies for keeping their promise of slashing price of the said drugs down;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has finalized the National Pharmaceutical Policy on drug prices ;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the policy; and

(g) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A compilation of a list of 886 such medicines, whose prices were voluntarily agreed to be reduced by eleven companies is available on this Department's Website www.chemicals.gov.in. It has also been placed in the library of the Parliament. The list covers formulations in all dosage forms such as tablets, capsules and syrups, etc. and they find usage in the treatment of a large number of diseases. The medicines covered are antibiotics, cough syrups, painkillers as well as those used

during the surgical operations, for the cure of the infectious diseases and for the treatment of hypertension etc.

The revised prices were to be implemented by the companies on packs manufactured after 2nd October/2nd November, 2006. A survey of the prices of these medicines in selected cities was got done through the pharma PSUs on 22.2.2007 and feedback was also received from some of the companies. As per the findings of this survey out of 886 medicines, 258 medicines with reduced prices are available in the Delhi market. In other cities also some of these products are available at reduced prices. Most of the companies have informed that availability of the medicines with reduced prices would depend on depletion of their old stocks with the Distributors.

This reduction has been done on a voluntary basis by the companies. It is proposed to streamline the system of trade margins through the proposed National Pharmaceuticals Policy.

(e) to (g) Draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy-2006 was prepared by this Department after extensive discussions with various stakeholders and in line with the declared objective of the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme. This Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11-1-2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM). The GOM has since been constituted. The First meeting of the GOM is likely to be held shortly. No specific time frame can be indicated about the announcement of Policy.

Some of the salient features of the proposed Policy are as under:

- Strengthening of Drug Regulatory System, (by Health Department),
- Strengthening of patent office infrastructure, (by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion),
- Focus on Research and Development—Process Development, Drug Discovery, Drug Development and Clinical Trials,
- Human Resources Development in Pharmaceutical Sciences through more Institutes like National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER),
- Rationalisation of Excise duty on pharmaceuticals,

- Streamlining system of procurement of drugs by Government,
- Promotion of generic drugs (preference in Government procurement),
- Strengthening of Pharma PSUs,
- Schemes for providing accessibility of drugs to the poor especially BPL families—National Health Insurance Scheme for BPL families, Drug Banks, Cancer Medicines Assistance Fund, Strengthening of Illness Assistance Fund at Central and State levels and setting up similar fund at District level.
- Schemes of interest subsidy for implementation of Schedule M of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for Good Manufacturing Practices,
- Strengthening of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) through better computerization, monitoring cells in the states etc.,
- Price control to be applied to the specific drugs as listed under National List of Essential Medicines, 2003,
- System of effective monitoring of prices of drugs by NPPA,
- Rationalization of trade margins,
- Creation of a fund out of recovery of overcharged amount from Pharma Companies. This fund would be used to help in Drug Price Monitoring and assistance to Drug Banks.

Import of Foodgrains

*4. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been importing rice and wheat during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of imports in each quarter of the said period alongwith details of quality, quantity and the price;

(c) whether the Government has paid more charges in transporting these cereals vis-a-vis its import price;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the loss incurred as a result thereof;

(e) whether the Government has finalised any plan to amend the 'Schedule VI' of the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import in India) Order 2003;

(f) if so, whether any assessment has been made regarding the effect of the proposed move; and

(g) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The Government has not imported rice during the last two years. Wheat has been imported as per details given below. Quarter-wise details of imports for wheat are as follows:-

S.No.	Period	Qty. (in lakh MTs.)
1.	April 2005 - March 2006	NIL
2.	April 2006 - June 2006	0.92
3.	July 2006 - September 2006	15.03
4.	October 2006 - December 2006	28.37
5.	January 2007 - February 2007 (Upto 19.02.2007)	06.44

Quality specifications for tender 1, tender 2 and tenders 3 to 5 are enclosed as Statement I, II and III respectively.

The tender-wise quantity and weighted average prices are given at Statement IV.

(c) and (d) Ocean freight is included in the weighted average price given in Statement-IV. Cost for internal transportation is borne by the Government which varies from destination to destination.

(e) Government has no plan to amend the Schedule VI of the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 in respect of phytosanitary requirements for import of wheat and rice into the country.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

Statement I***Quality Specifications of Wheat for Import (Tender 1) during 2005-06***

Wheat shall be dried mature grains of natural size, shape colour and luster and be in sound merchantable condition. Wheat shall be sweet, clean, wholesome and free from moulds, obnoxious smell, discoloration, admixture of deleterious substances including toxic weed seeds and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below. Wheat shall be free of live weevils and other insects injurious to stored grains, which means free of all stages of living infestation including egg, larval and pupal stages. Wheat shall be completely free from *Argemone mexicana*, *Lathyrus sativus*, dwarf bunt (*Tilletia contraversa*) and ergot (*Cleviceps purpurea*).

1.	Test weight	78 kg. Per HL (Min)
2.	Foreign Matter (including other food grains, inorganic matter and weed seeds)	1% (max.) by weight of which not more than 0.2% by weight shall be mineral matter and not more than 0.10% by weight shall be impurities of animal origin.
3.	Damaged grains (including heat damaged, stained, discoloured, black-tipped, sprouted, frosted, insect damaged, karnal bunt affected grains. Limit of karnal bunt affected grains and also sprouted grains should not exceed 0.5% each by weight.	3% (max)
4.	Broken and shriveled grains Total of foreign matter, damaged, broken and shriveled grains not to exceed 5% over all	3% (max.)
5.	Moisture content	12.0% (max.) (For each basis point increase in moisture above 12% and up to 13%, a proportionate amount will be added to the quoted price for the purpose of comparison)
6.	Protein	10% (min.) (Dry Weight Basis)
7.	Poisonous weed seeds	0.4% (max.) (within the overall limit specified for foreign matter) of which <i>Dhatura</i> and <i>Akra</i> (<i>Vicia</i> species) shall not exceed 0.025% and 0.2% by weight respectively. Wheat shall be free from exotic poisonous weed seeds as given in the statement 1-A enclosed.
8.	Aflatoxin	30 ppb (max.)
9.	Deoxynivalenol (DON) toxin	1000 ppb (max)
10.	Radioactivity (Cesium 137)	40 Bq per Kg (max)
11.	Pesticidal/insecticidal residues	Not exceeding those listed in statement 1-B enclosed.
12.	Uric Acid	Not more than 100 mg/kg.

Note:

- Wheat to be officially certified at the time and place of loading abroad vessel(s), free of live weevils and other insects injurious to stored grains.
- The Seller shall arrange to furnish a valid Phytosanitary Certificate in conformity with the accepted International Convention, issued by the concerned Government Agency for each shipment. It is to be further certified that consignment is in conformity with the phyto-sanitary regulations in India, which provide that wheat for consumption or processing should be free from Granary weevil (*Sitophilus granarius*), Ergot (*Cleviceps purpurea*) and Dwarf Bunt (*Tilletia contraversa*).
- The cargo should be fumigated with Methyl Bromide @ 32gm/cu.m at @ 21 Deg Centigrade and above under NAP and the treatment shall be endorsed on phytosanitary certificate or by any other fumigant/substance in the manner approved by the Plant Protection Adviser for this purpose.

Statement I-A***Exotic Weed Seeds***

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Allium vineale</i> | 16. <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> |
| 2. <i>Ambrosia maritime</i> | 17. <i>Echinochloa crus-pavonis</i> |
| 3. <i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i> | 18. <i>Froelichia floridana</i> |
| 4. <i>Ambrosia trifida</i> | 19. <i>Helianthus californicus</i> |
| 5. <i>Apera-spica-venti</i> | 20. <i>H. Ciliaris</i> |
| 6. <i>Bromus rigidus</i> | 21. <i>Heliotropium amplexicaule</i> |
| 7. <i>Bromus secalinus</i> | 22. <i>Leersia japonica</i> |
| 8. <i>Cenchrus tribuloides</i> | 23. <i>Matriearia perforatum</i> |
| 9. <i>Centaurea diffusa</i> | 24. <i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> |
| 10. <i>C. Maculosa</i> | 25. <i>Proboscidea lovisianica</i> |
| 11. <i>C. solstitialis</i> | 26. <i>Salsola vermiculata</i> |
| 12. <i>C. pumilum</i> | 27. <i>Senecio jacobaea</i> |
| 13. <i>C. spinosum</i> | 28. <i>Solarium carolinense</i> |
| 14. <i>Cordia curassavica</i> | 29. <i>Striga hermonthica</i> |
| 15. <i>Cuscuta australis</i> | 30. <i>Thesium australe</i> |
| | 31. <i>T. humiale</i> |
| | 32. <i>Viola arvensis</i> |

Statement I-B***Insecticides & Pesticide Limits***

Sl. No	Name of Insecticide	Tolerance Limit	
		(mg/kg)	ppmmax.
1	2	3	4
1.	Alarm, Dieldrin (singly or in combination and Expressed as Dieldrin)	0.01	
2.	Carbaryl	1.5	
3.	Chlordane (to be measured as cis plus transchlordane)	0.02	
4.	Dichlorvos (content of di-chloroacetaldehyde (DCA) be Reported where possible	1.0	
5.	Fenetrothion		0.02
6.	Heptachlor (combined residues of heptachlor and its Epoxide to be determined and expressed as heptachlor)	0.01	
7.	Hydrogen cyanide	37.5	

1	2	3	4
8.	Hydrogen Phosphide	NIL	
9.	Inorganic bromide (determined and expressed as total Bromide from all sources)		25.0
10.	Malathion (Malathion to be determined and expressed as combined residues of Malathion and malaoxon)	4.0	
11.	Phosphamidon Residues (expressed as the sum of Phosphamidon and its desethyl derivative)	0.05	
12.	Pyrethrins (sum of pyrethrins I and II and other Structurally related insecticidal ingredients of pyrethrum)	NIL	
13.	Chlor fenvin-phos (residues to be measured as alpha and Beta isomers of chlorfenvinphos)	0.025	
14.	Chlorpyrifos	0.05	
15.	Ethion (Residues to be determined as ethion and its Oxygen analogue and expressed as ethion)	0.025	
16.	Monocrotophos	0.025	
17.	Paraquat-Dichloride (Determined as paraquatcations)	0.1	
18.	Trichlorfon	0.05	
19.	Thiometon (Residues determined as thiometon, its Sulfoxide and sulphone expressed as thiometon)	0.025	
20.	Carbendazim	0.50	
21.	Benemyl	0.50	
22.	Carbofuran (Sum of carbofuran and 3-hydroxy Carboufuran expressed as carbofuran)	0.10	
23.	Cypermethrin (sum of isomers) (fat soluble residue)		0.05
24.	Decamothrin/Deltamethrin	0.50	
25.	Fenthion (Sum of fenthion, its oxygen analogue and their suphoxides and suphones, expressed as fenthion)	0.10	
26.	Dithiocarbamates (the residue tolerance limit are determined and expressed as mg/Cs2/kg and refer separately to be the residues arising from any each Groups of dithiocarbamates (a) Dimethyl dithiocarbamates Residue resulting from the use of ferbam or Ziram, and (b) Ethylene bis-dithiocarbamates resulting from the use of manocozebermaneb or Zineb (including zineb derived from nabam plus zinc sulphate)	0.20	
27.	Phenthoate	0.05	
28.	Phorate (sum of phorate, its oxygen analogue and their Sulphoxides and sulphones, expressed as phorate)	0.05	

1	2	3	4
29.	Pirimiphos-methyl	5.00	
30.	"Hexachlorocyclohexane and its isomers (C) Gamma (Y) Isomer known as Lindane	0.10	
31.	Blitertanol	0.05	
32.	Methyl chlorophenoxy acetic acid (MCPA)	0.05	
33.	Oxydemeton methyl	0.02	
34.	Propionazole	0.05	
35.	Sulfosulfuron	0.02	
36.	Trifluralin	0.05	
37.	Chlorimuron-ethyl	0.05	
38.	Diclofop-methyl	0.1	
39.	Pendimethalin	0.05	
40.	Metasulfuon-methyl	0.1	
41.	Methbenzthiazuron	0.5	
42.	Triallate	0.05	
43.	Fenoxyp-prop-p-ethyl	0.02	
44.	Clodonafof-propanyl	0.1	
45.	Triadimenton	0.5	
46.	Is.oproturon	0.1	
47.	2,4d	0.01	

Statement II***Quality Specifications of Wheat for Import (Tender 2) during 2006-07***

Wheat shall be dried mature grains of natural size, shape colour and luster and be in sound merchantable condition. Wheat shall be sweet, clean, wholesome and free from obnoxious smell, discoloration, admixture of deleterious substances including toxic weed seeds and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below. Wheat shall be free of live weevils and other insects injurious to stored grains, which means free of all stages of living infestation including egg, larval and pupal stages. Wheat shall be completely free from *Argemone mexicana* and *Lathyrus sativus* in addition to quarantine weed seeds and other quarantine pests as indicated in Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order 2003 or as indicated here under:

1. Test weight

78 kg. per HL (Min) (For each 100 gms. decrease in test weight below 78 Kg. per HL and up to 77 Kg. per HL, a proportionate amount will be added to the quoted price for the purpose of comparison. Wheat having test weight less than 77 kg. per HL will not be acceptable).

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 2. | Foreign Matter (including other food grains, inorganic matter and weed seeds) | 1.0% (max.) by weight of which not more than 0.2% by weight shall be mineral matter and not more than 0.10% by weight shall be impurities of animal origin. |
| 3. | Damaged grains (including heat damaged, stained, discoloured, black tipped, sprouted, frosted, insect damaged, ergoty, dwarf bunted and karnal bunt affected grains). Limit of karnal bunt affected grains & sprouted grains should not exceed 0.5% each by weight and ergoty & dwarf bunted grains should not exceed 0.01% and 0.005% by weight respectively. | 3% (Max) |
| 4. | Broken and shriveled grains | 3% (max.) |
| | Total of foreign matter, damaged, broken and shriveled grains not to exceed 5% overall | |
| 5. | Moisture content | 12.0% (max.). (For each basis point increase in moisture above 12% and up to 13.5%, a proportionate amount will be added to the quoted price for the purpose of comparison. Wheat having more than 13.5% moisture content will not be acceptable). |
| 6. | Protein | 10% (Min.) (Dry Weight Basis) |
| 7. | Poisonous weed seeds | 0.4% (max.) (within the overall limit specified for foreign matter) of which Dhatura and Akra (<i>Vicia</i> species) shall not exceed 0.025% and 0.2% by weight respectively. |
| 8. | Quarantine/Exotic weed seeds | Wheat shall be free from quarantine weed seeds as at statement-II-A enclosed. |
| 9. | Aflatoxin | 30 ppb (max.) |
| 10. | Deoxynivalenol (DON) toxin | 1000 ppb(max) |
| 11. | Radioactivity (Cesium 137) | 40 Bq per Kg (max.) |
| 12. | Pesticidal/insecticidal residues | Not exceeding those listed in Annexure-II-B. |
| 13. | Uric Acid | Not more than 100 mg/kg. |

Note:

- (a) Wheat to be officially certified at the time and place of loading aboard Vessel(s), free of live weevils and other insects injurious to stored grains.
- (b) The Seller shall arrange to furnish a valid Phytosanitary Certificate (PSC) in conformity with the accepted International Convention, issued by the concerned Government Agency for each shipment. It is to be further certified that the ergoty grains are not more than 0.01% and dwarf bunted grains not more than 0.005% and absence of granary weevil from the export consignment based upon the prescribed sampling & inspection procedures. Certification for the absence of quarantine weeds from the export consignment on the basis of the prescribed sampling and inspection procedures is also to be ensured.
- (c) The cargo should be fumigated with Methyl Bromide @ 32 gm./cu. m at 21° C and above 24 hours under normal air pressure (as per neat time sliding scale) before export (to be endorsed on PSC) or fumigation by aluminum phosphide before export (to be endorsed on PSC) & in-transit fumigation by methyl bromide as stipulated above (to be certified by the country in which this in-transit fumigation has taken place).

- (d) Inspection of the wheat grain shall be carried out prior to loading on to the vessel by an authorized Officer of the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the exporting country. Such inspection shall be carried out as per the guidelines prescribed under ISPM-12 (Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates-IPPC) to ensure that the wheat grain shipped to India is free from quarantine pests/weeds specified in the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 and amendments issued there under. The following scale of statistically valid sampling programme should be applied to the entire shipment during loading. A sample of one kilogram of wheat should be drawn for every 20 Metric Tonnes of wheat grain loaded on to the vessel from the export lot of wheat grain and the entire quantity would be subject to inspection to ensure that it is free from specified quarantine pests and weeds. The sampling should be carried out either through a slotted grain sampler or nobbe sampler if it is bagged cargo or through an automatic sampling system attached to a grain elevator which samples the grain at periodical intervals. The frequency of sampling and the size of sample will be set to facilitate drawal of the required sample as indicated above. Alternatively the samples may be drawn using deep bin probes (thermo sampler) from the ship holds/grain bins. The samples shall be inspected by an authorized Officer of the NPPO of the exporting country for grain contaminants such as bunt balls, ergots, weevil grain and weed seeds. For this purpose the samples have to be inspected visually to detect bunt balls, ergots, weevil grain and weed seeds. If any quarantine concern is noticed the Officer should stop loading the wheat grain. The phytosanitary certificate for ergot, dwarf bunt, granary weevil and quarantine weeds may be issued on such sampling and inspection system.

The sampling is prescribed as per the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) norms. However, it is further clarified that the Exporting country may adopt an appropriate statistical sampling intensity so as to give 95% confidence level for detecting the lowest Prescribed tolerance levels amongst the quarantine pests and weed Seeds specified in the tender.

- (e) The seller shall furnish with the consignment(s) a Certificate from the competent accredited laboratory that—
- The residues of none of the pesticides listed in Statement-II-B enclosed exceeds the MRLS indicated therein;
 - The residues of pesticides other than those listed in Statement-II-B enclosed, if present do not exceed the codex MRLS. For that pesticide(s), and in such cases shall indicate the method(s) used for estimation.

Statement II-A

Exotic Weed Seeds

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Allium vineale</i> | 15. <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> |
| 2. <i>Ambrosia maritime</i> | 16. <i>Echinochloa crus-pavonis</i> |
| 3. <i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i> | 17. <i>Froelichia floridana</i> |
| 4. <i>Ambrosia trifida</i> | 18. <i>Helianthus californicus</i> |
| 5. <i>Apera-spica-venti</i> | 19. <i>H. Ciliaris</i> |
| 6. <i>Bromus secalinus</i> | 20. <i>Heliotropium amplexicaule</i> |
| 7. <i>Cenchrus tribuloides</i> | 21. <i>Leersia japonica</i> |
| 8. <i>Centaurea diffusa</i> | 22. <i>Matricaria perforatum</i> |
| 9. <i>C. maculosa</i> | 23. <i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> |
| 10. <i>C. solstitialis</i> | 24. <i>Proboscidea lovisianica</i> |
| 11. <i>C. pumilum</i> | 25. <i>Salsola vermiculata</i> |
| 12. <i>C. spinosum</i> | 26. <i>Senecio jacobaea</i> |
| 13. <i>Cordia curassavica</i> | 27. <i>Solanum carolense</i> |
| 14. <i>Cuscuta australis</i> | 28. <i>Striga hermonthica</i> |
| | 29. <i>Thesium australe</i> |
| | 30. <i>T. humiale</i> |
| | 31. <i>Viola arvensis</i> |

Statement II-B***Insecticides & Pesticide Limits***

Sl.No.	Name of Insecticide	Tolerance Limit (mg/kg) ppm-max
1	2	3
1.	Aldrin, Dieldrin (singly or in combination and Expressed as Dieldrin)	0.01
2.	Carbaryl	1.5
3.	Chlordane (to be measured as cis plus transchlordane)	0.02
4.	Dichlorvos (content of di-chloroacetaldehyde (DCA) be Reported where possible)	1.0
5.	Fenetrothion	0.02
6.	Heptachlor (combined residues of heptachlor and its Epoxide to be determined and expressed as heptachlor)	0.01
7.	Hydrogen Cyanide	37.5
8.	Hydrogen Phosphide	NIL
9.	Inorganic bromide (determined and expressed as total Bromide from all sources)	25.0
10.	Malathion (Malathion to be determined and expressed as combined residues of malathion and malaoxon)	4.0
11.	Phosphamidon Residues (expressed as the sum of Phosphamidon and its desethyl derivative)	0.05
12.	Pyrethrins (sum of pyrethrins I and II and other structurally related insecticidal ingredients of pyrethrum)	NIL
13.	Chlor fenvin-phos (residues to be measures as alpha and beta isomers of chlorfenvinphos)	0.025
14.	Chlorpyrifos	0.05
15.	Ethion (Residues to be determined as ethion and its Oxygen analogue and expressed as ethion)	0.025
16.	Monocrotophos	0.025
17.	Paraquat-Bichloride (Determined as paraquatcations)	0.1
18.	Trichlorfon	0.05
19.	Thiometon (Residues determined as thiometon, its Sulfoxide and sulphone expressed as thiometon)	0.025
20.	Carbendazim	0.50
21.	Benomyl	0.50

1	2	3
22.	Carbofuran (sum of carbofuran and 3-hydroxy Carboufuran expressed as carbofuran)	0.10
23.	Cypermethrin (sum of isomers) (fat soluble residue)	0.05
24.	Decamothiin/Deltamethrin	0.50
25.	Fenthion (sum of fenthion, its oxygen analogue and their suphoxides and suphones, expressed as fenthion)	0.10
26.	Dithiocarbamates (the residue tolerance limit are determined and expressed as mg/Ca2/kg and refer separately to be the residues arising from any each Groups of dithiocarbamates (a) Dimethyl dithiocarbamates residue resulting from the use of ferbam or Ziram, and (b) Ethylene bis-dithiocarbamates resulting from the use of mancozebman or Zineb (including zineb derived from nabam plus zinc sulphate)	0.20
27.	Phenthoate	0.05
28.	Phorate (sum of phorate, its oxygen analogue and their sulphoxides and sulphones, expressed as phorate)	0.05
29.	Pirimiphos-methyl	5.00
30.	Hexachlorocyclohexane and its Isomers © Gamma (Y) Isomer known as Lindane.	0.10
31.	Bttertanol	0.05
32.	Methyl chlorophenoxy acetic acid (MCPA)	0.05
33.	Oxydemeton methyl	0.02
34.	Propionazole	0.05
35.	Sulfosulfuron	0.02
36.	Trifluralin	0.05
37.	Chlorimuron-ethyl	0.05
38.	Diclofop-methyl	0.1
39.	Pendimethalin	0.05
40.	Metasulfuon-methyl	0.1
41.	Methbenzthiazuron	0.5
42.	Triallate	0.05
43.	Fenoxyp-prop-p-ethyl	0.02
44.	Clodonafof-propanyl	0.1
45.	Triadimenton	0.5
46.	Isoproturon	0.1

1	2	3
47.	2,4 D	0.01
48.	Diazinone	0.05
49.	Tridemorph	0.1

Note: To be tested by the standard methods of analysis prescribed in the AOAC/ISO/Pearsons/JACOB/IUPAC/Food Chemical Codex Method of analysis/BIS/Woodmen/Winton-Winton/Joslyn.

Statement III

Quality specifications of Wheat for Import (Tenders 3 to 5) during 2006-07

Quality specifications of wheat for import during 2006-07 Wheat shall be dried mature grains of natural size, shape colour and lustre and be in sound merchantable condition. Wheat shall be sweet, clean, wholesome and free from obnoxious smell, discoloration, admixture of deleterious substances including toxic weed seeds and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the Schedule below. Wheat shall be free of live weevils and other insects injurious to stored grains, which means free of all stages of living infestation including egg, larval and pupal stages. Wheat shall be practically free from *Argemone mexicana* and *Lathyrus sativus* and this shall be ensured by the supplier through sieving and other appropriate methods. The limits of Quarantine weed seeds and other Quarantine pests shall be below the limits specified in the Schedule below:

SCHEDULE

1.	Test weight	<p>78 kg. per HL (Min) (However, wheat having test weight upto 76 Kg. per HL will be acceptable with value cut. For each 100 gms. decrease in test weight below 78 Kg. per HL and up to 76 Kg. per HL, a proportionate value cut at the rate of half value will be applicable.</p> <p>For example - If the wheat consignment offered at the rate of \$ 100 per MT is having test weight of 77.00 Kg. per HL i.e. relaxation of 1 Kg. per HL allowed beyond specified limit of 78 Kg. per HL then the value cut per MT at the rate of half value shall be—</p> $\frac{\text{Rate per MT} (\$ 100) \times \text{relaxation allowed (1 Kg.)} \times \text{value cut } (1/2)}{100}$ <p>= \$ 0.50 per MT</p> <p>Thus, the effective consignment rate would be \$ 100.00 - 0.50 = \$ 99.50 per MT.</p> <p>Wheat having test weight less than 76 kg. per HL shall not be acceptable).</p>
2.	Foreign Matter (including other food grains, inorganic matter and weed seeds)	1.0% (max.) by weight of which mineral matter shall not exceed 0.2% by weight and impurities of animal origin shall not be more than 0.10% by weight.
3.	Poisonous weed seeds	0.4% (max.) (within the overall limit specified for foreign matter) of which <i>Dhatūra</i> and <i>Akra</i> (<i>Vicia</i> species) shall not exceed 0.025% and 0.2% by weight respectively.

4. Damaged grains (including heat damaged, stained, discoloured, black tipped, sprouted, frosted, insect damaged, ergoty, dwarf bunted and kamal bunt affected grains). Limit of kamal bunt affected grains & sprouted grains should not exceed 0.5% each by weight and ergoty & dwarf bunted grains should not exceed 0.01% and 0.005% by weight respectively.

3% (max.) (However, wheat having damaged grains upto 4% will be acceptable with value cut. For each basis point increase in damaged grains above 3% and up to 4%, a proportionate value cut at the rate of full value will be applicable.

For example - If the wheat consignment offered at the rate of \$ 100 per MT is having damaged grains 3.5% i.e. 0.5% relaxation allowed beyond Specified limit of 3% then the value cut per MT at the rate of full value shall be

$$\text{Rate per MT} (\$ 100) \times \text{relaxation allowed (0.5\%)} \times \text{value cut/full (1)}$$

100

$$= \$0.50 \text{ per MT}$$

Thus, the effective consignment rate would be \$ 100.00 - 0.50 = \$ 99.50 per MT.

Wheat having more than 4% damaged grains shall not be acceptable).

5. Broken and shrivelled grains

3% (max.). (However, wheat having broken and shrivelled grains upto 5% will be acceptable with value cut. For each basis point increase in broken and shrivelled grains above 3% and up to 5%, a proportionate value cut at the rate of half value will be applicable.

For example—If the wheat consignment offered at the rate of \$ 100 per MT is having broken and shrivelled grains 4% i.e. 1% relaxation allowed beyond specified limit of 3% then the value cut per MT at the rate of half value shall be—

$$\text{Rate per MT} (\$ 100) \times \text{relaxation allowed (1\%)} \times \text{value cut (1/2)}$$

100

$$= \$ 0.50 \text{ per MT}$$

Thus, the effective consignment rate would be \$ 100.00 - 0.50 = \$ 99.50 per MT. Wheat having more than 5% Broken & Shrivelled grains shall not be acceptable).

Total of foreign matter, damaged, broken & shrivelled grains not to exceed 7% over all

6. Moisture content

12.0% (max.). (However, wheat having moisture content upto 13.75% will be acceptable with value cut. For each basis point increase in moisture above 12% and up to 13.75%, a proportionate value cut at the rate of full value will be applicable.

For Example— If the wheat consignment offered at the rate of \$ 100 per MT is having moisture content 13% i.e. 1% relaxation allowed beyond specified limit of 12% then the value cut per MT at the rate of full value shall be—

$$\text{Rate per MT} (\$ 100) \times \text{relaxation allowed d\%)} \times \text{value cut (1)}$$

100

$$= \$ 1.00 \text{ per MT}$$

Thus, the effective consignment rate would be \$ 100.00 - 1.00 = \$ 99.00 per MT.

Wheat having more than 13.75 % moisture content shall not be acceptable)

7.	Protein	1 0% (Min.) (Dry Weight Basis)
8.	Quarantine/Exotic weed seeds	Wheat shall not have more than average 100 quarantine weed seeds (as listed in Statement III-A enclosed) per 200 kgs of samples drawn from a single consignment as per the prescribed procedure.
9.	Aflatoxin	30 ppb (max.)
10.	Deoxynivalenol (DON) toxin	2000 ppb (max)
11.	Radioactivity (Cesium 137)	40 Bq per Kg (max.)
12.	Pesticidal/insecticidal residues	Not exceeding those listed in Statement IIIB
13.	Uric Acid	Not more than 100 mg/kg.

Note:

- (a) Wheat to be officially certified at the time and place of loading aboard vessel(s), free of live weevils and other insects injurious to stored grains.
- (b) The Seller shall arrange to furnish a valid Phytosanitary Certificate (PSC) in conformity with the accepted International Convention, issued by the concerned NPPO for each shipment. Such certificate may also be issued by the NPPO on the basis of inspection done by an agency accredited to the said NPPO. It is to be further certified that the ergory grains are not more than 0.01% and dwarf bunted grains not more than 0.005% and absence of granary weevil from the export consignment based upon the prescribed sampling & inspection procedures. Certification indicating quarantine weed seeds within average tolerance limit prescribed above for the export consignment on the basis of the prescribed sampling and inspection procedures is also to be ensured.

Inspection & sampling procedure

Inspection of the wheat grain shall be carried out prior to loading on to the vessel by an authorized Officer or accredited agency of the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the exporting country. Such inspection shall be carried out as per the guidelines prescribed under ISPM-12 (Guidelines for Phytosanitary Certificates—IPPC) to ensure that the wheat grain shipped to India has less than the prescribed limit of quarantine pests/weeds specified in this tender. The following scale of statistically valid sampling programme should be applied to the entire shipment during loading. A sample of one kilogram of wheat should be drawn for every 20 Metric Tonnes of wheat grain loaded on to the vessel from the export lot of wheat grain and the entire quantity would be subjected to inspection to ensure that it is within the specified limit of quarantine pests and weeds. The sampling should be carried out either through a slotted grain sampler or nobbe sampler if it is bagged cargo or through an automatic sampling system attached to a grain elevator which samples the grain at periodical intervals. The frequency of sampling and the size of sample will be set to facilitate drawl of the required sample as indicated above. Alternatively the samples may be drawn using deep bin probes (thermo sampler) from the ship holds/ grain bins. Alternatively, the exporting country may adopt an appropriate statistical sampling intensity so as to give 95% confidence for detecting the prescribed tolerance levels for the quarantine pests and weed seeds specified in the tender. The samples shall be inspected by an authorized Officer or accredited agency of the NPPO of the exporting country for grain contaminants such as bunt balls, ergots, weevil grain and weed seeds. For this purpose the samples have to be inspected visually to detect bunt balls, ergots, weevil grain and weed seeds. If presence of any quarantine pests or weeds is detected above the limit specified in this tender, the Officer of the NPPO/Agency should stop loading the wheat grain. In case any bunted grains are noticed the same shall be subjected to microscopic examination to characterize the species. The phytosanitary certificate for ergot, dwarf bunt, granary weevil and quarantine weeds may be issued on such sampling and inspection system.

- (c) The cargo should be fumigated with Methyl Bromide @ 32 gm./cu.m at 21° C and above 24 hours under normal air pressure (as per temperature-time sliding scale) before export (to be endorsed on PSC) OR should be fumigated with aluminium phosphide for a period of atleast 21 days prior to arrival into India provided the ship hold has provision for forced re-circulation of phosphine gas during the period of transit.
- (d) The seller shall furnish with the consignment(s) a certificate from the competent accredited laboratory that—
the residues of none of the pesticides listed in Statement III-B enclosed exceeds the MRLs indicated therein;
the residues of pesticides other than those listed in Statement III-B, if present, do not exceed the Codex MRLs for that pesticide(s), and in such cases shall indicate the method(s) used for estimation.

Statement III-A*Exotic Weed Seeds*

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Allium vineale</i> | 15. <i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> |
| 2. <i>Ambrosia maritime</i> | 16. <i>Echinochloa crus-pavonis</i> |
| 3. <i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i> | 17. <i>Froelichia floridana</i> |
| 4. <i>Ambrosia trifida</i> | 18. <i>Helianthus californicus</i> |
| 5. <i>Apera-spica-venti</i> | 19. <i>H. Ciliaris</i> |
| 6. <i>Bromus secalinus</i> | 20. <i>Heliotropium amplexicaule</i> |
| 7. <i>Cenchrus tribuloides</i> | 21. <i>Leersia japonica</i> |
| 8. <i>Centaurea diffusa</i> | 22. <i>Matricaria perforatum</i> |
| 9. <i>C. maculosa</i> | 23. <i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> |
| 10. <i>C. solstitialis</i> | 24. <i>Proboscidea lovisianica</i> |
| 11. <i>C. pumilum</i> | 25. <i>Salsola vermiculata</i> |
| 12. <i>C. spinosum</i> | 26. <i>Senecio jacobaea</i> |
| 13. <i>Cordia curassavica</i> | 27. <i>Solanum carolense</i> |
| 14. <i>Cuscuta australis</i> | 28. <i>Striga hermonthica</i> |
| | 29. <i>Thesium australe</i> |
| | 30. <i>T humiale</i> |
| | 31. <i>Viola arvensis</i> |

Statement III-B*Insecticides & Pesticide Limits*

Sl. No.	Name of Insecticide	Tolerance Limit (mg/kg) ppm-max
1	2	3
1.	Aldrin, Dieldrin (singly or in combination and Expressed as Dieldrin)	0.01
2.	Carbaryl	2.0
3.	Chlordane (to be measured as cis plus transchlordane)	0.02
4.	Dichlorvos [content of di-chloroacetaldehyde (DCA) be Reported where possible]	1.0
5.	Fenetrothion	2.0
6.	Heptachlor (combined residues of heptachlor and its Epoxide to be determined and expressed as heptachlor)	0.01
7.	Hydrogen Cyanide	37.5
8.	Hydrogen Phosphide	0.1

1	2	3
9.	Inorganic bromide (determined and expressed as total Bromide from all sources)	50.0
10.	Malathion (Malathion to be determined and expressed as combined residues of Malathion and malaoxon)	2.0
11.	Phosphamidon Residues (expressed as the sum of Phosphamidon and its deethyl derivative)	0.05
12.	Pyrethrins (sum of pyrethrins I and II and other structurally related insecticidal ingredients of pyrethrum)	NIL
13.	Chlor fenvin-phos (residues to be measures as alpha and beta isomers of chlorfenvinphos)	0.025
14.	Chlorpyrifos	0.05
15.	Ethion (Residues to be determined as ethion and its Oxygen analogue and expressed as ethion)	0.025
16.	Monocrotophos	0.025
17.	Paraquat-Bichloride (determined as paraquatcations)	0.1
18.	Trichlorfon	0.05
19.	Thiometon (Residues determined as thiometon, its Sulfoxide and sulphone expressed as thiometon)	0.025
20.	Carbendazim	0.50
21.	Benomyl	0.50
22.	Carbofuran (sum of carbofuran and 3-hydroxy Carboufuran expressed as carbofuran)	0.10
23.	Cypermethrin (sum of isomers) (fat soluble residue)	0.05
24.	Decamothiin/Deltamethrin	9.50
25.	Fenthion (sum of fenthion, its oxygen analogue and their sulphoxides and sulphones, expressed as fenthion)	0.10
26.	Dithiocarbamates (the residue tolerance limit are Determined and expressed as mg/Cs2/kg and refer Separately to be the residues arising from any each Groups of dithiocarbamates (a) Dimethyl dithiocarbamates residue resulting from the use of ferbam or Ziram, and (b) Ethylene bis-dithiocarbamates resulting from the use of manocozebmane or Zineb (including zineb derived from nabam plus zinc sulphate)	1.0
27.	Phenthoate	0.05
28.	Phorate (sum of phorate, its oxygen analogue and their sulphoxides and sulphones, expressed as phorate)	0.05
29.	Pirimiphos-methyl	5.00
30.	Hexachlorocyclohexane and its Isomers, © Gamma (Y) Isomer known as Lindane.	0.1

1	2	3
31.	Bitertanol	0.05
32.	Methyl chlorophenoxy acetic acid (MCPA)	0.05
33.	Oxydemeton methyl	0.02
34.	Propionazole	0.05
35.	Sulfosulfuron	0.02
36.	Trifluralin	0.05
37.	Chlorimuron-ethyl	0.05
38.	Diclofop-methyl	0.1
39.	Pendimethalin	0.05
40.	Metasulfuon-methyl	0.1
41.	Methbenzthiazuron	0.5
42.	Triallate	0.05
43.	Fenoxyp-prop-p-ethyl	0.02
44.	Clodonafo-proparyl	0.1
45.	Triadimenton	0.5
46.	Isoproturon	0.1
47.	2,4 D	0.01
48.	Diazinone	0.05
49.	Tridemorph	0.1

Note: To be tested by the standard methods of analysis prescribed in the AOAC/ISO/Pearson/JACOB/IUPAC/Food Chemical Codex Method of analysis/BIS/Woodmen/Winton-Winton/Joslyn.

Statement IV

Details of Quantities Contracted, Suppliers & Price Details

Sl.No.	Tender Date	Details of Suppliers	Contracted Qty. (MTs)	Price range in US \$ PMT (GIF)	Weighted average price in US\$ PMT
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	20.02.06	AWB (Geneva) SA	500,000	178.75	178.75
2.	08.05.06	AWB (Geneva) SA	500,000		
		Agrico (Switzerland)	300,000		
		Sub Total	800,000	187.00-199.20	191.388

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	12.06.06	ADM (USA)	300,000		
		Cargil (Geneva)	405,000		
		Concordia (Singapore)	225,000		
		Glencore (Netherlands)	555,000		
		Toepfer (Singapore)	720,000		
		Sub Total	2,200,000	191.00-205.00	197.817
4.	27.07.06	Agrico (Geneva)	330,000	209.75-214.75	210.72
5	30.08.06	Concordia (Singapore)	135,000	223.75-237.90	228.94
		Glencore (Netherlands)	680,000		
		Toepfer (Singapore)	260,000		
		AWB (Geneva) SA	595,000		
		Sub Total	1,670,000		
		Grand Total	5,500,000		205.31

Report on Climate Change

*5. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);

(b) if so, the details of its findings;

(c) whether the Government has made any study of the Report for its implementations on our country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the policy changes proposed to be taken to contain the consequences of the expected climatic changes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a body established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the

World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has released the Report titled Climate Change 2007. The Physical Science Basis on February 2, 2007. The Report provides a global assessment of observed climate change, climate processes and estimates of projected/future climate change. The salient findings of the Report inter alia include increase in the global atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide as a result of human activities since 1750; increase in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising global average sea level. According to the Report, anthropogenic warming and sea level rise would continue for centuries due to the time scales associated with climate processes and feedbacks. The Report provides findings at the continental level. No country specific findings have been provided. The Government is seized of the concerns in the wake of projected climate change. Climate Change is a global environmental problem, the principal responsibility for which lies with the developed countries, and not developing countries such as India. However India is engaged in the international climate change regime, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol, and various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. While India does

not have any GHG abatement commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, nevertheless a range of policies and programs help mitigate climate change. These include:

- (1) Improving energy efficiency & conservation as well setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- (2) Power sector reforms
- (3) Promoting hydro and renewable energy
- (4) Promotion of clean coal technologies
- (5) Coal washing & efficient utilization of coal
- (6) Afforestation and conservation of forests
- (7) Reduction of gas flaring
- (8) Use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- (9) Encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems
- (10) Environmental quality management

[Translation]

Rise in Prices

*6. SHRI MAHABIR BHAGORA:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

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

(a) whether the prices of essential commodities including foodgrains pulses, vegetables, milk and edible oils continue to rise alarmingly despite the efforts of the Government to check the price rise;

(b) if so, the factors attributed thereto indicating the prevailing price and percentage increase recorded in the price of these commodities in various parts of the country during each of the last three months;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give more powers to Forward Market Commission to control prices;

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

(e) the other steps being taken to check black-marketing and control prices of these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Annual Inflation as measured in terms of percentage variation in Wholesale Price Index as on 10.2.07 stood at 6.63% as compared to 3.81% during the corresponding week in the previous year. However, the inflation rate as on 10.2.07 is lower by 0.1% as compared to that in the previous week. The retail prices of wheat, gram dal and potato have generally shown a steady to declining trend during the last three months. Prices of tur dal have increased owing to lower estimated production of tur at 2.64 million tonnes during the year 2006-07 as against 2.74 million tonnes in 2005-06 and increasing demand. Prices of groundnut oil have indicated rise at selected centres owing to lower estimated production of groundnut at 44.11 lakh tonnes during the year 2006-07 as compared to 79.93 lakh tonnes in 2005-06. Prices of milk have shown an increase largely due to higher exports of Skimmed Milk Powder during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07. Prices of onion have shown an uptrend owing to higher exports in the current year vis-a-vis the previous year. A Statement showing the retail prices of rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils, milk, potato and onion as on 21.2.07 along with the percentage change over the last three months is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Forward Markets Commission (FMC) is the regulator for commodity futures market under the provisions of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952. The main function of FMC is to regulate trading in commodity futures Exchanges for ensuring orderly functioning of these Exchanges and transparency in futures trading. FMC does not control prices. A Bill to amend the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 21.3.2006. The Bill has since been examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Bill, inter alia, seeks to strengthen and restructure the Forward Markets Commission (FMC) in order to make it an autonomous and a more effective Regulator of the commodity futures market. The Bill proposes to confer upon FMC various additional powers such as power to prohibit fraudulent and unfair practices relating to commodity futures market, to prohibit insider trading and to investigate the affairs of any intermediary or person associated with the commodity market. FMC will be conferred these powers after the Bill is passed by the Parliament.

(e) The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act,

1980 empowers the Central Government or a State Government to detain persons whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. As per reports received from the State Governments, 161 persons were ordered for detention under the Act during the period from 1.1.2006 to 31.12.2006.

Keeping in view the prevailing price situation, the Central Government had issued a Central Order dated 29.08.2006 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to enable the State Governments to invoke Stock Limits in respect of wheat and pulses for a period of 6 months.

By virtue of this Order, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been empowered to take effective action to bring out the hoarded stock of these items to ensure their availability to the common people at reasonable prices. Government has also decided to extend the validity of the Central Order by another six months.

Government have also taken various other measures to check the rise in prices. These measures include import of wheat on Government account, permitting import of wheat, pulses and maize at zero duty, reduction in import duty on edible oils and banning export of pulses (except dollar chana), skimmed milk powder and wheat.

Statement

Daily retail prices of selected essential commodities at various centres in the country

(Rs per kg)

Centre	Rice							Wheat						
	Current price	1 Month Back	2 Months Back	3 Months Back	% Variation			Current Price	1 Month Back	2 Months Back	3 Months Back	% Variation		
	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1 Month	over 2 Months	over 3 Months	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1 Month	over 2 Months	over 3 Months
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Delhi	15.00	15.00	14.50	14.50	0.0	3.4	3.4	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lucknow	10.80	10.80	10.80	10.80	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.00	13.00	12.00	12.50	-7.7	0.0	-4.0
Shimla	16.00	17.00	17.00	16.00	-5.9	-5.9	0.0	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Ahmedabad	12.00	14.00	13.00	12.00	-14.3	-7.7	0.0	12.00	13.00	13.00	11.00	-7.7	-7.7	9.1
Bhopal	11.50	11.00	11.50	11.00	4.5	0.0	4.5	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.50	0.0	0.0	4.8
Jaipur	13.00	13.00	12.00	12.00	0.0	8.3	8.3	11.00	11.50	12.00	12.00	-4.3	-8.3	-8.3
Mumbai	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	1525	16.50	16.25	15.50	-7.6	-6.2	-1.6
Agartala	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Aizwal	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Bhubaneswar	10.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	10.5	10.5	10.5	15.00	15.00	14.00	14.50	0.0	7.1	3.4
Guwahati	13.00	12.00	12.50	12.50	8.3	4.0	4.0	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Kolkata	11.00	11.00	11.00	12.00	0.0	0.0	-8.3	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Patna	10.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	-9.1	-9.1	0.0	13.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	18.2	18.2	13.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Shillong	12.50	12.00	12.00	12.00	4.2	4.2	4.2	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Bangalore	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chennai	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hyderabad	9.00	9.00	10.00	10.00	0.0	-10.0	-10.0	12.00	12.00	11.00	11.00	0.0	9.1	9.1
Trivandrum	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	5.6	5.6	5.6

Centre	Gram Dal							Tur Dal						
	Current price	1 Month Back	2 Months Back	3 Months Back	% Variation			Current Price	1 Month Back	2 Months Back	3 Months Back	% Variation		
	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1 Month	over 2 Months	over 3 Months	21.2.07	22.1.07	22.12.06	21.11.06	over 1 Month	over 2 Months	over 3 Months
Delhi	36.00	36.00	39.00	41.00	0.0	-7.7	-12.2	36.00	34.00	33.00	34.00	5.9	9.1	5.9
Lucknow	40.00	41.00	42.00	43.00	-2.4	-4.8	-7.0	35.00	32.00	33.00	33.00	9.4	6.1	6.1
Shimla	35.50	36.00	43.00	43.00	-1.4	-17.4	-17.4	36.50	35.50	37.00	35.50	2.8	-1.4	2.8
Ahmedabad	34.50	38.00	40.00	42.00	-9.2	-13.8	-17.9	32.00	32.00	30.00	32.00	0.0	6.7	0.0
Bhopal	31.00	32.00	36.00	36.00	-3.1	-13.9	-13.9	29.00	27.00	26.00	26.00	7.4	11.5	11.5
Jaipur	30.00	34.00	38.00	38.00	-11.8	-21.1	-21.1	34.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	13.3	13.3	13.3
Mumbai	37.00	40.00	44.00	45.00	-7.5	-15.9	-17.8	36.00	35.00	35.00	34.00	2.9	2.9	5.9
Agartala	37.00	39.00	40.00	40.00	-5.1	-7.5	-7.5	34.00	30.00	30.00	32.00	13.3	13.3	6.3
Aizwal	NR	NR	NR	NR	—	—	—	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bhubaneshwar	34.00	36.00	40.00	39.00	-5.6	-15.0	-12.8	35.00	32.00	30.00	32.00	9.4	16.7	9.4
Guwahati	36.00	38.00	36.00	36.00	-5.3	0.0	0.0	32.00	31.00	31.00	31.00	3.2	3.2	3.2
Kolkata	35.00	38.00	42.00	40.00	-7.9	-16.7	-12.5	32.00	30.00	32.00	30.00	6.7	0.0	6.7
Patna	34.00	37.00	37.00	35.00	-8.1	-8.1	-2.9	33.00	29.00	29.00	28.00	13.8	13.8	17.9
Shillong	36.00	38.00	40.00	40.00	-5.3	-10.0	-10.0	34.00	30.00	30.00	32.00	13.3	13.3	6.3
Bangalore	32.00	36.00	40.00	44.00	-11.1	-20.0	-27.3	40.00	37.00	35.00	36.00	8.1	14.3	11.1
Chennai	36.00	38.00	40.00	41.00	-5.3	-10.0	-12.2	40.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	14.3	14.3	14.3
Hyderabad	32.00	33.00	36.00	38.00	-3.0	-11.1	-15.8	30.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	15.4	15.4	15.4
Trivandrum	50.00	52.00	48.00	52.00	-3.8	4.2	-3.8	35.00	35.00	40.00	37.00	0.0	-12.5	-5.4

Source: State Food & Civil Supplies Departments.

NR-Not Reported

NT-Not Traded

(Rs. per kg.)

Centre	Groundnut Oil							Mustard Oil						
	Current	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	% Variation			Current	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	% Variation		
	price	Back	Back	Back				Price	Back	Back	Back			
	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1	over 2	over 3	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1	over 2	over 3
					Month	Months	Months					Month	Months	Months
Delhi	95.00	94.0	92.00	89.00	1.1	3.3	6.7	56.00	57.00	58.00	57.00	-1.8	-3.4	-1.8
Lucknow	81.00	81.0	81.0	81.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	51.00	53.00	54.00	53.00	-3.8	-5.6	-3.8
Shimla	76.00	76.00	78.0	78.00	0.0	-2.6	-2.6	64.00	67.00	65.00	65.00	-4.5	-1.5	-1.5
Ahmedabad	68.00	62.0	60.0	60.00	9.7	13.3	13.3	49.00	52.00	50.00	45.00	-5.8	-2.0	8.9
Bhopal	65.00	65.0	65.0	65.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jaipur	68.00	64.0	62.5	62.50	6.3	8.8	8.8	50.00	55.00	53.00	53.00	-9.1	-5.7	-5.7
Mumbai	80.00	74.0	74.0	74.00	8.1	8.1	8.1	66.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	-12.0	-12.0	-12.0
Agartala	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—	53.00	53.00	52.00	58.00	0.0	1.9	-8.6
Aizwal	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bhubaneshwar	NR	NR	NR	NR	—	—	—	56.00	56.00	58.00	57.00	0.0	-3.4	-1.8
Guwahati	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—	52.00	50.00	48.00	48.00	4.0	8.3	8.3
Kolkata	80.00	80.0	80.0	80.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	52.00	55.00	54.00	53.00	-5.5	-3.7	-1.9
Patna	NR	80.0	80.0	80.00	—	—	—	54.00	55.00	55.00	50.00	-1.8	-1.8	8.0
Shillong	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—	55.00	57.00	57.00	57.00	-3.5	-3.5	-3.5
Bangalore	68.00	66.0	64.0	62.00	3.0	6.3	9.7	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Chennai	70.00	65.0	61.0	59.00	7.7	14.8	18.6	NT	NT	NT	NT	—	—	—
Hyderabad	68.00	64.0	60.0	58.0	6.3	13.3	17.2	65.00	65.00	63.00	63.00	0.0	3.2	3.2
Trivandrum	75.00	70.0	71.0	67.00	7.1	5.6	11.9	80.00	80.00	81.00	81.00	0.0	-1.2	-1.2

Centre	Vanaspoti							Milk @						
	Current	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	% Variation			Current	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	% Variation		
	price	Back	Back	Back				Price	Back	Back	Back			
	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1	over 2	over 3	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1	over 2	over 3
					Month	Months	Months					Month	Months	Months
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Delhi	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	5.9	5.9	5.9
Lucknow	50.00	50.00	52.00	52.00	0.0	-3.8	-3.8	21.00	21.00	21.00	20.00	0.0	0.0	5.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Shimla	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ahmedabad	50.00	51.00	50.00	52.00	-2.0	0.0	-3.8	21.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	5.0	5.0	5.0
Bhopal	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jaipur	55.00	54.00	46.00	46.00	1.9	19.6	19.6	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mumbai	64.00	63.00	58.00	58.00	1.6	10.3	10.3	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Agartala	56.00	56.00	56.00	58.00	0.0	0.0	-3.4	NR	NR	NR	NR	—	—	—
Aizwal	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.00	28.00	28.00	28.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bhubaneshwar	50.00	50.00	48.00	50.00	0.0	4.2	0.0	18.00	16.00	16.00	15.00	12.5	12.5	20.0
Guwahati	53.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	8.2	8.2	8.2	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kolkata	50.00	51.00	52.00	50.00	-2.0	-3.8	0.0	26.00	26.00	27.00	27.00	0.0	-3.7	-3.7
Patna	52.00	55.00	55.00	52.00	-5.5	-5.5	0.0	15.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	25.0	25.0	25.0
Shillong	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bangalore	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.00	14.00	13.00	13.00	0.0	7.7	7.7
Chennai	57.00	57.00	56.00	56.00	0.0	1.8	1.8	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hyderabad	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.00	16.00	16.00	18.00	12.5	12.5	0.0
Trivandrum	55.00	53.00	55.00	52.00	3.8	0.0	5.8	16.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	6.7	6.7	6.7

Source: State Food & Civil Departments.

NR-Not Reported NT-Not Traded

©-Rs. per litre.

Centre	Potato							Onion						
	Current	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	% Variation			Current	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	% Variation		
	price	Back	Back	Back				Price	Back	Back	Back			
	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1	over 2	over 3	21.2.07	22.1.07	21.12.06	21.11.06	over 1	over 2	over 3
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Delhi	70.0	6.50	7.00	11.00	7.7	0.0	-36.4	18.00	16.00	11.00	9.00	12.5	63.6	100.0
Lucknow	6.00	5.00	6.00	10.00	20.0	0.0	-40.0	18.00	14.00	8.00	7.00	28.6	125.0	157.1
Shimla	8.00	7.00	8.00	18.00	14.3	0.0	-55.6	20.00	14.00	12.00	10.00	42.9	66.7	100.0
Ahmedabad	8.00	10.00	10.00	14.00	-20.0	-20.0	-42.9	10.00	8.00	7.00	8.00	25.0	42.9	25.0
Bhopal	5.00	6.00	8.00	8.00	-16.7	-37.5	-37.5	10.00	10.00	4.00	4.00	0.0	150.0	150.0
Jaipur	4.00	5.00	10.00	10.00	-20.0	-60.0	-60.0	14.00	14.00	6.00	6.00	0.0	133.3	133.3
Mumbai	11.00	9.00	13.00	15.00	22.2	-15.4	-26.7	16.00	14.50	11.00	12.00	10.3	45.5	33.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Agartala	8.00	5.00	10.00	12.00	60.0	-20.0	-33.3	20.00	16.00	14.00	12.00	25.0	32.9	66.7
Aizwal	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bhubaneshwar	6.00	6.00	6.50	8.00	0.0	-7.7	-25.0	16.00	13.00	10.00	8.00	23.1	60.0	100.0
Guwahati	6.00	8.00	10.00	10.00	-25.0	-40.0	-40.0	18.00	10.00	8.00	8.00	80.0	125.0	125.0
Kolkata	5.00	5.00	8.00	8.00	0.0	-37.5	-37.5	16.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	60.0	60.0	60.0
Patna	6.00	12.00	12.00	9.00	-50.0	-50.0	-33.3	15.00	8.00	8.00	9.00	87.5	87.5	66.7
Shillong	6.00	6.00	9.00	9.00	0.0	-33.3	-33.3	17.00	15.00	9.00	9.00	13.3	88.9	88.9
Bangalore	10.00	12.00	14.00	12.00	-16.7	-28.6	-16.7	17.00	15.00	12.00	9.00	13.3	41.7	88.9
Chennai	9.00	9.00	11.00	13.00	0.0	-18.2	-30.8	14.00	14.00	10.00	7.00	0.0	40.0	100.0
Hyderabad	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	0.0	0.0	7.7	11.00	9.00	5.50	6.00	22.2	100.0	83.3
Trivandrum	13.00	14.00	14.50	17.00	-7.1	-10.3	-23.5	18.50	18.00	14.50	12.00	2.8	27.6	54.2

Source: State Food & Civil Supplies Departments.

[English]

Social Security Scheme for Workers in the Unorganised Sector

*7. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI AMITAVA NANDY:

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

(a) whether the Committee of Secretaries has recommended the evolution of a social security scheme for the workers in the unorganized sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the nature of the workman/labour likely to be covered thereunder;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce the social security scheme for the unorganized sector workers from the forthcoming financial year in a phased manner; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The Committee of Secretaries

constituted a small group to examine various possible options and components of a social security scheme for unorganized sector workers along with the phasing of implementation and financial implications.

(b) to (d) The details of the scheme are being worked out in consultation with various stakeholders, general public, concerned Ministries/Departments and the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector. The modalities of the scheme and the extent of coverage thereof are being examined.

Report on Global Warming

*8. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to recent rise in the sea level, many Islands of the country have been submerged into the sea;

(b) if so, whether many more such Islands are under the threat of submergence due to global warming;

(c) whether Kolkata School of Oceanography has submitted a report to the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the Government has studied the said report; and

(e) If so, the remedial steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University undertook a study entitled vulnerability Assessment in the Climate Change scenario: A pilot study on Ecological sensitive Sunderban Island System under the aegis of India's Initial National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. According to the report, 12 sea facing islands of Sunderbans are under threat of continuing erosion for the last 30 years and projects sea level rise of 50 cm by 2050. The relative sea level rise may occur due to deltaic-subsidence and man made flow diversion. The study does not make any deterministic prediction and emphasises the vulnerability of the Sunderbans in the context of projected climate change. The Government is seized of the concerns in the wake of projected climate change. Climate Change is a global environmental problem, the principal responsibility for which lies with the developed countries, and not developing countries such as India. However India is engaged in the international climate change regime, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol, and various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. While India does not have any GHG abatement commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, nevertheless a range of policies and programs help mitigate climate change. These include

- (1) Improving energy efficiency & conservation as well setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- (2) Power sector reforms
- (3) Promoting hydro and renewable energy
- (4) Promotion of clean coal technologies
- (5) Coal washing & efficient utilization of coal
- (6) Afforestation and conservation of forests
- (7) Reduction of gas flaring
- (8) Use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- (9) Encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems
- (10) Environmental quality management

Hike in Price of Onion

*9. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production of onion recorded during 2006-07 in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the quantity of onion exported in each of the last three years and till date, country-wise alongwith the foreign exchange earned therefrom;
- (c) whether there has been a steep hike in the price of onion recently in the country;
- (d) if so, the factors responsible therefor;
- (e) the quantum of onion imported during the said period, country-wise and the amount spent thereon;
- (f) the extent to which such import is likely to bring down the prices in the domestic market; and
- (g) the measures proposed to be taken to contain the price of onion?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There are three seasons for onion, namely, Kharif, Late-Kharif and Rabi. Almost 60% of the total production of onion is contributed by Rabi crop that will be harvested during April-June 2007. As such, the production recorded during 2006-07 shall be available only after the crop is harvested.

(b) The position of export of onions during the last 3 years and till date is given below. The country-wise figures are given in the Statement enclosed.

Year	Quantity of exports (M.Ts.)	Value of exports (Rs. in Lakh)
2003-04	8,40,666	82,171.00
2004-05	9,41,448	81,749.13
2005-06	7,78,134	71,596.71
2006-07 (Till 17.2.2007)	10,22,833	87,000.00

NB: Data are tentative

Source: (i) NAFED, (ii) DGCIS

(c) Yes, Sir. There has been a rise in the prices of onion in the recent past as shown below:

ONION

(Rs./Qtl.)

Average (Modal) Wholesale Prices						
	Delhi	Kolkata	Mumbai	Bangalore	Chennai	Hyderabad
Oct-06						
Avg	560	658	507	493	550	434
Nov-06						
Avg -	568	735	717	743	618	476
Dec-06						
Avg	842	862	788	897	774	569
Jan-07						
Avg	978	1013	923	1088	1053	857
Feb-07						
Avg	1132	1388	1150	990	1360	1010
(Week - 1 : 1st to 7th February)						
Avg	1063	1447	1098	983	1204	983
(Week-2: 8th to 15th February)						

(d) The major factors responsible for recent rise in prices of onion are the low market arrivals due to lean season as compared to demand.

(e) and (f) As per the latest available information, there was no import of onion during April-August 2006. During 2005-06, import was 6,570.23 tons valued at Rs. 822.36 lakh. Of the said quantum, 6485.9 tons valued at Rs. 784.84 lakh was from Pakistan, 64.15 tons valued at Rs. 30.6 lakh was from Spain, 20.10 tons valued at Rs. 6.84 lakh from Belgium and the rest 0.08 tons valued at Rs. 0.07 lakh was from Netherland. During 2004-05,

India's total import of onion was only 0.03 tons valued at Rs. 0.04 lakh and it was from the USA.

(g) Some of the measures taken to contain the price rise of onions include procurement and distribution of onion by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), and monitoring of exports by NAFED. NAFED has also raised the Minimum Export Price (MEP) from \$ 220 per MT prevailing on 19-12-2006 to \$ 345 per MT with effect from 19-02-2007 in order to improve domestic availability. Prices of onions and market arrivals also are being monitored regularly.

Statement*Destination-wise Export of Onion from India*

Country	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	PUV (Rs./Ton)
Year 2003-2004			
Abu Dhabi	7284	720.06	9,912.72
Bahrain	23145	2,512.85	10,856.99
Bangladesh	303325	26,944.30	8,882.98
Brunei	787	146.34	18,594.66
Dammam	14592	1,510.59	10,352.18
Doha/Qatar	1722	174.6	10,139.37
Greece	1170	166.26	14,210.26
Indonesia	20	1.9	9,500.00
Kuwait	3407	408.72	11,996.48
Malaysia	161695	18,383.41	11,369.19
Maldives	3937	533.68	13,555.50
Mauritius	11230	1,553.42	13,832.77
Muscat	2451	236.8	9,661.36
Nepal	26882	1,985.60	7,386.35
Others	3900	462.7	11,864.10
Philippines	52	6.21	11,942.31
Re-Union	6093	779.31	12,790.25
Seychelles	375	57.37	15,298.67
Sharjah	13110	1,188.63	9,066.59
Singapore	37356	3,590.33	9,611.12
Srilanka	113792	10,729.07	9,428.67
UAE	104361	10,078.35	9,657.20
Total	840666	82,170.51	9,774.45
Grand Total	840666	82,170.51	9,774.45

PUV= Per Unit Value

Source: DGCI&S

Destination-wise Export of Onion from India

Country	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	PUV (Rs./Ton)
Year 2004-2005			
Abu Dhabi	8639	850.8	7,533.28
Bahrain	19879	1,691.08	8,506.77
Bangladesh	464538	40,208.97	8,655.69
Brunei	515	76.62	14,877.67
Dammam	9388	736.85	7,848.85
Doha/Qatar	7157	637.35	8,905.27
Dubai	100301	7,861.64	7,838.05
Felexstowe	256	28.46	11,117.19
Greece	550	68.21	12,401.82
Indonesia	120	7.54	6,283.33
JBL	1855	156.7	8,447.44
Kuwait	5076	409.56	8,068.56
Malaysia	134077	13,485.91	10,058.33
Maldives	4625	563	12,172.97
Mauritius	10820	1,435.38	13,265.99
Muscat	2179	188.29	8,641.12
Nepal	26602	1,603.30	6,026.99
Others	967	121.65	12,580.14
Pakistan	13829	981.1	7,094.51
Re-Union	4887	699.74	14,318.40
Seychelles	965	152.57	15,810.36
Sharjah	13483	1,035.33	7,678.78
Singapore	20368	1,729.39	8,490.72
Srilanka	90372	7,219.71	7,988.88
Total	941448	81,749.13	8,683.34
Grand Total	941448	81,749.13	8,683.34

PUV = Per Unit Value

Source: DGCI&S

Destination-wise Export of Onion from India

Country	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	PUV (Rs./Ton)
Year 2005-2006			
Bahrain	14430	1,265.53	8,770.13
Bangladesh	350020	29,268.09	8,381.83
Brunei	1222	334.94	27,409.17
Dammam	5202	418.18	8,038.83
Doha/Qatar	5623	464.2	8,255.38
Greece	6422	794.93	12,378.23
Indonesia	1834	606.26	33,056.71
Kuwait	6990	600.98	8,597.71
Malaysia	117477	15,869.09	13,508.25
Maldives	4567	648.58	14,201.45
Mauritius	11150	1,338.53	12,004.75
Nepal	27289	1,570.27	5,754.22
Oman	1108	41.44	3,740.07
Others	30	4.91	16,366.67
Pakistan	41146	2,875.23	6,987.87
Philippines	3067	350.62	11,432.02
Re-Union	4000	549.2	13,730.00
Seychelles	532	83.45	15,686.09
Singapore	16444	1,487.88	9,048.16
Srilanka	74389	6,364.45	8,555.63
U.A.E	85192	6,659.95	7,817.58
Total	778134	71,596.71	9,201.08
Grand Total	778134	71,596.71	9,20108

PUV = Per Unit Value

Source: DGCI&S

Suicide by Farmers

*10. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of suicide by farmers in the country are rapidly increasing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government's strategy to provide help to prevent such suicides by farmers have not yielded any results;

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

(e) the efforts being made by the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments to check such suicides?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Various initiatives taken by the Government have provided relief to the farmers.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A number of Schemes and Programmes are implemented both by the center and states to deal with the incidence of suicides.

The Government of India has approved a rehabilitation package for 31 suicide prone Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Kerala. The package is scheduled to be implemented over a period of 3 years and includes both immediate and medium term measures. It aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services, improved marketing facilities and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries etc. For alleviating the

hardship faced by debt stressed families of farmers, ex-gratia assistance from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund will be provided @ Rs. 50 lakh per district. The Package involves a total amount of Rs. 16978.69 crore consisting of Rs. 10579.43 crore as subsidy/grants and Rs. 6399.26 crore as loan. The State-wise break-up is as under:

Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 9650.55 crore
Karnataka	Rs. 2689.64 crore
Kerala	Rs. 765.24 crore
Maharashtra	Rs. 3873.26 crore

In addition, the State Governments have also taken several initiatives to redress the hardship of the farmers. These include provision of financial assistance to the affected families, provision of seeds and fertilizers at concessional rates, re-scheduling of loans taken from cooperative banks etc.

Further, a comprehensive credit policy announced by the Government of India on 18th June, 2004, is currently under implementation. The following are the highlights of this announcement:

- Credit flow to agriculture sector to increase @ 30% per year for next three years so as to double the agriculture credit by 2007.
- Debt restructuring in respect of farmers in distress and farmers in arrears providing for rescheduling of outstanding loans over a period of five years including moratorium of two years, thereby making all farmers eligible for fresh credit.
- Special One Time Settlement scheme for settling the old and chronic loan accounts of small and marginal farmers.
- Banks allowed to finance for redeeming the loans taken by farmers from private moneylenders.
- Commercial Banks to finance @ 100 farmers/branch; 50 lakh new farmers to be financed by the banks in a year.
- New investments in agriculture and allied activities @ 2 to 3 projects/branch.
- Refinements in Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and fixation of scale of finance.

[Translation]

Dispute over Telecasting of Matches

*11. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

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

(a) whether there has been a dispute over the telecast of the recently concluded India-West Indies one day cricket match series;

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

(c) whether the dispute has since been resolved;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has since made any arrangements for live telecast of the ensuing World Cup matches on Doordarshan;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rights holder for the India-West Indies series had refused to share live feed with Prasar Bharati, Doordarshan and had filed a writ petition in the Delhi High Court challenging the applicability of guidelines issued by this Ministry for mandatory sharing of feed of sports broadcasting signal.

(c) No Sir. The matter is sub-judice.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The President has promulgated "The Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Ordinance, 2007 on 2nd February, 2007 (copy is enclosed as statement) to provide access to the largest number of listeners and viewers, on a free to air basis, of sporting events of national importance through mandatory sharing of sports broadcasting signals with

Prasar Bharati, Doordarshan. It will enable live telecast of World Cup Matches on Doordarshan

(g) Does not arise.

Statement

04/0007/2006—08

REGISTERED NO. DL—(N)04/007/2006—08

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA

EXTRAORDINARY

PART II—Section 1

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

NO. 14] NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2007/MAGHA 13, 1928

Separate paging is given to this part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

Ministry of Law and Justice
(Legislative Department)

New Delhi, the 2nd February, 2007/13 Magha, 1928 (Saka)

*The Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing
With Prasar Bharati) Ordinance, 2007*

No. 4 of 2007

Promulgated by the President in the Fifty-eighth Year of the Republic of India.

An Ordinance to provide access to the largest number of listeners and viewers, on a free to-air basis, of sporting events of national importance through mandatory sharing of sports broadcasting signals with Prasar Bharati and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Whereas Parliament is not in session and the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of article 123 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to promulgate the following Ordinance: —

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

Short Title, Extent and Commencement

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Short title, Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Ordinance, 2007.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

(3) Save as otherwise provided, it shall be deemed to have come into force on the 11th day of November, 2005.

Definition

2. (1) In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "broadcaster" means any person who provides a content broadcasting service and includes a broadcasting network service provider when he manages and operates his own television or radio channel service;

(b) "broadcasting" means assembling and programming any form of communication content, like signs, signals, writing, pictures, images and sounds, and either placing it in the electronic form on electro-magnetic waves on specified frequencies and transmitting it through space or cables to make it continuously available on the carrier waves, or continuously streaming it in digital data form on the computer networks, so as to be accessible to single or multiple users through receiving devices either directly or indirectly; and all its grammatical variations and cognate expressions;

(c) "broadcasting service" means assembling, programming and placing communication content in electronic form on the electro-magnetic waves on specified frequencies and transmitting it continuously through broadcasting network or networks so as to enable all or any of the multiple users to access it by connecting their receiver devices to their respective broadcasting networks and includes the content broadcasting services and the broadcasting network services;

(d) "broadcasting network service" means a service, which provides a network of infrastructure of cables or transmitting devices for carrying broadcasting content in electronic form on specified frequencies by means of guided or unguided electro-magnetic waves to multiple users, and includes the management and operation of any of the following:

- (i) Teleport/Hub/Earth Station,
- (ii) Direct-to-Home (DTH) Broadcasting Network,
- (iii) Multi-system Cable Television Network,
- (iv) Local Cable Television Network,
- (v) Satellite Radio Broadcasting Network,
- (vi) any other network service as may be prescribed by the Central Government;

(e) "cable television channel service" means the assembly, programming and transmission by cables of any broadcasting television content on a given set of frequencies to multiple subscribers;

(f) "cable television network" means any system consisting of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, control and distribution equipment, designed to receive and re-transmit television channels or programmes for reception by multiple subscribers;

(g) "community radio service" means terrestrial radio broadcasting intended and restricted only to a specific community and within specified territory;

(h) "content" means any sound, text, data, picture (still or moving), other audiovisual representation, signal or intelligence of any nature or any combination thereof which is capable of being created, processed, stored, retrieved or communicated electronically;

(i) "content broadcasting service" means the assembling, programming and placing content in electronic form and transmitting or retransmitting the same on electro-magnetic waves on specified frequencies, on a broadcasting network so as to make it available for access by multiple users by connecting their receiving devices to the network, and includes the management and operation of any of the following:

- (i) terrestrial television service,
- (ii) terrestrial radio service,
- (iii) satellite television service,
- (iv) satellite radio service,
- (v) cable television channel service,
- (vi) community radio service,
- (vii) any other content broadcasting services as may be prescribed by the Central Government;

(j) "Direct-to-Home (DTH) broadcasting service" means a service for multichannel distribution of programmes direct to a subscriber's premises without passing through an intermediary such as a cable operator by uplinking to a satellite system;

(k) "Guidelines" means the Guidelines issued under section 5;

(l) "multi-system cable television network" means a system for multi-channel downlinking and distribution of television programmes by a land-based transmission system using wired cable or wireless cable or a combination of both for simultaneous reception either by multiple subscribers directly or through one or more local cable operators;

(m) "Prasar Bharati" means the Corporation known as the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India)

established under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990;

(n) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Ordinance;

(o) "satellite television service" means a television broadcasting service provided by using a satellite, and received with or without the help of a local delivery system but does not include Direct-to-Home delivery service;

(p) "satellite radio service" means a radio broadcasting service provided by using a satellite and directly receivable through receiver sets by multiple subscribers in India;

(q) "service provider" means provider of a broadcasting service;

(r) "specified" means specified under the Guidelines issued under section 5;

(s) "sporting events of national importance" means such national or international sporting events, held in India or abroad, as may be notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette to be of national importance;

(t) "terrestrial television service" means a television broadcasting service provided over the air by using a land-based transmitter and directly received through receiver sets by the public;

(u) "terrestrial radio service" means a radio broadcasting service provided over the air by using a land-based transmitter and directly received through receiver sets by the public.

(2) Words and expressions used and not defined in this Ordinance and defined in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997, the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts.

CHAPTER II

MANDATORY SHARING OF SPORTS BROADCASTING SIGNALS WITH PRASAR BHARATI

3. (1) No content rights owner or holder and no television or radio broadcasting service provider shall carry

a live television broadcast on any cable or Direct-to-Home network or radio commentary broadcast in India of sporting events of national importance, unless it simultaneously shares the live broadcasting signal, without its advertisements, with the Prasar Bharati to enable them to re-transmit the same on its terrestrial networks and Direct-to-Home networks in such manner and on such terms and conditions as may be specified.

(2) The terms and conditions under sub-section (1) shall also provide that the advertisement revenue sharing between the content rights owner or holder and the Prasar Bharati shall be in the ratio of not less than 75:25 in case of television coverage and 50:50 in case of radio coverage.

(3) The Central Government may specify a percentage of the revenue received by the Prasar Bharati under sub-section (2), which shall be utilised by the Prasar Bharati for broadcasting other sporting events.

4. The Central Government may specify penalties to be imposed, including suspension or revocation of licence, permission or registration, for violation of various terms and conditions as may be specified under section 3, subject to the condition that amount of a pecuniary penalty shall not exceed one crore rupees:

Provided that no penalty shall be imposed without giving a reasonable opportunity to the service provider:

Provided further that no act or omission on the part of any person after the 11th November, 2005 and before the date of promulgation of the Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Ordinance, 2007 shall be subjected to penalties.

CHAPTER III

POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO ISSUE GUIDELINES

5. The Central Government shall take all such measures, as it deems fit or expedient, by way of issuing Guidelines for mandatory sharing of broadcasting signals with Prasar Bharati relating to sporting events of national importance:

Provided that the Guidelines issued before the promulgation of the Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Ordinance, 2007 shall be deemed to have been issued validly under the provisions of this section.

CHAPTER IV

MISCELLANEOUS

6. (1) The provisions of the Guidelines issued by the Central Government for Downlinking of Television Channels on the 11th November, 2005 and for Uplinking from India on the 2nd December, 2005 for mandatory sharing of the sports broadcasting signals shall be deemed to be valid as if they have been issued under this Ordinance.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any judgement, decree or order of any court, tribunal or other authority, any action taken by the Central Government or the Prasar Bharati in pursuance of the guidelines referred to in sub-section (1) shall be deemed to be and to have always been for all purposes in accordance with the law, as if the Guidelines had been validly in force at all material times and notwithstanding anything as aforesaid and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions, no legal proceeding shall be maintained or continued in any court for the enforcement of any direction given by any court or any decree or order which would not have been so given had the Guidelines been validly in force at all material times.

7. The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance.

8. Every rule and Guidelines made and issued, as the case may be, under this Ordinance shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made or issued, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or Guidelines, or both Houses agree that the rule or Guidelines should not be made, the rule or Guidelines shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or Guidelines.

9. The relevant provisions under the Guidelines for Downlinking of Television Channels issued on the 11th November, 2005 and the Guidelines for Uplinking from

India issued on the 2nd December, 2005 for mandatory sharing of sports broadcasting signals with Prasar Bharati, shall continue to remain in force till fresh Guidelines are issued under this Ordinance.

A. P. J. ABDUL KALAM,
President

K.N.CHATURVEDI,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

[English]

Special Package for Cotton Production

*12. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to provide a special package to farmers to boost the production of cotton in the country;

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

(c) the extent to which the cotton-producing farmers are likely to be benefited by this special package; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to assist the cotton farmers in suicide-prone areas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) In order to improve production and productivity of cotton in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton is under implementation in 13 states viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Mini Mission-II of the Technology Mission on Cotton relates to enhancement of production of cotton. Under the Mini Mission-II, assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds of varieties/hybrids not older than 15 years, transfer of technology through demonstrations, training of farmers and extension workers, plant protection measures including integrated pest management (IPM) demonstrations, supply of sprayers, pheromone traps, bio-agents as well as water saving devices like sprinklers

and drip irrigation system etc. The production and productivity of cotton has been continuously increasing since 2003-04 and a record production is expected during 2006-07 resulting in benefit to cotton growers.

(d) A special rehabilitation package has been approved for 31 suicide prone districts in the states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala to mitigate the hardships of fanners including cotton farmers. The package includes ex-gratia assistance, debt relief, credit flow, interest waiver, assured irrigation facilities, enhancement of seed replacement rate, watershed development, horticulture development, extension services and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries etc.

Purchase by SAIL

*13. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is considering to take over some steel companies of some foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the types of the companies and the names of the countries in which SAIL has planned acquisitions;

(d) whether the Government has received any proposal to start an ancillary company namely SAIL VIDESH;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the new projects of SAIL alongwith the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (c) Currently there is no specific proposal under consideration of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for taking over steel companies in foreign countries. However, SAIL is exploring preliminary possibilities of acquiring some equity stakes in coking coal mines abroad.

(d) and (e) There is currently no proposal from SAIL to start an ancillary company called SAIL VIDESH.

(f) The new projects of SAIL as envisaged in its corporate plan relate to expansion and modernization of its various plants so as to increase its present level of production of 14.6 million tonnes (2005-06) of hot metal per annum to 23.8 million tonnes of hot metal per annum by 2010 at a current tentative estimated cost of around Rs. 40,000 crore. The schemes of individual plants are getting firmed up based on composite feasibility report. So far, schemes for modernization & expansion of IISCO Steel Plant (ISP), Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) and Salem Steel Plant (SSP) have been approved 'in-principle' by SAIL Board. The composite feasibility report for other units of SAIL at Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur including mines are under finalization. The tentative cost estimate of about Rs. 40,000 crores is based on in-principle approved schemes for ISP, BSL & SSP and preliminary estimates for schemes of other plants for which composite feasibility reports are under finalization. The final costs of modernization & expansion will be known only after placement of orders through tendering processes.

Report on Global Employment Trends

*14. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the latest report from the International Labour Organisation on Global Employment Trends;

(b) if so, the details of the remarks given in report in regard to India ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Global Employment Trends Brief, January 2007 published by the International Labour Organisation inter-alia it has been stated that employment creation has been insufficient to absorb the growing labour force in South Asia. Even though working poverty has been dramatically reduced in the region-especially in India at 87.2 per cent, the working poor rates at the US\$2 a day level are still very high.

Literacy rates of the adult population are still very low (for example, 57.2 percent in India). More education and training would help to expand employment opportunities, increase labour productivity and allow people to work themselves out of poverty. This, in turn, would contribute to sustainable economic growth.

(c) The approach to the Tenth Plan focused on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it was listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan period and beyond. The growth strategy of the 10th Plan laid emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors, which were likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints, which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention was paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities, which have a large employment potential.

The approach to the 11th Five Year Plan provides an opportunity to restructure policies to achieve a new vision based on faster, more broad-based and inclusive growth. It aims at making employment generation an integral part of the growth process and devise strategies to accelerate not only growth of employment but also of wages of the poorly paid. The Approach Paper to the 11th Five Year Plan contains following important policy initiatives for generation of employment:

- (i) In order to make growth more inclusive, it is vital that more people gain access to more productive assets with which they can themselves generate decent incomes and also that GDP growth generates sufficient demand for wage labour so that those who can not be self-employed are employed at decent wages.
- (ii) Targeting faster growth in GDP and doubling of agriculture growth will help in this process. Besides, additional employment opportunities would be generated in the services and manufacturing sectors. Measures would need be taken to boost labour intensive manufacturing sectors such as food processing, leather products, footwear and textiles and service sectors such as tourism and construction.
- (iii) Village and small scale enterprises (VSE) will provide most of the new employment opportunities during the 11th Plan.

- (iv) Since 2004, an effort has been made to identify and implement reforms in administration of ITIs so as to facilitate better interaction with the industry. In order to make ITI graduates better employable, Government has decided to upgrade 500 Government ITIs into Centres of Excellence out of which 200 have already been taken up for 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (v) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) assures every rural household at least 100 days of manual work at minimum wages.

Besides, Government of India continues to implement various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in both rural and urban areas to increase employment opportunities. Some of these are: Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana; Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana; Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana; Rural Employment Generation Programme and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana.

Irrigation Facilities In Drought Prone Districts

*15. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently identified the suicide-prone districts in the country with a view to provide adequate irrigation facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State- wise;
- (c) the nature of irrigation facilities proposed to be provided in these districts; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The Government has provided a rehabilitation package of Rs. 16978. 69 crore for 31 suicide prone districts in four states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Kerala, to mitigate the distress of the farmers. Providing adequate irrigation facilities is one of the components of the package. The State-wise details including nature of irrigation facility proposed are given below. The package is being implemented over a period of three years

I. Major Irrigation

(Rs. in Crore)

State	Allocation (No. of Projects)			Allocation for 2006-07	
	Physical		Financial	Financial	
	Original Package	Additional		Total	
Andhra Pradesh	04	10	14	3233.00	1078.00
Karnataka	04	05	09	1204.05	401.35
Kerala	—	01	01	—	NA
Maharashtra	08	—	08	1260.43	420.14
Total	16	16	32	5697.48	1899.49

II. Medium Irrigation

State	Allocation (No. of Projects)			Allocation for 2006-07	
	Physical		Financial	Financial	
	Original Package	Additional		Total	
Andhra Pradesh	06	05	11	325.00	1.08.33
Karnataka	01	07	08	04.66	2.05
Kerala	01	04	05	35.00	11.66
Maharashtra	09	—	09	468.15	156.05
Total	17	16	33	832.81	278.09

III. Minor Irrigation

(Rs. in Crore)

State	Allocation under package		Allocation for 2006-07	
	Physical (No. of Projects)	Financial	Physical	Financial
Andhra Pradesh	832	2231.00	310	744.00
Karnataka	897	458.10	299	152.70
Kerala	179	70.03	60	22.34
Maharashtra	557	448.68	186	149.56
Total	2565	3207.81	855	1068.60

IV. Micro Irrigation

(Rs. in Crore)

State	Allocation under package		Allocation for 2006-07	
	Physical (lakh ha)	Financial	Physical (lakh ha)	Financial
A.P.	4.27	640.00	1.42	213.33
Karnataka	0.430	64.00	0.153	23.00
Kerala	0.130	19.53	0.043	6.51
Maharashtra	0.534	78.00	0.173	26.00
Total	5.364	801.53	1.789	268.84

Diversification of Crops

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

(a) whether the diversification from food crops to cash crops has led to decline in production of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to offset the adverse affects of crop diversification; and

(c) the other steps taken by the Government to encourage the production of food crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There is no decline in the production of foodgrain crops due to diversification. The average production of foodgrains during the period 2001-02 to 2005-06 was 201.55 million tonnes as compared to 200.38 million tonnes during 1996-97 to 2000-01. The variation in production of foodgrains is attributable more to fluctuations in rainfall and other climatic factors as more than 60% of the cultivated area in the country is rainfed. The diversification towards more remunerative high value crops is promoted on the basis of comparative advantage for the farmers while keeping in view the National Food Security.

(b) Question do not arise.

(c) To encourage the production of cereal crops i.e., rice, wheat and coarse grains, Integrated Cereals

Development Programme is being implemented under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture in different States and Union Territories. The production of pulses and maize is also being encouraged through Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM).

Hike in Prices of Milk and Milk Products

*17. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap between the demand and supply of milk and milk products in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current financial year;

(c) the reasons therefor and the action taken to meet the shortage;

(d) whether the milk and milk products prices have been hiked recently;

(e) if so, the number of times Mother Dairy and Delhi Milk Scheme increased the prices of milk and the milk products during the said period alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken to control the prices?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The milk production at the national level is by and large sufficient to meet the domestic demand of milk and milk products. Moreover, there is no authentic data on demand and supply of milk and milk products in the country as major portion of the milk produced in the country, i.e. about 85% is handled by unorganized sector. The statement indicating the milk production during the last three years and current year is as under:-

Year	Milk Production (Million Tonnes)	% Growth
2003-04	88.1	2.20
2004-05	92.5	4.99
2005-06	97.1	4.97
2006-07 (Projection)	100.0	2.98

(d) and (e) Due to high price of milk powder in international market, there was an increase in export of Skim Milk Powder (SMP) during 2005-06 and the trend continued during the year 2006-07, resulting in the increase in domestic prices of milk and milk products. Mother Dairy and DMS increased the price of milk by Re. 1 per litre each time for all categories of milk and the prices of Ghee were increased from Rs. 5 to 10 per litre and that of Butter, from Rs. 2 to 20 per Kg. during different revisions. Mother Dairy and DMS increased the prices of milk and milk products in order to maintain viability of their operations.

Number of times Mother Dairy and DMS increased the prices of milk and milk products during last three years and the current financial year is given below:

Organizations	Year	Tonned milk	Double tonned milk	Full cream milk	Ghee	Table butter
Mother Dairy	2003-04	2	3	3	—	1
	2004-05	—	—	—	2	1
	2005-06	1	1	1	1	—
	2006-07	2	2	2	—	2
DMS	2003-04	—	—	—	—	—
	2004-05	1	1	1	—	—
	2005-06	1	1	1	1	2
	2006-07	2	2	2	1	2

(f) (i) The Government of India has prohibited the export of milk powder w.e.f. 9.2.2007 including Skim Milk Powder, Whole Milk Powder and Milk Food for babies etc. which will remain in force till 30th September 2007.

(ii) Cabinet Committee on Prices had approved a buffer stock of 10,000 MT of SMP to be imported by agencies designated by Government of India for import under Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ). This quantity would attract the duty of 5% as against 15% under TRQ to be imported.

Average Agricultural Growth

*18. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent Central Statistical Organization (CSO) report on Indian Economy and Agriculture since 2000 has revealed that the average agricultural growth in the country is very low;

(b) if so, the details of the target fixed and the success achieved in agricultural growth during the 10 Plan, year-wise;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to achieve the desired growth rate in agricultural production;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any integrated approach for farm growth; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas proposed to be addressed thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) According to the latest estimates of National Accounts released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO), the average annual growth rate of agriculture and allied sectors of forestry, logging and fishing (at 1999-00 prices) stands at 2.3 percent for the period from 2002-03 to 2006-07 as against the target growth rate of 4.0 percent. The details of the targets fixed and growth rate achieved year-wise in the agricultural sector during Tenth Five Year Plan are given below:

Year	Agriculture and allied sectors	
	Tenth Plan target (%)	Actual Annual Growth Rate (%)
2002-03	3.5	-7.2
2003-04	3.7	10.0
2004-05	4.0	0.0
2005-06	4.2	6.0
2006-07	4.4	2.7 (Quick Estimates)
2002-07 (Tenth Plan)	4.0	2.3

Source: 1. Planning Commission

2. Central Statistical Organization, Growth Rates have been calculated at 1999-2000 prices and at factor cost.

(c) to (e) Some of the major steps initiated by the Central Government to enhance agricultural production are given below:

- Implementation of Integrated Cereal Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and other

Cereal-based cropping system areas, Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system and Special Jute Development Programme.

- Launching of Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) for increasing the yield potential of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize.
- Announcement of Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) well before the commencement of sowing season to enable farmers to decide on the choice of crops to be grown by them.
- Agricultural diversification through horticulture and floriculture.
- Development/strengthening of modern agricultural markets through creation of space for attracting investment from private and cooperative sectors for the development of direct marketing/contract farming etc.
- Reorientation of banks towards extending credit, especially production credit, to rural and farmer households at concessional rate of interests.
- Revitalization of Agricultural research to ensure full exploitation of scientific advances for improving productivity according to agro-climatic conditions.
- Revitalization of Agricultural extension system through Krishi Vikas Kendras in each district and making extension system farmer friendly by way of autonomous institutional arrangements for technological dissemination in the form of "Agricultural Technology Management Agency" (ATMA) at district level.
- Setting up of National Rainfed Area Authority has been approved to deal with the problems faced by rainfed areas.

Effect of Toxic Chemicals used in Toys

*19. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the environmental effects of toxic chemicals used in soft toys;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States have put a ban on the use of certain types of toxic chemicals in soft toys;

(d) If so, the details thereof and the extent of success achieved in this regard so far; and

(e) The concrete steps proposed to be taken to ban the use of toxic chemicals in soft toys all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow, a Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Laboratory, conducted a study and submitted a report to the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2002 on "Assessment of Leaching of Phthalates, Metals and Colorants from Plastic Toys". The objective of the study was to survey the types and the quality of plastic toys to which children could be exposed, extent of leaching of phthalate plasticizers, metals and colorants from various type, factors influencing the leaching of phthalate, metals and colorants from plastic toys and effect of toys on health of children through clinical examination using a questionnaire.

The study suggested that natural, non-toxic pigments and dyes be promoted and toys be manufactured using standard procedures to minimize the possible leaching of its ingredients during use.

As per information made available by the Central Pollution Control Board and of the State Pollution Control Boards of Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, no notification for banning use of chemicals in soft toys has been issued. As regards the safety requirement for toys, the Bureau of Indian Standards has published the following three standards for safety requirements for toys:

1. IS 9873 (Part 1): 2001/ISO 8124-1:2000 Safety requirements for toys: Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties
2. IS 9873 (Part 2) : 1999/ISO 8124-2:1994 Safety requirements for toys : Part 2 :Flammability requirements
3. IS 9873 (Part 3) : 1999/ISO 8124-3 :1997 Safety requirements for toys: Part 3: Migration of certain elements, prescribed maximum acceptable element migration, for Antimony (Sb), Arsenic(As),

Barium (Ba), Cadmium (Cd), Chromium (Cr), Lead (Pb), Mercury (Hg) and Selenium (Se) from toy materials.

Funds for Prime Minister's Special Irrigation Programme

*20. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been earmarked for implementing Prime Minister's Special Irrigation Programme;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the Eleventh Plan, State-wise;

(c) the number of districts and villages likely to be covered under the Programme; and

(d) the total area of land targeted for irrigation under the Programme in various States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Ministry of Water Resources is not implementing any programme titled "Prime Minister's Special Irrigation Programme". However, irrigation is an important component of Bharat Nirman Programme and Prime Minister's Package for 31 agrarian distress districts. Central assistance to various projects is provided under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Companies Supplying Bottled Water

1. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

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

(a) the number of companies manufacturing and selling bottled/mineral water in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received fresh application for grant of license to produce and sell bottled mineral water;

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

(d) whether the Government has appointed any regulator for quality control of bottled water;

(e) if so, whether complaints have been received regarding sale of contaminated bottled water by these companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The number of companies (Licenses) manufacturing and selling ISI marked packaged drinking water as per IS 14543:2004 is given below State-wise:

State	No. of Licenses
Andhra Pradesh	237
Kerala and Pondicherry	31
Karnataka	104
Tamil Nadu	437
West Bengal & Sikkim	38
Orissa	13
Bihar & Jharkhand	20
Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur & Mizoram	15
U.P. & Uttaranchal	44
Rajasthan	30
M.P. & Chattisgarh	55
Delhi & Noida	60
Himachal	4
Haryana, Punjab, J & K, Chandigarh	55
Gujarat	140
Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Dadra Nagar Haveli	151
Total	1434

(b) and (c) Receipt of fresh applications by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for grant of licence is a continuous process. The State-wise details of the applications pending in BIS are given as under:

State	No. of Applications Pending
Andhra Pradesh	56
Kerala and Pondicherry	NIL
Karnataka	5
Tamil Nadu	10
West Bengal & Sikkim	2
Orissa	2
Bihar & Jharkhand	NIL
Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur & Mizoram	NIL
U.B & Uttaranchal	1
Rajasthan	2
M.P. & Chattisgarh	2
Delhi & Noida	NIL
Himachal Pradesh	NIL
Haryana, Punjab, J & K, Chandigarh	2
Gujarat	6
Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Dadra Nagar Haveli	2
Total	90

All applications are processed for grant of BIS licence as per the provisions in the BIS Act and rules and regulations framed there under.

(d) Packaged Drinking Water was brought under mandatory certification vide Gazette Notification No. GSR 759 (E) dated 29 Sept., 2000 issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules. BIS ensures the quality of packaged drinking water of its licensees through a well defined certification scheme wherein surveillance visits are undertaken to the licensees' premises and samples are drawn from factory and market to check the conformity of the samples as per IS 14543:2004.

(e) and (f) The following complaints regarding the quality of bottled water are pending with BIS. Such complaints are attended to and corrective action taken as per the provisions in the BIS Act and Rules and Regulations framed thereunder:

State	No. of Complaints
Andhra Pradesh	2
Kerala	1
Assam	1
Rajasthan	2
M.P.	1
Delhi	1
Haryana	1
Gujarat	1
West Bengal	1
Total	11

Pollution due to Steel Factories

2. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environment is being polluted by steel factories in the public and private sectors;

(b) if so, the names of plants where pollution checking mechanisms have been installed during the last three years and the amount spent thereon;

(c) the names of steel factories where pollution control mechanism are yet to be installed; and

(d) the time by which installation in remaining steel plants is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) A list of eight major steel plants in the country is annexed. For abatement of pollution in the steel industry, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies and preparation of Environmental Management Plans are undertaken for seeking necessary environmental clearance. While, granting environmental clearance,

adequate mitigation measures are suggested including installation of pollution control systems and the compliance to notified emission and effluent standards. The industry, usually, spend 3-5% of the capital cost on installation of pollution control measures.

Statement

List of major Steel Plants of India

Steel Authority of India Limited

1. Bhilai Steel Plant, Bhilai
2. Bokaro Steel Plant, Bokaro
3. Durgapur Steel Plant, Durgapur
4. Rourkela Steel Plant, Rourkela
5. Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited, Buranpur

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited

6. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, Visakhapatnam

Private Sector

7. Tata Steel, Jamshedpur
8. Jindal Vijayanagar Steel Limited.

Decline in Number of Livestock

3. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total livestock available in the country at present;

(b) whether the number of livestock has been declining in the country;

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

(d) whether the Government is aware of the involvement of slaughter houses in slaughtering of bovine more than authorized number of animals as also the slaughtering of stolen animals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) According to the latest quinquennial livestock census conducted in October, 2003, the total livestock available in the country is 485002 thousand.

(b) Yes, Sir. The number of livestock has declined from 48,53,85,000 in 1997 to 48,50,02,000 in 2003 which is about 0.8%.

(c) The livestock census is conducted quinquennially. The latest one was conducted in 2003. The total number of livestock during the last three years, therefore, is not available.

Details of livestock in the country as per 1997 and 2003 censuses are given at Annexure.

The reasons of decline in population of indigenous cattle and pack animals could be the mechanization of agricultural activities and the transport systems which have diminished their commercial viability.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The matter of slaughter houses and slaughtering of animals is a state subject. The slaughter houses are run under the control of Nagar Nigam/Zila Panchayat in their respective jurisdiction/States.

Statement

Details of Livestock as per 1997 and 2003 Livestock Censuses

Livestock Species	Livestock Population (in thousand)		% increase/ decrease
	1997	2003	
Crossbred cattle	20099	24686	22.82
Indegenous cattle	178782	160495	-10.23
Total cattle	198881	185181	-6.89
Buffaloes	89918	97922	8.90
Yaks	59	65	10.17
Mithuns	177	278	57.06
Total Bovines	289035	283446	-1.93
Sheep	57494	61469	6.91
Goats	122721	124358	1.33
Pigs	13291	13519	1.72
Horses & Ponies	827	751	-9.19
Mules	221	176	-20.36
Donkeys	882	650	-26.30
Camels	912	632	-30.70
Total Livestock	485385	485002	-0.08

Acquisition of Forest Land

4. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal regarding the approval of acquisition of 350 hectare Forest Land for expansion of the Hindustan Lalpeth underground coal mine project situated in Vekoli in Maharashtra has been pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for such pendency;

(c) whether any time limit has been set to give approval for the use of the said land taking into account the national loss being incurred due to closure of the said underground coal mine of Vekoli; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) A proposal for diversion of 216.25 hectares of forest land for coal mining by Hindustan Lalpeth Underground Colliery in Chandrapur District of Maharashtra has been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests in November, 2006. The said proposal is to be placed before the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC), a Statutory Committee constituted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. However, the Forest Advisory Committee is under constitution.

[English]

Financial Assistance to Maharashtra under AIBP

5. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) scheme for Tarali Project in Satara District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the quantum of financial assistance sought for the project;

(c) whether sanction for financial assistance has since been accorded by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir. Further, investment clearance to the project has not been accorded by the Planning Commission and hence the project is not eligible for inclusion in AIBP.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Pending Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh

6. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major and medium irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh lying pending with the Central Government as on the end of the year 2006;

(b) the date since when the projects are pending alongwith reasons for delay;

(c) the status of each project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) A Statement indicating the details of irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh under appraisal are given the enclosed statement.

The time taken for approval of these projects depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arranges the compliance to the observations of Central Water Commission/Technical Advisory Committee/Planning Commission.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Major/ Medium	River/ Basin	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Thousand hectare)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Status of Appraisal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Nettampadu Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Krishna	11/2000	10.928	134.30	A
2.	Kahwa Kurthi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Krishna	11/2000	20.234	380.00	A
3.	Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme (Devadula)	Major	Godavari	10/2004	285.724	5216.34	A
4.	Janjhevathi Project	Medium	Janjhevathi/ Nagevali	01/2002	9.970	121.0	A
5.	Musurumilli Reservoir Project	Medium	Seethapallivagu/ Godavari	August 2002	13.961	164.58	A
6.	Argula Rajaram Guthpa Lift Irrigation Scheme	Major	Godavari	Dec. 2005	15.869	211.45	A
7.	Alisagar Lift Irrigation	Major	Godavari	Dec. 2005	21.770	223.56	A
8.	Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Multipurpose Project	Major	Godavari	<u>October</u> Dec. 2005	291.114 960 MW	9071.82	A
9.	Andhra Pradesh Water Sector Project — Nagarjuna Sagar Project	Major	Krishna/ Krishna	04/05	895.0	2250.00	A
10.	Modikuntavagu	Medium	Godavari	October, 2006	6.60	23.66	A
11.	Pulichintala Irrigation Project	Major	Krishna	7/93	575	506.20	B
12.	Krishna Delta System Modernisation	Major	Krishna	1/96	575	659.16	B
13.	Bhima Lift Irrigation	Major	Bhima/Krishna	1/96	83.78	744.00	B
14.	Jurala	Major	Krishna	9/80	47.84	545.92	B
15.	Vamsadhara Project Stage II (Neradi Barrage)	Major	Vamsadhara	5/83	50.958	275.74	B
16.	Pedderu Reservoir	Medium	E. Flowing/ Sarda	9/91	6.46	26.23	B
17.	Yerravagu	Medium	Yerravagu/ Godavari	3/99	4.46	31.28	B
18.	Suddavagu	Medium	Suddavagu/ Godavari	3/99	5.68	56.48	B
19.	Surampalem Res. Scheme	Medium	Burdakavva/ Godavari	10/99	4.88	46.70	B

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Surampalem Phase-II	Medium	Burdakalva/ Godavari	7/2000	5.12	49.50	B
21.	Bhupatipalem	Medium	Seethapalli/Godavari	7/2000	5.419	47.23	B
22.	Peddagedda Reservoir Project	Medium	Vegavali/Nagavali	01/2002	4.858	32.11	B
23.	Nilwari	Medium	Peddavagu/Godavari	September	5.280	48.90	B

A — Projects under various stages of appraisal

B — Projects accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to observations.

[Translation]

Works Done under NHM in States

7. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the work done under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in each State during the last two years and the current financial year; and

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Horticulture Mission (NHM) is in operation in 18 States and three Union Territories, since 2005-06.

The major activities undertaken under NHM includes production and distribution of planting material, area expansion through establishment of new gardens, rejuvenation of old and senile orchards, protected cultivation, promotion of integrated pest management/integrated nutrient management and organic farming, creation of post harvest management and marketing infrastructure, human resource development, etc. The State-wise details indicating the physical target and funds approved for various activities under NHM during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II.

Statement I

Statement showing Statewise details of physical target & funds provided for various activities under NHM during 2005-06

(Physical: area in ha/No.
(Fin.: Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	Area Coverage		Rejuv.		Nurseries		Protected Cultivation		Organic Farming		IPM		PHM		Markets	
		Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy. (ha.)	Fin.	Phy. (Nos.)	Fin.	Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy. (Nos.)	Fin.	Phy. (Nos.)	Fin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25398	2333.13	9670	1450.53	5	90.00	58.25	24.55	200	20.00	8000	80.00				
2.	Bihar	3320	326.46	13367	2005.00	17	156.00	108.82	90.24	-	-	2500	25.00	3	18.00		
3.	Chhattisgarh	10740	859.01	2450	367.50	9	129.00	238.00	20.85			500	5.00	7	4.38		
4.	Delhi																
5.	Goa	155	12.91	1250	187.50	2	21.00	15.00	43.18	300	30.00	500	5.00				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
6.	Gujarat	27032	2594.84	400	60.00	42	157.50	105.94	32.70	50	5.00	7000	70.00				
7.	Haryana	2780	627.52	200	30.00	6	48.00	1.00	11.98	60	6.00	600	6.00				
8.	Jharkhand	7000	857.58	—	—	75	348.00	153.80	16.80	—	—			14	204.80	28	597.50
9.	Karnataka	17010	1394.58	801	120.15	95	900.00	272.10	50.81	4800	480.00						
10.	Kerala	10830	944.26	7500	1125.00	48	184.50	30.00	180.00	2019	201.91	3000	30.00				
11.	Maharashtra	28485	3267.61	8000	1350.00	28	234.00	815.00	241.10	4400	440.00	19477	194.77				18.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5950	680.52	1250	187.50	20	226.50			1668	166.80	11000	110.00				
13.	Orissa	18900	1967.65	4500	675.00	35	288.00	13.94	11.97	100	10.00	200	2.00				
14.	Punjab	2480	321.62	3350	502.50	5	45.00	380.06	488.50	—	—	—	—		176.00	44	165.00
15.	Rajasthan	11882	1300.31	70	10.50	15	105.00	54.47	16.98	500	50.00	1800.00	18.00	2	42.00	4	159.97
16.	Tamil Nadu	8389	919.57	850	97.50	25	270.00	30.11	73.97	800	80.00	3300	33.00	6	94.28		45.50
17.	Uttar Pradesh	14940	1897.89	4850	727.50	11	108.00	806.40	106.88	1050.00	105.00	400.00	4.00	950	197.53	39	1231.25
18.	West Bengal	8480	982.85	3900	585.00	4	72.00	192.80	39.80	2500.00	250.00	10000.00	100.00	33	919.75	5	18.75
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		203541	21288.11	63208	9481.18	440	3382.50	3055.49	1430.31	18447.00	1884.71	68277.00	682.77	1015	1656.74	120	2235.97

Statement II

Statement showing State-wise details of physical target and funds approved for various activities under NHM during 2006-07

(Physical: area in ha/No.)

(Fin.: Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	Area Coverage		Rejuv.		Nurseries		Protected Cultivation		Organic Farming		IPM		PHM		Markets	
		Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy. (ha.)	Fin.	Phy. (Nos.)	Fin.	Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy.(ha.)	Fin.	Phy. (Nos.)	Fin.	Phy. (Nos.)	Fin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42637.00	3605.00	7770	1165.550	66	310.500	552.00	100.04	1950	195.00	33250	332.50	576	877.41	61	817.58
2.	Bihar	17020.00	2028.95	—	—	100	630.00	467.00	852.00	2000	200.00	8000	80.00	30	236.75	59	2580.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	30681.10	3447.12	1420	213.00	8	144.00	187.00	123.50	1100	110.00	14000	140.00	8	92.00	—	—
4.	Delhi	150.00	37.60	—	—	3	13.50	0.90	10.17	—	—	—	—	20	286.25	3	6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
5.	Goa	750.82	48.19	951	78.53	2	4.50	2	0.14	450	45.00	0	0	1	6.00	4	22.50
6.	Gujarat	34480.00	3586.17	1450	217.50	55	225.00	208.80	50.50	100	10.00	7500	75.00	76	1408.75	28	1105.00
7.	Haryana	3653.56	622.15	939	140.85	16	73.50	80.4	52.55	380	38.00	1781	17.81	10	195.75	6	578.17
8.	Jharkhand	28216.00	2404.45			87	327.00	1457.35	271.93	300	30	800	8	32	679.50	83	610.00
9.	Karnataka	37450.00	3683.38	2163.35	324.50	189	711.00	182.10	380.89	5500	550.00	45000	450.00	184	927.38	202	2855.75
10.	Kerala	40845.40	3299.11	24416.65	3014.50	120	277.50	470	308.00	3000	300.00	5000	50.00	76	1481.90	232	5672.49
11.	Maharashtra	93540.69	6788.24	15208	2261.20	29	186.00	2074.01	1446.94	5420	542.00	18280	182.80	321	1132.88	145	553.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	21250.00	2563.24	2445	366.75	52	340.50	102	34.70	2332	233.20	15800	158.00	118	288.50	50	187.50
13.	Orissa	31401.00	3488.97	1533	229.95	56	426.00	176	41.70	2000	200.00	1400	14.00	53	600.64	57	1869.98
14.	Punjab	9060.00	1035.00			2	12.00	150.00	75.00	3000	300			7	1050.00	19	167.50
15.	Rajasthan	28118.00	2832.92	97.58	14.64	32	159.00	115.87	44.72	1000	100.00	5623	56.23	21	459.00	5	118.75
16.	Tamil Nadu	38295.00	3547.69	2500	375.00	29	138.00	23.75	299.09	4200	420.00	14000	140.00	146	145.90	54	1245.84
17.	Uttar Pradesh	27392.40	3286.36	1483	222.45	84	279.00	1859.11	168.16	14000	1400.00	15660	156.00	82	1109.63	75	2718.65
18.	West Bengal	18500.00	1580.97	2000	300.00	259	612.00	230.30	59.25	4000	400.00	11000	110.00	582	2979.59	44	178.74
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	582.00	64.68	100	15.00	2	21.00	108.00	23.40	70	7.00	100	1.00	—	—	—	—
20.	Lakshdweep	—	—	—	—	10	30.00	2.00	1.40	5	25.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	120	3.00	—	—	—	—	50	5.00	—	—	—	—	4	15.00
Total		50492.77	47910.19	64496.58	8980.42	1201	4820.00	8448.59	4324.08	50857	5110.20	198174.00	1981.14	2323	13957.83	1131	21303.20

Cattle Diseases

8. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Governments particularly Maharashtra to control diseases affecting the cattle;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) No specific proposal for controlling the cattle diseases have been received from State Governments. However, under the ongoing Tenth Plan Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely (i) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD), (ii) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE) and (iii) Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP) several proposals have been received from States/Union Territories including the Government of Maharashtra for controlling the cattle diseases. Amount revalidated/released to Government of Maharashtra during the last three years is as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	Revalidation	Release	Revalidation	Release	Revalidation	Release
(i) ASCAD	20.80	91.20	92.90	665.65	100.53	704.53
(ii) NPRE	0.00	25.00	1.77	35.00	0.61	35.00
(iii) FMD-CP	0.00	122.00	99.58	180.00	191.55	0.00

FDI in Print Media

9. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the Foreign Direct Investment in the Print Media sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the Print Media (i.e. daily/weekly newspapers, magazines and books) in which foreign direct investment has been approved, category-wise; and

(d) the details of the foreign media agencies which have got such approval alongwith their investment schemes?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The detailed guidelines issued by this Ministry for (i) publication of newspapers and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs and publication of facsimile editions of foreign newspapers; and (ii) Guidelines for publication of Indian editions of foreign technical/scientific/speciality magazines/journals/periodicals and foreign investment in Indian entities publishing scientific/technical/speciality magazines/journals/periodicals alongwith the list of cases approved by this Ministry are available on the website of this Ministry (www.mib.nic.in) under the heading 'Codes and Guidelines'.

[English]

Production of Sugarcane

10. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of sugarcane has declined in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the quantity of sugarcane produced in the country during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has appointed/constituted any committee to look into the causes of low production of sugarcane;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any programme to provide more technical knowledge to farmers to increase sugarcane production;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the further steps taken by the Government to boost the productivity of sugarcane in the Eleventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The production of sugarcane in the country shows an increasing trend during the last three years. Data in the following table show the production of sugarcane in the country from 2004-05 to 2006-07:

Year	Production of Sugarcane (Million Tonnes)
2004-05	237.09
2005-06	281.17
2006-07*	315.53

*2nd advance estimates as on 05.02.2007

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) For increasing the production of sugarcane, a centrally sponsored scheme on "Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas (SUBACAS) is under implementation. The main thrust of the scheme is the transfer of technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing seed production and pest control measures. To increase the productivity of sugarcane, improved sugarcane varieties, crop production and protection technologies developed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes and the centres of the All India Coordinated Research on Sugarcane are in place.

Revival of Sick Floriculture Units

11. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many of the floriculture units are sick in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has any plan to help the sick floriculture units;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the units are likely to be revived?

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

(b) Based on the recently concluded study commissioned by APEDA for the Rehabilitation of Sick Floriculture Units, 39 units were identified as sick and need for rehabilitation. A list of the 39 identified sick units is enclosed as statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A proposal has been submitted by APEDA to the Ministry of Commerce to set up a fund to provide financial assistance to rehabilitate the sick floriculture units so as to nurse them back to health thereby enabling them to produce exportable quality produce.

(e) From the time the recommendations are implemented, it is estimated it would take 3 years for the units to settle their outstanding loans with the respective bankers, undertake replanting activities, etc. after which they are expected to be nursed back to health.

Statement

List of Identified Sick Units

Unit Name		Location	Status of Settlement Proceedings
1		2	3
Southern Region			
1.	Camson Technologies Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
2.	CCL Flowers Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
3.	Blooming Meadows Ltd.	Bangalore	Pending
4.	Classic Biotech & Exports	Bangalore	Pending
5.	Crystal Agritech	Bangalore	Pending
6.	Scarlet Flowers & Agritech	Bangalore	Pending

	1	2	3
7.	Nagarjuna Agritech	Bangalore	Partly Settled
8.	Rosette Agro Tech	Bangalore	Partly Settled
9.	Floritech India Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
10.	Nupur Biotech Pvt Ltd. (Closed)	Bangalore	Settled
11.	Pochiraju Floritech Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
12.	Karaturi Floritech Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
13.	Vasavi Florex Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
14.	Pushpam Florabase Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
15.	Indo Bloom Ltd.	Bangalore	Settled
16.	Indus Florabase	Bangalore	Pending
17.	Sun Blossoms	Bangalore	Pending
18.	Suvama Florex	Bangalore	Partly Settled
19.	Saachin Floritech	Bangalore	Partly Settled
20.	Meghana Floritech	Bangalore	Pending
21.	Hi-Tech Agro Plantations Ltd.	Bangalore	Pending
22.	Goodwill Technologies Ltd. (Closed)	Bangalore	Pending
23.	SPA Agro Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	Partly Settled
24.	Span Flora	Bangalore	Pending
25.	Parinika Harvest Floritech Ltd.	Hyderabad	Settled
26.	Natural Synergies Ltd.	Chennai	Pending
	Western Region		
27.	Horizon Flora Ltd.	Pune	Pending
28.	Farmtek Agro	Pune	Pending
29.	Global Agritech Ltd.	Pune	Pending
30.	Filarozil Exports Pvt. Ltd.	Pune	Pending
31.	Vikram Greentech Ltd.	Pune	Settled
32.	Deccan Florabase Ltd.	Pune	Settled
33.	Essar Agrotech Ltd.	Pune	Settled
34.	Pitla Agro Ventures Ltd.	Pune	Settled

	1	2	3
35	F. N. Masani Farms	Nashik	Settled
36	Nashik Flora Ltd.	Nashik	Settled
	Northern Region		
37	Cosco Blossoms Ltd. (Closed)	New Delhi	Pending
38	Global Industries Ltd.	New Delhi	Pending
39	L. R. Brothers Ltd.	Saharanpur	Pending

Note: Though many units listed above have reached a settlement with their lenders (settled/ partly settled) they have been unable to fund the OTS due to the lack of financial wherewithal.

Conservation of Mangroves in Kerala

12. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a revised proposal for conservation of mangrove eco-system in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details of such proposals and revised proposals along with the action taken thereon?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala submitted the revised Management Action Plans for conservation and management of mangroves at Kannur and Vembanad in May, 2006. The Management Action Plan for Kannur has already been sanctioned by the Ministry at a total cost of Rs. 49.21/- lakh and that for Vembanad for Rs. 51.25/- lakh for implementation by the State Government during 2006-07.

[Translation]

Decline in Sugar Price

13. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steep decline in the prices of sugar during the last four months;

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

(c) whether the sugar mills which were already in a bad shape have been incurring huge losses due to steep decline in the sugar prices;

(d) whether the Government is considering any proposal to provide a special package to the affected sugar mills as a relief measure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The ex-mill prices which were in the range of Rs. 1520-1830 per quintal in the month of October, 2006 have declined to Rs. 1230-1480 per quintal in the month of February, 2007. The sugar prices have declined mainly due to estimated high sugar production in the current sugar season.

(c) The losses to sugar mills can, inter alia, be due to decline in sugar prices.

(d) and (e) At present, there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

[English]

Problems of Forest Tribals

14. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had undertaken any study to know the problems being faced by the people, mostly tribals, living in the fringe areas of forests in securing a sustainable livelihood;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to solve the problem being faced by tribals in forests on war footing?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India is already involving local communities including tribals in the conservation, protection and management of forests with benefit sharing mechanism to secure their livelihood through Joint Forest Management programme. At present, around 1,03,000 Joint Forest Management Committees are managing more than 17.3 million ha. of forests.

(d) The Government of India has enacted The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 for assigning occupational and habitation rights to the people living in and around forests, particularly tribals.

[Translation]

Genetically Modified Crops

15. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH:

SHRI. V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI. TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

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

(a) the number of Genetically Modified Crops (GMC) put under trial after approval from Genetic Engineering Approval Committee;

(b) whether the trial has been completed; and

(c) If so, the details thereof, crop-wise along with the success/failure rates recorded there under;

(d) whether Supreme Court has lifted ban on fresh approvals for GM Crops; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Thirteen Genetically Modified (GM) Crops viz. cotton, brinjal, cabbage, castor, cauliflower, corn, groundnut, okra, potato, rice, tomato, mustard and sorghum were put under trial during Kharif-2006 and Rabi-2006-07 as recommended by RCGM and after approval from GEAC. The field trials for Kharif season have been completed. The reports on Bt cotton field trials for North zone have been evaluated and no failure rate has been recorded there under. The field trial reports for GM crops for other zones have not been evaluated so far.

(d) and (e) No Sir, The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 22.9.2006 in respect of the WP NO. 260/2005 in IA No. 4/2006, has directed the GEAC to withhold fresh approvals for field trials of GM crops until the matter is heard and further directions are issued by the Court. The matter is currently subjudice.

[English]

Use of Agricultural Land for Non-Agricultural Purpose

16. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the huge area of arable/cultivable/ agricultural land is being offered to industrialists for non-agricultural purposes including development of Special Economic Zones;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey/study regarding continuous decline in arable/ cultivable/agricultural land as a result thereof;

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

(e) whether the Government proposes to increase the arable/cultivable/agricultural land by converting barren/ dry land into cultivable land;

(f) if so, the land in terms of hectare that has been made arable/cultivable/agricultural so far in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(g) whether the Union Government is coordinating with the States to workout a solution to check the decline in arable/cultivable/agricultural land; and

(h) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Land is a State subject. Each State has its specific land acquisition policy based upon the Land Acquisition Act. Acquisition of land by the state Government for various purposes is governed by their respective policies and procedures. The Board of Approvals for Special Economic Zones constituted in the Ministry of Commerce, considers only those proposals which have been duly recommended by the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised that in case of land acquisition for Special Economic Zones, first priority should be given to acquisition of waste and barren land and if necessary single crop agricultural land could be acquired. State-wise list of formal and in principle approval for setting up of Special Economic Zones along-with details of the land is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The land use statistics data indicates that the arable/cultivable/agricultural land has reduced from 185 million ha. in 1980 to 183 million ha. in 2003. Also during same period, land under non agricultural uses has increased from 19.66 million ha. to 24.48 million ha.

(e) and (f) Centrally Sponsored Programmes, namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project in Ramfed Areas (NWDPA) (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR) (iii) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) (iv) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS) (v) Dessert Development Programme (DDP) (vi) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) (vii) Integrated Watershed Development Project (IWDP) (viii) Watershed Development Fund and (ix) Externally Aided Projects are being implemented by the Government of India. These programmes help in developing the degraded lands.

(g) and (h) State Land Use Boards have been constituted in almost all States and Union Territories. These Boards under the Chairmanship of the Chief Ministers or Other Senior functionaries of the State Governments. These Boards are mandated to keep a watch on the diversion of agriculture land to non-agricultural uses in the State. In addition to this a check list has also been circulated to the State Governments with a view to screen the proposals of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) by the SEZ Approval Board.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of SEZs for which formal approval granted	Area in hectares	No. of cases in which approval 'in principle' granted	Area in hectares
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	9387.957	09	3768.39
2.	Assam	—		—	
3.	Bihar	—		—	
4.	Chandigarh	02	87.49	—	
5.	Chhattisgarh	—		02	80

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-		01	80
7.	Delhi	01	6	-	
8.	Goa	04	290.98	-	
9.	Gujarat	19	10682.25	10	5439
10.	Haryana	19	818.408	27	43002
11.	Himachal Pradesh	-		03	5030
12.	Jharkhand	01	36	-	
13.	Karnataka	27	1566.339	17	4720.962
14.	Kerala	10	569.651	02	414
15.	Madhya Pradesh	04	71.25	06	9309.25
16.	Maharashtra	47	8130.8	25	33041.09
17.	Orissa	05	745.61	08	4263.3
18.	Pondicherry	01	346	-	
19.	Punjab	04	252	07	1571
20.	Rajasthan	03	89.23	08	13351.32
21.	Tamil Nadu	25	1300.571	12	5078.02
22.	Uttaranchal	03	468.2	01	14
23.	Uttar Pradesh	08	133.83	10	5954.25
24.	West Bengal	07	170.26	14	11827.14
Total		234	35152.826	162	148892.2

Free DTH Sets

17. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to distribute free DTH (DD Plus) sets by Prasar Bharati in the N.E. Region; and

(b) if so, the number of such sets distributed till January, 2007 in the said Region?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) As part of Doordarshan's project of Ku band transmission (free-to-air DTH), 1095 DTH receive units have been provided free of cost in the uncovered villages of NE states for demonstration purpose. As part of the special package for NE states approved by the Government in 2006, 25,000 DTH receive units alongwith TV sets are envisaged to be provided in the uncovered areas of NE states. Action for procurement of these sets has been initiated by Doordarshan. Installation of the sets will have to be carried out by the respective state governments.

*[Translation]***Assessment of Annual Growth Rate**

18. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to assessment of the Government the annual rate of growth in agriculture during the year 2005-2006 has improved;

(b) if so, the details and extent thereof during the said period;

(c) the details of the foodgrains which made maximum contribution in this growth alongwith the percentage share of each item in growth; and

(d) the foodgrains which recorded a decline in production as compared to previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 2005-06, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of agriculture (including livestock) sector at constant (1999-2000) prices, recorded a growth rate of 6.3 per cent, as against (-) 0.2 per cent in the year 2004-05.

(c) Among the foodgrains, the crops rice (growth rate of 9.5% in value of output), jowar (growth rate of 10.1% in value of output), maize (growth rate of 6.4% in value of output) and tur (growth rate of 9.4% in value of output) made maximum contribution in the year 2005-06. These crops contributed 12.3%, 0.9% and 0.7% respectively in the total value of output of agriculture and livestock in the year 2005-06.

(d) The foodgrains which recorded decline in production during 2005-06 as compared to 2004-05, are bajra, ragi, small millets, other kharif pulses and other rabi pulses.

*[English]***Problems Faced by Fertilizer Industry**

19. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fertilizer Industry is facing many problems such as lack of domestic and foreign investments, either withdrawn or kept onhold and with no fresh production capacity added for over seven years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) There has been no substantial investments in the fertilizer industry for addition of fresh production capacity during the last seven years. The Department has announced a policy for new and expansion projects in the urea sector on 29.01.2004. Another policy for debottlenecking/modernisation/revamp of existing urea units in the country was also announced on 29.01.2004.

In light of lack of investments in the fertilizer sector, the Government has done away with the concept of debottlenecking under the New Pricing Scheme Stage-III, which is being implemented w.e.f. 1st October, 2006. Under NFS-III, the additional production from the existing units has been incentivised and the condition for prior Government approval for increase in production beyond 100% has been completely done away with. Further, the review of existing policy for new and expansion projects is also under consideration.

Price Rise due to Private Procurement

20. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

(a) whether some States have made complaints that big business houses like Subhiksha, Spencer, Big Bazar, Reliance etc., are procuring essential commodities in a big way causing artificial crisis in the market and jacking up the prices as reported in The Hindustan Times dated 04 February, 2007;

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

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check excessive procurement by such vested interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) No specific complaints of this nature have been received. As per feedback received from various agencies, wheat procurement by major private parties such as Cargill, ITC, Glencore, Adani, Reliance, AWB etc. was only two million tones in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2006-07. This quantity is only a small part of the production of 69.35 million tones of wheat in Crop Year 2005-06 (to be marketed in RMS 2006-07).

(c) As a consequence of deregulation of the agricultural marketing system, farmers generally have at present a choice to sell their produce to prospective buyers in a competitive environment to obtain better prices. Government have also increased Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Wheat, paddy, jowar, bajra, etc. for the year 2006-07.

Decision of Cauvery Tribunal

21. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal has given its final award;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of water allocated to each State;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to ensure release of adequate quantity of water to Tamil Nadu by Karnataka as per the final award given by Cauvery Tribunal;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government proposes to set up mechanism for monitoring the release of water; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal submitted report and decision under section 5(2) of Inter State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act 1956 on 5th February, 2007.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) to (e) The decision of Tribunal becomes effective after it is published in official Gazette under section 6(1) of the Act. The decision has not been published in the official Gazette in view of provision under section 5(3) of ISRWD Act, i.e. "If, upon consideration of the decision of the Tribunal, the Central Government or any State Government is of opinion that anything therein contained requires explanation or that guidance is needed upon any point not originally referred to the Tribunal, the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, within three months from the date of the decision, again refer the matter to the Tribunal for further consideration, and on such reference, the Tribunal may forward to the Central Government a further report within one year from the date of such reference giving such explanation or guidance as it deems fit and in such a case, the decision of the Tribunal shall be deemed to be modified accordingly"

(f) and (g) Do not arise at this stage in view of (c) to (e) above.

Statement

Clause-I

This order shall come into operation on the date of the publication of the decision of this Tribunal in the official gazette under Section 6 of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 as amended from time to time.

Clause-II

Agreements of the years 1892 and 1924

The Agreements of the years 1892 and 1924 which were executed between the then Governments of Mysore

and Madras cannot be held to be invalid, specially after a lapse of about more than 110 and 80 years respectively. Before the execution of the two agreements, there was full consultation between the then Governments of Madras and Mysore. However, the agreement of 1924 provides for review of some of the clauses after 1974. Accordingly, we have reviewed and re-examined various provisions of the agreement on the principles of just and equitable apportionment.

Clause-III

This order shall supersede—

- (i) The agreement of 1892 between the then Government of Madras and the Government of Mysore so far as it related to the Cauvery river system.
- (ii) The agreement of 1924 between the then Government of Madras and the Government of Mysore so far as it related to the Cauvery river system.

Clause-IV

The Tribunal hereby determines that the utilisable quantum of waters of the Cauvery at Lower Coleroon Anicut site on the basis of 50% dependability to be 740 thousand million cubic feet-TMC (20,954 M.cu.m.).

Clause-V

The Tribunal hereby orders that the waters of the river Cauvery be allocated in three States of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and U.T. of Pondicherry for their beneficial uses as mentioned hereunder:-

- (i) The State of Kerala - 30 TMC
- (ii) The State of Karnataka - 270 TMC
- (iii) The State of Tamil Nadu - 419 TMC
- (iv) U.T. of Pondicherry - 726 TMC

In addition, we reserve some quantity of water for (i) environmental protection and (ii) inevitable escapages into the sea as under:-

- (i) Quantity reserved for environmental protection - 10 TMC
- (ii) Quantity determined for inevitable sea escapages into the - 4 TMC
- 14 TMC
- Total (726+14) - 740 TMC

Clause-VI

The State of Kerala has been allocated a total share of 30 TMC, the distribution of which in different tributary basins is as under:

- (i) Kabini sub-basin - 21 TMC
- (ii) Bhavani sub-basin - 6 TMC
- (iii) Pambar sub-basin - 3 TMC

Clause-VII

In case the yield of Cauvery basin is less in a distress year, the allocated shares shall be proportionately reduced among the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry.

Clause-VIII

The following inter-State contact points are identified for monitoring the water deliveries:

- (i) Between Kerala and Karnataka } : Kabini reservoir site
- (ii) Between Kerala and Tamil Nadu } : Kabini reservoir site
- (a) For Bhavani sub-basin : Chavadiyoor G.D.site

It is reported that Chavadiyoor G.D. Site was being earlier operated by the State of Kerala which could be revived for inter-State observations.

- (b) For Pambar sub-basin : Amaravathy reservoir site
- (iii) Between Karnataka and : Billigundulu G.D. site/ any Tamil Nadu other site on common border
- (iv) Between Tamil Nadu and : Seven contact points as already in operation

Clause-IX

Since the major shareholders in the Cauvery waters are the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, we order the tentative monthly deliveries during a normal year to

be made available by the State of Karnataka at the inter-State contact point presently identified as Billigundulu gauge and discharge station located on the common border as under:-

Month	TMC	Month	TMC
June	10	December	8
July	34	January	3
August	50	February	2.5
September	40	March	2.5
October	22	April	2.5
November	15	May	2.5
192 TMC			

The above quantum of 192 TMC of water comprises of 182 TMC from the allocated share of Tamil Nadu and 10 TMC of water allocated for environmental purposes.

The above monthly releases shall be broken in 10 daily intervals by the Regulatory Authority.

The Authority shall properly monitor the working of monthly schedule with the help of the concerned States and Central Water Commission for a period of five years and if any modification/adjustment is needed in the schedule thereafter, it may be worked out in consultation with the party States and help of Central Water Commission for future adoption without changing the annual allocation amongst the parties.

Clause-X

The available utilisable waters during a water year will include the waters carried over from the previous water year as assessed on the 1st of June on the basis of stored waters available on that date in all the reservoirs with effective storage capacity of 3 TMC and above.

Clause-XI

Any upper riparian State shall not take any action so as to affect the scheduled deliveries of water to the lower riparian States. However, the States concerned can by mutual agreement and in consultation with the Regulatory Authority make any amendment in the pattern of water deliveries.

Clause-XII

The use of underground waters by any riparian State and U.T. of Pondicherry shall not be reckoned as use of the water of the river Cauvery.

The above declaration shall not in any way alter the rights, if any, under the law for the time being in force, of any private individuals, bodies or authorities.

Clause-XIII

The States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu brought to our notice that a few hydro-power projects in the common reach boundary are being negotiated with the National Hydro-Power Corporation (NHPC). In this connection, we have only to observe that whenever any such hydro-power project is constructed and Cauvery waters are stored in the reservoir, the pattern of downstream releases should be consistent with our order so that the irrigation requirements are not jeopardized.

Clause-XIV

Use of water shall be measured by the extent of its depletion of the waters of the river Cauvery including its tributaries in any manner whatsoever; the depletion would also include the evaporation losses from the reservoirs. The storage in any reservoir across any stream of the Cauvery river system except the annual evaporation losses shall form part of the available water. The water diverted from any reservoir by a State for its own use during any water year shall be reckoned as use by that State in that water year. The measurement for domestic and municipal water supply, as also the industrial use shall be made in the manner indicated below:-

Use	Measurement
Domestic and municipal Water supply	By 20 per cent of the quantity of water diverted or lifted from the river or any of its tributaries or from any reservoir, storage or canal.
Industrial use	By 2.5 per cent of the quantity of water diverted or lifted from the river or any of its tributaries or from any reservoir, storage or canal.

Clause-XV

If any riparian State or U.T. of Pondicherry is not able to make use of any portion of its allocated share during any month in a particular water year and requests for its storage in the designated reservoirs, it shall be at liberty to make use of its unutilized share in any other subsequent month during the same water year provided this arrangement is approved by the Implementing Authority.

Clause-XVI

Inability of any State to make use of some portion of the water allocated to it during any water year shall not constitute forfeiture or abandonment of its share of water in any subsequent water year nor shall it increase the share of other State in the subsequent year if such State has used that water.

Clause-XVII

In addition, note shall be taken of all such orders, directions, recommendations, suggestions etc, which have been detailed earlier in different chapters/volumes of the report with decision for appropriate action.

Clause XVIII

Nothing in the order of this Tribunal shall impair the right or power or authority of any State to regulate within its boundaries the use of water, or to enjoy the benefit of waters within that State in a manner not inconsistent with the order of this Tribunal.

Clause-XIX

In this order,

- (a) "Normal year" shall mean a year in which the total yield of the Cauvery basin is 740 TMC.
- (b) Use of the water of the river Cauvery by any person or entity of any nature whatsoever, within the territories of a State shall be reckoned as use by that State.
- (c) The expression "water year" shall mean the year commencing on 1st June and ending on 31st May.
- (d) The "irrigation season" shall mean the season commencing on 1st June and ending on 31st January of the next year.

(e) The expression "Cauvery river" includes the main stream of the Cauvery river, all its tributaries and all other streams contributing water directly or indirectly to the Cauvery river.

(f) The expression "TMC" means thousand million cubic feet of water.

Clause-XX

Nothing contained herein shall prevent the alteration, amendment or modification of all or any of the foregoing clauses by agreement between the parties.

Clause-XXI

The State Governments of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry shall bear the expenses of the Tribunal in the ratio of 15:40:40:5. However, these parties shall bear their own costs before this Tribunal.

Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana

22. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) launched a new scheme to provide social security to unemployed workers called Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojna last year;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the scheme;

(c) the details of the applications received from various States alongwith the amount so far released to the beneficiaries, State-wise;

(d) whether there are large number of applications pending with the State Governments for rehabilitating the labourers affected due to closure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the allocation and utilisation of fund under the scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Insured persons

covered under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme and going out of insurable employment involuntarily on or after 1st April, 2005, on account of closure of a factory or establishment, retrenchment or permanent invalidity of not less than 50% arising out of non-employment injury, after being in an insurable employment and having contributed under the scheme for five or more years, are entitled to claim unemployment allowance upto 50% of

their wages for a maximum period of 6 months during entire service. Such insured person and his family would also be entitled for medical benefit for a period of six months from the date of unemployment.

(c) to (e) The details of applications received in the Regional Offices of the ESI Corporation and amount paid are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Unemployment allowance paid under Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojna

(As on 31.01.2007)

RO/SRO	No. of applications received	No. of applications admitted	No. of applications not found eligible	No. of applications under process	Amount disbursed	
					No. of cases	Amount (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	216	216	NIL	NIL	216	23,45,5987/-
Aurangabad	17	16	01	NIL	16	1,35,6087/-
Chennai	22	04	09	9	04	52,9467/-
Coimbatore	06	NIL	06	NIL	—	—
Goa	142	70	40	32	70	11,76,8017/-
Haryana	03	03	—	—	03	36,321/-
Jammu and Kashmir	34	27	07	—	27	2,02,6807/-
Kanpur	311	288	21	02	274	38,06,1447/-
Kerala	111	102	09	NIL	102	10,47,2707/-
Kolkata	01	—	01	—	—	—
Madurai	03	02	—	01	02	15,1507/-
Mumbai	16	—	16	—	—	—
Nagpur	140	69	68	03	64	7,45,9207/-
Orissa	24	06	03	15	06	54,4167/-
Pondicherry	150	126	24	NIL	107	15,76,1317/-
Pune	150	91	NIL	59	91	17,58,3157/-
Punjab	06	04	01	01	04	55,3247/-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rajasthan	13	05	07	01	03	16,5247/-
Surat	18	15	02	01	15	1,01,1607/-
Thane	14	04	10	—	04	1,01,5657/-
Vadodara	23	—	23	—	—	—
Varanasi	64	—	64	—	—	—
Vijayawada	01	—	01	—	—	—
Kollam	30	NIL	NIL	30*	NIL	—
Salem	31	NIL	NIL	31*	—	—
TOTAL	1546	1048	313	185	1008	1,32,27,873/-

*These cases are submitted after due dates and are under correspondence

Price Control on Imported Formulations

23. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any price control on imported formulations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of products which have been granted price approval for said formulation;

(d) whether some companies have flouted the Drug (Price Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) in case of finished formulations prices; and

(e) if so, the action taken against the companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (e) Under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995, (DPCO' 95) the prices of 74 bulk drugs (First Schedule of DPCO' 95) and the formulations containing any of these Scheduled drugs are controlled. The Government/National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes/revises their prices from time to time as per formula provided under

DPCO '95. Every manufacturer or importer shall carry into effect the price of a bulk drug or a formulation, as the case may be, as fixed by the Government from time to time, within fifteen days from the date of notification in the Official Gazette or receipt of the order of the Government in this behalf by such manufacturer or importer.

As per Para 7 of DPCO' 95 in the case of an imported formulation, the landed cost shall form the basis for fixing its price along with such margin to cover selling and distribution expenses including interest and importer's profit which shall not exceed fifty percent of the landed cost.

All formulations imported in finished form based on the 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of DPCO' 1995 are under price control. Prices of such formulations are fixed from time to time based on the applications received in Form-IV as per provisions of DPCO'95, from the respective importers/companies.

In the recent past, NPPA has fixed price of various imported formulations based on insulin, multivitamin, Methyal Prednisolone Sodium Succinate and Calcipariol plus Betamethasone based on Form-IV applications received from the respective importer/company.

Whenever it is found that any manufacturer/importer charging prices higher than the price fixed by the

Government/NPPA, necessary action is initiated against the company.

Decreasing Sowing Area of Cotton Crop

24. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the net sown area under cotton has declined during the last year and current year in the country;

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

(c) whether the pest attack has led to decline in cotton production during the said period;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to take concrete steps under Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for protection of cotton from pest attack;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of IPM centres functioning at present in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Sir, the area under cultivation of cotton in the country has increased from 86.77 lakh hectare in 2005-06 to 91.58 lakh hectare in 2006-07 (provisional).

(c) The decline in cotton production due to any major pest attack has not been reported by any state during 2005-06 and 2006-07. The production of cotton has increased from 184.99 in 2005-06 to 209.64 lakh bales in 2006-07.

(d) and (e) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton is under implementation in 13 States with a focus on Integrated Pest Management.

(f) The Government of India has established 31 central Integrated Pest Management centres. The State-wise list of IPM centres in the country is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State-wise List of Central IPM Centre

Sl.No.	States	Place of Centre
1	2	3
1.	Assam	Guwahati
2.	Haryana	Faridabad
3.	Karnataka	Bangalore
4.	Maharashtra	Nagpur
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
7.	Bihar	Patna
8.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
9.	Gujarat	Vadodra
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Solan
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
12.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
13.	Kerala	Ernakulam
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
15.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
16.	Punjab	Jalandhar
17.	Rajasthan	Sriganganagar
18.	Tamil Nadu	Trichy
19.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
21.	West Bengal	Kolkata
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
23.	Goa	Momugoa
24.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
25.	Meghalaya	Shilong
26.	Manipur	Imphal

1	2	3
27.	Mizoram	Aizawl
28.	Nagaland	Dimapur
29.	Sikkim	Gangtok
30.	Tripura	Agartala
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair

[Translation]

Foreign Companies in Retail Sector

25. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the traditional businessmen/traders of the country are incurring losses due to entry of the foreign companies in the retail market of the country in the recent months and selling of items by them such as pulses, vegetables, fruits etc. in Malls located in Delhi at the cheaper rates in comparison to the traditional businessmen;

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

(c) the action being taken to bring parity in prices?

I. Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)

Unit: Million tonnes			
Production of different qualities of Steel	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Mild Steel	11.011	10.984	11.751
Alloy Steel	0.207	0.228	0.252
Stainless Steel	0.085	0.105	0.048
Total saleable Steel	11.283	11.317	12.051
Net Profit (Rs. in crores)	2512	6817	4013

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Government do not maintain data in this regard. As per extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is not permitted in retail trade, except in 'single' brand retail trade.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

[English]

Production of Steel

26. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of different qualities of steel by different public sector units and profits earned during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to invest additional funds and invite private sector to set up additional steel producing units to meet expansion targets of the steel industry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR AKHILESH DAS): (a) There are two steel producing Public Sector Enterprises under the Ministry of Steel - Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL). SAIL produces alloy steel in its steel plants located at Durgapur (Alloy Steel Plant) and Bhadravati (Visweswarayya Iron and Steel Plant), and stainless steel at Salem Steel Plant in addition to mild steel which is produced in all its integrated steel plants. RINL produces finished steel and the production details of these two companies for the last three years are given below:

H. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)

Unit: Million tonnes

Production of different qualities of Steel	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Saleable Steel	3.169	3.173	3.237
Net profit (Rs. in crores)	1547	2008	1252

(b) and (c) With the liberalization of the economy in 1991, the steel sector was also opened up for private investment. The private sector is free to set up steel plants based on their requirements. As per the present estimates, Steel Authority of India Ltd. is investing Rs. 40,000 crores for its expansion/modernization programmes and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd., another Public Sector Enterprises is investing Rs.8692 crores on its expansion programme.

[Translation]

Livestock Insurance Scheme

27. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the features of the livestock insurance scheme;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken steps to make livestock insurance mandatory in each State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(i) The livestock insurance scheme as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented on pilot basis during 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the 10th

Five Year Plan in 100 selected districts. The scheme is being implemented in all States except Goa.

(ii) Under the scheme, the crossbred and high yielding cattle and buffaloes are being insured at maximum of their current market price.

(iii) The premium of the insurance is subsidized to the tune of 50%. The entire cost of subsidy is being borne by the Central Government. Rest of the premium is to be borne by the beneficiaries.

(iv) The benefit of the subsidy is being provided to a maximum of two animals per beneficiary.

(v) The scheme is being implemented through Livestock Development Boards of respective states.

(b) (i) The approved outlay for 10th Five Year Plan was Rs. 120.00 crore.

(ii) The scheme was approved in February, 2006.

(iii) After approval of the scheme Rs. 24.21 crore was released to the State Implementing Agencies during 2005-06.

(iv) Rs. 25.50 crore has been released during 2006-07 out of Rs. 51.00 crore allocated.

(v) State-wise release during 2005-06 and during the current financial year is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement***Statewise Release of Funds for Livestock Insurance Scheme***

(Rs. Lakh)

S.No.	Name of the State	Funds released during		Total
		2005-06	2006-07	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	184.60	305.00	489.60
2.	Bihar	133.00	80.00	213.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	44.00	—	44.00
4.	Gujarat	150.00	221.00	371.00
5.	Haryana	133.00	89.00	222.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	44.00	23.00	67.00
7.	Kashmir	44.00	15.00	59.00
8.	Jharkhand	44.00	—	44.00
9.	Karnataka	110.00	33.00	143.00
10.	Kerala	68.00	150.00	218.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	150.00	82.00	232.00
12.	Maharashtra	150.00	245.00	395.00
13.	Orissa	69.00	—	69.00
14.	Punjab	125.00	252.00	377.00
15.	Rajasthan	150.00	256.00	406.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	106.00	113.00	219.00
17.	Uttaranchal	44.54	17.00	61.54
18.	Uttar Pradesh	254.00	419.00	673.00
19.	West Bengal	68.00	—	68.00
	Sub Total Other States	2071.14	2300.00	4371.14
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	47.00	—	47.00
21.	Assam	47.00	78.00	125.00
22.	Manipur	47.00	21.00	68.00
23.	Meghalaya	47.00	—	47.00

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Mizoram	47.00	—	47.00
25.	Nagaland	47.00	110.00	157.00
26.	Sikkim	46.00	21.00	67.00
27.	Tripura	22.00	20.00	42.00
Sub Total NER States		350.00	250.00	600.00
Grand Total		2421.14	2550.00	4971.14

*[English]***Irrigation Projects**

28. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of irrigation projects existing in the country, State-wise and Project-wise;

(b) the percentage of cultivable land under irrigation in the country, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of irrigated land brought under cultivation from First Five Year Plan to Tenth Five Year Plan, Plan-wise;

(d) the total amount so far invested for irrigation, Plan-wise; and

(e) the growth rate of irrigation in each plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Irrigation is a State's subject and planning, execution, funding and priority of construction of irrigation projects is within the purview of State Governments. There were 1887 major and medium projects taken up during various plans/pre-plan periods. The number of major, medium and Extension, Renovation & Modernization irrigation projects completed up to IX Plan are 1232 and projects planned to be completed by end of X Plan (2002-07) are 1410. There are 477 spill over projects from X Plan to XI Plan. The State-wise details in respect of 477 projects are given in Statement I. The State-wise details of Net Sown area, New Irrigated Area and percentage of irrigated area under cultivation are given in Statement-II. The total plan expenditure for all sectors, expenditure on irrigation and percentage expenditure on irrigation from First Five Year Plan to Tenth Five Year Plan are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Plan period	Total Plan Expenditure all sectors	Expenditure on irrigation	Percentage expenditure on irrigation
1	2	3	4
First Plan	1960	441.8	22.24
Second Plan	4672	541.6	11.59
Third Plan	8577	1019.1	11.89
Annual	6625	990.7	15.04
Fourth Plan	15779	2415.7	15.31

1	2	3	4
Fifth Plan	28653	3925.8	14.22
Annual	22950	3423.5	14.27
Sixth Plan	109292	11526.7	10.55
Seventh Plan	218730	18734.1	8.56
Annual	123120	9108.7	7.4
Eighth Plan	483060	34957.2	7.59
Ninth Plan	941041	63049.0	6.7
Tenth Plan	1525639	95734.4	6.28
Total	3490098	245868.3	

An amount of Rs. 245868.30 crore has been invested so far for irrigation projects from First Five Year Plan to Tenth Five Year Plan. The plan-wise position of irrigation

potential created and irrigation potential utilized (growth rate of irrigation in each plan period) are given in statement-III.

Statement I

State-wise details of Spillover Irrigation Projects from X Plan to XI Plan

	Major	Medium	ERM	Total
	1	2	3	4
Ongoing In X Plan	171	233	86	490
Dropped/Shifted	6	4	4	14
Balance	165	229	82	476
New in X Plan	49	84	46	179
Total	214	313	128	655
Likely Completion in X Plan	48	91	39	178
Spilling to XI Plan	166	222	89	477

Spillover Projects to XI Plan

Andhra Pradesh	26	19	6	51
Arunachal Pradesh**	0	0	0	0

	1	2	3	4
Assam	2	2	2	6
Bihar	10	2	5	17
Chhattisgarh	4	7	1	12
Goa	0	0	0	0
Gujarat*	3	15	11	29
Haryana**	1	0	1	2
Himachal Pradesh	1	3	0	4
Jammu and Kashmir**	0	6	4	10
Jharkhand	6	16	0	22
Karnataka	15	27	5	47
Kerala	3	4	2	9
Madhya Pradesh	18	8	5	31
Maharashtra	53	83	3	139
Manipur	2	1	4	7
Meghalaya**	0	1	0	1
Mizoram**	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	1	0	1
Orissa	7	10	14	31
Punjab**	1	0	2	3
Rajasthan	2	7	2	11
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu**	0	2	3	5
Tripura	0	3	0	3
Uttar Pradesh	9	0	13	22
Uttaranchal**	1	0	0	1
West Bengal	2	5	6	13
Total	166	222	89	477

Statement II*State-wise details of Net Sown Area (NSA), Net Irrigated Area (NIA), and percentage of Irrigated Area**(in Thousand Hectares)*

S.No.	States/UTs	Net Sown Area (NSA)	Net Irrigated Area (NIA)	% of NIA to NSA
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10978.00	4538.00	41.34
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	185.00	36.00	19.46
3.	Assam	2701.00	572.00	21.18
4.	Bihar	7431.00	3682.00	49.55
5.	Chhattisgarh	*	*	
6.	Gujarat	9674.00	3058.00	31.61
7.	Haryana	3628.00	2842.00	78.34
8.	Himachal Pradesh	549.00	103.00	18.76
9.	Jharkhand	**	**	
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	733.00	309.00	42.16
11.	Karnataka	10489.00	2492.00	23.76
12.	Kerala	2259.00	375.00	16.60
13.	Madhya Pradesh	19839.00	6560.00	33.07
14.	Maharashtra	17732.00	2946.00	16.61
15.	Manipur	140.00	65.00	46.43
16.	Meghalaya	221.00	48.00	21.72
17.	Mizoram	109.00	9.00	8.26
18.	Nagaland	261.00	63.00	24.14
19.	Orissa	6048.00	2090.00	34.56
20.	Punjab	4238.00	4004.00	94.48
21.	Rajasthan	16073.00	5499.00	34.21
22.	Sikkim	95.00	16.00	16.84
23.	Tamil Nadu	5635.00	3019.00	53.58
24.	Tripura	277.00	35.00	12.64

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Uttar Pradesh	17585.00	12691.00	72.17
26.	Uttaranchai	***	***	
27.	West Bengal	5440.00	1911.00	35.13
28.	Goa	142.00	22.00	15.49
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	38.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	2.00	2.00	100.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	23.00	5.00	21.74
32.	Delhi	41.00	39.00	95.12
33.	Daman and Diu	4.00	1.00	25.00
34.	Lakshadweep	3.00	1.00	33.33
35.	Pondicherry	25.00	22.00	88.00
Total		142598.00	57055.00	40.01

*Included in Madhya Pradesh

**Included in Bihar

***Included in Uttar Pradesh

Statement III*Plan-wise position of Irrigation Potential created and utilized*

(Area in million ha.)

Plan		Potential created					Potential Utilised				
		Major & Medium	Minor			Total	Major & Medium	Minor			Total
			S.W.	G.W.	Total			S.W.	G.W.	Total	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Upto 1951 (Pre-Plan)	Cumulative	9.70	6.40	6.50	12.90	22.60	9.70	6.40	6.50	12.90	22.80
I Plan (1951-1958)	During	2.50	0.03	1.13	1.16	3.86	1.28	0.03	1.13	1.16	2.44
	Cumulative	12.20	6.43	7.63	14.06	26.26	10.98	6.43	7.63	14.06	25.04
II Plan (1956-1961)	During	2.13	0.02	0.67	0.69	2.82	2.07	0.02	0.67	0.69	2.76
	Cumulative	14.33	6.45	8.30	14.75	29.08	13.05	6.45	8.30	14.75	27.80

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
III Plan	During		2.24	0.03	2.22	2.25	4.49	2.12	0.03	2.22	2.25	4.37
(1961-1966)	Cumulative		16.57	6.48	10.52	17.00	33.57	15.17	6.48	10.52	17.00	32.17
Annual Plans	During		1.53	0.02	1.98	2.00	3.53	1.58	0.02	1.98	2.00	3.58
(1966-1969)	Cumulative		18.10	6.50	12.50	19.00	37.10	16.75	6.50	12.50	19.00	35.75
IV Plan	During		2.60	0.50	4.00	4.50	7.10	1.64	0.50	4.00	4.50	6.14
(1969-1974)	Cumulative		20.70	7.00	16.50	23.50	44.20	18.39	7.00	16.50	23.50	41.89
V Plan	During		4.02	0.50	3.30	3.80	7.82	2.70	0.50	3.30	3.80	6.50
(1974-1978)	Cumulative		24.72	7.50	19.80	27.30	52.02	21.16	7.50	19.80	27.30	48.45
Annual Plans	During		1.89	0.50	2.20	2.70	4.59	1.48	0.50	2.20	2.70	4.18
(1978-1980)	Cumulative		26.61	8.00	22.00	30.00	56.61	22.64	8.00	22.00	30.00	52.64
VI Plan	During		1.09	1.70	5.82	7.52	8.81	0.93	1.01	4.24	5.25	6.18
(1980-1985)	Cumulative		27.70	9.70	27.82	37.52	65.22	23.57	9.01	26.24	35.25	58.82
VII Plan	During		2.22	1.29	7.80	9.09	11.31	1.90	0.96	6.91	7.87	9.77
(1985-1990)	Cumulative		29.92	10.90	35.62	46.52	76.44	25.47	9.97	33.15	43.12	68.69
Annual Plans	During		0.82	0.47	3.27	3.74	4.58	0.85	0.32	3.10	3.42	4.27
(1990-1992)	Cumulative		30.74	11.46	38.89	50.35	81.09	26.31	10.29	36.25	46.54	72.86
VIII Plan	During		2.21	1.05	1.91	2.96	5.17	2.13	0.78	1.45	2.23	4.38
(1992-1997)	Cumulative		32.95	12.51	40.80	53.31	86.26	28.44	11.07	37.7	48.77	77.21
IX Plan	During		4.10	1.09	2.50	3.59	7.69	2.57	0.37	0.85	1.22	3.70
(1997-2002)	Cumulative		37.05	13.60	43.30	56.90	93.95	31.01	11.44	38.55	49.90	81.00
X Plan	During		5.30	0.71	2.81	3.52	8.82	3.41	0.55	2.26	2.82	6.23
(2002-2007)*	Cumulative		42.35	14.31	46.1	60.42	102.77	34.42	12.00	40.81	52.81	87.23

*Tentative

New Pharmaceutical Plant

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

29. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up new pharmaceutical plant in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Forest Land to Tribals

30. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA:
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with the Union Government related to distribution for forest land to tribals in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which clearance is likely to be granted to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. On the basis of the proposal submitted by the State Government of Kerala, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has accorded approval in February 2004 for diversion of 7,693.22 hectares of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for resettlement of landless tribals.

Welfare Schemes for Fishermen

31. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the working condition of the fishermen after Tsunami;

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

(c) the details of the schemes implemented for the welfare of the traditional fishermen; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen comprising of the following three broad components is in operation:

(i) Development of Model Fishermen Villages *i.e.* construction of fishermen houses, community hall and installation of tube wells for drinking water.

(ii) Saving-cum-Relief

(iii) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen.

(d) Under the welfare scheme, funds are released on receipt of proposals from the State Government on need basis. A statement giving state-wise details of funds released during the last three years and the current financial year is annexed.

Statement

State-wise Central assistance released during the last 3 years (2003-2006) and current financial year (2006-07) till 21.2.2006 under the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	2003-2006	2006-2007
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	424.61	65.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	32.00	32.00
3.	Assam	18.40	0.00

1	2	3	4
4. Bihar		66.69	60.79
5. Chhattisgarh		50.70	21.02
6. Daman and Diu		15.00	15.00
7. Goa		1.05	0.00
8. Gujarat		63.00	0.00
9. Himachal Pradesh		12.37	5.10
10. Jammu and Kashmir		100.30	20.00
11. Jharkhand		505.50	258.40
12. Karnataka		743.77	348.20
13. Kerala		581.28	162.96
14. Maharashtra		53.97	61.86
15. Madhya Pradesh		44.16	33.82
16. Manipur		46.52	0.00
17. Nagaland		151.55	54.00
18. Orissa		293.12	18.00
19. Pondicherry		513.76	150.00
20. Rajasthan		37.20	31.36
21. Tamil Nadu		2456.96	300.00
22. Tripura		50.20	24.00
23. Uttar Pradesh		592.40	350.00
24. Uttaranchal		12.90	0.00
25. West Bengal		470.00	241.20
26. A & N Islands		5.84	1.48
27. FISHCOPFED		267.85	104.35
Total		7611.10	2358.90

Rain Water Management

32. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has constituted a Central body for Rain Water Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its precise functions; and

(c) the plan of action drawn out in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Water Resources has not constituted any central body for Rain Water Management. However, the Ministry of Agriculture has constituted the "National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA)" to address the problems of rainfed areas and for sustainable development of such areas.

Jobs for Migrant Workers

33. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of Hindi speaking migrant workers who left Assam following the recent ULFA attack on them;

(b) whether the Government proposes to arrange alternative job for them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) According to available reports, some of seasonal/Hindi speaking migrant workers left Assam following the recent ULFA attack.

(b) The Government has no proposal in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Report of Panel on Drug Prices

34. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Panel constituted on drugs prices has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) A Joint Committee with members from the drug industry was constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (C&PC) to suggest, inter alia, price monitoring or cost based pricing of drugs and pharmaceuticals. The Joint Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 30-11-2006 and some of the recommendations have been taken into consideration while finalizing the draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006.

This Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11-1-2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM). A Group of Ministers has thereafter been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

[Translation]

Contract Labour System

35. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to abolish Contract Labour System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps initiated in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Development Activities in Rural Areas

36. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the status of developmental activities in rural areas to work out appropriate strategy for accelerating growth in agriculture and related non-crop sector through a comprehensive policy measures/package;

(b) if so, the details of trends revealed therein; and

(c) the details of the new agricultural initiatives for thrust areas particularly for non-green/dry land farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has worked out a strategy for accelerating growth in agriculture and allied sector. Keeping in view the challenges faced by the agriculture in India, the National Agriculture Policy was formulated in 2000 to foster a sustainable growth with equity, catering to domestic markets as well as maximizing benefits from exports of agricultural products in view of the economic liberalization and globalization. The government have taken a number of initiatives to improve the agriculture sector and thereby the condition of the farmers in general. These, inter-alia, include the announcement of credit policy in April, 2004, which envisaged doubling of the credit to the agriculture sector by 2007. Further, from Kharif 2006-07, farmers are being provided crop loan up to Rs. 3 lakh at 7% rate of interest. The Government has worked out and announced a package for revival of cooperative credit structure. A major effort has been initiated for diversification of agriculture. National Horticulture Mission has been put in place for ensuring end-to-end approach with backward and forward linkages, covering research, post harvest management, processing and marketing. A special programme for horticulture development is also implemented in north-eastern states. Other initiatives taken by Government include expanding the area under irrigation, improved water management with watershed development and rain water harvesting, establishment of National Rained Area Authority and National Fisheries Development Board.

*[Translation]***MSP to Cotton**

37. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton growers suffer huge losses and are unable to recover even the cost price for their products;

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

(c) whether the farmers are not included in the Committee for price fixation of cotton which is completely controlled by the middle men who are unable to appreciate the problem of the farmers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for participation of farmers in said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) With a view to ensure remunerative prices to the cotton growers of the country in the event of a fall in kapas price, the Government of India every year is fixing the minimum support prices (MSPs) well before the commencement of the cotton season. The MSPs are recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP). While arriving at the MSPs the CACP takes into account structure of the cotton economy, the cost of cultivation per hectare, cost of production per quintal in various regions of the country, changes in input prices, labour charges, input-output price parity, trends in market prices, demand and supply, inter-crop price parity, effect on industrial cost structure, effect on cost of living, effect on general price level, parity between the prices paid and prices received by the farmers, international price situation etc. including a reasonable profit to the cotton farmers.

In the event of kapas prices touching the MSP level, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) as the nodal agency of

the Government of India is used to purchase the Fair and Average Quality (FAQ) grade kapas in the APMC market yards. To help the cotton farmers and avoid distress sales, the CCI is also purchasing the kapas three stages below the FAQ grade. Also to ensure remunerative prices to a large number of cotton farmers, the Government of India has also nominated NAFED as the second agency for MSP operations.

(c) Before recommending MSPs, the CACP holds discussions with various stakeholders and entities such as Directorate of Cotton Development, Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation, Gujarat State Cooperative Cotton Federation, All India Cooperative Cotton Federation, CCI, CIRCOT, Textile Commissioner, East India Cotton Association, South India Cotton Association, Confederation of India Textile Industries, All India Cotton Seed Crushers Association as also with representative of farmers.

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

Corruption in PDS

38. SHRI JIVABHAI A.PATEL:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

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

(a) whether the Government is unable to provide essential commodities to the poor at affordable price due to rampant corruption in the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total number of cases of corruption detected/reported in the PDS during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the nature of action taken against the persons held guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per statement enclosed.

Statement

*Action Taken under Clauses 8 & 9 of the PDS (Control) Order 2001 by State Govts/UT Admn.—
For the Year 2003-04 (As reported by respective State/UT)*

(In Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Quarter ending	No. of Inspections	No. of Raids conducted	No. of persons arrested/prosecuted/convicted	No. of FPS licences suspended/cancelled/Show-cause notice issued	Type & Value of goods sei (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.4.03 - 30.06.03	3689	3689	31	73	Essential Commodity- 30,95,570/-
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03	3892	3892	25	75	E.C. - 33,69,410/-
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03	3846	3846	24	77	E.C. - 36,75,470/-
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04	3742	3742	4	220	E.C. - 20,97,370/-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03					
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03					
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04					
3.	Assam	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	21	17	Nil	Nil	Nil
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03	10	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03	15	13	Nil	Nil	Nil
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04	17	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	1.4.03 - 30.6.03					
		1.10.03 - 30.9.03					
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04	7898	14	1	1327	2346.34 Qtls Rice 162.01 Qtls. Wheat 100 Ltr. K. oil
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.03 - 30.6.03					
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03					
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04					
6.	Delhi	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	200	5	2	2	
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03	160	-	-	1	106.2 Qtls.
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03	28	-	-	1	
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04	57	12	8	6	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Goa	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.9.03 1.10.03 - 31.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	24 30 49 42	Nil Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil Nil
8.	Gujarat	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.9.03 1.10.03 - 31.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	4056 5113 4395 4314	10 7 7 1	48 80 41 31	25 25 30 15	2,28,504/- 2,59,596/- 2,32,516/- 98,514/-
9.	Haryana	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.9.03 1.10.03 - 31.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	273 504 335 295	65 160 67 107	1 Arrested 1 prosecuted 4 Arrested 2 Arrested -	65 suspended 37 cancelled 244 SCN issued 102 suspended 72 cancelled 497 SCN issued 52 suspended 48 cancelled 378 SCN issued 71 suspended 57 cancelled 315 SCN issued	1,02,600/-ASF 14,816/- 1,83,700/- 3,232/- 2,15,750/- 15,200/- 1,48,000/-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.9.03 1.10.03 - 31.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	1759 1662 1646 1851	Nil Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil 1 Arrested	16 21 13 18	1,0647/- 2,840/- 11,358/- 4,570/-
11.	J&K	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.9.03 1.10.03 - 1.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	290 300 200 400	150 280 175 300	68 156 163 115	1 11 11 4	Not furnished
12.	Jharkhand	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.9.03 1.10.03 - 31.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	Not reported Not reported Not reported Not reported	Not reported Not reported Not reported Not reported	Not reported Not reported Not reported Not reported	Not reported Not reported Not reported Not reported	Not reported Not reported Not reported Not reported
13.	Karnataka	1.4.03 - 30.6.03 1.7.03 - 30.6.03 1.10.03 - 31.12.03 1.1.04 - 31.3.04	205 284 193 229	25 15 10 7	38 61 57 134	0 0 0 0	3,217,586 13,816,375 6,241,154 9,218,989

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Kerala	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	24880	909	2	53 suspended 2 cancelled	19902 K.Oil, 6 Oil, Sugar, 16 LPG, 3 Oil bag, 80 lts Diesel, 85 Lts.Petrol (1,80 2,50/-) 312 LPG, 50
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03	25132	2123	-	37 suspended 4 cancelled	Ltr.K.Oil (3,250/-) 888.65 Ltr.K.Oil,
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03	27497	2120	-	29 suspended 2 cancelled	304 Kg.Rice,225 LPG, 455 Lit. Diesel (2,256/-) 98 LPG,2130
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04	32100	1432	-	20 suspended 6 cancelled	Ltr.K.Oil (19,000/-)
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03					
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03					
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04					
16.	Maharashtra	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	N.A (Not available)	280	453 Arrested, 196 Prosecuted,	N.A	143,892,146.25
		1.7.03 - 30.9.03	N.A	333	584 Arrested, 345 Prosecuted	N.A	1,123,045,417.72
		1.10.03 - 31.12.03	N.A	336	613 Arrested, 359 Prosecuted	N.A	39,981,783.00
		1.1.04 - 31.3.04	N.A	273	485 Arrested, 279 Prosecuted	N.A	274,545,937.15
17.	Manipur	1.4.03 - 30.6.03	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.03-30.9.03					
		1.10.03-31.12.03					
		1.1.04-31.3.04					
18.	Meghalaya	1.4.03-30.6.03	172	137	NIL	2	NIL
		1.7.03-30.9.03	23	9	NIL	2	NIL
		1.10.03-31.12.03	25	16	NIL	2	NIL
		1.1.04-31.3.04	147	142	NIL	8	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Mizoram	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	16 16 23 17	5 3 3 5	NIL NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL NIL
20.	Nagaland	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-30.6.04	30	11	—	—	—
21.	Orissa	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	16973 16504 17727 17582	115 162 146 159	10 6 13 8	461 343 399 249	K.oil, Rice- 2,52,320 K.oil, Rice- 1,06,587 K.oil-5,17,653 K.Oil, Rice- 2,33,415
22.	Punjab	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	7684 9287 8120 8427	7616 12148 10956 11025	10 2 0 1	250 299 255 251	— — — —
23.	Rajasthan	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	3 13 2 12	0 0 0 1	5 5 4 9	0 0 0 0	3.69 lakh 3.62 lakh 2.36 lakh 4.94 lakh
24.	Sikkim	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
25.	Tamil Nadu	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
26.	Tripura	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03	1736 1774 1772	6 6 5	NIL NIL NIL	2 CANC 11 SCN 2 SP 1 CAMC 18 SCN 2 CANC 24 SCN	NIL sugar-190 Kg. Rs. 1,326 HSD-300 Ltr.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		1.1.04-31.3.04	1713	NIL	NIL	1 SP 1 CANC 12 SCN	Penalty Rs. 1,525
27.	Uttaranchal	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	68079 75409 66159 25231	1814 3098 2480 1975	24 33 27 7	1153 1385 1550 1125	3,761,282 4,800,729 4,339,747 825,089
29.	West Bengal	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	740 810 644 752	220 116 119 154	105-arrested 52-prosecuted NIL-convicted 65-arrested 25-prosecuted 1-convicted 86-arrested 33-prosecuted 2-convicted 63-arrested 60-prosecuted 2-convicted	60-suspended 20-cancelled 142-SCN issued 100-suspended 40-cancelled 160-SCN issued 20-suspended NIL-cancelled 95-SCN issued 40-suspended NIL-cancelled 57-SCN issued	Rs. 52,29,336 Rs. 17,24,224 Rs. 81,07,555 Rs. 27,66,830
30.	A & N Islands	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	205 144 149 51	NIL NIL NIL NIL	NIL 1 NIL NIL	15 10 9 2	NIL NIL NIL NIL
31.	Chandigarh	1.4.03-30.6.03 1.7.03-30.9.03 1.10.03-31.12.03 1.1.04-31.3.04	14 19 14 17	— — — —	— — — —	1 suspended 2 show cause notice issued 5 show cause 5 sho cause notices issued — 1 show cause notice issued	— — — —

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.4.03-30.6.03	28	3	6	—	PDSK-Oil-10,197 Rice-42,500
		1.7.03-30.9.03	28	—	—	—	—
		1.10.03-31.12.03	23	—	—	1	—
		1.1.04-31.3.04	15	—	—	—	—
33.	Daman and Diu	1.4.03-30.6.03	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.03-30.9.03	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.03-31.12.03	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.04-31.3.04	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
34.	Lakshadweep	1.4.03-30.6.03	Inspection				
		1.7.03-30.9.03	were	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.03-31.12.03	conducted				
		1.1.04-31.3.04	on regular basis				
35.	Pondicherry	1.4.03-30.6.03	346	6	10	29	Petrol-5,253 Diesel-31,570
		1.7.03-30.9.03	316	0	13	26	Kerosene-2, 760 Petrol-10,654 Diesel-24,372
		1.10.03-31.12.03	305	0	5	26	Kerosene-35,245 Petrol-1,200 Diesel-30,790 Rice-5,365 Sugar-1,535
		1.1.04-31.3.04	444	10	1	46	Petrol-1,600 Rice-8,580

*Action taken Under Clauses 8 & 9 of the PDS (Control) Order 2001 by State Govts./UT Admn.
for the year 2004-05 (As reported by respective State/UT).*

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Quarter ending	No. of Inspections	No. of Raids conducted	No. of persons arrested/prosecuted/convicted	No. of FPS licences suspended/cancelled. Show-cause notice issued.	Type & Value of goods seized (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.4.04-30.6.04	3270	3270	4	225	Essential Commodity- 23,59,566

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		1.7.04-30.9.04	3457	3457	4	223	E.C-22,58,125
		1.10.04-31.12.04	3388	3388	4	244	E.C-28,74,419
		1.1.05-31.3.05	3281	3281	13	348	E.C-18,24,413
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
3.	Assam	1.4.04-30.6.04	180	79	1	7	NIL
		1.7.04-30.9.04	206	146	47	5	20 Ltrs. SKO-177
		1.10.04-31.12.04	127	75	10	3	200 Ltrs. SKO-
		1.1.05-31.3.05	128	103	6	6	2,945
							1496 Ltrs. SKO-
							23,152
4.	Bihar	1.4.04-30.6.04	8997	17	2	1529	179.31 qtls. Rice
							2521.03 qtls.-Wheat
							150 ltr.K.oil
		1.7.04-30.9.04	7876	2	—	852	1168.31 qtls.—Rice
							1170 ltr.K.Oil
		1.10.04-31.12.04	8628	13	3	537	1269.34 qtls.—Wheat
							230 ltr.K.Oil
		1.1.05-31.3.05	5698	11	—	328	1326 qtls.—Rice
							175 ltr.K.Oil
5.	Chattisgarh	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
6.	Delhi	1.4.04-30.6.04	15	10	6	5	
		1.7.04-30.9.04	32	15	12	13	900 Qts.
		1.10.04-31.12.04	27	5	3	2	
		1.1.05-31.3.05	55	8	6	11	
7.	Goa	1.4.04-30.6.04	19	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.04-30.9.04	23	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.04-31.12.04	27	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.05-31.3.05	11	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Gujarat	1.4.04-30.6.04	3734	1	48	12	85,889
		1.7.04-30.9.04	4671	3	64	26	320,777
		1.10.04-31.12.04	8787	7	41	30	681,980
		1.1.05-31.3.05	5495	5	47	24	262,478
9.	Haryana	1.4.04-30.6.04	330	120	3 Arrested	42 suspended 35 cancelled 323 SCN issued	1,14,950
		1.7.04-30.9.04	518	112	5 Arrested 1 prosecuted	58 suspended 41 cancelled 486 SCN issued	2,48,800
		1.10.04-31.12.04	295	126	2 Arrested	28 suspended 22 cancelled 251 SCN issued	1,10,700
		1.1.05-31.3.05	237	78	1 Arrested	43 suspended 18 cancelled 215 SCN issued	87,500
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.4.04-30.6.04	1719	Nil	Nil	22	19,989
		1.7.04-30.9.04	1445	Nil	3 arrested	17	27,948
		1.10.04-31.12.04	1577	Nil	Nil	14	77,747
		1.1.05-31.3.05	1612	Nil	Nil	21	20,369
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.4.04-30.6.04	275	202	40	6	
		1.7.04-30.9.04	290	257	120	5	Not furnished
		1.10.04-31.12.04	305	299	116	4	
		1.1.05-31.3.05	530	505	73	4	
12.	Jharkhand	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
13.	Karnataka	1.4.04-30.6.04	232	34	58	0	182,154,047
		1.7.04-30.9.04	234	1	56	0	4,425,949
		1.10.04-31.12.04	504	13	39	41	3,027,183
		1.1.05-31.3.05	724	26	100	39	2,862,965

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Kerala	1.4.04-30.6.04	33547	1545	—	27 suspended 1 cancelled	825 Lts.K.Oil, 67 LPG-9,788.50
		1.7.04-30.9.04	35263	5192	—	28 suspended 11 cancelled	390 LPG, 120 Lts.K.Oil, 76.46 Kg. wheat- 53,543.20
		1.10.04-31.12.04	33633	2680	—	14 suspended	715 Ltr.K.Oil, 24 LPG-1395.80
		1.1.05-31.3.05	37091	2140	7	19 suspended	100 Ltr.K.Oil, 2 Ltr. Petrol, 442 LPG- 11,919.72
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
16.	Maharashtra	1.4.04-30.6.04	N.A (Not available)	298	530 Arrested 257 Prosecuted	N.A	268,078,090.50
		1.7.04-30.9.04	N.A	432	749 Arrested 356 Prosecuted	N.A	358,743,935.00
		1.10.04-31.12.04	N.A	381	650 Arrested 394 Prosecuted	N.A	13,049,937.71
		1.1.05-31.3.05	N.A	523	737 Arrested 390 Prosecuted	N.A	8,884,431.69
17.	Manipur	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
18.	Meghalaya	1.4.04-30.6.04	29	16	NIL	5	NIL
		1.7.04-30.9.04	32	10	NIL	4	NIL
		1.10.04-31.12.04	42	17	NIL	3	NIL
		1.1.05-31.3.05	162	135	NIL	3	NIL
19.	Mizoram	1.4.04-30.6.04	19	33	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.04-30.9.04	15	31	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.04-31.12.04	17	31	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.05-31.3.05	17	29	NIL	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Nalgaland	1.4.04-30.6.04	30	11	—	—	—
		1.7.04-31.12.04	29	8	—	—	—
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
21.	Orissa	1.4.04-30.6.04	17279	103	10	298	83,516
		1.7.04-30.9.04	20057	436	24	753	K.Oil, Rice, Wheat -24,37,706
		1.10.04-31.12.04	20980	287	33	589	K.Oil, Rice, Sugar- 16,75,472
		1.1.05-31.3.05	20242	824	44	1051	K.Oil, Rice, Wheat -19,45,311
22.	Punjab	1.4.04-30.6.04	7708	9730	12	150	—
		1.7.04-30.9.04	8523	12391	2	223	—
		1.10.04-31.12.04	7690	10795	1	125	—
		1.1.05-31.3.05	8356	9915	3	256	—
23.	Rajasthan	1.4.04-30.6.04	71	2	10	0	6.77 lakh
		1.7.04-30.9.04	2	0	13	0	9.33 lakh
		1.10.04-31.12.04	10	0	12	1	5.06 lakh
		1.1.05-31.3.05	66	0	15	7	10.03 lakh
24.	Sikkim	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
25.	Tamil Nadu	1.4.04-30.6.04	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.04-30.9.04					
		1.10.04-31.12.04					
		1.1.05-31.3.05					
26.	Tripura	1.4.04-30.6.04	1886	15	NIL	1 SP 1 CANC 33 SCN	Filled Cylinders- 256 nos. Rs. 71,778
		1.7.04-30.9.04	1966	10	NIL	1 SP 1 CANC 30 SCN	Rice-100 Kg, Wheat-320 Kg. Rs. 26,032

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		1.10.04-31.12.04	1994	13	1 Arrested	1 SP 1 CNC 40 SCN	SKO-200 Ltr., HSD-66 Ltr. Rice 83 Kg. Rs. 50,335
		1.1.05-31.3.05	2277	18	NIL	2 CANC 54 SCN	SKO-1617 Ltr. Rs. 26,245
27.	Uttaranchal	1.4.04-30.6.04 1.7.04-30.9.04 1.10.04-31.12.04 1.1.05-31.3.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1.4.04-30.6.04 1.7.04-30.9.04 1.10.04-31.12.04 1.1.05-31.3.05	20527 27857 12225 28795	925 1167 3009 994	13 21 52 30	6023 787 283 621	758,782 3,583,055 9,487,432 2,918,680
29.	West Bengal	1.4.04-30.6.04 1.7.04-30.9.04 1.10.04-31.12.04 1.1.05-31.3.05	680 756 760 800	112 97 72 92	86-arrested 74-prosecuted 2-convicted 50-arrested 45-prosecuted NIL-convicted 40-arrested 39-prosecuted 1-convicted 32-arrested 23-prosecuted 1-convicted	36-suspended 18-cancelled 106-SCN issued 36-suspended 18-cancelled 160-SCN issued 18-suspended NIL-cancelled 90-SCN issued 17-suspended NIL-cancelled 72-SCN issued	Rs. 12,70,000 Rs. 2,93,170 Rs. 9,06,000 Rs. 1,06,000
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.4.04-30.6.04 1.7.04-30.9.04 1.10.04-31.12.04 1.1.05-31.3.05	81 126 33	NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL	2 30 05	NIL NIL NIL
			Due to relief work of Tsunami no inspection was conducted	Due to relief work of Tsunami no inspection was conducted	Due to relief work of Tsunami no inspection was conducted	Due to relief work of Tsunami no inspection was conducted	Due to relief work of Tsunami no inspection was conducted

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Chandigarh	1.4.04-30.6.04	18	1	1	4 FDS suspended 4 show cause Notices issued	30 hrs. Kerosene-282
		1.7.04-30.9.04	19	—	—	—	—
		1.10.04-31.12.04	18	—	—	—	—
		1.1.05-31.3.05	21	—	—	7 show cause notices issued	—
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.4.04-30.6.04	23	—	—	—	—
		1.7.04-30.9.04	15	—	—	—	—
		1.10.04-31.12.04	19	1	1	—	PDS Kerosene
		1.1.05-31.3.05	24	—	—	—	value-3,971
33.	Daman & Diu	1.4.04-30.6.04	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.04-30.9.04	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.04-31.12.04	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.05-31.3.05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
34.	Lakshadweep	1.4.04-30.6.04	Inspection	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.40-30.9.04	were	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.04-31.12.04	conducted	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.05-31.3.05	on regular basis	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
35.	Pondicherry	1.4.04-30.6.04	464	28	6	33	Petrol-5,682 Diesel-2,373
		1.7.04-30.9.04	435	29	1	22	Ration rice- 1,00,000 Kerosene-15,465
		1.10.04-31.12.04	409	71	17	34	Petrol-13,195 Diesel-11,692 Kerosene-14,932 Rice-5,785
		1.1.05-31.3.05	1157	59	7	20	Kerosene-31, 739 Diesel-8,583 Petrol-1,440

*Action Taken under Clauses 8 & 9 of the PDS (Control) Order 2001 by State Govts./UT Admn.
For the year 200-06 (As reported by respective State/UT)*

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Quarter ending	No. of Inspections	No. of Raids conducted	No. of persons arrested/ prosecuted/ convicted	No. of FPS licences suspended/ cancelled Show-cause notice issued.	Type & Value of goods seized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.4.05-30.6.05	3203	3203	2	172	Essential Commodity- 57,54,524
		1.7.05-30.9.05	2768	2768	7	107	E.C-19,58,442
		1.10.05-31.12.05	3177	3177	1	128	E.C-19,27,287
		1.1.06-31.3.06	2089	2089	NIL	13	E.C-7,08,401
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					
3.	Assam	1.4.05-30.6.05	410	357	37	11	1702 ltrs. SKO- 15,810
		1.7.05-30.9.05	379	311	73	16	Rice-500 Qtl-5,000 18029 Ltrs. SKO 164,065
		1.10.05-31.12.05	850	847	12	19	1900 Ltrs. SKO- 12,805
		1.1.06-31.3.06	322	309	24	22	1475 ltrs. SKO- 13,334
4.	Bihar	1.4.05-30.6.05	16559	236	3	1005	5679.87 qtls. Rice 3469.79 qtls.—Wheat 386 ltr.K.Oil 300 Cy.LPG 1.05 qtls. Sugar
		1.7.05-30.9.05	15708	15	1	818	8116 qtls.—Rice 3751.18 qtls.—Wheat 3500 ltr.K.Oil
		1.10.05-31.12.05	12272	37	22	1535	24.74 qtls.—Rice 2554 ltr.K.Oil 50 ltrs. Diesel 30 ltrs.—Petrol 25 Cy.LPG
		1.1.06-31.3.06	16083	122	1	1241	615 pacs.—Rice 1621 qtls.—Rice 5050 ltr.—K.Oil 176 qtls.—Wheat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.4.05-30.6.05 1.7.05-30.9.05 1.10.05-31.12.05 1.1.06-31.3.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
6.	Delhi	1.4.05-30.6.05 1.7.05-30.9.05 1.10.05-31.12.05 1.1.06-31.3.06	70 130 49 147	20 62 25 15	7 46 14 9	7 42 8 7	634 Qts.
7.	Goa	1.4.05-30.6.05 1.7.05-30.9.05 1.10.05-31.12.05 1.1.06-31.3.06	11 28 19 20	NIL NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL NIL	1 NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL NIL
8.	Gujarat	1.4.05-30.6.05 1.7.05-30.9.05 1.10.05-31.12.05 1.1.06-31.3.06	5787 6582 3792 4675	6 5 5 4	68 39 32 66	31 23 14 18	442,229 793,233 103,562 306,201
9.	Haryana	1.4.05-30.6.05 1.7.05-30.9.05 1.10.05-31.12.05 1.1.06-31.3.06	972 375 396 556	161 132 118 105	6 Arrested 14 Prosecuted 25 Arrested 5 Prosecuted 2 Arrested 5 convicted 2 Arrested 2 Prosecuted	150 license suspended, 105 cancelled, 534 show cause Notice issued 134 license suspended, 53 cancelled, 378 show cause Notice issued 113 suspended 58 cancelled 410 SCN issued 120 license suspended, 54 cancelled, 426 show cause Notice issued	Value of goods Seized 1,28,568 Amount of security forfeited- 2,50,400 Value of goods Seized 46,667 Amount of security forfeited- 2,15,950 Value of goods Seized 37,966 Amount of security forfeited- 2,05,550 Value of goods seized 8,232 Amount of security forfeited-2,48,450
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.4.05-30.6.05 1.7.05-30.9.05 1.10.05-31.12.05 1.1.06-31.3.06	1568 1568 1544 1611	NIL NIL NIL NIL	1 arrested NIL 1 arrested NIL	20 26 28 30	22,428 58,713 27,900 69,100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.4.05-30.6.05	380	230	92	6	
		1.7.05-30.9.05	394	207	139	6	Not furnished
		1.10.05-31.12.05	380	244	180	4	
		1.1.06-31.3.06	663	390	209	4	
12.	Jharkhand	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					
13.	Karnataka	1.4.05-30.6.05	277	15	9	28	2,807,038
		1.7.05-30.9.05	1270	44	22	63	4,982,339
		1.10.05-31.12.05	1331	11	60	32	2,614,666
		1.1.06-31.3.06	674	23	13	15	3,403,061
14.	Kerala	1.4.05-30.6.05	38799	1246	2	26 suspended	940 Ltr.K.Oil, 170 LPG, 60 ltrs. Petrol, 50 ltrs. Diesel- 10,090
		1.7.05-30.9.05	29584	1621	2 Prosecuted	21 suspended	799 LPG, 50 Ltr.K.Oil
		1.10.05-31.12.05	33410	1685	—	32 suspended 1 cancelled	1931 LPG, 635 ltrs.K.Oil,
		1.1.06-31.3.06	33948	622	—	40 suspended 21 cancelled	449 LPG
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					
16.	Maharashtra	1.4.05-30.6.05	N.A	452	701 Arrested 399 Prosecuted	N.A	164,748,702.20
		1.7.05-30.9.05	N.A	656	1015 Arrested 478 Prosecuted	N.A	77,819,193.50
		1.10.05-31.12.05	N.A	806	1116 Arrested 708 Prosecuted	N.A	3,644,846,613
		1.1.06-31.3.06	N.A	557	867 Arrested 582 Prosecuted	N.A	16,037,341
17.	Manipur	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Meghalaya	1.4.05-30.6.05	121	29	7	10	724 Ltrs. of Blue S.K.Oil
		1.7.05-30.9.05	84	28	NIL	4	NIL
		1.10.05-31.12.05	52	29	NIL	5	22 Nos each of refill & empty cylinders
		1.1.06-31.3.06		15	NIL	NIL	NIL
19.	Mizoram	1.4.05-30.6.05	15	30	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.05-30.9.05	11	37	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.05-31.12.05	12	35	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.06-31.3.06	17	14	NIL	NIL	NIL
20.	Nagaland	1.4.05-30.6.05					
		1.7.05-31.12.05	31	12	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.06-30.6.06	33	11	NIL	NIL	NIL
21.	Orissa	1.4.05-30.6.05	19598	320	18	567	K.Oil, Rice, Sugar- 16,97,735
		1.7.05-30.9.05	20081	286	63	986	-do- 25,51,489
		1.10.05-31.12.05	17909	414	24	619	-do- 44,24,468
		1.1.06-31.3.06	19039	261	41	556	-do- 7,47,833
22.	Punjab	1.4.05-30.6.05	8621	10436	3	252	—
		1.7.05-30.9.05	8968	12243	1	313	—
		1.10.05-31.12.05	7483	10861	4	211	—
		1.1.06-31.3.06					
23.	Rajasthan	1.4.05-30.6.05	69	3	9	0	23.32 lakh
		1.7.05-30.9.05	58	38	79	34	29.96 lakh
		1.10.05-31.12.05	127	26	70	10	28.37 lakh
		1.1.06-31.3.06	87	23	14	7	16.86 lakh
24.	Sikkim	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					
25.	Tamil Nadu	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	Tripura	1.4.05-30.6.05	2842	16	1 Arrested	4 SP 4 CANC 54 SCN	SKO-400 Ltr., Sugar- 200 Kg., Rice-2000 Kg. Rs. 66,983
		1.7.05-30.9.05	2508	26	2 Arrested	2 SP	SKO-175 Ltr., HSD- 600 Ltr. Rs. 33,564
		1.10.05-31.12.05	2408	24	NIL	45 SCN 34 SCN	SKO-1730 Ltr. Rs. 23,408
		1.1.06-31.3.06	2357	9	NIL	2 SP 2 CANC 40 SCN	SKO-120 Ltr, MS-30 Ltr. Rs. 3,219
27.	Uttaranchal	1.4.05-30.6.05	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
		1.7.05-30.9.05					
		1.10.05-31.12.05					
		1.1.06-31.3.06					
28.	Uttar pradesh	1.4.05-30.6.05	22635	1209	32	466	9,487,164
		1.7.05-30.9.05	17943	2829	50	539	3,945,033
		1.10.05-31.12.05	21517	1924	52	1174	3,691,243
		1.1.06-31.3.06	22828	2175	49	1158	14,673,679
29.	West Bengal	1.4.05-30.6.05	360	106	50-arrested 40-prosecuted 2-convicted	36-suspended 18-cancelled 136-SCN issued	Rs. 2,96,000
		1.7.05-30.9.05	410	139	67-arrested 52-prosecuted 2-convicted	54-suspended 18-cancelled 106-SCN issued	Rs. 3,76,000
		1.10.05-31.12.05	540	105	52-arrested 38-prosecuted 2-convicted	18-suspended 36-cancelled 154-SCN issued	Rs. 3,28,000
		1.1.06-31.3.06	790	108	61-arrested 22-prosecuted NIL-convicted	18-suspended NIL-cancelled 90-SCN issued	Rs. 42,253
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.4.05-30.6.05	56	NIL	NIL	1	NIL
		1.7.05-30.9.05	43	NIL	NIL	5	NIL
		1.10.05-31.12.05	06	NIL	NIL	NIL	Due to relief & Rehabilitation work in Tsunami Less inspection were conducted
		1.1.06-31.3.06					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Chandigarh	1.4.05-30.6.05	25	1	1	5 S.C.N. issued	13 Qta. AAY— Rice-3,900
		1.7.05-30.9.05	20	—	—	6 S.C.N. issued	—
		1.10.05-31.12.05	23	—	—	6 S.C.N. issued	—
		1.1.06-31.3.06	24	—	—	12 S.C.N. issued	—
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.4.05-30.6.05	21	—	—	SCN/1	—
		1.7.05-30.9.05	26	—	—	—	—
		1.10.05-31.12.05	20	—	—	—	—
		1.1.06-31.3.06	20	—	—	SCN/1	—
33.	Daman and Diu	1.4.05-30.6.05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.05-30.9.05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.05-31.12.05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.06-31.3.06	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
34.	Lakshadweep	1.4.05-30.6.05	Inspection were	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.7.05-30.9.05	conducted on	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.10.05-31.12.05	regular basis	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
		1.1.06-31.3.06		NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
35.	Pondichery	1.4.05-30.6.05	1097	65	8	3	PDS Kerosene 40,000 Kerosene-900 Petrol-5,707 Diesel-7,442
		1.7.05-30.9.05	846	68	8	2	Petrol-8,926 Diesel-6,470 Rice-400 Kerosene-23,815
		1.10.05-31.12.05	796	70	15	2	Petrol-8,803 Diesel-25,357 Rice-2,500 Empty Cylinder- 38,500
		1.1.06-31.3.06	850	62	4	1	Diesel-4,400 Petrol-3,300

*Action Taken Under Clauses 8 & 9 of The PDS (Control) Order, 2001 By State Govts./UT Admn.**For the year 2006-07 (As reported by respective State/UT)*

(In Rs.)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Quarter ending	No. of Inspections	No. of Raids conducted	No. of persons arrested/ prosecuted/ convicted	No./of FPS licences suspended/ cancelled show-cause notice issued.	Type & Value of goods seized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	5180	1889	41	77	17,49,630
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
3.	Assam	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
4.	Bihar	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	9338	16	—	497	87.3 qtls.—Wheat 482-45 qtls-Rice 6659 lts.K.Oil
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
6.	Delhi	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06 1.10.06-31.12.06	208 153	19 28	15 arrested 22 arrested	14 Suspended 154 Show cases notice issued 38 suspended/ Can called 106 SCN issued	15 Gas Cylinder 2460 lts-K.Oil 139 qtls—Wheat 58-Domestic Gas Cylinders 4-Patromex Gas Cylinders
7.	Goa	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	24 32	2 3	NIL NIL	NIL NIL	NIL NIL
8.	Gujarat	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Haryana	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	585 635	100 115	3-arrested 2-prosecuted 1-arrested 1-prosecuted	137-suspended 76-cancelled 616-SCN issued 119-suspended 134-cancelled 584-SCN issued	Value of goods seized-85000 Amount of security forfeited-3,17,080 Value of goods seized-57800 Amount of security forfeited-3,94,350
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	1681	N.A	3	N.A	Rs. 34,482
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
12.	Jharkhand	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
13.	Karnataka	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
14.	Kerala	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	41235	508	3	41 Suspended 1 Cancelled	14.5 qtls.—Rice 2955 ltrs.—Kerosene 187-Gas Cylinder Rs. 11,884
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
16.	Maharashtra	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
17.	Manipur	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
18.	Meghalaya	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
19.	Mizoram	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
20.	Nagaland	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
21.	Orissa	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
22.	Punjab	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Rajasthan	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
24.	Sikkim	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
25.	Tamil Nadu	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
26.	Tripura	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
27.	Uttaranchal	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
29.	West Bengal	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
30.	A & N Islands	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06 1.10.06-31.12.06	62 47 260	NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL	10 8 7 (1 suspended, 5 SCN)	NIL NIL NIL
31.	Chandigarh	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	18	NIL	NIL	7 SCN issued	NIL
32.	D & N Haveli	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	20	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
33.	Daman & Diu	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported
34.	Lakshdweep	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06 1.10.0-31.12.06	NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL	NIL NIL NIL
35.	Pondicherry	1.4.06-30.6.06 1.7.06-30.9.06	429 408	27 14	6 9	0 6(3FPS Suspended & (3 FPS SCN in Pondicherry region)	Kerosene-7,400 Petrol-3,776 Diesel-2,370 Kerosene-1,547 Petrol-5,695.55 Diesel-7,436

Corruption in FCI

39. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

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

(a) whether financial irregularities and mismanagement are going on unabated in Food Corporation of India due to leniency of the departmental vigilance;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry/study has been conducted to devise ways to make vigilance more effective and contain corruption therein;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the follow up steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) In-depth examination of Instructions/circulars was conducted by Food Corporation of India. Steps taken to improve and to make Vigilance more effective are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Vigilance Division of Food Corporation of India is constantly having a watchful eye on the areas of corruption and is taking all measures to check any attempt at financial irregularity and mismanagement by Food Corporation of India's employee(s).

Statement***Steps taken by Food Corporation of India to make vigilance more effective***

- (i) First in First Out (FIFO) (Crop year) replaced with FIFO with reference to date of procurement in the procuring region.
- (ii) Two bid tender system to have a level playing field.
- (iii) Wider publicity on electronic media to generate a fair competition.
- (iv) Placing on website the results of tenders awarded with names of the successful tenderers and rates etc.

(v) Setting up of Depot Inspection Monitoring Cell (DIMC)

(vi) Indepth Examination and timely action on

(a) Internal Audit Report

(b) CAG Audit Report

(c) Observation of CTE Inspections

(vii) Rotation Transfers on completion of tenure-

	No. of staff rotated	
2004	—	1268
2005	—	3670
2006	—	1750

(viii) In-Depth study of (a) Handling & Transport Contracts (b) Purchase procedure in FCI.

(ix) Monitoring of Progress of disposal of complaints and vigilance cases.

(x) Surveillance of officers on

(a) Agreed List - 82 (Cat. 1, 2 officers)

(b) Doubtful Integrity List - 442 (Cat. 1, 14 officers)

(xi) Identification of

(a) High Loss Storage Depots

(b) High loss railheads for transit losses.

(c) Depots/centres repeatedly procurement substandard/bad quality of rice (e.g. Muktsar Center of Faridkot, Punjab)

(xii) Habitual Offenders (Rice Millers) passing on substandard/bad quality of rice to FCI were identified and cases registered by CBI against 330 Rice Millers of Punjab.

(xiii) Intensive checking of above operational points.

(xiv) Extensive use of computers, payment through ECS, restrictions on payment in cash.

(xv) Up-gradation of mechanical weighbridges to Electronic Weighbridges (out of 617,315 have been upgraded)

(xvi) Maintenance of records, transparency, efficiency and optimum utilization of resources as per ISO 9001-2000.

(xvii) Developing a culture of honesty - punishing the guilty and rewarding the honest/meritorious officers/officials.

(xviii) Specific instructions for screening the occurrence/disposal of cattle feed stock. The following results has been achieved due to above efforts:

1. Storage & transit losses have reduced from 0.53% during 2004-2005 to 0.36% during 2005-06 which in terms of money value is saving of about Rs. 50 crores.

2. A steep decrease in quality complaints as indicated below:

Crop Year	No. of quality complaints
2004-05	450
2005-06	20
2006-07	Nil

Pending Cases in Environment Courts

40. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

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

(a) the number of cases filed in Environment Courts along with the number of pending cases as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been delay in disposal of such cases; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Environment Courts have not been set up in the country so far.

(b) Since none of the courts in the country have exclusive jurisdiction over environmental issues, there are procedural delays in disposal of environment related cases.

(c) The Law Commission, in its 186th Report, has *inter alia* recommended establishment of separate

'Environment Courts' at the State level consisting of judicial and scientific experts in the field of environment, for dealing with environmental disputes besides having appellate jurisdiction in respect of appeals under the various Pollution Control Laws. The recommendations of the report are under active consideration of the Government.

[English]

Assistance for Cotton Growers

41. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton farmers are facing severe hardship on account of failure of their crops;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons thereof indicating the extent of losses suffered, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has provided/proposes to provide additional assistance to States for tiding over the crisis during the last year and the current year; and

(d) if so, the details of the funds provided and utilized during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Failure of cotton crop has not been reported from any cotton growing state during 2006-07. Production and productivity of cotton have been increasing continuously. The production of cotton has increased from 95.24 lakh bales in 2000-01 to about 209.64 lakh bales in 2006-07. Yield for the corresponding period has also increased from 190 kg lint per hectare to 389 kg lint per hectare.

Use of CNG/LPG in Vehicles

42. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has identified the names of cities for use of LPG/CNG after the success of CNG in Delhi and following the order of the Supreme Court for adopting CNG/LPG by other polluted cities;

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments where these cities are situated;

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated by these State Governments;

(d) whether the action plan is being monitored regularly; and

(e) the time by which these cities will start using CNG/LPG for vehicles to control pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its various orders from time to time, has identified, 16 most polluted cities of the country. These cities are - Ahmedabad, Kanpur, Sholapur, Lucknow, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Agra, Varanasi, Jharia, Faridabad, Patna, Jodhpur, Pune, Mumbai and Kolkata. Out of these 16 cities, in accordance with the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the action plans for the seven cities, namely, Ahmedabad, Kanpur, Sholapur, Lucknow, Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad are under monitoring by the Environmental Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority, constituted in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The action plans for seven cities, namely, Agra, Jharia, Varanasi, Faridabad, Patna, Jodhpur and Pune are under monitoring by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India. The Action Plans for Kolkata and Mumbai are under monitoring by the respective State Pollution Control Boards. Change over to cleaner fuels like Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)/Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), etc. is one of the measures contemplated in these action plans. The implementation of the CNG/LPG as automotive fuel in the above sixteen cities is under different stages.

[Translation]

Less Quantity in Packets

43. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received against some companies for charging according to original price tag but packing smaller quantity as reported in *Nav Bharat Times* dated January 17, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the name of such companies; and

(c) the action taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No complaints have been received. The news item in *Nav Bharat Times* dated 17 January, 2007 *inter alia* refers to companies packing less quantity for the same price. The provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 provide that the manufacturer *inter alia* declare retail sale price and net quantity on the package. The quantum of price so declared on the package is decided by the manufacturer. The Packages of "Parle" biscuit and "Fena" detergent referred to in the news item were examined and were found to be having the declaration of retail sale price and net quantity.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Simlipal Reserve

44. SHRI SUDAM MARNDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any step to develop the Simlipal Forest in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to develop Simlipal and Darin Bari Forest as National Park/wildlife sanctuary;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of fund allocated by the Government and results obtained therefrom, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Similipal Tiger Reserve has been declared during 1973-74, over an area of 2750 sq. km. of forests.

(c) to (e) The State has declared around 2200 sq. km. of Similipal Tiger Reserve as a Wildlife Sanctuary, with a subsequent intention to notify around 845.70 sq. km. of the same, as a National Park. This Ministry is not aware of any proposal of the State Government to declare Darin Bari Forest as a National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary.

(f) Details of fund allocated to Similipal Tiger Reserve under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger during the last two years along with utilization done by the State are enclosed in statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	Release 2004-05	*Utilization 2004-05	Release 2005-06	Utilization 2005-06
1.	Similipal	116.4395	149.949	80.00	104.65

*Includes utilization for Central as well as State's allocation under the scheme.

[Translation]

Population of One-Horned Rhinos

45. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

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

(a) the funds provided to Kaziranga Park during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of one-horned Rhinos, Elephants and other rare wild animals in the National Park at the end of each year; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to provide due support to the development and maintenance of the park and to increase the population of one-horned Rhinos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The financial assistance provided to Kaziranga National Park during the last three years, scheme-wise, is as under:

S.No.	Year	Name of the Scheme	
		Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries (Rs.lakhs)	Project Elephant (Rs. lakhs)
1.	2003-04	50.00	1.80
2.	2004-05	153.00	11.45
3.	2005-06	83.60	8.84

(b) The details of population of Rhino, Elephant and other rare wild animals in the Kaziranga National Park based on various census figures are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes—'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries' and 'Project Elephant', the Central Government provides necessary technical and financial assistance to the Government of Assam for the development and maintenance of Kaziranga National Park. The following steps have been taken to provide due support to the development and maintenance of the Park and to increase the population of one-horned Rhinos:

1. Anti poaching patrolling by the frontline staff.
2. Creation of high raised earthen platform for taking shelter by the marooned animals during flood seasons.
3. Habitat improvement.
4. Infrastructure enhancement.
5. Habitat manipulation by weeding, desilting of wetlands etc.
6. Capacity building and improvement of human resources.
7. Awareness in the fringe areas of Kaziranga National park.

Statement

Year of Census	Animal	No.
2001	Wild Buffalo	1431
2005	Elephant	1940
2006	Rhino	1855
2000	Tiger	85
2006	Hog Deer	5374
2006	Swamp Deer	815

*[English]***Funds for Protection of Wildlife**

46. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Wildlife Fund provides funds to India for protection of wild animals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As per the Task Force Report of the Indian Board for Wildlife published in 1972, which forms the basis of Project Tiger, the said project was launched entirely as an Indian endeavour based on active cooperation between the State and Central Governments. Some international organizations like the World Wildlife Fund were also associated in planning, financing and rousing public opinion in its favour. However, at present, the World Wildlife Fund does not provide any funds to the Central Government for Project Tiger.

Review of List of Beneficiaries

47. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has requested the States to undertake a campaign for review of the list of beneficiaries under Below Poverty Line category and Antyodaya Anna Yojana to eliminate ghost ration cards;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has prepared an action plan to curb leakages and diversions under the Targeted Public Distribution System;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the recommendations made therein;

(e) the names of the States which have already set up monitoring mechanism to check leakages;

(f) the time by which rest of the States are likely to set up such a mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD and PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Action Taken Report received from the States/UTs is enclosed as the statement. (Vide column 1 in the statement).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. To curb leakage, the Central Government have prepared a nine point action plan for State/UT Governments, for taking necessary action thereon, is as under:

1. States should undertake a campaign for Review of BPL/AAY lists, to eliminate ghost ration cards within 3 months.
2. Strict action should be taken against the guilty to ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains. In this respect information asked for under clause 9 of PDS Control Order, may also be sent.
3. For sake of transparency involvement of elected PRI members in distribution of foodgrains, licences be given to SHGs, gram panchayats, cooperatives, etc.
4. BPL/AAY lists should be displayed on all FPSs.
5. District-wise and FPS-wise allocation of foodgrains should be put up on websites and other prominent places, for public scrutiny.
6. Wherever possible, door step delivery of foodgrains should be ensured by States, instead of letting private transporters/wholesalers to transport goods.
7. Timely availability of foodgrains at FPS level and fixed dates of distribution to ration card holders should be ensured.
8. Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committees should be ensured.
9. Computerisation of TPDS operations be undertaken.

In addition, the Government has also taken steps to introduction of electronic transfer of funds to FCI and issued instructions for display of banners/Boards on the wind shield as well as rear end of the truck/vehicles carrying PDS articles indicating details of State Government, destination, commodity and Agent's name.

(e) and (f) A statement of status of follow up action on the Nine Action Points by different States/UTs is enclosed.

Statement

Status of Follow up Action on The Nine Action Points by different States/UTs

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Review of BPL/AAY list	Ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains by taking strict action against guilty	Involvement of PRI members	Display of BPL/AAY list on the FPS	Distt & FPS wise allocation of foodgrains put on website as public scrutiny	Door step delivery of foodgrains	Timely availability of foodgrains at FPS	Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committee	Computerisation of TPDS Operation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Review is being done in a phased manner. In the Phase-I, all the urban areas of the State have been covered except Hyderabad district. In Phase-II, Hyderabad district is taken up. In Phase-III all the rural areas of the State have been taken up.	There is a system of Bar Coded coupon prevailing wherein members of the family has to present alongwith the family photo card issued to all BPL families so as to enable the FPS to see the photograph on the card, identify the presenter and collect the coupon for the month in which delivery is effected.	Food Advisory Committees has been reconstituted with the major role given to PRIs	Not furnished	A software is being developed to host the entire information of the allotment and of late for FPS on the Department Website	Door step delivery system is being attempted in the State. The State Government is incurring a subsidy of Rs.720 crores per annum.	Justifying the necessity to cover all the food insecure people under TPDS, lifting of the quota for the month within 7 days from the commencement of the month and delivery at door step authenticated by PRIs. is in practice.	Not furnished	The State Govt. has submitted a proposal for computerization of PDS to Govt of India.
2	Andhra Pradesh	Information awaited								
3	Assam	Information awaited								
4.	Bihar	Review is being done	To ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains, officials have been appointed at delivery points. Action is being taken as per the PDS (Control) Order. As also they have decided to introduce coupon system to BPL AAY families to keep PDS leakages free.	PRI members have been involvement in the monitoring of PDS	Necessary orders have been issued in this regard	Is being done on the website	State Food Corporation has been entrusted to deliver foodgrains at Block Headquarter. Efforts will be made to deliver at FPS.	Necessary steps have been taken	Proposal will be sent to Govt. of India	A proposal will be sent to Govt of India.

	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5. Chattrisgarh	Has conducted the survey and eliminated the ineligible cards.	Presently FPS are women self help group, cooperative societies etc.	Beneficiaries lists are displayed at FPS.	Website is being developed for the purpose.	State Government Corporation and are delivering foodgrains at FPS.	A schedule has been chalked and included in the State.	Schedule for training programme have been chalked out and proposal is being sent for financial assistance under ITM scheme.	In computerisation of PDS, hardware has been provided at District level and rest of work is in progress.
6. Delhi	The review work will be taken up shortly.	Is being implemented.	Already available on the website.	Will be done very soon on completion of Computerisation.	Delivered at the door of the FPS by DSCSC in a time bound manner.	Ensured timely delivery of SFAs and availability in the first week of the month.	The Department has drawn a programme in this regard.	Already in progress.
7. Goa	Information available.							
8. Gujarat	The State Govt. has taken constant campaign for review of BPL/AAY lists to eliminate ghost nation cards. The State Govt. Has eliminated 38232 ghost ineligible cards from Jan. 06 to Oct. 06.	1) The State Govt. has constituted Village Vigilance Committees and appointed (Head of the Village Panchayat) as Chairman of Village. The State has a total of 13,279 VVC already working and holding meetings as per guidelines. (ii) The State Govt. has also issued order for Constitution of Taluka and District level Vigilance Committee. State Level Vigilance Committee has already been formed. A meeting was also held on 28.11.06. (iii) The State Govt. has issued orders to give licenses of FP Shops to SHGR vide G.R. dt.21.8.06. It has been decided vide the above G.R. to give 50% of FPS to be opened after 21.8.06 to SHGR and 50% to educated unemployed youth earlier priority was given to cooperative societies an allotment of FPS.	The State Govt. has instructed all Collectors of the State to display BPL AAY lists on FPSs vide circular dt. 27.9.06	The State Govt. has issued instructions to Director, Food & CS to put upon website on the details of district wise allocation of foodgrains the State Govt. has also instructed all Collectors of the State to put up on website and other prominent places details of taluka wise and FPS wise allocation of foodgrains.	So far as the State concerned, out of 18000 villages in Gujarat, they have nearly 16000 fair price shops available and opening of new FPSs is in process. All FPSs are easily accessible to the cardholders even in remote and hilly areas through a very good network with road and other communication facilities. People do not have grievance on this count. Therefore, in the opinion of the State Govt. system of introducing Door Step Delivery for distribution of PDS foodgrains may not be economically and physically viable nor necessary for this State.	The State Govt. has adopted a scheme of Time Module for issuing permits to FPS owners for taking foodgrains from godowns. The State Govt. has fixed times of issue of permit and the filling from godowns. Accordingly, by 15th of the month foodgrains are available for distribution to ration card holders. There has been the best practice followed by the State since last two years.	The State Govt. has submitted a proposal in this regard	The State Govt. Has sent two proposals under A) PDS under B) PDS prepared for Andhra Govt. for the JAL score vide letter no. FPS-12016-2221-C dt. 16.10.06. (ii) PDS project for Sindhya Smart Card System for Ujala Taluka of Maharashtra Dist. For Rs. 30.06 lakh vide letter no. FPS-12016-3062-A dt. 21.11.06.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Haryana	Ration cards are being reviewed regularly and issued with the family photo to all by 10th of each the categories, hence there are no chances of ghost ration cards.	Strict action is taken against the guilty under the PDS (Control) Order & the relevant information is sent to Govt. of India regularly.	Involvement of PRI Members in distribution is being ensured. FPS licenses are also being allotted to ex-servicemen Govt. of India, gram panchayats, Co-operatives, handicapped persons etc.	List BPLAAY beneficiaries are being displayed on each FPS.	Instructions since been issued to the District Officers in this regard.	HSFCC (CONFED) ensures door step delivery at each FPS.	CONFED is required to deliver the foodgrains at FPS by 10th of each month.	A proposal is being submitted for financial assistance for training under TRM Scheme.	Matter is under process and the proposal will be sent shortly to Govt. of India
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Information available								
11.	J&K	Information available								
12.	Jharkhand	Information available								
13.	Karnataka	Information available								
14.	Kerala	Information available								
15.	Madhya Pradesh	The State Govt. has decided to cancel all existing cards and issue new ration cards to BPLAAY	Stringent action is taken against the delinquent	All the FPS in State are with the Co-operative Societies	Orders since been issued and is being displayed	District-wise and shop wise allocation will be made available on the website	Door delivery mechanism is in operation	Foodgrains are made available in advance for distribution to the beneficiaries during the first week of every month	Proposal have been submitted to the Government of India	Information technology in PDS is being facilitated
16.	Maharashtra	Information available								
17.	Manipur	Information available								
18.	Meghalaya	Is being done as per the relevant provision of PDS Control Order 2001.	Stringent action is taken against dealers indulging in malpractice activities.	In the State PRI are not in existence Have appointed Self-help groups and cooperatives as FPS Dealers for greater transparency.	Orders since been issued in this regard	Are available on the State website	As the State is economically backward and fund constraints is one of the reason hindering the doorstep delivery. However, the State Government is establishing the	Steps have been taken in this regard	Some districts and sub-divisions have started giving training to members of FPS level Vigilance Committee	The State NIC has been requested to prepare suitable scheme in this regard.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19.	Mizoram	They have recently started to review the BPL/AY lists	Strict action had been taken against the guilty PDS (Control) Order have been circulated to all concerned for strict compliance.	for transparency, Village Council and Village Committees are involved in distribution of foodgrains.	BPL, AY lists are displayed on all the concerned FPS.	There is no website of the Department at present. This cannot be done.	On account of financial position door step delivery mechanism is not practicable.	Timely availability of foodgrains is in practice i.e. Weekly in villages and fortnightly in towns.	Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committees will be done as soon as funds are available.	Due of financial constraints it is not possible to computerize PDS.
20.	Nagaland	Being reviewed from time to time.	Action is taken under PDS (Control) Order.	Village councils have been given the status of FPS & Vigilance Committees have been set up at all levels.	Noted	Efforts are being made to put all necessary information on web problems.	Door step delivery is not practicable due to topographical shortage of infrastructure	Timely availability of foodgrains is strictly being enforced.	Shall be taken up at the earliest.	A proposal will be submitted soon.
21.	Orissa	Information awaited								
22.	Punjab	Information awaited								
23.	Rajasthan	Information awaited								
24.	Sikkim	Information awaited								
25.	Tamil Nadu	Information awaited								
26.	Tripura	Information awaited								
27.	Uttaranchal	Information awaited								

been sent to Government of India for funding of such training

Himachal Pradesh model as the two States have similar terrain. The feasibility of the project and financial implication of the arrangement is also being examined.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Information awaited								
29.	West Bengal	Being reviewed and expected to be completed shortly.	Strict action is taken against the guilty.	Panchayats and Municipalities elected members are involved in monitoring activities. Presence is given to cooperatives in running MR shops.	Once the review is completed, the list will be displayed on all FPSs.	FPS-wise display is mandatory. A proposal for computerization is being sent. Central	Paucity of funds prevents door-step delivery. Can be considered if lifting day. Government provides full subsidy.	Public does not seek fixed date of distribution as it completely destroys their flexibility of	Being done.	Proposals are in the pipeline
30.	A&N islands	Being reviewed	Strict is taken against the defaulter	Preference is given to women, cooperative societies, ex-servicement and unemployed youths	No information has been provided in this regard	Efforts are being made to place the monthly allocation on website.	Not felt necessary, as the FPS is running satisfactorily.	Foodgrains are made available to FPS well in time throughout the month.	Training programme will be chalked out in consultation with the Administration.	Computerization is being done in a phased manner in possible areas.
31.	Chandigarh	BPL/AAY cards are reviewed every year.	Strict action is taken against the defaulter.	Licenses are reviewed every year. Preference is given to Self Help Groups, Ex-servicemen, PRI and the Co-operatives.	List of BPL/AAY beneficiaries is displayed on all FPS	Matter under consideration	Not in practice being the State small. However, sale of foodgrains is allowed after physical verification of the received stocks	POS commodities are made available at FPS in the first week of the month	They have 24 FPS and 7 Ward/Village level committees For imparting training to them, they requested to tag the UT with the Punjab or Haryana for the purpose	The matter is under consideration
32.	D&N Haveli	Information awaited								
33.	Daman & Diu	Information awaited								
34.	Lakshadweep	They have started to review the BPL/AAY list	There is a regular monitoring system and strict action is taken against the guilty under the Black Marketing Act	POS is channelized through a net work of Co-operative Societies	Instructions have been issued to display BPL/AAY lists at FPS	Information will be put up on the website of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies not considered to be of any use.	In view of the small size area of the UT, the door step delivery mechanism is up with FCI in this regard	FCI does not have their godowns in the UT and they do not maintain any stock of foodgrains in the UT. Matter is being taken	A proposal has been submitted for financial assistance for training under TRM Scheme.	Do not have sufficient funds for computerization. However, necessary proposal will be submitted to the Government of India.

*[Translation]***Drug Price Control**

48. SHRI SUBHAS SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had issued an order
in March, 2003 that essential and life saving drugs should
not be kept outside the purview of price control and that
the review of such medicines be completed by May 2,
2003;

(b) if so, whether the Government has complied with
the order of the apex court;

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

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The Supreme
Court vide its interim order dated 10-3-2003 in SLP (C)
No. 3668/2003 directed the Government, inter alia, to
"consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring
essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price
control and further directed to review drugs which are
essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003". As
per the directions of the Supreme Court, the Ministry of
Health and Family Welfare reviewed the National Essential
Drugs List 1996 and brought out the National List of
Essential Medicines 2003 (NLEM 2003).

Keeping in view the directions of the Supreme Court
it has been proposed in the draft National Pharmaceutical
Policy, 2006 that basket of drugs for price control would
be the essential medicines as contained in the NLEM
2003 in addition to the 74 drugs which are at present
under price control under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order,
1995.

This Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its
approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting
held on 11-1-2007. It was decided that the matter may,
in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers
(GOM). A Group of Ministers has been constituted under
the Chairmanship of Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of
Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and
Public Distribution.

*[English]***Air Pollution in Delhi**

49. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been
drawn to the report compiled by the Asian Development
Bank declaring air quality in Delhi as one of the dirtiest
in Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed by the Government
in this regard?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN
MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Asian
Development Bank (discussion draft, December, 2006) on
Urban Air Quality Management, the Annual average
ambient concentration of PM₁₀ in selected Asian cities
has been compared. The data indicates that PM₁₀ levels
in Beijing, Xian, Dhaka and Kathmandu are higher than
New Delhi. However, the report also compares the PM₁₀
level in these cities with WHO Air Quality Guidelines for
PM₁₀ and none of these five cities meet the WHO
Guidelines for PM₁₀.

(c) the steps taken to abate air pollution include-

- Notification of general and source specific
environmental standards;
- Identification of sources of pollution;
- Control of vehicular pollution through promotion
of cleaner fuels and enforcement of auto exhaust
standards at manufacturing stage;
- Introduction of Pollution Under Control (PUC)
Certification system for in use vehicles;
- Preparation of city specific Action Plans for
improvement of air quality; and
- Regular monitoring for environmental compliance.

Insurance Scheme for Fishermen

50. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced insurance scheme for fishermen in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen, a component of the 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' is implemented through the National Federation of Fishermen Cooperatives (FISHCOPFED). Under the scheme, the Central and State Government share annual premium of Rs. 14 per beneficiary on 50:50 basis and benefits include Rs.50000 in case of accidental death or permanent total disability and Rs.25000 in case of permanent partial disability.

Organic Farming in Gujarat

51. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any project proposal from the Government of Gujarat on organic farming under the National Programme on organic farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A project proposal was received from the Government of Gujarat under National Project on Organic Farming during 2005-06 for financial assistance of Rs. 292.85 lakh for implementing the various components viz., training, field demonstration, capacity building through service providers, creating awareness and conducting seminars. As per the guidelines of the project and availability of funds, Rs. 71.02 lakh was approved, out of which Rs. 56.20 lakh has already been released to the

State Government. Apart from the above, funds amounting to Rs. 2.00 lakh was released to the Government of Gujarat during 2004-05 for setting up of a model organic farm.

Separately, a proposal has been received by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export-Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry from Government of Gujarat, which has been forwarded to Ministry of Agriculture for its implementation during 11th Plan.

World Bank Loan for Water Sector

52. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank sanctioned 105 million dollar aid for water schemes in different States;

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

(c) the extent to which it is expected to improve the productivity and cost-effectiveness of water related investments in various States;

(d) the extent of investment likely to be provided to Himachal Pradesh; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The World Bank has sanctioned a loan of US\$ 104.98 million for implementing the Hydrology Project (Phase-II) in 13 States and 8 Central Agencies. The Agreement to this effect was signed on 19.01.2006 with completion date of 31.01.2012. The Project objective is to improve all aspects of collection, processing and storage of data and developing standard procedures for planning and designs of water resources development and management. The state-wise project cost is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The activities under Hydrology Project are expected to contribute towards improved, management of water resources, better design practices and efficient operation of systems.

(d) and (e) The total investment for Himachal Pradesh provided under the Project is Rs. 495 million. The benefits likely to accrue to the State from the Project are

establishment of an upgraded hydrological observation network and data processing and storage system for improved water resources planning and management.

Statement

Estimated cost of Activities (State-wise)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Cost (Rs.in Million)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	178.00
2.	Chhatisgarh	176.60
3.	Goa	187.10
4.	Gujarat	198.80
5.	Himachal Pradesh	495.00
6.	Karnataka	235.30
7.	Kerala	183.60
8.	Madhya Pradesh	202.50
9.	Maharashtra	228.40
10.	Orissa	213.50
11.	Pondicherry	131.60
12.	Punjab	409.50
13.	Tamil Nadu	206.50
14.	Central agencies	2209.20

Shortage of Fodder

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

(a) whether there is shortage of fodder in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the shortfall between demand and supply of fodder recorded in the country during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) the Central assistance provided to these States during the said period, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the shortage of fodder?

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

(b) As per the report of the Working Group on Animal Husbandry & Dairying for the 10 Five Year Plan, the projected estimated shortfall between demand and supply of green fodder and dry fodder in million tons during the last three years and the current year in the country as a whole is given below:

(In Million Tonnes)

Year	Green fodder	Dry fodder
2004	629.2	125.0
2005	635.1	126.0
2006	641.0	128.0
2007	647.0	131.0

(c) The Statement is enclosed.

(d) The following initiatives have been taken to meet the shortage of fodder:

(i) A Central Fodder Development Organization comprising of seven Regional Stations for Forage Production & Demonstration and one Central Fodder Seed Production Farm is continued for production of high yielding varieties of fodder seeds, training and demonstration on fodder production.

(ii) Central Minikit Testing Programme is also continued for distribution of fodder seed minikits.

(iii) A Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme with four components viz., establishment of Fodder Block Making Unit (25% Central subsidy), Grassland Development including grass reserves (100% Central grant), Fodder Seed production (75% Central grant on procurement of fodder seeds) and Biotechnology Research Project (100% Central grant) to provide assistance to the States to supplement their efforts for fodder development.

Statement*Central Assistance provided to States during the last three years and current year*

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Andhra Pradesh			19.80	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		99.00		
3.	Assam		68.35		
4.	Chhattisgarh		25.00		
5.	Gujarat			155.57	
6.	Haryana				21.25
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2.00	5.00	100.00	
8.	Jharkhand		150.00		
9.	Jammu and Kashmir			58.40	106.69
10.	Karnataka	25.00	9.50	100.00	
11.	Kerala		90.00		
12.	Madhya Pradesh				
13.	Maharashtra	8.44	46.53		
14.	Manipur				
15.	Meghalaya				
16.	Mizoram	39.53	112.50	100.00	
17.	Nagaland	27.58	112.50	120.50	120.00
18.	Orissa				272.00
19.	Punjab			129.82	
20.	Rajasthan	40.00	26.32	37.02	
21.	Sikkim		57.65	110.00	
22.	Tamil Nadu			24.00	
23.	Tripura	57.46	50.00	40.25	
24.	Uttar Pradesh		337.66	37.03	50.67
25.	Uttaranchal			90.00	
26.	West Bengal			40.00	
Total		200.00	1190.01	1162.39	570.61

Development of Cash Crops Sector in Kerala

54. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for a special package for the development of cash crops sector from the Government of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Union Government, thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Government of Kerala has submitted a special package for suicide prone districts of the State. The Union Government has approved a rehabilitation package for three suicide prone districts of the State of Kerala aiming at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture including cash crops, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services, improved marketing facilities and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying and fisheries.

Besides, the National Horticulture Mission is under implementation in the state of Kerala for the development of horticulture including cash crops.

[Translation]

Removal of Toxic Chemical Waste of Union Carbide

55. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to remove the toxic chemical waste after testing of Union Carbide in Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to prepare any scheme for removal of the said waste; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The High Court of Madhya Pradesh while hearing the Writ Petition No. 2802/2004 filed by Shri Alok Pratap Singh vs. Union of India and others constituted a Task Force under the chairpersonship of the Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals with experts from National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology and Central Pollution Control Board and Confederation of Indian Industry to monitor the implementation of the Road map prepared by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for removal/disposal of the toxic wastes lying in and around the Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) plant at Bhopal.

The Principal Secretary, Bhopal Gas Tragedy, Relief and Rehabilitation Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh is the coordinator of the Task Force and the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board is the executive agency to implement the project. As per the directions of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh Bhopal Gas Tragedy, Relief and Rehabilitation Department have filed the estimates regarding the removal/disposal of the toxic wastes lying in and around the UCIL plant at Bhopal, approximately 346 MT of toxic wastes to be sent to Ankleshwar, Gujarat for incineration at the incinerator and about 40 MT of Lime Sludge to be sent to the Secured Land Fill constructed at Pithampur, near Indore, Madhya Pradesh. As per the directions of the High Court the Government of India and the Government of Madhya Pradesh have to bear the expenditure equally (subject of fixation of liability).

Development of Poultry and Horticulture in Rajasthan

56. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to Rajasthan for development of poultry and horticulture during the last three years and current financial year;

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the improvement of poultry and horticulture products, infrastructure facilities and their export in the State; and

(c) the details of poultry and horticulture project proposals of State Government lying pending with Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Rajasthan was allocated an amount of Rs. 77.79 lakh for strengthening of State Poultry Farm, Khatipura, Jaipur in 2002-03. No further proposal has been received from the State for poultry development thereafter. In regard to horticulture, an expenditure of Rs.1464.00 lakh was incurred in Rajasthan under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) during 2005-06. An expenditure of Rs. 1768.23 lakh has also been incurred in 2006-07 (up to December, 2006). In 2005-06, the districts covered were Alwar, Ajmer, Barmer, Baran, Chittor, Jaipur, Jhalawar, Jalore, Jodhpur, Kota, Nagaur, Pali and Sri Ganganagar. During 2006-07, four more districts viz. Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Banswara (Tribal and Hilly) and Tonk were included under NHM.

(b) The Government has implemented two schemes, namely, 'Assistance to State Poultry Farms' and 'Dairy/ Poultry Venture Capital Fund' to promote poultry in the country, including Rajasthan. A number of activities have also been taken up under the NHM to improve production and productivity of horticulture. These include ensuring proper post-harvest management of produce so that farmers are able to harvest and sell their products at competitive rates. The crops identified in Rajasthan include aonla, mandarin, kinnow, ber, coriander, cumin, fenugreek, flowers and medicinal and aromatic plants.

(c) No proposals from the Government of Rajasthan are pending with the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries and the National Horticulture Mission.

[English]

Pending Consumer Cases

57. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of violation of consumer rights registered during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases disposed of during the above period;

(c) the number of cases pending at present;

(d) whether an inordinately long time is taken in disposal of these consumer cases; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures being taken to expedite their disposal and enhance consumers confidence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) As per information made available by National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), the number of cases of violation of consumer rights registered State-wise, during each of the last three years, the number of cases disposed of during the above period & the number of cases pending at present are given in Statement I and II respectively.

(d) and (e) The Consumer Fora make continuous efforts in disposing of cases as expeditiously as possible despite various constraints. The important remedial measures taken to expedite the disposal of consumer cases and enhance consumer confidence apart from monitoring of the functioning of the Consumer Fora by the Central Government as well as the NCDRC, are as under:

- (i) In view of the financial constraints of the States/ UTs, the Central Government has provided one time financial assistance of Rs. 61.80 crores during 1995-99 and another Rs. 10.20 crores in 2004-05 and Rs. 21.18 crores during 2006-07 (up to 21.02.2007) under the scheme of 'Integrated Project on Consumer Protection' to the States/UTs to supplement their efforts for strengthening the infrastructure and other facilities of Consumer Fora for their efficient functioning.
- (ii) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was comprehensively amended in 2002 mainly with an objective to facilitate the Fora on quicker disposal of cases. The National Commission, with the approval of the Central Govt. has notified the Consumer Protection Regulations, 2005 to streamline the procedure for day to day functioning of the Consumer Fora.
- (iii) In order to provide I.T. solutions, achieve e-governance, transparency and efficiency in the functioning of the Consumer Fora & time bound

disposal of cases, a scheme for "computerization and computer networking of consumer forums in the country" has been launched in March, 2005 through National Informatics Centre (NIC) as a turn key project to be completed in a period

of three years' time. The scheme will also help in systematizing the process of various types of cases, data and generation of reports and also assist the National Commission in exercising better administrative control.

Statement I

Year-wise Filing & Disposal in State Commissions

States	2004		2005		2006	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	1728	1022	2176	995	1281	281
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	5	0	NA	NA
Assam	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bihar	936	800	936	585	556	483
Chandigarh	520	581	181	112	976	821
Chhattisgarh	807	1054	539	874	865	895
Dadra and Nagar Haveli/Daman and Diu	2	2	2	3	1	1
Delhi	1272	1809	1294	2063	356	824
Goa	84	132	70	127	14	28
Gujarat	3208	2586	2177	2265	NA	NA
Haryana	3370	407	2729	769	3025	1395
Himachal Pradesh	1369	1273	1195	851	1664	2040
Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jharkhand	562	306	511	645	143	85
Karnataka	1973	2446	2276	2823	3451	2516
Kerala	1172	342	884	425	NA	NA
Lakshadweep	1	0	0	3	NA	NA
Madhya Pradesh	2423	2507	2433	2534	2162	2014
Maharashtra	2763	1678	2880	1383	2250	1395
Manipur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	7	14	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mizoram	4	0	11	28	6	19
Nagaland	2	4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Orissa	1157	538	1119	662	1194	1096
Pondicherry	16	3	66	27	45	48
Punjab	1623	898	17191	1375	1661	1187
Rajasthan	2615	2906	2315	3709	2817	4804
Sikkim	0	3	0	1	NA	NA
Tamilnadu	930	660	787	934	NA	NA
Tripura	86	105	98	255	79	102
Uttar Pradesh	2780	1311	2572	1861	NA	NA
Uttaranchal	648	323	292	61	241	17
West Bengal	784	1162	773	985	544	1016
TOTAL	32843	24852	30040	26355	23331	21067

Note:- (i) The above data is being maintained calender year-wise,

(ii) NA stands for Not Available.

Year-wise Filing & Disposal in District Forums

States	2004		2005		2006	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	7344	2942	7469	3414	4117	1526
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	17	11	6	8	NA	NA
Assam	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bihar	2962	3270	3636	3029	1624	2338
Chandigarh	2600	2410	1393	1042	1850	1509
Chattisgarh	1139	1001	738	824	2187	2084
Dadra and Nagar Haveli/Daman and Diu	5	1	13	12	9	4
Delhi	11950	14206	113121	11833	2533	2276

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goa	204	152	216	120	53	52
Gujarat	8301	8775	7390	6257	NA	NA
Haryana	9787	2641	10149	10023	10619	11871
Himachal Pradesh	2435	2781	1868	1913	2096	1880
Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jharkhand	2653	2911	2066	1905	458	773
Karnataka	6064	6044	6634	6271	8398	8535
Kerala	5498	5459	4309	2112	NA	NA
Lakshadweep	0	0	3	4	NA	NA
Madhya Pradesh	7640	8476	8006	8007	8067	6874
Maharashtra	9628	12175	10519	12888	8233	10705
Manipur	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Meghalaya	28	16	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mizoram	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nagaland	25	23	NA	NA	NA	NA
Orissa	4275	4304	3471	3526	2844	3083
Pondicherry	112	66	94	68	88	88
Punjab	9309	8973	8001	8735	6302	4663
Rajasthan	12368	13382	12399	13369	14064	13853
Sikkim	0	0	11	6	NA	NA
Tamil Nadu	4567	4470	3961	3994	NA	NA
Tripura	116	113	16	15	NA	NA
Uttar Pradesh	16944	13335	19047	19108	NA	NA
Uttaranchal	1118	1264	1064	1272	1413	898
West Bengal	3470	3433	3331	3009	3518	3165
TOTAL	130559	122634	127122	123424	78473	76177

Statement II

Sl.No.	Name of Agency	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of total Disposal	Remarks
1	National Commission	45798	36914	8884	80.60%	
2	State Commissions	391425	282582	108843	72.19%	
3	District Forums	2312844	2088941	223903	90.32%	
TOTAL		2750067	2408437	341630	87.58	

Rejuvenation of Coconut Palm

58. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal seeking financial assistance for control of pests, diseases and rejuvenation of coconut palm in some of the Districts of the State;

(b) if so, whether any assistance from Central Development Board has been provided to the State; and

(c) if not, the time by which the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted two project proposals to the Coconut Development Board (CDB) at a total cost of Rs.200.00 lakh for the control of major pests of coconut viz. Eriophyid mite, Black-headed caterpillar and Red palm weevil during November 2006, as detailed below:

	Name of Project	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
(1)	Project for control Mites and Black headed caterpillar of Coconut by using Bio-pesticides	150.00
(2)	Project for control of Red palm weevil of coconut by using Pheromone Traps	50.00
	Total	200.00

(b) and (c) The CDB has approved the projects under the Technology Mission on Coconut (TMOC) on 01.02.2007 with 25% financial assistance as per norms. Release of funds will be made after the State Government accords administrative approval indicating the State's share/farmer's contribution and details of location selected for implementation.

Funds to VO's

59. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some voluntary organisations in Maharashtra are being provided grant-in-aid by the Union Government for protection of environment;

(b) if so, the names of these organisations, indicating the year from which they are being provided grant-in-aid, during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government monitors the works executed by them with the funds provided to them under such grant-in-aid; and

(d) if not, the details of the monitoring process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Names of voluntary organisations in Maharashtra provided grant-in-aid during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Monitoring process inter-alia include mandatory audit of accounts of grantee organization, submission of

audited utilization certificate, expenditure statement and a report on the activities conducted by the grantee organization besides field visits by officers of the ministry. In case of tree plantation activities, besides monitoring &

evaluation by independent evaluators, Mid/Final term evaluation is done by the State Forest Department. Research Projects are monitored/ reviewed annually by the Expert Review Committee.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Voluntary Organisations	Purpose
2003-2004		
1.	Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai	Research Project
2.	Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation (BAIF), Pune	Environment Awareness
3.	Rural Foundation	Tree Plantation
4.	Gurudev Samajik Seva Mandal	
5.	Bosco Gramin Vikas Kendra	
6.	Yuvak Pratishthan	
7.	Kaisar-E- Hind	
2004-2005		
1.	Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai	Research Project
2.	Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation (BAIF), Pune	Environment Awareness
3.	Applied Environmental Research Foundation Erandawana	Tree Plantation
4.	Yuva Gram Vikas Mandal	
5.	Maharashtra Institute of Technology Transfer for Rural Areas	
6.	Dutta Seva Samiti	
7.	Institute of Social Awareness & Reform	
8.	Mruthunjay Krishi Vidanyan Vikas Mandal	
9.	Gomukh Trust	
10.	Amravati University	
11.	Sidheshwar Krishi and Gramin Vikas	
2005-2006		
1.	Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai	Research Project
2.	Bhartiya Agro-Industries Foundation (BAIF), Pune	Environment Awareness

*[Translation]***Supply of Iron Ore by NMDC**

60. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of supply of iron ore to small scale industries by the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) during the last three years;

(b) whether the supply of iron ore being made by NMDC to small scale industries has been discontinued;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to take any corrective measures keeping in view the difficulties being faced by iron ore based small scale industries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Supply of iron ore by NMDC is not based on a gradation of small or large scale industry. NMDC has been offering iron ore from Bailadila to various Chhattisgarh based Sponge/Pig iron units based on recommendations of State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB), Government of Chhattisgarh. A few of these units may be falling under the category of small scale industries as well.

The quantity lifted by Chhattisgarh based Sponge/Pig iron units during the last three years is as follows:

S.No.	Year	Quantity lifted (in lakh tonnes)
1.	2003-04	0.65
2.	2004-05	1.4
3.	2005-06	8.5

(b) No, Sir. During 2006-07, a quantity of 20 lakh tonnes has been offered to Chhattisgarh based units, against which, about 14 lakh tonnes has been lifted till Jan.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above

(d) and (e) The sale of iron ore by NMDC is a commercial decision of the company, which is taken,

based on the availability of iron ore and its prior supply commitments.

Agriculture Universities

61. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Agriculture Universities functioning in the country, particularly in States of Southern, North Eastern and Himalayan regions at present, State-wise and University-wise;

(b) the details of the Universities having research project on horticulture and floriculture, University-wise; and

(c) the manner in which the research outcome is percolating to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) A list showing agricultural universities functioning in the country including the universities in Southern, North Eastern and Himalayan regions at present, State-wise and University-wise is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) A statement-II showing details of the universities having research projects horticulture and floriculture university-wise and state-wise fully or partially funded by Central Government is enclosed.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has sanctioned a network of 541 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), including 364 with the State Agricultural Universities, aiming at technology assessment, refinement and demonstration on technology/products to facilitate the promotion of modern farming.

The activities of the KVK include on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of technologies in various farming systems; frontline demonstrations to establish the production potentials of improved agricultural technologies on the farmers' fields, training of farmers to update their knowledge and skills, and training of extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development. Seeds, planting material and bio-products produced in the KVKs are also made available to the farmers.

Statement I**State-wise list of Agricultural Universities**

Sl.No.	State/University
1	2
Assam	
1.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat-785013
Andhra Pradesh	
2.	Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad-500030
3.	Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati - 517502
Bihar	
4.	Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa-848125
Chhattisgarh	
5.	Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Raipur-492012
Gujarat	
6.	Anand Agricultural University, Anand-388110
7.	Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh
8.	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari-396450
9.	Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada - 385506
Haryana	
10.	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar- 125004
Himachal Pradesh	
11.	Ch. Sarwan Kumar Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Palampur- 176062
12.	Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan-173230
Jammu and Kashmir	
13.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu-180004

1	2
14.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Srinagar-191121
Jharkhand	
15.	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi-834006
Karnataka	
16.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore-560065
17.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad-580005
18.	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar - 585401
Kerala	
19.	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur-680656
Madhya Pradesh	
20.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur-482004
Maharashtra	
21.	Dr Balaesahib Sawant Kokan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli-415712
22.	Maharashtra Animal & Fisheries. Sciences University, Nagpur-440006
23.	Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani-431402
24.	Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri-413722
25.	Dr Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Akola-444104
Orissa	
26.	Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar- 751003
Punjab	
27.	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana- 141004
28.	Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana- 141004

1	2
	Rajasthan
29.	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur-3 13001
30.	Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner-334002
	Tamil Nadu
31.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore-641003
32.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Chennai-600051
	Uttar Pradesh
33.	Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Allahabad - 211007
34.	Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur- 208002
35.	Deen Dayal Upadhaya Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Mathura -281001
36.	Narendradeo University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad- 224229
37.	Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut -250110
	Uttaranchal
38.	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar-263145
39.	University of Horticulture and Forestry, Ranichauri, Tehri Garhwal

1	2
	West Bengal
40.	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur-741252
41.	Uttar Bang Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Coochbehar-736165
42.	West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata-700037
	Central Agricultural University
43.	Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur-795004
	ICAR Deemed to be University
44.	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi-110012
45.	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar - 243122
46.	National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal - 132001
47.	Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai - 400061
	Central University
48.	Allgarh Muslim University, Allgarh
49.	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
50.	Vishwa Bharti, Sriniketan
51.	Nagaland University, Medziphema-797 106

Statement II*Horticulture Operating in Agricultural Universities*

Sl.No.	State	University	Details of the Project in Horticulture
1	2	3	4
1.	Kerala	Kau, Thrissur	Evolving bio control measures for the management of pests of vegetables using entomopathogenic fungi. Improvement of under utilized vegetable crops Application of MAP (Modified Atmosphere Packaging) in the storability of high value seed of vegetables.

1	2	3	4
			<p>Characterization of traditional mango <i>indica</i> L) varieties of Southern Kerala.</p> <p>Collection & evaluation of heliconias as potential cut flower crops on standardization of agro techniques</p> <p>Network "Appl. of MAP (Modifield atmosphere packaging) in the storability of high value seed of vegetables.</p> <p>Network Project on "Improvement of under utilized veg. Crops.</p> <p>Standardisation of bud harvesting, post harvest treatments, handling and storage techniques in cut flower orchids</p> <p>Développement of technology for farm level secondary processing of cocoa</p> <p>Forewarning tea mosquito bug <i>Helopeltis antonii</i> sign(Minidae:Hemiptera) in cashew</p> <p>Conservation and evaluation of Ajwain (<i>Trachyspermum ammi</i>) germplasm for identification of high yielding quality oil geno types</p> <p>Development of lemongrass oleoresin for flavouring</p> <p>Bio-intensive management of sucking pest complex infesting coconut bunches.</p>
12.	Tamil Nadu	TNAU, Coimbatore	<p>Bio ecology and IPM for serpentine leaf miner, <i>Liriomyza tri folii</i> Burgess with special reference to cowpea, cucurbits and tomato.</p> <p>Diagnostic kit of emerging plant viruses.</p> <p>Improvement of sweet tamarind (<i>Tamarindus indica</i>. L)</p> <p>Development of Milly Mushroom (<i>Calocybe indica</i>) Hybrids.</p> <p>Genetical, cultural and pharmacological studies on the medicinal mushroom Reishi (<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>).</p>
3.	Karnataka	UAS, Dharwad	<p>Impact assessment of IDM Technology developed for sclerotium wilt of potato in Northern Karnataka.</p> <p>Investigation on etiology and integrated management of rhizome rot of turmeric in Northern Karnataka.</p>
		UAS, Krishinagar, Dharwad	<p>Drip Irrigation Fertigation studies in Chilli.</p> <p>Development of chilli hybrids for paprika (Oleoresin) production.</p>

1	2	3	4
			Survey evaluation and standardization of propagation techniques in Jamun.
			Network "Development of chilli (<i>Capsicum annum</i>) hybrids for paprika (<i>Oleoresin</i>) production
			Crop Improvement and agro-techniques for enhancing carotenoids and value addition in marigold (<i>Tagetes erecta</i> L.)
		UAS, GKV, Bangalore	Monitoring methods of identification of biotype benissa tabaci virus transmission characteristics spread of tomato leaf curl virus and management
4.	Andhra Pradesh	ANGRAU, Hyderabad	Development of chilli hybrids for paprika (<i>Oleoresin</i>) production.
			Development of Nuclear acid prober for detection of citrus yellow mosaic virus, certification and production of virus free sathrudfi sweet orange planting material.
			Development of bud rot disease forecasting model for palms in Andhra Pradesh.
		ANGRAU Lam Centre	Network on "Development of chilli (<i>Capsicum annum</i>) hybrids for paprika (<i>Oleoresin</i>) production.
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Dr. Y.S.P.U.H.F., Solan	Development of male sterile lines in bell pepper (<i>Capsicum annum</i> L.)
			Developing superior varieties/hybrids of bell pepper resistant to fruit rots and their epidemiology and management.
			Development of certification programme for the production of virus free lillium through hiotechnological & ecofriendly app
			Network Promotion on FI Hybrids in floriculture Antirrhinum Marigold ponny & petunia)
			Standardization of vegetative propagation of selected ornamental plants native to western Himalaya,
		CSKHPKV, Palampur	Development of bio-agent based eco-friendly management of diamond back moth, <i>Plutella xylostella</i> (L.) infesting cole crops in hilly areas of HP.
			Screening of olive cultivars for their drought tolerant potentials and to develop appropriate technologies for sustainable olive production in HP.
			Molecular characterization evaluation and selection of desirable pecan strains for quality, fruitfulness and yield.

1	2	3	4
			Control of irregular bearing in pecan.
			Influence of organic cultivation on hormonal status, productivity and fruit quality in low chill pears.
			In vitro and vitro mutagenesis for inducing fusarium wilt resistance in pea (<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.)
			Management of pea leaf-miner, <i>Chromatomyia horticola</i> (Goureau) on garden pea in H.P. with emphasis on host plant resistance.
6.	Uttar Pradesh	G.B. Pant UAT, Pantnagar	Development of pure line and FI hybrid variety of parthenocarpic cucumber suitable for polyhouse cultivation and standardization of their seed production technology
7.	Maharashtra	MPKV, Rahuri	Impact assessment of vegetable research on production, income and employment generation in Maharashtra.
			Development and validation of integrated diseases management of oily spot of pomegranate.
			Network "Promotion on FI Hybrids in floriculture Antirrhinum Marigold pansy & petunia)"
		Dr. BSKKV, Dapoli	Evaluation of FI, cashew hybrids varieties for Konkan region of Maharashtra State and for other cashew growing states of India
8.	Haryana	CCSHAU, Hisar	Improvement of Under utilized vegetable crops
			Studies on salt tolerance in solanaceous fruit vegetables (Tomato, brinjal and chilli) HAU, Hissar.
			Network "Improvement of under utilized veg. Crops.
			Studies on nematode problems of seed spice crops
			Studies on salt tolerance in seed spices (Fennel, Coriander and fenugreek)
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	SKUA&T, Srinagar, J&K	Improvement of Under utilized vegetable crops
			Varietal evaluation of apricot cultivars of Ladakh for their Kernel oil content composition of method of extractions
			Bio intensive integrated management of mite pests on apple.
			Network: "Improvement of under utilized veg crops.
10.	Uttarakhand	GBPUA&T, Pantnagar	Causes and control of shoot gall formation in mango by <i>Apsylla cistellata</i> Buckton.

1	2	3	4
11.	West Bengal	BCKVV, West Bengal	<p>Molecular characterization evaluation and selection of desirable pecan strains for quality, fruitfulness and yield.</p> <p>Studies on foliar nematode (<i>Aoekobogikiudes besseryi</i>) problem in tuberose cultivation system.</p>
12.	Gujarat	GAU, Anand	Root knot nematode, <i>Meloidogyne indica</i> and its management in citrus (<i>Citrus aurantifolia</i> swingle)
		SP University	Mass multiplication and molecular characterization of two important medicinal plants.
13.	Madhya Pradesh	JNKVV, Jabalpur	Formulation of location specific nutrient guide for improving the productivity and profitability of Nagpur mandarin in Satpura Plateau in MP.
14.	Rajasthan	RCA, Udaipur	Identification conservation and propagation of custard apple in the Aravalli Hills of Southern Rajasthan.
		MPAUA&T, Udaipur	<p>Survey, collection, evaluation and conservation of germplasm of Kachari (<i>Cucumis calosus</i>) and their improvement as well as standardization of suitable agro-techniques." MPAUA&T, Udaipur (Raj.)</p> <p>Genetical, cultural and pharmacological studies on the medicinal mushroom Reishi (<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>)</p>
15.	Orissa	OUA&T, Bhubaneswar	Improvement of bio-efficiency of straw mushroom (<i>Volvariella</i> Spp.)
16.	Assam	AAU, Jorhat	<p>Improvement of indigenous orchids of N.E. Region of India through Hybridization.</p> <p>Integrated management of rhizome rot disease of ginger</p>
17.	Punjab	PAU, Ludhiana	<p>Selection and breeding of high yielding <i>Pleurotus florida</i> [Dikaryon(s)]</p> <p>Investigation on post harvest quality of cut flowers as influenced by storage conditions.</p> <p>Network: Promotion on F1 Hybrids in floriculture Antirrhinum Marigold ponny & petunia)</p>
18.	Chhattisgarh	IGAU, Raipur	Collection, conservation & evaluation of local available tyber crops germplasm for different toposequences of chattisgarh.

*The details of All India Coordinated Research Project in Horticulture and
Floriculture Operating in the Agricultural Universities*

Sl.No.	Name of the University	Name of the AICRP	Name of the Centre
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	ANG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Tropical Fruits Sub-Tropical Fruits Arid Zone Fruits Post Harvest Tech. <hr/> <i>Plantation Crops</i> Palms Spices Cashew Betelvine <hr/> Vegetable National Seed Proj. Tuber Crops Floriculture	Kovvur Tirupati Hyderabad Sangareddy Ananthpur Hyderabad <hr/> Ambajipeta Vijayara Pandirimamidi Chintapalli Jagtai Guntur Bapatia Chintalapudi (Bapatia) <hr/> <i>Vegetable</i> Hyderabad Lam Lam Hyderabad Hyderabad
Assam			
1.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Tropical Fruits <hr/> <i>Plantation Crops</i> Palms Betelvine Vegetable Tuber Crops Potato	Jorhat Tinsukhia <hr/> Kahickuchi Jorhat Jorhat Jorhat Jorhat
Bihaar			
1.	Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Tropical Fruits Sub-Tropical Fruits PHT <i>Plantation Crops</i> Spices Betelvine	Pusa Sabour Pusa Dholi Samastipur (2 centers)

1	2	3	4
		Vegetable	Sabour
		Tuber Crops	Dholi
		Potato	Dholi
	Bihar Agricultural University, Ranchi	Tuber Crops	Ranchi
		Floriculture	Ranchi
	Uttar Banga Agricultural University, Pundubari	Plantation Crops	Coochbihar

Chhattisgarh

1.		Palm	Jagdalpur
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Gujarat

1.	Dantiwada Agricultural University, S.K. Naga	Fruits/PHT	
		Tropical Fruits	Ganevi
		Sub-Tropical Fruits	Parla
		Arid Zone Fruits	Dantiwara
			Mundra
	Navasari Agricultural University, Navasari	Tuber Crops	Navasari
		Potato	Dessa
	Anand agricultural University, Anand	Plantation Crops	Anand
		M&AP	
	Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh	Spices	Junagadh
		Vegetable	

Haryana

1.	CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar	Fruits/PHT	
		Arid Zone Fruits	Bawal
		PHT	Hisar
		Plantation Crops	
		M&AP/	Hisar
		Spices	Hisar
		Vegetable	Hisar
		Potato	Hisar

Himachal Pradesh

1.	Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan	Fruits/PHT	
		PHT	Solan
		Plantation Crops	
		M&AP	Solan
		Spices	Solan
		Vegetable	Solan
		NSP	Solan
		Floriculture	Solan
		Mushroom	Solan

1	2	3	4
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Jammu and Kashmir

1.	Sher-E-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science & Technology, Srinagar	Vegetable Potato Floriculture	Srinagar Srinagar Srinagar
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Karnataka

1.	University of Agri. Sci., Dharwad	Fruits/PHT Tropical Fruits Plantation Crops Pams Vegetable Potato	Dharwad Gangvathi Dharwad Dharwad
2.	University of Agri. Sci., Bangalore	Plantation Crops Pams Spices Cashew Vegetable Potato Floriculture	Arsikera Mudigiri (Bangalore) Sirsi (Dharwad) Chinthamani Hassan Bangalore

Kerala

1.	Kerala Agricultural University Thrissur (Kerala)	Fruits/PHT Tropical Fruits Plantation Crops M&AP Spices Cashew Vegetable Vegetable Floriculture Mushroom	Kannara Vellanikkara Pampadumpara Panniyur Pillioicide Madakkathara Vellanikkara Vellanikkara Vellanikkara
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Madhya Pradesh

1.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishva Vidyalaya, Jabalpur (MP)	Fruits/PHT Sub-Tropical Fruits Plantation Crops M&AP Betelwine	Rewa Mandsaour Indore Jabalpur Jabalpur
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1	2	3	4
		<i>Vegetable</i>	
		Vegetable	Jabalpur
		NSP	Jabalpur
		Potato	Chindwara
	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Raipur	Plantation Crops	
		Palms	Jagdalpur
		Spices	Raigarh
		Cashew	Jagdalpur
		Vegetable	Raipur
		NSP	Raipur
		Mushroom	Raipur
		Tuber Crops	Jagdalpur
Maharashtra			
2.	Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli (MS)	<i>Fruits/PHT</i>	
		Sub-tropical Fruits	Vengurla
		Post Harvest Tech.	Dapoli
		Plantation Crops	Ratnagiri
		Palms	Mulde
		Spices	Dapoli
		Cashew	Vengurla
	BSKVV, Dapoli	<i>Vegetable</i>	
		Tuber Crops	Dapoli
		Betelvine	Sangali
		Mushroom	Pune
		Floriculture	Pune
3.	Marathwada Agri. University, Parbhani	Vegetable	
		Vegetable	Ambajogai
Orissa			
1.	Orissa University of Agril. & Tech., Bhubaneswar	<i>Plantation Crops</i>	
		Palms	Konark
		Betelvine	Bhubaneswar
		Spices	Potangi
		Cashew	Bhubaneswar
		<i>Vegetable</i>	
		Vegetable	Bhubaneswar
		NSP	Bhubaneswar
		Potato	Bhubaneswar
		Floriculture	Bhubaneswar
Punjab			
1.	Punjab Agril. University, Ludhiana	<i>Fruits/PHT</i>	
		Tropical Fruits	Ludhiana
		Sub-Tropical Fruits	Ludhiana
		Arid Zone Fruits	Abohar
		<i>Vegetable</i>	
		Vegetable	Ludhiana
		NSP	Ludhiana
		Mushroom	Ludhiana
		Floriculture	Ludhiana

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan			
1.	Rajasthan Agril. University, Bikaner	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Sub Tropical Fruits Arid Zone Fruits PHT Plantation Crops Spices M&AP Plants <i>Vegetable</i> Vegetable Potato Mushroom Floriculture	Udiapur Bikaner Jobner Jobner Jobner Udaipur Durgapur Kota Udaipur Udaipur
Tamil Nadu			
1.	Tamil Nadu Agril. University, Coimbatore	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Tropical Fruits Sub-Tropical Fruits Arid Zone Fruits PHT <i>Plantation Crops</i> Palms Spices Cashew Betelvine <i>Vegetable</i> NSP (Veg.) Mushroom Tuber. Crops Floriculture	Coimbatore Periyakulam Periyakulam Aruppukotai Periyakulam Velloppakulam Aliyarnagar Killikulam Aduthorai Coimbatore Yercaud Vridhachalam Sirugamani Coimbatore Periyakulam Coimbatore Coimbatore Coimbatore
Uttarakhand			
1.	G.B. Pant University of Agril. & Tech., Pantnagar, Nainital	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Sub-Tropical Fruits <i>Vegetable</i> Vegetable NSP Potato Mushroom Plantation Crops Floriculture	Pantnagar Pantnagar Pantnagar Pantnagar Pantnagar Pantnagar Pantnagar

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh			
1.	Narendra Dev. University of Agri. & Tech., Faizabad	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Arid Zone Fruits <i>Plantation Crops</i> M&AP Spices <i>Vegetable</i> Vegetable Potato Mushroom Tuber crops	 Faizabad Faizabad Kumarganj Faizabad Faizabad Faizabad Faizabad
2.	Chandra Sekhar Azad University of Agril. & Tech., Kanpur	<i>Vegetable</i> Vegetable NSP	 Kanpur Kanpur
West Bengal			
1.	Krishi Veshwa Vidyalyaya, Kalyani	<i>Fruits/PHT</i> Tropical Fruits Sub-Tropical PHT <i>Plantation Crops</i> Palms Spices Cashew Betelvine <i>Vegetable</i> Potato Tuber Crops Floriculture	 Pedong (BCKV, Kalyani) Malda (BCKV, Kalyani) Kalyani Manduri Pundibari Jhargram Kalyani Kalyani Kalyani Kalyani & Kalimpong

[Translation]

**Free Life Insurance Cover to Workers in
Unorganised Sectors**

62. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to
formulate any scheme to provide free life insurance cover
to poor workers in the unorganised sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified such poor
and backward districts having workers in the unorganised
sectors; and

(d) if so, the estimated number of workers to be
covered under the said scheme and the estimated
expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Government is considering enactment of legislation and formulation of Social Security Scheme for workers in the unorganized sector in consultation with all stakeholders, concerned Ministries/ Departments and National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS). The modalities of the scheme and coverage of workers etc. are being examined.

[English]

Subsidies on Urea

63. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidies on urea is pending to fertilizer industry as reported in 'The Times of India' dated January 8, 2007;

(b) if so, whether the fertilizer industry is facing a severe liquidity crunch;

(c) if so, the reasons for not releasing funds to such manufacturing units so far; and

(d) the time by which pending compensation is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The subsidies to the tune of approximately Rs. 10,000 crores was due as on 1st January, 2007, on sale of all fertilizers including urea. A sum of Rs. 4400 crores was allocated under 2nd Supplementary Demand for grants 2006-07, which has been released to the fertilizer industry in January, 2007. It is expected to receive remaining funds for payment of subsidy under 3rd supplementary demand for grant 2006-07.

Setting up of Urea Manufacturing Plants

64. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to set up urea manufacturing plants in West Asian countries in joint ventures between Indian Public Sector Companies and foreign partners;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make available Urea at less than the indigenous price of the product manufactured in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The public sector undertakings Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers (RCF) and National Fertilisers Ltd (NFL) and the Multi-state cooperative society KRIBHCO which are under the administrative control of 'Department of fertilizers are exploring the possibility of setting up commercially viable joint venture projects for manufacture of nitrogenous/ phosphatic fertilizers in countries rich in raw material resources.

The price of urea from joint venture projects will depend upon the price of the feedstock.

[English]

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

65. SHRI MAHABIR BHAGORA:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the features of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

(b) the number of farmers benefitted under NAIS during the last three years and the current financial year, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the total funds released to the farmers during the said period with the break up of State and Central share therein, State-wise;

(d) whether any insurance claim is lying pending with the Union Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the said period, State-wise;

(f) the time by which said claims are likely to be cleared;

(g) whether the Government has taken any final decision on the recommendations of the Joint Group constituted to study the improvement required in the NAIS; and

(h) if so, the details of the recommendations that have been accepted and implemented

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Main features of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is enclosed in Statement I.

(b) A statement-II showing number of farmers benefited during last three years is enclosed.

(c) A statement showing State-wise, Season/Year-wise claims paid to farmers during last three years is enclosed.

(d) to (f) The claims amounting to Rs. 105.78 crore are pending on account of non-payment of State's share of funds. These claims would be settled on receipt of funds.

A Statement IV indicating State-wise details of pending claims is enclosed.

(g) and (h) A Joint Group constituted to study the improvements required in the existing Crop Insurance Schemes has submitted its report. The Joint Group has given recommendations like reducing the unit area of insurance to gram panchayat for major crops, improving the basis of calculation of threshold yield, higher indemnity level, coverage of pre-sowing risk, post-harvest losses etc. Based on the recommendations, modification of NAIS is under process.

Statement I

Main Features of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)

- Scheme is available to all farmers—loanee and non-loanee both—irrespective of their size of holding.
- Compulsory for loanee farmers and optional for non-loanee farmers.
- The scheme is voluntary for the States/UTs.
- Sum-insured may extend to the value of threshold yield of the area insured.
- Coverage of all food crops (cereals, millets & pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/ horticultural crops in respect of which past yield data is available for adequate number of years.
- Among the annual commercial/horticultural crops, fourteen crops namely cotton, sugarcane, potato, chillies, ginger, onion, turmeric, jute, tapioca, annual banana, pineapple, coriander, cumin and garlic are presently covered.
- Basically all-risk insurance scheme covering all yield losses due to natural, non-preventable risks.
- Premium rates are 3.5% for bajra and oilseeds, and 2.5% for other Kharif crops; 1.5% for wheat, and 2% for other rabi crops. In case the rates worked out on the basis of actuarial data are less than the prescribed premium rate, the lower rate will be applicable.
- In case of annual commercial/ horticultural crops, actuarial rates are charged.
- Small and marginal farmers are provided subsidy of 50% of the premium charged from them. The subsidy will be phased out over a period of 5 years on sunset basis.

Statement II**NAIS Farmers Benefited**

Sl.No.	State	Farmers Benefited 2003-04	Farmers Benefited 2004-05	Farmers Benefited 2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	318708	313435	672044
2.	Assam	4088	2376	4737
3.	Bihar	61769	323175	228887
4.	Chhattisgarh	393	38123	2184
5.	Goa	0	1	0
6.	Gujarat	30079	346963	14715
7.	Haryana	Not Notified	16799	32007
8.	Himachal Pradesh	370	897	4705
9.	Jharkhand	11869	59313	617226
10.	Karnataka	1531038	150926	130789
11.	Kerala	16493	2144	10040
12.	Madhya Pradesh	49748	259301	128239
13.	Maharashtra	1439088	701543	259898
14.	Meghalaya	0	90	0
15.	Orissa	39529	51308	26391
16.	Rajasthan	997	376384	776142
17.	Sikkim	0	0	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	16572	47478	49656
19.	Tripura	215	484	1621
20.	Uttar Pradesh	144821	619890	389820
21.	Uttaranchal	4854	738	7082
22.	West Bengal	106516	119900	277425
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	592	0	0
24.	Pondicherry	592	647	780
25.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
Total		3778331	3433715	3634368

Statement III**Statewise Seasonwise Claims Paid and Claims Sharing**

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Claims Paid 2003-04	Year 2003-04			Claims Paid 2004-05	Year 2004-05			Claims Paid 2005-06	Year 2005-06		
			AIC	State share	GOI share		AIC	State share	GOI share		AIC	State share	GOI share
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21491.66	5911.04	7790.31	7790.31	9296.85	8770.11	263.37	263.37	49335.01	8097.05	20618.98	20618.98
2.	Assam	34.55	20.17	7.19	7.19	59.37	13.22	23.08	23.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	2638.30	283.89	1177.31	1177.30	23988.71	1100.83	11444.04	11444.04	15392.55	1274.04	7059.25	7059.25
4.	Chhattisgarh	5.17	5.17	0.00	0.00	504.64	356.92	73.86	73.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	585.49	585.49	0.00	0.00	28906.21	5806.46	11649.88	11649.88	249.19	249.19	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	133.36	108.44	12.46	12.46	66.23	4053	1285	12.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	2.55	2.55	0.00	0.00	40.07	7.48	16.29	16.29
9.	Jharkhand	267.70	43.36	112.17	112.17	1060.54	136.56	461.99	461.99	10471.69	686.39	4892.65	4892.65
10.	Karnataka	50780.64	4634.34	23073.15	23073.15	2648.17	2648.17	0.00	0.00	4536.60	4536.60	0.00	0.00
11.	Kerala	648.32	75.53	286.40	286.40	39.17	39.17	0.00	0.00	147.24	50.36	48.44	48.44
12.	Madhya Pradesh	876.73	851.97	12.38	12.38	5969.41	4476.49	746.46	746.46	2000.88	1895.92	52.48	52.48
13.	Maharashtra	29558.46	3618.60	12969.93	12969.93	13005.76	2924.64	5040.56	5040.56	3231.54	3068.80	81.47	81.47
14.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Orissa	1830.79	1379.25	225.77	225.77	1504.79	1504.79	0.00	0.00	373.83	373.83	0.00	0.00
16.	Rajasthan	14.19	14.19	0.00	0.00	14333.79	5374.49	4479.65	4479.65	19069.37	4619.02	8568.46	5881.89
17.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	894.48	205.50	344.49	344.49	3854.22	533.02	1660.80	1660.80	4607.41	496.21	2055.60	2055.60
19.	Tripura	3.66	1.44	1.11	1.11	3.85	3.23	0.31	0.31	36.16	10.93	12.61	12.61
20.	Uttar Pradesh	3695.92	1584.00	1055.96	1055.96	12200.76	3228.57	4486.10	4486.10	7926.66	3322.89	2301.89	2301.89
21.	Uttaranchal	32.63	15.49	8.57	8.57	1.87	1.39	0.24	0.24	235.52	16.31	109.60	109.60
22.	West Bengal	681.17	681.17	0.00	0.00	1861.73	1554.79	153.47	153.47	3149.14	1224.33	962.41	962.41
23.	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Pondicherry	15.39	8.45	3.47	3.47	34.75	14.67	10.04	10.04	7.93	7.93	0.00	0.00
25.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		114055.41	19919.01	47068.21	47068.20	119410.50	38398.31	40506.10	40506.09	120877.03	29977.61	46792.99	44106.42

Statement IV*NAIS—Claims Approved but not yet paid (As on 19 February 2007)*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State	Season	Total Claims Outstanding	AIC's share	GOI's share	S.G.'s share	Reason
1.	Meghalaya	Kharif 2002	5.87	1.19	2.34	2.34	State's share awaited
2.	Meghalaya	Rabi 2002-03	10.68	4.81	2.93	2.94	State's share awaited
3.	Meghalaya	Kharif 2004	1.43	0.74	0.35	0.35	State's share awaited
4.	Assam	Rabi 2004-05	9.57	9.57	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
5.	Meghalaya	Rabi 2004-05	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
6.	Goa	Rabi 2004-05	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
7.	Karnataka	Rabi 2004-05	402.23	248.65	0.00	153.58	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
8.	Chhattisgarh	Kharif 2005	5.86	5.86	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
9.	Assam	Kharif 2005	1.31	1.31	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
10.	West Bengal	Kharif 2005	3355.13	625.58	1364.78	1364.77	State's share awaited
11.	Rajasthan	Kharif 2005	2538.22	0	0.00	2538.22	State Govt. liability yet to be received
12.	Rajasthan	Kh 05 (Addl.)	6.86	0.23	0.00	6.63	State's share awaited
13.	Chhattisgarh	Rabi 2005-06	6.35	6.35	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
14.	Gujarat	Rabi 2005-06	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
15.	Andhra Pradesh	Rabi 2005-06	357.96	357.96	0.00	0.00	State's premium subsidy awaited
16.	Assam	Rabi 2005-06	130.38	50.05	40.16	40.17	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
17.	Haryana	Rabi 2005-06	1527.90	190.06	668.92	668.92	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
18.	Tamil Nadu	Rabi 2005-06	213.89	4.09	104.90	104.90	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
19.	West Bengal	Rabi 2005-06	1209.18	458.75	375.21	375.21	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
20.	Maharashtra	Rabi 2005-06	1.19	0.00	0.59	0.59	State's share awaited
21.	Himachal Pradesh	Rabi 2005-06	64.35	5.68	29.33	29.34	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
22.	Jharkhand	Rabi 2005-06	266.77	35.36	115.71	115.71	State's share & premium subsidy awaited
23.	Chhattisgarh	Kharif 2006	481.03	461.03	0	0	State's premium subsidy awaited
Total			10578.57	2469.68	2705.23	5403.67	

*[English]***Contract Farming**

66. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDARO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce contract farming to help the farmers;

(b) if so, whether the Government has advised the State Governments to initiate steps for introducing contract farming;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken thereon by the Union/State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Small farmers in India are generally capital starved and cannot make major investment in land improvement and modern inputs. Contract farming can fill up this gap by providing the farmers with quality inputs, technical guidance and management skills and most importantly link them to assured and profitable markets. In view of above, contract-farming arrangements are supported by the Government as a measure of reform in agricultural marketing sector. While doing so, Government has sought to protect the interest of both the farmers as well as the industry equitably, by suggesting arrangement for registration of sponsoring companies and recording of contract farming agreements, in order to check unreliable and spurious companies. A dispute resolution mechanism is also suggested to be set up to quickly settle issues, if any, arising between the farmers and the company under a quasi-judicial manner and also to ensure that farmers are indemnified from any displacement. A model Agriculture Produce Marketing Regulation Act (APMC Act), inter-alia, containing provisions to the said effect has been circulated to State Governments/Union Territories for adoption as the subject matter falls within their jurisdiction.

(d) The State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Sikkim, Andhra

Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Union Territory Administration of Chandigarh have provided legal support to contract farming by making provision for it under their respective laws.

National Policy for Domestic Industry Workers

67. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

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

(a) whether a Conference on Empowerment of Domestic Industry Labourers has been recently held in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to frame a national policy for the said workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps likely to be taken for the implementation of the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Conversion of Non-gas based Urea Producing Units**

68. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

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

(a) whether the Government has announced a policy for conversion of the existing non-gas based urea producing units into gas based units;

(b) if so, whether a time-frame has been fixed for the conversion of said units,

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

(d) the details and locations of the gas based urea units functioning in the country, at present;

(e) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the production capacity of the said units and the profits earned by them;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government proposes to do away with subsidy for the gas based units as reported in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated February 3, 2007; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The

Government has announced a policy for conversion of existing non gas based producing units into gas based units to promote usage of most efficient and comparatively cheaper feed stock Natural Gas/LNG for production of urea in the country. The policy lays down a definite plan for conversion of all non-gas based urea units to gas within a period of next three years. At present, there are 9 urea units (MFL, SPIC, ZIL, MCFL, SFC, GNFC, NFL-Nangal, NFL-Bhatinda, NFL-Panipat) in the country which are based on naphtha or FO/LSHS as feed stock. Beyond this time limit, the high cost urea produced by these non-gas based units will not be entitled to subsidy at the existing levels and it will be restricted to import parity price of urea. The units, which are unable to tie up gas will have to explore alternative feedstocks like Coal Bed Methane (CBM) and coal gas.

(d) to (f) The details and locations of the gas based urea units functioning in the country including its production capacity is given in the enclosed statement.

(g) and (h) There is no proposal to do away with the subsidy for the gas based units.

Statement

Details and location of Gas based urea units

S.No.	Name of Plant	Location	Installed Capacity (LMT)	Feedstock
1	2	3	4	5
1.	KRIBHCO	Hazira	17.292	Gas
2.	TCL	Babrara	8.646	Gas
3.	KSFL	Shahajahanpur	8.646	Gas
4.	IGFL	Jagdishpur	8.646	Gas
5.	NFL-Vijaipur-I	Vijaipur	8.646	Gas
6.	NFL-Vijaipur-II	Vijaipur	8.746	Gas
7.	IFFCO-Aonla-I	Aonla	8.646	Gas
8.	IFFCO-Aonla-II	Aonla	8.646	Gas
9.	IFFCO-Phulpur-I	Phulpur	7.0785	Gas
10.	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	Phulpur	7.0785	Gas

1	2	3	4	5
11.	CFCL-Gadepan-I	Gadepan	8.646	Gas
12.	CFCL-Gadepan-II	Gadepan	8.646	Gas
13.	NFCL-Kakinada-I	Kakinada	5.973	Gas
14.	NFCL-Kakinada-II	Kakinada	5.973	Gas
15.	RCF	Thai	17.068	Gas
16.	IFFCO	Kalol	5.445	Gas
17.	GSFC	Baroda	3.7059	Gas
19.	BVFCL-Namrup-I	Namrup	2.775	Gas
20.	BVFCL-Namrup-II	Namrup	2.775	Gas

*[English]***Telecast of Local Programmes**

69. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a growing demand from the local people tribal councils at different Islands in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for the relay of local programmes in their respective areas;

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the coverage area of local programmes;

(c) whether the Government proposes to introduce the automatic switch-over system in all the LPTs and VLPTs in Andaman & Nicobar Islands; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that relay of local programmes on LPT at Carnicobar is being considered actively by Doordarshan. They have also informed that there is a proposal to provide auto switch over facility for change over of programmes at the VLPTs in Andaman & Nicobar Islands during 2007-08.

Funds to Tackle Climate Change

70. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

(a) whether the Global Environment Agency has sanctioned millions of dollars to India to tackle climate change;

(b) if so, the details of such funds;

(c) the manner in which these funds have been/are likely to be utilized; and

(d) the extent of success achieved from such expenditure, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Between 1991 and June 2006, India has received USD 129.46 million of Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant under climate change focal area. Further, under GEF 4, Resource Allocation Framework (RAF), India has received an indicative allocation of USD 74.9 million for climate change projects for the period July 2006 to June 2010. As on date projects of USD 4.927 million have been approved.

(c) and (d) The utilization of these funds depends upon the kind of projects, which the country is able to pose and get approved as well as the successful implementation of these projects. The projects approved between 1991-June 2006 are either completed/under implementation, whereas the projects already approved under GEF 4 are yet to begin implementation. Further, as per the GEF operational procedures, a country could utilize up to 50% of its indicative allocation in the next two years (i.e. up to June 2008). Thereafter, in end of December 2008, the country's performance will be analyzed by the GEF's Independent Office of Monitoring and Evaluation, wherein the country's allocation could increase or decrease.

Grape Cultivation in Orissa

71. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area covered under grape cultivation in Orissa;

(b) whether there is vast scope to promote grape cultivation in the State; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the areas under grape cultivation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The area under grape cultivation in Orissa is negligible. Only 0.2 ha. area is under grape cultivation in Koraput district on trial basis.

(b) Precise assessment has not been done in the recent past with respect to cultivars and agro-climatic suitability of grape cultivation on a commercial scale.

(c) Does not arise.

Coffee Plantation in Andhra Pradesh

72. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh (AP) Forest Development Corporation had submitted a proposal for raising coffee plantations in degraded forests land in Vishakhapatnam and East Godavari districts of A.P.;

(b) if so, the current stage at which the proposal is pending; and

(c) the time-frame by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) for raising coffee plantation in degraded forests land in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh. As the said proposal was not in the prescribed format for seeking approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the State Government has been requested to submit the proposal in the prescribed format.

Crisis in Farm Sector

73. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farm sector has been experiencing severe crisis in the country for the past few years;

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

(c) whether the Government has drawn any road map/chalked out any plan to bring the farm sector out of the crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the allocations being made for this sector during the coming 11th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Agriculture sector in the country is going through a difficult phase mainly due to deceleration in agricultural growth from 3.2% per annum for the period 1980 to 1996-97 to a growth rate of around 2% per annum subsequently. Other challenges faced by the sector include stagnant productivity of crops, deteriorating profitability and lack of adequate infrastructure facilities.

(c) and (d) The Government has already taken a number of initiatives like announcing Agriculture Credit Policy to increase flow of credit to the sector, Kisan credit

card scheme, revamping of cooperative credit structure, reforming agriculture market and setting up of National Horticulture Mission and National Rainfed Authority etc. The agricultural growth is proposed to be improved to about 4% during the 11th Plan period through different measures and initiatives.

Allocations for agriculture sector for 11th Five Year Plan has not yet been finalized.

Import of Sub-Standard Wheat

74. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI AMITAVA NANDY:
SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:

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

(a) whether the retail prices of wheat and atta have increased alarmingly in the past few months and have become unaffordable for common man;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the quality of wheat imported from other countries to meet the shortage is not up to mark;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) whether the Government has decided to stop the distribution of sub-standard wheat; and

(f) the further steps taken by the Government to make available good quality wheat and atta to common man at an affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) After having registered increase during the initial months of the current financial year, retail prices of wheat and atta are indicating a steady to declining trend during the last three months. The reasons for rise in wheat prices during the initial months are lower domestic production of wheat during 2005-06 and higher international prices.

(c) The quality of wheat stocks imported from other countries is conforming to PFA standards and fit for human consumption. The imported wheat stocks received

at the ports are subjected to rigorous sampling and inspections by PHO/PPQ authorities at port and analyzed at their laboratories before the acceptance of the same. Further, the stocks are also analyzed by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) before the acceptance of the same as per contractual specifications as decided by the Government.

(d) So far, no stocks have been accepted beyond PFA standards.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government have recently taken a decision to release 4 lakh MT of wheat under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS). Orders for release of a total quantity of 3.65 lakh MT of wheat to the various States under OMSS across the country in the month of February and March 2007 have been issued on 15.2.2007 and 20.2.2007. The wheat is being made available to the States at a price of Rs. 986.06 per quintal. The remaining 35,000 MT of wheat would also be released to States based on their demand/lifting. A Statement showing State-wise wheat allocated under OMSS is enclosed. The wheat will be released by the FCI to the State Governments for distribution to consumers through the State Level Institutions/Corporations or Agencies whose work will be directly supervised by the State Government so that the benefit of lower subsidized prices can be passed on to the consumers.

Statement

State-wise Wheat Allocated under OMSS (D)

State	Quantity in MT
1	2
Delhi	30,000
Madhya Pradesh	20,000
Uttar Pradesh	20,000
West Bengal	20,000
Bihar	20,000
Punjab	10,000
Haryana	10,000
Jammu and Kashmir	15,000

1	2
Assam	6,000
Himachal Pradesh	5,000
Uttarakhand	5,000
Tripura	1,000
Mizoram	1,000
Manipur	500
Nagaland	500
Meghalaya	500
Arunachal Pradesh	500
Maharashtra	60,000
Karnataka	60,000
Kerala	25,000
Orissa	20,000
Gujarat	20,000
Tamil Nadu	15,000
Total	3,65,000

[Translation]

Sale of Mustard at Lower Price

75. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the scheme for sale of the previous stock of mustard at lower price in view of the ensuing procurement season as reported in the "Dainik Jagran" dated February 09, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the current stock of mustard and the amount sanctioned to cover the losses due to this sale, State-wise; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for procurement of mustard during the ensuing season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. NAFED is continuing disposal of mustard at the prevailing market rates since beginning. The sale of mustard in the mustard producing areas has been suspended in view of the ensuing mustard crop. However, the sale of mustard is continued in the terminal markets and through processing the seed in to oil.

(c) No amount has been sanctioned for procurement of mustard during the ensuing season.

[English]

Indo-UK Climate Change Project-II

76. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been signed for the second phase of Indo-UK Climate Change Project-II;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total investment involved therein; and

(d) the goals fixed and the action plan finalized therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Government of UK have agreed to undertake a four year research programme on the impacts and adaptation to climate change in India Phase-II. The research programme includes improvement of Indian climate scenarios and assessment of impacts on water resources, agriculture, forests and human health. In addition, the Phase-II envisages training and institutional capacity building of Indian scientists and institutions. The Government of UK will fund the projects at an estimated outlay of £ 8,47,000. The details of the study have not been worked out, as of date.

APMC Act

77. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States have since accorded approval to the model Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act;

(b) if so, the status of implementation of this Act, as on date;

(c) the changes proposed to be made in the APMC through this model Act; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to the farmers therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The current status of introducing reforms in agricultural marketing sector by suitably amending the respective Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act on the basis suggested in the Model Act is indicated in the attached statement.

(c) The major reforms sought to be introduced include, *inter alia*.

(i) Enabling legal persons, growers and local

authorities to establish new markets in any area.

(ii) Removing the restriction on the growers to sell their produce only through existing regulated markets,

(iii) Establishment of Direct Purchase Centres and Consumers'/Farmers' Markets for direct sale.

(iv) Providing a separate provision for establishment of special markets for commodities like onions, fruits, vegetables, flowers etc., and

(v) Introducing an institutional support mechanism to contract-farming arrangements.

(d) The reforms would encourage a marketing regime, where there is fair competition, so that the farmers can gain from the options available and take their produce to the centres that offer the best prices and services. The contract farming arrangements will provide an effective method of linking small farm sector to agro-processing industry and to sources for extension advice, seeds, credit card to assured and profitable markets.

Statement

Sl.No.	Stage of Reforms	Name of States/Union Territories
1.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act have been done as suggested.	Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Sikkim, Nagaland, Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chandigarh
2.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done partially (a) by amending APMC Act/resolution (b) by Executive Order	Haryana, Karnataka, Gujarat and NCT of Delhi U.P.
3.	States/UTs where there is no APMC Act and hence not requiring reforms	Kerala, Manipur, Bihar, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep
4.	States/UTs where APMC Act already provides for the reforms	Tamil Nadu
5.	States/UTs where administrative action is initiated for the reforms	Assam, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, J&K, Uttaranchal, Goa, West Bengal Pondicherry, and Jharkhand.

FDI in Agriculture Sector

78. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to invite 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Agriculture and Plantation Sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the States likely to be benefitted therefrom;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the impact of this move on Farm/Agriculture Sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is permitted on the automatic route in Floriculture, Horticulture, Developmnet of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture, Aquaculture, Cultivation of vegetables and mushrooms, under the controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors. FDI upto 100% with prior approval by the Government/Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) is also permitted in tea sector, including tea plantations, subject to divestment of 26% equity in favour of Indian partner/Indian public within a period of five years; and prior approval of State Government for change in land use. FDI in any other agriculture and plantation activity is not permitted.

Investment decisions, including choice of location are taken by the entrepreneurs based on their techno-economic judgements and commercial considerations.

The Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy on FDI according to which FDI upto 100% is permitted, under the automatic route, in most sectors. The policy is reviewed on a continuous basis for further liberalization/rationalization. This policy aims to encourage investment in sectors where FDI is permitted. This has potential to improve productivity and growth in the sector.

Development of Assam Agriculture University

79. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Assam for development of infrastructure of Assam Agriculture University;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to promote the said University alongwith the allocation made therefor;

(d) whether there is any special plans for development of other Agriculture Universities and Colleges in North Eastern Region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Assam has requested for One-Time Grant for modernization of the Assam Agriculture University.

(c) Agricultural Education is a State subject. The major portion of the Budget of the State Agricultural Universities including Assam Agriculture University is borne by the concerned State Government. However, central assistance is also provided to the State Agricultural Universities for strengthening and development of agricultural education. During the Xth Plan, an amount of Rs. 2600.07 lakhs have been released/allocated to the Assam Agriculture University for strengthening and development of agricultural education under the various components of the scheme.

(d) and (e) The Central Agricultural University has already been established at Imphal, Manipur in the year 1993 for development of North Eastern Region.

[Translation]

Growth of Pharmaceutical Industry

80. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether the growth rate of pharmaceutical industry has gone up to 57 percent in the first nine months of the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the total turnover of the said industry during the said period;

(c) the extent to which this turnover is higher than the previous year; and

(d) the financial incentives given for the growth of the industry during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The market size of the Indian Pharma Industry is growing in terms of production/consumption/exports. The Indian Pharmaceutical Industry is presently estimated to be approximately US \$ 12 Billion and is reportedly growing at an average rate of 15-16 % on the domestic front and at an average rate of 20-25% on the export front. The Government on its part provides certain fiscal and non fiscal incentives for the growth of the Pharma Industry mostly in terms of Research and Development.

[English]

Amendment in Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RE&CS) Act, 1979

81. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received suggestions from various States to amend the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 and bring under its purview individuals who migrate on their own from one State to another in search of jobs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have received suggestions from States like Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim etc. to amend certain provisions of the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RECS) Act, 1979 which include changing the title of the Act and

providing protection to workers migrating on its own in search of jobs and irrespective of their mode of recruitment.

New Pricing Scheme for Urea Units

82. SHR IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has approved a policy for Stage-III of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) for urea units as reported in *Hindu* dated February 2, 2007;

(b) if so, the salient features of scheme; and

(c) the extend to which the new scheme is likely to be helpful to meet the shortage of urea in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Government has approved the New Pricing Scheme Stage-III for urea to increase the urea production in the country. The policy is aimed at promoting further investment in the urea sector, to maximize urea production from the indigenous urea units including through conversion of non-gas based Units to gas, incentivising additional urea production and to encourage investment in Joint Venture (JV) projects abroad. It is also aimed at establishing a more efficient urea distribution and movement system in order to ensure availability of urea in the remotest corners of the country.

[Translation]

Notices Issued to Drug Companies

83. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether drug companies are overcharging the patients for drugs;

(b) if so, the details of overcharging notices issued by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) to various drug companies during the last three years and the current financial year;

(c) the amount of liability to each company;

(d) the details of the cases settled, pending and the amount recovered during the said period; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to recover the remaining amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) (a) to (e) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) regularly takes action against pharma companies who do not implement the prices fixed/notified by NPPA under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and this is a continuous and ongoing process. Since, inception in Aug' 1997, NPPA has raised a total demand of Rs. 738.15 crores for recovery towards overcharged amount in 397 cases, under the provisions of DPCO' 1995 read with Essential Commodities Act, 1955. NPPA has recovered Rs. 99.99 crores (upto 31.12.06) from the defaulting companies. NPPA continues to take appropriate action regularly for recovery of the overcharged amount. In some cases the recovery is affected due to orders from the Hon'ble High Courts and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and cases presently subjudice in Courts.

[English]

Water Year-2007

84. SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present rate of farm crop income per drop of water in different parts of the country and for different agri-crops;

(b) the details of farmers participatory action research programme designed to create awareness about the technologies available for increasing the productivity and profitability of agriculture and launch water literacy drive;

(c) whether the Government proposes to declare 2007 as 'Water Year';

(d) if so, the salient features and broad outlines of the plan to observe this year as the 'Water Year'; and

(e) the estimated expenditure to be involved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources has not made any specific assessment on present rate of farm crop income per drop of water in different parts of the country and for different agri-crops.

(b) to (e) The Participatory Action Research Programme aims at creation of awareness for water conservation including rainwater harvesting and related issues. Implementation of the programme in 5000 villages of the country is envisaged through involvement of Agricultural Universities/Institutions as well as Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR), International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Water and Land Management Institutes (WALMIS) and private sector R & D Institutions etc. having relevant expertise on the subject.

The Government of India has declared the Year-2007 as "Water Year" with the focus on;

- (i) developing consensus on appropriate measures including legislation on better management of the water sector including participatory irrigation management, regulated use and conservation;
- (ii) timely completion of irrigation projects and maintenance of existing projects to ensure water availability to farmers;
- (iii) awareness programmes for the masses;
- (iv) organization of conferences, workshops on important development and management issues.

List of major programmes and activities to be undertaken by the Ministry of Water Resources for celebrating Water Year-2007 is enclosed as Statement. All States/Union Territories (UTs) have also been requested to undertake similar programmes/activities in their States/ UTs. All activities related to Water Year-2007 are to be undertaken under the approved programme of the Ministry of Water Resources and its organizations.

Statement***Major Programmes and Activities to be undertaken to celebrate Year-2007 as "Water Year"***

Sl.No.	Schedule	Major Activities
1	2	3
1.	Jan. - Dec., 2007	Campaign on conservation of water through Radio and Television
2.	Jan. - Dec., 2007	Printing and distribution of cartoon booklets with the theme of water conservation for children.
3.	Jan.- Dec., 2007	Mass Awareness programmes to be organised by CGWB in rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water for general public, schools & colleges etc.
4.	Jan. - Dec., 2007	Water Management training programmes to be organized by CGWB to the States and Central Govt. officials, Engineers, Architects, Drillers and other voluntarily agencies
5.	Jan. - Dec., 2007	To carry out ground water management studies to design area specific ground water development and management plan.
6.	Jan. - Dec., 2007	Establishing/updation of data storage and information system to store, process and disseminate ground water data.
7.	Jan. - Dec., 2007	To carry out demonstrative artificial recharge and rain water harvesting studies to develop/update area specific methodologies.
8.	Feb.-March, 2007	National Water Resources Council meeting to be chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister with participations of Chief Minister's and Central Ministers.
9.	March, 2007	Celebration of World Water Day by organizing a curtain raiser in Delhi and functions in various parts of the country by the field offices of the organizations under the Ministry.
10.	April, 2007	Institution of an annual award for outstanding village community working on Pani Panchayat
11.	April, 2007	Formal launching of more crop and income per drop of water
12.	May, 2007	Holding of Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council meeting
13.	June - Dec., 2007	Training one women and one man as Water Master in each Pani Panchayat covering the 5000 villages.
14.	June, 2007	Organisation of National Congress on Ground Water.
15.	June, 2007	Initiation of Farmers Participatory Action Research Programme through Agricultural Universities/ICAR Institutes/ICRISAT and WALMIS in 5000 villages
16.	July, 2007	Release of manuals on strategies for wider and more effective dissemination of available information and know-how upto user level.

1	2	3
17.	August, 2007	Campaign on conservation of water through Print media on specific occasions such as Independence Day-2007 etc.
18.	Sept.-Oct., 2007	Participation in festivals, fairs etc. such as IITF-2007, Krishi Expo-2007, 8th Water Asia likely to be held in Sep.-Oct, 2007 and one or two fairs to be held in North East etc.
19.	Sept.-Dec., 2007	Organisation of Workshop/Seminar on technical and management issues related to water resources.

*[Translation]***Steel Processing Industries**

85. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a number of important decisions in recently held Ispat dealers meet programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to open Ispat processing industries in various States of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Ispat processing industries are likely to be set up in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) During the recently held SAIL dealer's meet, the following actions have been planned :-

(i) SAIL has already adopted 6 model steel villages in the states of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Orissa. In addition, a decision has also been taken to adopt 5 model steel villages in the state of Bihar.

(ii) Launching of suitable publicity campaigns for greater visibility and to improve brand image of SAIL's products.

(iii) In order to effectively service the retail market requirements, marketing of TMT and GP/GC sheets on sectional weight basis and supplying GP/GC sheets in smaller bundles.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal from the Government to set up Ispat Processing Industries in the country. However, SAIL is exploring the possibility of setting up of steel processing units in some other states.

(e) SAIL has already a Joint Venture Steel Processing Unit in Bokaro, Jharkhand.

*[English]***Coverage of AAY**

86. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of additional households covered under the expanded Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) during the year 2006-07;

(b) whether the Government proposes to expand AAY further to include more families under it during 2007-08; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) During the year 2006-07 upto 20-02-2007, 25.502 lakhs AAY families have been covered under the expanded Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Drought Affected States

87. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for granting relief to the drought affected States;

(b) whether certain areas are affected by drought in the country this year;

(c) the extent of loss suffered by each State as a result thereof;

(d) the assistance and foodgrains sought by each State; and

(e) the amount released and foodgrains provided to overcome the problem, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) There is ready availability of funds with the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), to enable the States to take immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For calamities of severe nature, where the availability of funds in the CRF is insufficient to tackle the situation, additional assistance, over and above CRF, is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), in accordance with an established procedure.

This year, taking into account the deficiency of rainfall during South-West Monsoon 2006, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Rajasthan and West Bengal reported drought/drought-like situation of varying magnitude.

The Government of Karnataka had submitted a revised Memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 1262.95 crores from the NCCF and 5.74 lakh MTs of foodgrains for relief employment, in the wake of drought. This was considered by the High Level Committee (HLC) and the HLC approved Rs. 74.48 crores from the NCCF (subject to adjustment of 75% of available balances in the CRF of the State) and one lakh MTs of rice, under the special component of Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), for relief employment. 50,000 MTs of rice has already been released to the State and the balance

will be released on receipt of utilization of initial 50,000 MTs. This is subject to review depending upon the actual utilization by the State Government.

In response to the Memorandum submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh seeking assistance of Rs. 536.06 crores from the NCCF in the wake of drought, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the State recently for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation. Further action will be taken in accordance with the established procedure.

The Government of Rajasthan have requested for allocation of 5.04 lakh MTs of wheat for taking up drought relief works during January to June, 2007. The request of the State Government is under consideration drought.

No other State has so far submitted any Memorandum seeking Central assistance for current drought.

Export of Iron Ore

88. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee of Secretaries constituted for restricting iron ore export has referred it back to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As the Committee of Secretaries, could not reach a consensus on the matter of "restrictions on iron ore export of 64% Fe and above (fines and lumps), by maintaining it at current level for the next three years through canalization and review of all existing long term agreements (LTAs) at the time of renewal", it was agreed that this may be decided by the government appropriately.

(c) The issue is under active consideration of the Government.

Progress under GAP

89. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any study to assess the actual progress of Ganga Action Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I, the first initiative undertaken by the Government of India for abatement of pollution in the river Ganga, was launched in 1985 with the objective of treating 882 million litres per day (mld) of sewage and improving its water quality to bathing class standards. This phase was declared completed in March, 2000 with the creation of the sewage treatment capacity of 865 mld.

Since GAP Phase-I did not cover the pollution load of Ganga fully, the GAP Phase-II which includes plans for the tributaries of Ganga, namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda besides Ganga, was approved in stages from 1993 onwards. The works undertaken under the Plan include installation of Sewage Treatment Plants, Interception and Diversion of Sewerage, Low Cost Sanitation, Improved Wood Based Crematoria, River Front Development etc. Under GAP- Phase I & II, so far 669 schemes of pollution abatement have been completed leading to the creation of additional sewage treatment capacity of 1728.37 million liter per day (mld). Progress of implementation of works by the Implementing Agencies nominated by the States is monitored both by the Centre and the States on continuous basis through a multi-tier monitoring mechanism. Further, as per the water quality monitoring of the river undertaken on regular basis through independent reputed institutions, the water quality of the river Ganga has shown improvement in terms of the organic load as a result of the implementation of pollution abatement works, inspite of the phenomenal increase in upstream urban population.

[Translation]

Encroachment of National Parks

90. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

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

(a) whether many national parks have been encroached upon;

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

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the States, there are reports of encroachments in some National Parks. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Management of National Parks is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. Encroachments in National Parks are prohibited under the provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court issued from time to time. The Central Government have also, vide their letter No.7-16/2002-FC dated 3-5-2002, issued detailed guidelines to all the State/UT Governments for eviction of all in-eligible encroachments from the forest lands. Moreover, under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes—Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries, Project Tiger and Project Elephant, the Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to the National Parks for various activities including those aimed at the prevention of encroachments.

The specific remedial measures taken by the States to prevent encroachments are as below:

- (a) Consolidation and demarcation of Park boundaries.
- (b) Fixing of signages cautioning penal clause for encroachment.
- (c) Bringing the areas under afforestation on priority after eviction.
- (d) Excavation of boundary trenches/Elephant proof trenches and construction of masonry rubble wall.
- (e) Taking legal action against encroachers as per law.

Statement

S.No.	State/UT	National Park	Area (ha)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Saddle Peak National Park	25.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahavir Marina Vanasthali National Park	16.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Namdapha National Park	3005.00
4.	Assam	Nameri National Park	2100.00
	Assam	Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park	800.00
	Assam	Manas National Park	1700.00
	Assam	Dibru-Saikhowa National Park	300.00
	Assam	Kaziranga National Park (In Additional Area)	7790.00
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil
6.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil
7.	Chhattisgarh	Kanghar Ghati National Park	293.6
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil
9.	Daman and Diu	Nil	Nil
10.	Delhi	Nil	Nil
11.	Goa	Nil	Nil
12.	Gujarat	Nil	Nil
13.	Haryana	Nil	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil
17.	Karnataka	Bannerghatta National Park	482.32
	Karnataka	Anshi National Park	39.40
	Karnataka	Bandipura National Park	12.80
	Karnataka	Rajiv Gandhi National Park	1.60
	Karnataka	Kudremukh National Park	141.49
18.	Kerala	Nil	Nil
19.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Satpura National Park	0,793
21.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhav National Park	7.84
22.	Maharashtra	Sanjay Gandhi National Park	200.0
23.	Manipur	Nil	Nil
24.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil
25.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil
26.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil
27.	Orissa	Nil	Nil
28.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil
29.	Punjab	Nil	Nil
30.	Rajasthan	Ranthambore National Park	0.15
31.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil
32.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil
33.	Tripura	Nil	Nil
34.	Uttar Pradesh	Dudhwa National Park	240.00
35.	Uttaranchal	Nil	Nil
36.	West Bengal	Neora Valley National Park	34.90

Promotion of Floriculture

91. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the study conducted recently by the Import-Export Bank of India regarding the present status of floriculture and its potentiality in the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove major bottlenecks as mentioned in the report to promote floriculture; and

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

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

(b) A number of steps have been initiated by Government to remove the bottlenecks for promotion of floriculture in the country. These are:

(i) **Rehabilitation of Sick Floriculture Unit:** A proposal has been put up by APEDA to set up a fund to provide financial assistance to rehabilitate the sick floriculture units so as to nurse them back to health thereby enabling them to produce quality exportable quality produce.

- (ii) **Replantation and Replacement of Poly-sheets:** Proposals by APEDA have been submitted to Ministry of Commerce for replanting and replacement of poly-sheets to enable units to undertake replantation and replace old plants with newer varieties, etc. Further assistance towards replacement of damaged poly-sheets would assist units in replacing them and maintaining plant quality and protection from diseases.
- (iii) **Agri-Export Zones:** Six agri-export zones have been set-up to promote the floriculture industry in key producing regions in various parts of the country, namely Tamil Nadu (2 Floriculture AEZs), one each in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Sikkim and Uttaranchal.
- (iv) **Post Harvest Infrastructure:** APEDA sponsored cold storages have been set-up at various airports like Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore and Trivandrum, to help exporters store their produce since there usually is a time lag between the time the flowers arrive at the airport and are loaded onto the aircrafts.
- (v) **Expansion of Product Basket:** Initiatives are being taken to diversify the product range from purely roses exports to gerberas from Uttaranchal, Carnations from Himachal Pradesh, Heleconias from Kerala, Tuberoses and Marigold from West Bengal, etc. In addition, the export of exotic flowers like anthuriums from the North-East (Mizoram, Meghalaya) have already commenced. Also, a bulb multiplication project is underway in Uttaranchal funded by the Government's ASIDE Scheme.
- (vi) **Freight Subsidy:** Since the high freight costs make the Indian floriculture exports uncompetitive, APEDA provides a Transport Assistance Subsidy to the exporters to offset the freight costs. This has proved to help the exporters in a big way and has substantially reduced their transaction costs and the airfreight cost disadvantage that they face vis-a-vis international competitors. A proposal has been submitted to continue this scheme during the 11th Plan Period.
- (vii) **Market Facilitation Centre:** APEDA had set up its first MFC in the Netherlands in 2001. This has been a key initiative to increase Indian fresh-

cut flower exports. Due to the MFC's presence at the location where the maximum international trade takes place has provided Indian growers with a perspective of changing trends, requirements of the market, etc. Further, the establishment of this Centre has resulted in reduced rejection, improved quality and presentation of our exports. In view of its success and experience gained, Government now plans to setup such centres at Tokyo and Dubai to capitalize on the huge market opportunity.

- (viii) **Modern Flower Auction Centre:** To develop a market locally (and a supply base for exports), APEDA has taken an initiative of setting up auction centres in Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata and Noida. The consolidation of supplies would enable the importers in the international markets to source their supplies from these auction centres. The price transparency and prompt payments would enable faster growth of the industry that would help build up the volume necessary for competitive supplies to the international market.
- (ix) **Organising of International flora Expos:** This event has proved to be a window of opportunity for Indian growers and for the international fraternity to witness the potential of the Indian floriculture industry. Indian growers have been able to interact with breeders and international buyers during these expos thus providing them an insight into the international market trends and requirements.
- (c) These are ongoing measures to promote floriculture in India.

Food Policy

92. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has initiated steps to formulate a comprehensive food policy in view of instability in production of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has a comprehensive food policy under which Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations are carried out by the Government agencies (Food Corporation of India and State agencies) in districts all over the country where there is marketable surplus of foodgrains. Farmers have the option to sell their produce at MSP or in the open market, as is advantageous to them. This policy ensures that farmers get remunerative prices for their produce. This also enables the Government to procure foodgrains for servicing the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and welfare schemes. Maintenance of a buffer stock of foodgrains to ensure food security is also one of the important objective of food policy.

[English]

Village Knowledge Centres

93. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Knowledge Centres working at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any proposal to Union Government to set up more Village Knowledge Centres in the State particularly in Jamnagar district; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which these centres are likely to be given approval by the Union Government and to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is not implementing any scheme with the title "Village Knowledge Centres".

However, the Department of Information Technology (DIT) has recently approved a Scheme for providing support for establishing 100,000 broadband, Internet enabled, Common Service Centres (CSCs) in rural areas of the country. These Centres would be opened in the ratio of 1 CSCs for every 6 Census villages in a State.

These Centres would provide a mix of government and private services in rural areas. The Scheme is to be implemented in public private partnership mode.

Also, the DAC is implementing, a scheme with the title "Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres" (ACABCs). Training and handholding support is provided to agriculture graduates selected for coverage under the scheme. The trained graduates are expected to set up their agri-ventures in self-employment mode for providing fee-based extension and other services to farmers.

A total of 3904 agri-ventures have been set up by agriculture graduates trained under ACABCs scheme so far. Number of such agri-ventures set up in different States is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) No formal proposal for sanctioning the CSCs Scheme in Gujarat has been received by DIT from the Government of Gujarat.

Also no proposal has been received by DAC from Government of Gujarat in respect of ACABCs scheme. However, Gujarat Agro-industries Corporation Ltd. (GAIC) had sent a proposal to National Institute of Agriculture Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad seeking financial support for imparting training to about 400 prospective agri-preneurs in Gujarat under ACABCs scheme. Implementation of this proposal requires signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between MANAGE and GAIC, which is pending with GAIC for signature. Training under this proposal will have to follow all the norms and guidelines of ACABCs scheme.

Statement

Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres Scheme Statewise Number of Agri-Clinics Set up (As on 22.2.2007)

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Agri-clinics established
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	215
2.	Assam	15
3.	Bihar	340
4.	Chhattisgarh	42

1	2	3
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	141
7.	Haryana	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	11
10.	Jharkand	8
11.	Karnataka	570
12.	Kerala	15
13.	Madhya Pradesh	122
14.	Maharashtra	696
15.	Manipur	20
16.	Orissa	74
17.	Pondicherry	1
18.	Punjab	12
19.	Rajasthan	490
20.	Tamil Nadu	176
21.	Uttar Pradesh	847
22.	Uttaranchal	35
23.	West Bengal	51
Total		3904

[Translation]

Sponge Iron Plants

94. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sponge iron plants of the public sector set up in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of employment opportunities created as a result thereof;

(c) whether any provision has been made to provide certain percentage of jobs to the local people;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) As on date there is only one sponge iron plant in the public sector—M/s Sponge Iron (India) Limited (SIIL), a Govt. of India Undertaking at Paloncha, Khammam District in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) At present there are 306 employees in SIIL.

(c) to (e) For recruitment of worker and supervisors, preference is given to only local people, whereas the officers are recruited on an All India basis. At present more than 95% employees in SIIL are local.

[English]

Pending Horticulture Proposals of Maharashtra

95. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:
SHRI D.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many proposals of farmers of Maharashtra are pending with National Horticulture Board (NHB);

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

(c) whether the Government has any plan to simplify this procedure;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(e) the details of the schemes implemented by National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), NHB and other agencies of the Ministry;

(f) the funds provided for the purpose during the last three years and current financial year; and

(g) the achievements made during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently, 1100 proposals from Maharashtra State are pending with National Horticulture Board for sanction of subsidy under the scheme "Development of Commercial Horticulture for production & Post-Harvest Management".

(c) and (d) the Government is simplifying the procedure of sanction as and when felt necessary. During 2006-07, Government has delegated the power of sanction and release of subsidy to State officers of NHB for projects costing up to Rs. 20.00 lakh as compared to the earlier limit of Rs. 10.00 lakh. Further, the NHB has exempted these projects from the purview of joint inspections and authorized the lending institutions except private banks & cooperatives (which are not public sectors) to conduct local inspections.

(e) The Scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storage/Storages for Horticulture Produce" is jointly implemented by NHB, National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). While NABARD provides refinance to the leading institutions and NCDC provides loan to the cooperatives, the NHB provides 25% back ended capital investment subsidy to the loanees. Such of the beneficiaries who do not raise loan from institutional sources, are given capital subsidy directly by NHB on completion of the projects.

(f) and (g) The funds provided and the achievement made for construction of cold storages in the State of Maharashtra during last three years and current financial year is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce

MAHARASHTRA

Year	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Achievement (in Lakh MT)	Funds Provided (Rs. in Lakh)
2003-04	13	19145	142.58
2004-05	82	67292	485.81
2005-06	6	13396	70.18
2006-07 (upto Jan' 07)	2	10000	100.00

Increase in Rate of Insurance Premium of Cotton Crop

96. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sharp increase in the rate of insurance premium of cotton crop for the Kharif season of 2006 under Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana (RKBY) has proved detrimental to the overall agricultural economy of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the

Government to protect the cotton growers from the burden of such sharp increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Cotton being a commercial crop an actuarial rate of premium is charged as per the provision of the scheme. These rates may vary from year to year and from State to State keeping in view the variability in the yield. Premium rate for cotton crop in Maharashtra in Kharif 2006 season was 7.5% as compared to 7.5% in Kharif

2005 and 6.10% in Kharif 2004 which is not a sharp increase. It is not detrimental to agriculture economy rather it helps the farmers by extending protection to their high investment in cultivation.

A Joint Group constituted to study the improvements required in the existing Crop Insurance Schemes and to make the scheme more farmer friendly has inter-alia recommended for providing adequate premium subsidy to farmers. Based on the recommendations of the Joint Group, modification of NAIS is under process.

[Translation]

Rate of Interest of EPF

97. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering/has considered the proposal to reduce or increase the rate of interest on EPF;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assessment made therefor indicating the views expressed by Trade Unions thereon;

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon;

(d) whether the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation has decided not to invest 5% of the four core subscribers money in the stock market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the final decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR

FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The rate of interest is decided by the Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund. Government have not received so far any proposal from the Board on the rate of interest for the year 2006-07.

The Employees' representatives are against any reduction in the existing rate of interest.

(d) and (e) The recommendation of the Board on this issue has not yet been received by the Government.

[English]

Removal of Ban on Export of Sugar

98. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

(a) whether the Government has since lifted the ban on export of sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely impact of the said move on sugar prices in domestic market; and

(d) the details of buffer norms fixed for sugar alongwith the actual stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government vide notification dated 4th January, 2007 relaxed ban on export of sugar and allowed exports against advance licenses. The Government has further relaxed the ban and has allowed export of sugar under OGL vide notification dated 23rd January, 2007 up to the limit approved by the Government.

(c) The export of sugar would help the sugar factories in liquidating the stocks of sugar and create liquidity in hands of sugar factories enabling them to pay cane price to farmers in time.

(d) . The Central Government has taken no decision to create buffer stock; therefore, the question of fixing buffer norms for sugar does not arise.

Eradication of Child Labour

99. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA:
 SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
 SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
 SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
 SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
 SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to eradicate child labour completely;

(b) if so, the fresh efforts made by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has any new plan for bringing child labourers back into the main stream and for financially empowering their parents;

(d) if so, the details of each schemes and the funds earmarked; and

(e) the time by which these schemes are likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is committed to complete elimination of child labour from the country. However, considering the nature and magnitude of the problem, a gradual and sequential approach is being followed, beginning with children working in hazardous occupations and processes and gradually covering children in non-hazardous occupations also.

(b) The National Child Labour Project Scheme is being implemented since 1988 for the rehabilitation of working children. Prior to 10th Plan, the scheme was being implemented in 100 districts. During the 10th Plan, the National Child Labour Project Scheme has been expanded to cover 250 districts in the country.

(c) The National Child Labour Project Scheme involves mainstreaming of working children into regular schools. Efforts are being made to economically empower the families of child labour by converging with various Income/Employment Generation Schemes of other Central Ministries and State Government Departments.

(d) An amount of Rs. 602/- crore has been allocated under the National Child Labour Project Scheme during 10th Plan Period for rehabilitation of working children.

(e) The Scheme is already under implementation.

Safety Regulations for School CNG Buses

100. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
 SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

(a) whether the Environment Pollution Prevention and Control Authority has issued stringent directives to ensure implementation of safety regulations for school CNG buses in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the agencies concerned have failed to implement the directives of the Authority; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) For safety of the commuters and other road users, the Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority has issued directions making quarterly safety checks mandatory for all CNG buses at any of the approved centres of the Delhi Transport Corporation.

(c) and (d) In compliance with the directions of the Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority, the State Transport Authority, Govt. Of NCT, Delhi has issued a public notice on 15.02.2007 regarding amendments to the permit conditions for all the CNG propelled stage and contract carriage omni buses.

Protection of Olive Ridley Turtles

101. SHRI B. MAHTAB:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to protect and promote the population of Olive Ridley sea turtles in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any breeding ground is proposed to be developed on shore and off shore of Bay of Bengal and Indian ocean;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Olive Ridley sea turtles coming to Indian water territories from the pacific ocean are faced with any threat; and

(f) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Olive Ridley Turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) has been included in the Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby affording them the highest degree of protection.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The major off-shore threats faced by the Olive Ridley turtles include trawling by mechanized boats as by-catches, high intensity disturbances due to oil explorations in high seas, etc. Further, major threats on land include predation of eggs by jackals, dogs and other carnivores and also human interference. Measures taken to protect the Olive Ridley Turtles are as follows:

(i) The main nesting grounds of Olive Ridley Turtles have been declared as Protected Areas under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) Fishermen have been advised to use Turtle Excluding Device (TED) during trawling and to avoid trawling during nesting seasons.

(iii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent. The punishments in cases of offences have been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that are used for committing wildlife offences.

(iv) Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for protection of wildlife and their habitats under various Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(v) Regular patrolling in the sea is carried out by Wildlife Department in collaboration with the State Fisheries Department and Indian Coast Guard.

(vi) The field staff have been alerted to be on the look for any poaching activity in their jurisdiction.

(vii) Wide publicity is given on provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 against poaching.

(viii) Strict vigil is maintained through effective communication system.

[Translation]

Sugarcane Cultivation

102. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land in terms of hectare covered under sugarcane cultivation during the year 2006; State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for promotion of sugarcane cultivation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The total area under sugarcane cultivation during 2006 is

estimated at 47.87 lakh hectares. The area in major sugarcane growing States is as under:

State	Area (Lakh ha)
Andhra Pradesh	2.57
Bihar	1.77
Gujarat	1.90
Haryana	1.51
Karnataka	2.10
Maharashtra	8.40
Punjab	0.92
Tamil Nadu	3.50
Uttar Pradesh	22.47
Uttarakhand	1.21

(b) and (c) To increase the production and productivity of sugarcane, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) under Macro Management of Agriculture is implemented in 23 States/Union Territories namely; Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharichand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Pondicherry. The scheme provides assistance for field demonstrations, training of farmers and extension workers, farm implements/machinery, heat treatment plants, production of planting material and drip irrigation.

Besides, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is providing soft loans to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund for setting up of heat treatment plants, rearing seed nurseries, pest control measures, incentives to cultivators to switch over to improved varieties of sugarcane, irrigation schemes, ratoon management, and tissue culture/soil testing/biological control laboratories.

[English]

Preservation of Classical Songs

103. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the AIR to preserve the immortal songs of Jyoti Prasad Bishnu Rabha, Parbati Prasad Barua, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, Rudra Barua, Rekiuddin Ahmed and Pratima Pandey in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering any plan to make these songs available to general public through CDs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Prasara Bharati have informed that the songs of these artists are available with All India Radio, Guwahati and are broadcast in various programmes from that Station. The following recordings have been preserved by All India Radio:-

S.No.	Name of artists	Duration
1.	Jyoti Prasad	25 mts
2.	Bishnu Rabha	80 mts
3.	Parbati Prasad Barua	100 mts
4.	Dr. Bhupen Hazarika	360 mts
5.	Rudra Barua	45 mts
6.	Rekiuddin Ahmed	60 mts
7.	Pratima Pandey	300 mts

(c) and (d) All India Radio has not released CDs of any of these artists. However, All India Radio is planning to release songs of some of these popular artists.

[Translation]

Conditional Access System

104. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement the Conditional Access System (CAS) as per the directions of the High Court;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made by the Government about the adverse effect of it on customers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes any plan to increase Direct-to-Home (DTH) service to save the customers from the expenditure of Set Top Box;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the TRAI has fixed channel rates under Direct-to-Home (DTH) service; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Conditional Access System (CAS) has been implemented as per the directions of High Court. The Government has implemented the revised CAS scheme after due consultation with the stakeholders viz. broadcasters, Multi-system Operators, Cable operators and consumer organizations and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in a series of meetings held on 27.3.2006, 31.3.2006, 3.4.2006 and 7.4.2006.

(d) and (e) Government has no proposal to increase Direct to Home (DTH) Services except its Free to Air DD Direct Service offered by Doordarshan which is being expanded from 33 to 50 channels. All DTH services require customers to buy Set Top Boxes.

(f) No Sir.

(g) The DTH Service is still at a nascent stage and there does not exist adequate competition with only two private service providers operating paid DTH Service.

[English]

Revival of Closed Fertilizer Units

105. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

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

(a) the details of fertilizer units functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of fertilizers produced by the Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years and the current financial year;

(c) the details of the fertilizers units which are producing below their installed capacity, closed down, incurring loss and making profit in the country during the said period, unit-wise;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the capacity of these units and also to revive the closed units in the country;

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

(f) the assistance provided to the undertakings incurring losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The information regarding the details of fertilizers units functioning in the country at present State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The quantum of fertilizers produced by Public Sector Undertakings during 2003-04 to 2005-06 and for the current financial year upto January 2007 alongwith installed capacity in nutrient terms is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Unit-wise installed capacity, production and percentage capacity utilization of fertilizer units in nutrient terms for the three years is given in the enclosed Statement III and IV.

The Public Sector units which are incurring losses are FACT, MFL & BVFCL and making profit are NFL, RCF & FAGMIL.

(d) and (e) Government is exploring the possibilities of revival of the closed units of fertilizers Public Sector Undertakings.

While in the event of revival, these units will contribute to fertilizer supply, other measures, such as debottlenecking/expansion/Joint Ventures abroad/Modernization are expected to take care of future demand.

(f) A financial restructuring package involving outgo for FACT during current financial year 2006-07. of Rs. 670.37 crore has been approved and implemented

Statement I*State-wise number of major fertilizer units functioning in the country*

Sl. No.	Name of States	No of Units in operation	Sector			Total
			Public	Co-operative	Private	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4			4	4
2.	Assam	1	1			1
3.	Goa	1			1	1
4.	Gujarat	8		3	5	8
5.	Haryana	1	1			1
6.	Karnataka	1			1	1
7.	Kerala	2	2			2
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2	2			2
9.	Maharashtra	5	4		1	5
10.	Orissa	2			2	2
11.	Punjab	3	2		1	3
12.	Rajasthan	3			3	3
13.	Tamil Nadu	4	1		3	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	7		4	3	7
15.	West Bengal	1			1	1
	Total	45	13	7	25	45

Statement II*Unit-wise Installed Capacity and Production for the Last Three Years and for the Period of April, 2006 to January, 2007 of Current Year in Nutrient Terms*

Nitrogen		('000' MTs)			
Name of Company/ Plant	Annual Installed Capacity (01.04.06)	Production			April, 2006 to January, 2007 (Actual)
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Public Sector					
NFL: Nangal-I	0.0	16.0	3.5	0.0	0.0
NFL: Nangal-II	220.1	220.1	227.2	220.9	202.6

1	2	3	4	5	6
NFL: Bhatinda	235.3	235.4	246.8	238.3	217.6
NFL: Panipat	235.3	235.3	244.4	231.7	1935
NFL: Vijaipur	397.7	406.4	426.2	421.4	329.4
NFL: Vijaipur Expn.	397.7	400.3	432.2	426.1	381.3
BVFCL: Namrup-II	110.4	0.0	0.0	14.9	21.7
BVFCL: Namrup-III	144.9	110.7	94.8	100.9	86.6
FACT: Udyogamandal	77.0	68.1	62.3	65.0	52.3
FACT: Cochin-II	97.0	85.3	94.7	120.5	93.2
RCF: Trombay	45.0	44.4	52.5	64.4	60.1
RCF: Trombay-IV	75.1	48.8	46.4	46.3	7.3
RCF: Trombay-V	151.8	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
RCF: Thal	785.1	796.5	823.4	774.9	720.5
MFL: Chennai	366.7	253.5	270.9	204.4	1967
By Product	38.7	19.9	29.2	28.7	15.8
Phosphate					
Public Sector					
FACT: Udyogamandal	29.7	28.2	20.2	28.6	22.0
FACT: Cochin-II	97.0	85.3	94.7	120.5	93.2
RCF: Trombay	45.0	44.4	52.5	64.4	60.1
RCF: Trombay-IV	75.1	48.8	48.4	46.3	7.3
MFL: Chennai	142.8	77.6	52.5	34.9	6.3

Statement III

Unit-wise Installed Capacity and Production for the last three years and for the Period of April, 2006 to January, 2007 of Current Year in Nutrient Terms

Nitrogen

Name of Company/Plant	Annual Installed Capacity (01.4.06)	Production (in Thousand MTs)				Percentage Capacity Utilization			
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	April, 2006 to January, 2007 (Actual)	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	April, 2006 to January, 2007
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Public Sector									
NFL: Nangal-I	0.0	16.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0
NFL: Nangal-II	220.1	220.1	227.2	220.9	202.5	100.0	103.2	100.4	110.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NFL: Bhatinda	235.3	235.4	246.8	238.3	217.6	100.0	104.9	101.3	111.0
NFL: Panipat	235.3	235.3	244.4	231.7	193.5	1000	103.9	98.5	98.7
NFL: Vijaipur	397.7	406.4	426.2	421.4	329.4	102.2	107.2	106.0	99.4
NFL: Vijaipur Expn.	397.7	400.3	432.2	426.1	381.3	100.7	108.7	107.1	115.1
BVFL: Namrup-II	110.4	0.0	0.0	14.9	21.7	0.0	0.0	13.5	23.6
BVFL: Namrup-III	144.9	110.7	94.8	100.9	86.6	73.4	85.4	69.6	71.7
FACT: Udyogamandal	77.0	68.1	62.3	65.0	52.3	88.4	81.0	84.4	81.5
FACT: Cochin-II	97.0	85.3	94.7	120.5	93.2	87.9	97.6	124.2	115.3
RCF: Trombay	45.0	44.4	52.5	64.4	60.1	98.7	116.7	143.1	160.3
RCF: Trombay-IV	75.1	48.8	46.4	46.3	7.3	65.0	61.8	61.7	11.7
RCF: Trombay-V	151.8	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
RCF: Thal	785.1	796.5	823.4	774.9	720.5	101.5	104.9	98.7	110.1
MFL: Chennai	366.7	253.5	270.9	204.4	196.7	69.1	73.9	65.7	64.4
By Product	38.7	19.9	29.2	28.7	15.8	51.4	75.3	74.2	49.0
Cooperative Sector									
IFFCO: Kandle	351.5	322.1	362.5	369.6	276.7	91.6	113.7	105.1	94.5
IFFCO: Kalol	250.5	220.6	255.1	250.5	210.5	88.1	101.8	100.0	100.8
IFFCO: Phulpur-I	253.5	248.7	260.0	253.5	218.0	98.1	102.5	100.0	103.2
IFFCO: Phulpur-II	397.7	391.5	397.8	406.9	321.2	98.4	100.0	102.3	96.9
IFFCO: Aonla-I	397.7	397.8	397.7	397.0	333.1	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.5
IFFCO: Aonla-II	397.7	397.8	398.0	402.3	327.8	100.0	100.1	101.2	98.9
IFFCO(OCF): Paradeep	325.2	65.1	114.6	47.9	114.4	20.0	35.2	14.7	42.2
KRIBHCO: Hazira	795.4	815.6	830.6	831.0	645.0	102.5	104.4	104.5	97.3
Private Sector									
GSFC: Vadodara	248.1	223.1	235.4	241.9	184.0	89.9	94.9	97.5	89.0
GSFC: Sikka-I	105.8	81.0	51.5	58.4	70.2	76.5	48.7	55.2	79.6
GSFC: Sikka-II	71.3	9.5	50.3	58.2	63.9	13.3	70.5	81.6	107.5
CFL: Vizag	124.0	133.8	164.9	209.8	184.8	107.9	1330	169.2	178.5
SFC: Kota	174.3	167.4	174.3	174.3	135.3	96.0	100.0	100.0	93.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cooperative Sector									
IFFCO: Kandla	910.0	832.6	938.3	982.0	722.1	91.5	113.7	105.7	95.2
IFFCO(OCF): Paradeep	802.8	151.5	282.7	73.8	212.3	18.9	35.2	9.2	31.7
Private Sector									
GSFC: Vadodara	75.9	65.0	82.0	85.9	45.9	85.6	81.7	113.2	72.6
GSFC: Sikka-I	270.5	208.9	131.6	149.4	180.2	76.5	48.7	55.2	79.9
GSFC: Sikka-II	182.2	24.2	128.7	148.9	163.3	13.3	70.6	81.7	107.6
CFL: Vizag	166.0	175.7	216.2	244.3	214.4	105.8	130.2	147.2	155.0
ZIL: Goa	197.4	166.1	178.0	202.3	178.7	84.1	90.2	102.5	108.6
SPIC: Tuticorin	218.5	146.2	176.9	178.6	133.8	66.9	81.0	81.7	73.5
MCF: Mangalore	82.8	40.2	84.4	82.3	93.4	48.6	101.9	99.4	135.4
CFL: Ennore	48.0	38.4	49.6	50.2	47.4	80.0	103.3	104.6	118.5
GNFC: Bharuch	28.5	24.3	36.0	40.7	31.8	85.3	126.2	142.8	133.9
TCL: Haldia	336.9	234.0	220.6	275.7	355.8	69.5	71.1	81.8	126.7
GFCL: Kakinada	308.2	362.2	373.9	419.7	362.4	117.5	121.3	136.2	141.1
Hindalco: Dahej	184.0	103.6	131.7	96.9	77.3	56.3	71.6	52.7	50.4
DFPCL: Talaja	52.9	34.6	20.6	12.5	12.5	65.4	39.0	23.6	28.4
PPL: Paradeep	331.2	344.0	407.3	494.3	407.9	1039	123.0	149.2	147.8
SSP: Units	901.1	396.6	362.4	409.0	348.0	44.0	40.2	45.4	46.3

Statement IV

The following 10 urea plants are presently closed/under shutdown.

Sl. No.	Name of the Company/Unit	Annual Installed Capacity (In lakh MT)
1	2	3
1.	FCI: Gorakhpur	2.85
2.	FCI: Ramagundam	4.95
3.	FCI: Talcher	4.95

1	2	3
4.	FCI: Sindri	3.30
5.	HFC: Durgapur	3.30
6.	HFC: Barauni	3.30
7.	RCF: Trombay-I	0.98
8.	NLC: Neyveli	1.53
9.	DIL: Kanpur	7.22
10.	FACT: Cochin-I	3.30

[Translation]

Diversal on of Foodgrains and Kerosene

106. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding sale of foodgrains and kerosene meant for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes under the Ministry in the open market have been received recently;

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

(c) the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Government has issued any fresh guidelines to the States for strengthening PDS and checking diversion; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State-wise and date-wise details of detention cases under Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 during the year 2006 is annexed as Statement-I.

(d) The Government have drawn a Nine Point Action Plan and sent to all State Governments for taking necessary action thereon. The Action Plan contains the following points:

1. States should undertake a campaign for Review of BPL/AAY lists, to eliminate ghost ration cards - within 3 months.
2. Strict action should be taken against the guilty to ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains. In this respect information asked for under clause 9 of PDS Control Order, may also be sent.
3. For sake of transparency involvement of elected PRI members in distribution of foodgrains, licences be given to SHGs, gram panchayats, cooperatives, etc.
4. BPL/AAY lists should be displayed on all FPSs.
5. District-wise and FPS-wise allocation of foodgrains should be put up on websites and other prominent places, for public scrutiny.
6. Wherever possible, door step delivery of foodgrains should be ensured by States, instead of letting private transporters/wholesalers to transport goods.
7. Timely availability of foodgrains at FPS level and fixed dates of distribution to ration card holders should be ensured.
8. Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committees should be ensured.
9. Computerisation of TPDS operations be undertaken.

In addition, the Government has also taken steps to introduction of electronic transfer of funds to FCI and issued instructions for display of banners/Boards on the wind shield as well as rear end of the truck/vehicles carrying PDS articles indicating details of State Government, destination, commodity and Agent's name.

(e) The State/UT Governments are implementing the Action Plan. A statement-II of status of follow up action on the Nine Action Points by different States/UTs is enclosed.

Statement I

Details of detention cases during 2006

Sl. No.	State	Name of Detenu	Date of detention	Malpractices in essential commodities
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tamil Nadu	Sh Senthil @ Senthil Rajan	7.1.2006	PDS (Rice)
2.	do	Sh. Durairaj	13.1.2006	PDS (Rice)

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Rangasamy	13.1.2006	PDS (Rice)
4.	Gujarat	Sh. Nileshbhai Nagibhai Ashir	18.1.2006	Blue Kerosene
5.	do	Sh. Hargovind Girdharlal Thoria	18.1.2006	Wheat, Rice & Sugar (PDS)
6.	do	Sh. Bipinbhai @ Udalbhai Ratilal	18.1.2006	Wheat, Rice & Sugar (PDS)
7.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Perumal	21.1.2006	PDS (Rice)
February, 2006				
8.	Gujarat	Sh. Prajapati Hargovanbhai Keshavlal	1.2.2006	L.P.G.
9.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Dharamraj	3.2.2006	PDS (Rice)
10.	do	Sh. K.P. Janarthanan	3.2.2006	PDS (Rice)
11.	Gujarat	Sh. Pankaj Shayamlal Jayaswal	18.2.2006	Blue Kerosene & solvent
12.	do	Sh. Jinendra @ Rinku Kapoorchand Jain	18.2.2006	Blue Kerosene & solvent
13.	do	Sh. Sajankumar @ Burti Rajkumar Jain	18.2.2006	Blue Kerosene & solvent
14.	do	Sh. Rahulkumar Premchand Jain	18.2.2006	Blue Kerosene & solvent
15.	do	Sh. Abdulwahid Abdulmajid Momin	20.2.2006	PDS Blue Kerosene & solvent
16.	do	Sh. Abdul. Ismail Kumbhar	28.2.2006	Petroleum Solvent (Naptha)
17.	do	Sh. Sanjay Sanga Jogi	28.2.2006	Petroleum Solvent (Naptha)
18.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. R. Murigesan	28.2.2006	PDS (Rice)
19.	do	Sh. S. Kaliappan	27.2.2006	PDS (Rice) & Blue Kerosene
March, 2006				
20.	Gujarat	Sh. Budhabhai Malabhai Parmar	3.3.2006	Wheat, Rice, Sugar & Blue Kerosene
21.	do	Sh. Karsan Lakhu Ahir (Chavada)	15.3.2006	Blue Kerosene
22.	do	Sh. Shamji Ramji Ayar (Goyal)	15.3.2006	Blue Kerosene
23.	do	Sh. Sureshchandra Pragibhai Kanani	12.3.2006	Blue Kerosene
24.	do	Sh. Chimantal Babubhai Jayaswal	18.3.2006	Blue Kerosene & Solvent
25.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. K. Naina @ Rangasamy	24.3.2006	PDS (Rice)
26.	Gujarat	Sh. Abdul Majid Ahmad Patel	23.3.2006	Blue Kerosene
27.	do	Sh. Sartanbhai Gandabhai Rabari	28.3.2006	Blue Kerosene

1	2	3	4	5
April, 2006				
28.	Gujarat	Sh. Pradipbhai Lachabhai Raiyani	6.4.2006	Edible Oils
29.	do	Sh. Kishorkumar Mohanbhai Bewariya	6.4.2006	Edible Oils
30.	do	Sh. Dhirajai Kanibhai Surani	6.4.2006	Edible Oils
31.	do	Sh. Bhupatbhai Bachubhai Khanpara	6.4.2006	Edible Oils
32.	do	Sh. Ramnikai Gheleabhai Amrutiya	6.4.2006	Edible Oils
33.	do	Sh. Jagdishbhai Pravinbhai Bhut	6.4.2006	Edible Oils
34.	do	Sh. Ashish Mansukhbhai Gajera	6.4.2006	Edible Oil
35.	do	Sh. Vijayden Khodidan Gadhavi	12.4.2006	Blue Kerosene
36.	do	Sh. Manojbhai Arjanbhai Nandasana	11.4.2006	Blue Kerosene
37.	do	Sh. Babubhai @ Satish Chelaji Maru	11.4.2006	Blue Kerosene
38.	do	Sh. Bhevsar Kamleshkumar Harikrushnabhai	18.4.2006	Blue Kerosene
39.	do	Sh. Dilipbhai Bipinbhai Patel	13.4.2006	Wheat, Sugar & Blue Kerosene
40.	do	Sh. Vikramsinh Chatursinh Gohil	17.4.2006	Blue Kerosene
41.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Chellappa	19.4.2006	PDS (Rice)
42.	do	Sh. Babu	20.4.2006	PDS (Rice)
May, 2006				
43.	Gujarat	Sh. K.O. Patel Somabhai Mohanbhai	1.5.2006	Solvent (Naptha)
44.	do	Sh. Kamleshbhai Somabhai Barot	2.5.2006	LPG
45.	do	Sh. Vinodbhai Mathurbhai Patel	2.5.2006	LPG
46.	do	Sh. Harshadbhai Bhikhabhai Patel	2.5.2006	LPG
47.	do	Sh. Satishbhai Harmanbhai Patel	2.5.2006	LPG
48.	do	Sh. Ajjul Rahemankhan Tajajul Hussainkhan	4.5.2006	LPG
49.	do	Sh. Sohaniel Pratapji Chandel	4.5.2006	Blue Kerosene
50.	do	Sh. Maheshwari Kantibhai Biharihai	17.5.2006	PDS Wheat
June, 2006				
51.	Gujarat	Sh. Sadiqbhai Taiyabbhai Gora	1.6.2006	Blue Kerosene
52.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Babu @ Mohammad Rafiq	10.6.2006	PDS (Rice)
53.	do	Sh. G. Keshvan	19.6.2006	

1	2	3	4	5
54.	Gujarat	Sh. Kishoribhai Dasharathbhai Barot	26.6.2006	LPG
55.	do	Sandeepkumar Kishoribhai Barot	26.6.2006	LPG
July, 2006				
56.	Gujarat	Sh. Vinod Ramjibhai Joshi	6.7.2006	Blue kerosene
57.	do	Sh. Babubhai Vitthalidas Patel	7.7.2006	LPG
58.	do	Sh. Govindbhai Ramdas Patel	7.7.2006	LPG
59.	do	Sh. Sahdevsinh Karansinh Jadeja	7.7.2006	LPG
60.	do	Sh. Pruthvirajsinh @ Pathubha P. Chudasama	7.7.2006	LPG
61.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Mahesh	9.7.2006	Rice
62.	do	Sh. Kaja Moideen	9.7.2006	Rice
63.	Gujarat	Sh. Nileshkumar Rameshchandra Shah	12.7.2006	Blue kerosene
64.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Ravi	12.7.2006	PDS Rice
65.	do	Sh. Khaja Moideen	15.7.2006	Rice
66.	do	Sh. Parmeshwaran	12.7.2006	Blue kerosene
67.	do	Sh. Sakthivel	15.7.2006	PDS Rice
68.	do	Sh. K. Sernaraja	18.7.2006	PDS Rice
69.	do	Sh. Ayyappa	18.7.2006	Blue kerosene
70.	do	Sh. A. Ameeth	17.7.2006	Rice
71.	Gujarat	Sh. Ramesh Chhabildas Lodha	17.7.2006	Blue kerosene
72.	do	Sh. Rajeshkumar Mohanlal Makwana	17.7.2006	Blue kerosene
73.	do	Sh. Soyebbhai Hussainbhai Deddi	24.7.2006	Blue kerosene
74.	do	Sh. Rafiqbhai Sulemanbhai Kalu	24.7.2006	Blue kerosene
75.	do	Sh. Mahabhai Lalubhai Kachhiya	24.7.2006	Blue kerosene
76.	do	Sh. Mukesh Shantilal Marwari (Khatik)	24.7.2006	Blue kerosene
77.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Raja	26.7.2006	Rice
78.	do	Sh. Sahul Hameed	26.6.2006	PDS Rice, Blue kerosene
79.	do	Sh. Shanmuganaj	23.7.2006	Rice
80.	do	Sh. Shiva Shankar	20.7.2006	Rice
81.	do	Sh Abdul Hakim @ Hakim	20.7.2006	Rice

1	2	3	4	5
82.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Gopalakrishnan	20.7.2006	Blue kerosene
83.	do	Sh. Lawrence @ R.C. Street Lawrence	31.7.2006	Blue kerosene
84.	do	Sh. Senthil @ Senthikumar	29.7.2006	Rice
85.	Maharashtra	Sh. Bhausa	27.7.2006	Blue kerosene
August, 2006				
86.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Ponniah	3.8.2006	PDS Rice
87.	do	Sh. Christopher	12.8.2006	Rice
88.	do	Sh. Sundaram	18.8.2006	Rice
89.	do	Sh. Balasubramanian	17.8.2006	
90.	do	Sh. Adakalam	18.8.2006	PDS Rice
91.	Gujarat	Sh. Shyamal Manmal Mali	23.8.2006	Blue kerosene
92.	do	Sh. Yogeshbhai Prabhudas Parakh	25.8.2006	LPG
93.	do	Sh. Madanlal Thanaji Khalik	23.8.2006	Blue kerosene
94.	do	Sh. Devendrabhai Pravinbhai Patel	29.8.2006	Blue kerosene
95.	do	Sh. Pankajbhai Manibhai Patel	29.8.2006	Blue kerosene
96.	do	Sh. Pratapsinh Rajibhai Parmar	29.8.2006	Blue kerosene
97.	do	Sh. Tarun Harshadbhai Patel	29.8.2006	Blue kerosene
98.	do	Sh. Dhuleji Dhiraji Damor	29.8.2006	Blue kerosene
99.	do	Sh. Bindeshbhai Joravarsinh Nakum	29.8.2006	Blue kerosene
100.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Subramanian	21.8.2006	Rice
101.	do	Sh. Sarvanan	25.8.2006	PDS Rice
102.	do	Sh. Ramshankar	25.8.2006	
103.	do	Sh. Mothishankar	25.8.2006	Rice
September, 2006				
104.	Gujarat	Sh. Shakti sinh Mehendrasinh Jadeja	1.9.2006	LPG
105.	do	Sh. Mukeshkumar Pyrelalji Virval	2.9.2006	Blue kerosene
106.	do	Sh. Punamchand Chunilal Chavla	2.9.2006	Blue kerosene
107.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. V. Chinnakalai	5.9.2006	PDS Rice
108.	Gujarat	Sh. Mohsin Umarbhai Sheth	8.9.2006	Blue kerosene

1	2	3	4	5
109.	Gujarat	Sh. Manoharlal Balramji Kumawat	8.9.2006	Blue kerosene
110.	do	Sh. Vijay Bhogilal Shah	15.9.2006	Petrol
111.	do	Sh. Ghanshyambhai Vihabhai Nakum	15.9.2006	Petrol
112.	do	Sh. Chandrasinh @ Chandubhan J. Chauhan	16.9.2006	Blue kerosene
113.	do	Sh. Babubhai Bhojabhai Doru	16.9.2006	Blue kerosene
114.	do	Sh. Dineshbhai Mohanlal Khatri (Marwadi)	29.9.2006	Blue kerosene
115.	do	Sh. Mohanlal Modiram Khichi	29.9.2006	Blue kerosene
116.	do	Sh. Mohanlal Devilal Khatri (Marwadi)	29.9.2006	Blue kerosene
117.	do	Sh. Vijaybhai Govindbhai Thakkar	25.9.2006	Blue kerosene
118.	do	Sh. Mangilal Naranbhai Marwadi	25.9.2006	Blue kerosene
119.	do	Sh. Bhagchand Vardhichand Marwadi	25.9.2006	Blue kerosene
120.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Thenagraj	25.9.2006	PDS Rice
121.	Orissa	Smt. Jayantibala Sahu	8.9.2006	Blue kerosene
October, 2006				
122.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Manikandan	30.10.2006	Rice
123.	Gujarat	Sh. Mahendrabhai Madhibhai Shiyal	3.10.2006	PDS kerosene, wheat, rice and sugar
124.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Rajan	7.10.2006	PDS Rice
125.	Gujarat	Sh. Kamleshkumar Bhikhabhai Modi	31.10.2006	LPG
126.	do	Sh. Naranji Keshaji Gelatar	30.10.2006	Blue kerosene
127.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. K. Sakthivel	28.10.2006	PDS Rice
November, 2006				
128.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Selvam	1.11.2006	PDS Rice
129.	do	Sh. V. Shanmugam	12.11.2006	Blue kerosene
130.	do	Sh. Sekar	12.11.2006	PDS Rice
131.	do	Sh. Paulraj	12.11.2006	PDS Rice
132.	Gujarat	Sh. Bishubha Kanubha Parmar	15.11.2006	Blue kerosene
133.	do	Sh. Sattarbai Daudbhai Chauhan	15.11.2006	Blue kerosene
134.	do	Sh. Kishorbhai Ketanbhai Panchal	15.11.2006	Blue kerosene
135.	do	Sh. Kimaatkumar Sevakram Thakkar	21.11.2006	Blue kerosene

1	2	3	4	5
136.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Karuppu @ Gunasekaran	22.11.2006	PDS Rice
137.	do	Sh. Radhakrishnan	29.11.2006	PDS Rice
138.	do	Sh. Chanrakumar	17.11.2006	PDS Rice
139.	do	Sh. Murugesan	27.11.2006	PDS Rice
140.	do	Sh. P.A.Zia-Ul-Haq @ Zian	23.11.2006	PDS Rice
141.	do	Sh. Chinnappan	26.11.2006	PDS Rice
142.	do	Sh. Vaithiyalingam	13.11.2006	PDS Rice 15
143.	do	Sh. P. Thillaivanan	15.11.2006	PDS Rice
144.	do	Sh. Dhanapal	23.11.2006	PDS Rice
145.	do	Sh. Rajamani	14.11.2006	PDS Rice
146.	do	Sh. Murugan	15.11.2006	PDS Rice
147.	do	Sh. Mohamad Sherif	21.11.2006	
December, 2006				
148.	Tamil Nadu	Sh. Anburose	2.12.2006	PDS Rice
149.	do	Sh. Ramasamy	8.12.2006	
150.	do	Sh. Murugesan	13.12.2006	PDS Rice
151.	do	Sh. P. Rangaraj	16.12.2006	PDS Rice
152.	do	Sh. Suyambu Nadar	6.12.2006	PDS Rice
153.	do	Sh. A.N.Ismail	12.12.2006	
154.	do	Sh. P. Shanmuganm @ Vijayakumar @ Viji @ Dori	16.12.2006	PDS Rice
155.	do	Sh. Senthilkumar	13.12.2006	Blue kerosene
156.	do	Sh. Kurubaran	20.12.2006	PDS Rice
157.	do	Sh. Ramalinagam	22.12.2006	PDS Rice
158.	do	Sh. Mani	22.12.2006	PDS Rice
159.	do	Sh. M. Nallathambi	6.12.2006	PDS Rice
160.	do	Sh. Thirumalairaj	20.12.2006	PDS Rice
161.	do	Sh. Arunachalam	8.12.2006	PDS Rice

Statement II

Status of follow up action on the Nine Action Points by different States/UTs

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Review of BPL/AAY list	Ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains by taking strict action against guilty	Involvement of PRI members	Display of BPL/AAY list on the FPS	Distt. & FPS wise allocation of foodgrains put on website as public scrutiny	Door step delivery of foodgrains	Timely availability of foodgrains at FPS	Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committee	Computerisation of TPDS Operation
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Review is being done in a phased manner. In the Phase-I, all the urban areas of the State have been covered except Hyderabad district. In Phase-II, Hyderabad district is taken up. In Phase-III all the rural areas of the State have been taken up.	There is a system of Bar Coded coupon prevailing wherein members of the family has to present alongwith the family photo card issued to all BPL families so as to enable the FPS to see the photograph on the card, identify the presenter and collect the coupon for the month in which delivery is effected.	Food Advisory Committees has been reconstituted with the major role given to PRIs.	Not furnished	A software is being developed to host the entire information of the allotment and off take for FPS on the Department Website.	Door step delivery system is being attempted in the State. The State Government is incurring a subsidy of Rs 720 crores per annum.	Justifying the necessity to cover all the food insecure people under TPDS, lifting of the quota for the month within 7 days from the commencement of the month and delivery at door step authenticated by PRIs is in practice.	Not furnished	The State Govt. has submitted a proposal for computerization of PDS to Govt of India.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Information awaited								
3.	Assam	Information awaited								
4.	Bihar	Review is being done	To ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains, officers have been appointed at delivery points. Action is being taken as per the PDS (Control) Order. As also they have decided to introduce coupon system to BPL/AAY families to keep PDS leakages free.	PRI members have been involvement in the monitoring of PDS.	Necessary orders have been issued in this regard.	Is being done on the website.	State Food Corporation has been entrusted to deliver foodgrains at Block Headquarters. Efforts will be made to deliver at FPS.	Necessary steps have been taken.	Proposal will be sent to Govt. of India.	A proposal will be sent to Govt. of India.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5.	Chattisgarh	Has conducted the survey and eliminated the ineligible cards.	Action is taken under PDS (Control) Order.	Presently FPS are women self help group, cooperative societies etc. at FPS.	Beneficiaries lists are displayed at FPS.	Website is being developed for the purpose.	State Government Corporation and are delivering foodgrains at FPS.	A schedule has been chalked and State.	Schedule for training programme have proposal is being sent for financial assistance under TRM scheme.	In computerisation of PDS, hardware at District level and rest of work is in progress.
6.	Delhi	The review work will be taken up shortly.	The action is taken against defaulters from time to time.	Is being implemented.	Already available on the website.	Will be done very soon on completion of Computerisation.	Delivered at the door of the FPS by DSCSC in a time bound manner.	Ensured timely delivery of SFAs and availability in the first week of the month.	The Department has drawn a programme in this regard.	Already in progress.
7.	Goa	Information awaited.								
8.	Gujarat	The State Govt. has taken various strict actions against the guilty to ensure prevention of leakage of foodgrains. From April 06- Oct. 06 9652 inspections were done. Amount of Rs. 68828 seized, amount of Rs. 71680 confiscated, 1332 licenses suspended, 53 licenses cancelled, 21 court cases held.	The State Govt. has constituted Village Vigilance Committees and appointed (Head of the Village Panchayat) as Chairman of Village. The State has a total of 13,279 VVC already working and holding meetings as per guidelines. (ii) The State Govt. has also AAY lists issued order for Constitution of Taluka and District level Vigilance Committee. State Level Vigilance Committee has already been formed. A meeting was also held on 28.11.06.	(i) The State Govt. has instructed all Collectors State to display BPU on FPS lists on FPS of Taluka and District level circular at 27.9.06.	The State Govt. has issued instructions to Director, Food & CS to put upon website on the details of district wise allocation of foodgrains the State Govt. has also instructed all Collectors of the State to put up on website and other prominent places details of taluka wise and FPS wise allocation of foodgrains.	So far as the State concerned, out of 18000 villages in Gujarat, they have nearly 16000 fair price shops available and opening of new FPSs is in process. All FPSs are easily accessible to the cardholders even in remote and hilly areas through a very good network with road and other communication facilities. People do not have grievance on this count. Therefore, in the opinion of the State Govt. system of introducing Door Step Delivery for distribution of PDS foodgrains may not be economically and physically viable nor necessary for this State.	The State Govt. has adopted a scheme of Time Module for issuing permits to FPS owners for listing of foodgrains from godowns. The State Govt. has fixed dates of issue of permit and the filling from godowns. Accordingly, by 15th of the month foodgrains are available for distribution to ration card holders. This has been the best practice initiated by the State since last two years.	The State Govt. has submitted a proposal in this regard.	The State Govt. has sent two proposals as under-(i) Pilot project for Anand Dist. for of Rs.4.94 crore vide letter no. FPS-102006-2221-C dated 16.10.06, (ii) Pilot project for Simpler Smart Card System for Unha Taluka of Mehsana Dist. For Rs.32.06 lakh vide letter no. FPS-102006-3582-C dt. 21.11.2006.	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Karnataka	Ration cards are being reviewed regularly and issued with the family photo to all the categories, hence there are no chances of ghost ration cards.	Strict action is taken against the guilty under the PDS (Control) Order & the relevant information operates, handicapped sent to Govt. of India regularly.	Involvement of PRI Members in distribution is being ensured. FPS licenses are also being allotted to ex-servicemen Govt. of India, gram panchayats, persons etc.	List BPL/AAY beneficiaries are being displayed on each FPS.	Instructions since been issued to the District Officers in this regard.	HSFCC (CONFED) ensures door step delivery at each FPS.	CONFED is required to deliver the foodgrains at FPS by 10th of each month.	A proposal is being submitted for financial assistance for training under TRM Scheme.	Matter is under process and the proposal will be sent shortly to Govt. of India.
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Information awaited								
11.	J&K	Information awaited								
12.	Jharkhand	Information awaited								
13.	Karnataka	Information awaited								
14.	Kerala	Information awaited								
15.	Madhya Pradesh	The State Govt. has decided to cancel all existing cards and issue new ration cards to BPL/AAY	Stringent action is taken against the delinquent	All the FPS in State are with the Co-operative Societies	Orders since been issued and is being displayed	District wise and shop wise allocation will be made available on the website	Door delivery mechanism is in operation	Foodgrains are made available in advance for distribution to the beneficiaries during the first week of every month	Proposal have been submitted to the Government of India	Information technology in PDS is being facilitated
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Information awaited								
17.	Madhya Pradesh	Information awaited								
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Is being done as per the relevant provision of PDS Control Order 2001.	Stringent action is taken against dealers indulging in malpractice activities.	In the State PRI are not in existence Have appointed Self-help groups and cooperatives as FPS Dealers for greater transparency	Orders since been issued in this regard	Are available on the State website	As the State is economically backward and fund constraints is one of the reason hindering the doorstep delivery. However, the State is examining the	Steps have been taken in this regard	Some districts and sub-divisions have started giving training to members of FPS level Vigilance Committees Proposal have	The State MNC has been requested to prepare suitable scheme in this regard.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19.	Mizoram	They have recently started to review the BPL/AAY lists	Strict action had been taken against the guilty PDS (Control) Order have been circulated to all concerned for strict compliance.	For transparency, Village Council and Village Committees are involved in distribution of foodgrains.	BPL, AAY lists are displayed on all the concerned FPS.	There is no website of the Department at present. This cannot be done.	On account of financial position door step delivery mechanism if not practicable.	Timely availability of foodgrains is in practice i.e. Weekly in villages and fortnightly in towns.	Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committees will be done as soon as funds are available.	been sent to Government of India for funding of such training.
20.	Nagaland	Being reviewed from time to time.	Action is taken under PDS (Control) Order.	Village councils have been given the status of FPS & Vigilance Committees have been set up at all levels.	Noted	Efforts are being made to put all necessary information on web problems.	Door step delivery is not practicable due to topographical shortage of infrastructure.	Timely availability of foodgrains is strictly being enforced.	Shall be taken up at the earliest.	A proposal will be submitted soon.
21.	Orissa	Information awaited								
22.	Punjab	Information awaited								
23.	Rajasthan	Information awaited								
24.	Sikkim	Information awaited								
25.	Tamil Nadu	Information awaited								
26.	Tripura	Information awaited								
27.	Uttaranchal	Information awaited								

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Information awaited								
29.	West Bengal	Being reviewed and expected to be completed shortly.	Strict action is taken against the guilty.	Panchayats and Municipalities elected members are involved in monitoring activities. Presence is given to cooperatives in running MR shops.	Once the review is completed, the list will be displayed on all FPSs.	FPS-wise display is mandatory. A proposal for computerization is being sent.	Paucity of funds prevents door-step delivery. Can be considered if Central Government provides full subsidy.	Public does not seek fixed date of distribution as it completely destroys their flexibility of filling day.	Being done.	Proposals are in the pipeline.
30.	And Islands	Being reviewed.	Strict is taken against the defaulter.	Preference is given to women, cooperative societies, ex-servicemen and unemployed youths.	No information has been provided in this regard.	Efforts are being made to place the monthly allocation on website.	Not felt necessary, as the FPS is running satisfactorily.	Foodgrains are made available at FPS well in time throughout the month.	Training programme will be chalked out in consultation with the Administration.	Computerization is being done in a phased manner in possible areas.
31.	Chandigarh	BPL/AAY cards are reviewed every year.	Strict action is taken against the defaulter.	Licenses are reviewed every year. Preference is given to Self Help Groups, Ex-servicemen, PFI and the Co-operatives.	List of BPL/AAY beneficiaries is displayed on all FPS.	Matter under consideration.	Not in practice being the State small. However, sale of foodgrains is allowed after physical verification of the received stocks.	PDS commodities are made available at FPS in the first week of the month.	They have 24 FPS and 7 Ward/Willage level committees for imparting training to them, they requested to tag the UT with the Punjab or Haryana for the purpose.	The matter is under consideration.
32.	D&N Haveli	Information awaited								
33.	Daman & Diu	Information awaited								
34.	Lakshadweep	They have started to review the BPL/AAY list.	There is a regular monitoring system and strict action is taken against the guilty under the Black Marketing Act.	PDS is channelized through a net work of Co-operative Societies.	Instructions have been issued to display BPL AAY list at FPS Co-operative Societies.	Information will be put up on the website of the Registrar of delivery mechanism is not considered to be of any use.	In view of the small size area of the UT, the door step	FCI does not have their godowns in the UT and they do not maintain any stock of foodgrains in the UT. Matter is being taken up with FCI in this regard.	A proposal has been submitted for financial assistance for training under TRM Scheme.	Do not have sufficient funds for computerization. However, necessary proposal will be submitted to the Government of India.
35.	Pondicherry	Information awaited								

*[English]***Subsidy for Construction of Godowns**

107. SHR1 G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had announced a scheme to provide subsidy for the construction of godowns during 2006-2007;

(b) if so, the subsidy provided under the said scheme alongwith the success achieved therein till date;

(c) whether the Government proposes to continue the said scheme during the ensuing years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) No subsidy is given to Food Corporation of India for construction of godowns. However, for the construction of storage godowns under the Plan Scheme the funds allocated under Five Years Plan/Annual Plans by the Government are released to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) as equity. State Governments of North East Region, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) are given funds as Grants-in-Aid. For the year 2007-2008, it is proposed to allocate Rs. 20.80 crore for Plan Scheme for construction of storage godowns.

Shortage of Coking Coal

108. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL is facing shortage of coking coal for implementing of its proposed expansion programme;

(b) if so, whether it is importing coking coal even to meet the present requirement;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Steel Authority of India is contemplating to acquire coking coal block overseas to meet the future requirement;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether SAIL has also considered joining hand with Coal India Limited (CIL) to acquire overseas coal block as well as to jointly mine coking coal block in the country, and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 2005-06, out of total requirement of 14 MT of coking coal, only 5.2MT was available from indigenous sources and balance to the tune of 8.8 MT was imported. With an expansion plan which envisages capacity increase to produce 23.8 MT hot metal by 2010, SAIL will require 22.5 MTPA washed coking coal, whereas present availability of washed coking coal from indigenous sources is around 5 MTPA.

(d) and (e) SAIL is exploring preliminary possibilities of acquiring some equity stakes in coking coal mines abroad.

(f) and (g) SAIL may consider joining hands with Coal India Limited (CIL) to acquire overseas coal block depending upon the nature of the proposal on case-to-case basis.

SAIL has signed an MOU on 27th April, 2006 with Bharat Coking Coal Limited BCCL (a Subsidiary of CIL) to fund phase-I up gradation of Moonidih Mine, and is also in dialogue with BCCL/CIL for developing Kapuria block in Jharia coal fields jointly.

*[Translation]***Import of Edible Oils and Oil Seeds**

109. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value to edible and oilseeds imported during the last year and the current year;

(b) whether the farmers have produced a bumper crop of rapeseed during the current year;

(c) if so, whether the Government agencies are procuring only a small portion of this produce;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether a low import price for oilseeds is expected during the ensuing season; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken to protect the interest of the farmers or the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per the data of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), the total quantity of edible oils and oilseeds imported during 2005-06 was 42.88 lakh Metric Tonnes (MTs) and 0.36 lakh MTs respectively. The corresponding value of imports was Rs. 8960.99 crores and Rs. 54.60 crores respectively. During 2006-07 (April-September) the total quantity of edible oils imported was Rs. 21.58 Lakh MTs corresponding to a value of Rs. 4798.5 crores. For the period April 2006 to June 2006 the total quantity of oilseeds imported was 0.065 Lakh MTs corresponding to a value of Rs. 10.15 crores.

(b) As per the Second advance estimate of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, the production of rapeseed and mustard has been assessed at 75.68 lakh tonnes which is less than the final estimate of production for the year 2005-06.

(c) to (f) Procurement of rape/mustard seed by the Government agencies is arranged under the price support scheme at the minimum support price declared by the Government for fair average quality stocks as and when the prices in the open market rule below the minimum support price. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India limited (NAFED), a Central Nodal Agency had procured 22.05 lakh tonnes of rapeseed/mustard during Rabi 2006 under the Scheme.

It is difficult to make any assessment about the import price of oilseeds expected during the ensuing season.

Government is, however, committed to protect the interest of the farmers of the country through a series of initiatives and interventions like declaration of Minimum Support Price for improving production and productivity of oilseeds.

(English)

Technology Mission for Promotion of Mango Production

110. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced a technology mission under Centrally sponsored scheme to promote the production of mango in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) during the X Plan with effect from 2005-06, for holistic development of horticulture sector adopting an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach for development of horticultural crops, having comparative advantage. Mango is one of the focus crops under the Mission. The Scheme is in operation in 18 States and three Union Territories.

(c) The State-wise details of funds provided for area expansion of various horticultural crops including Mango during 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

(Area in ha. and Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	2005-06		2006-07	
		Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25398.00	2333.13	42637.00	3605.00
2.	Bihar	3320.00	326.46	17020.00	2028.95

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Chhattisgarh	10740.00	859.01	30681.10	3447.12
4.	Delhi			150.00	37.60
5.	Goa	155.00	12.91	750.62	48.19
6.	Gujarat	27032.00	2594.84	34460.00	3586.17
7.	Haryana	2780.00	627.52	3553.56	622.15
8.	Jharkhand	7000.00	857.58	28216.00	2404.45
9.	Karnataka	17010.00	1394.58	37450.00	3683.38
10.	Kerala	10830.00	944.28	40645.40	3299.11
11.	Maharashtra	28495.00	3267.61	93540.69	6788.24
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5950.00	680.52	21250.00	2563.24
13.	Orissa	18900.00	1967.65	31401.00	3488.97
14.	Punjab	2480.00	321.62	9050.00	1035.00
15.	Rajasthan	11682.00	1300.31	28118.00	2832.92
16.	Tamil Nadu	8369.00	919.57	39295.00	3547.69
17.	Uttar Pradesh	14940.00	1897.69	27392.40	3266.36
18.	West Bengal	8480.00	982.85	18500.00	1560.97
19.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	582.00	64.68
20.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-
21.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-
Total		203541.00	21288.11	504692.77	47910.19

Spilled Foodgrains

111. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of wheat was spoiled and became unfit for human consumption during the current financial year due to official negligence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the officials held responsible alongwith the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) No Sir. During the current year, only 828 MTs of wheat out of 142 lakh MTs procured indigenously and imported was found damaged/unfit for human consumption due to natural calamities and operational losses.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government has taken several steps to ensure safe storage of wheat in godowns and temporary storage. Regular inspections are done to assess the condition of stocks and to take necessary steps to maintain the quality of wheat stored.

[Translation]

Additional Funds for Irrigation Projects

112. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to sanction additional funds for extending irrigation facilities during the remaining period of the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the total amount proposed to be spent thereon;

(c) whether the major irrigation projects which were proposed to be completed in 2005-06, have been completed;

(d) if not, the estimated total cost escalation on such projects;

(e) whether the amount sanctioned to the States for the irrigation projects is being utilized properly; and

(f) whether the Government has made any assessment in regard to the irrigation schemes formulated by the States particularly that of the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (f) An amount of Rs. 2098.33 crore has been provided by the Planning Commission as grant for release of funds under AIBP (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme) to the States during 2006-07. Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources as per their own priorities.

Concerned with the delay in completion of the irrigation projects, the Government of India provided CLA/

Grant of Rs. 19437.8837 crore under AIBP up to March, 2006 for completion of major, medium and minor irrigation projects. The grant released during current year till date is Rs 1160.5972 crore. Out of ultimate irrigation potential of 83.47 lakh hectare of major and medium irrigation projects included in AIBP, potential created up to March, 2006 is 40.40 lakh hectare. The irrigation potential created through Minor Irrigation Schemes up to March, 2006 is 1.53 lakh hectare.

The AIBP places importance to the projects completed in a particular time frame as well as for creation of irrigation potential. Of the 200 Major and Medium irrigation projects that were provided assistance under AIBP, 50 Major/Medium and out of 5562 Surface Minor Irrigation (MI) Schemes, 4187 Surface MI Schemes have been completed up to March 2006.

In order to ensure proper utilization of funds in the form of grant released by central Government, the grant is released in two installments during the year for a project. Subsequent grant is released only after receiving utilization certificate of grant released earlier duly signed by Secretary in charge of Irrigation/Water Resources Department of the respective State Government.

As per latest assessment made, there were 166 Major, 222 Medium and 89 Extension, Renovation and Modernization totaling to 477 ongoing projects which are likely to spill over to Eleventh Plan. Of these, 53 Major, 83 Medium and 3 ERM totaling to 139 projects are in Maharashtra State.

Protection of Sea Horse Fish

113. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian scientists have developed a new technology for protection of sea horse fish;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which new technology is likely to be helpful for fishermen;

(d) whether the Government proposes to lift ban imposed on export of the said fish; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi, has developed a technique for breeding and seed production of sea horse in hatcheries under controlled conditions. Sea ranching of hatchery produced seeds of sea horse in large numbers would lead to stock enhancement, conservation and management of this resource.

(c) The sea horse is also an ornamental fish, with medicinal properties, with high value in the market. There is scope for self employment and income generation by fishermen taking to its culture.

(d) and (e) Sea horse has been included in the Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby giving them highest degree of protection. Collection/fishing/hunting of this species is prohibited under the Act. The export of the species is also prohibited. The Government has no proposal for lifting the ban imposed on export of the species.

Funds for Irrigation Projects in NE Region and Assam

114. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds sanctioned for Irrigation Projects in each of the North Eastern States including Assam in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) whether any irrigation projects have been submitted by the Government of Assam in the State; and

(c) if so, the details and status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The total amounts of funds sanctioned under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and Command Area Development and Water Management Programme (CADWM) of Ministry of Water Resources during the Year 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement.

The release of Central Assistance under AIBP for the project proposals submitted by the State Government is a continuous process based on utilization of funds and subsequent submission of Utilization Certificates by the State Government from time to time.

Statement

Funds provided to North Eastern States under AIBP

(Rs in crore)

S.No.	Name of State	Amount 2004-05 (Loan + Grant)	Amount 2005-06 (Grant)	Amount 2006-07 (Grant)
1.	Assam	16.93	34.9332	27.3585
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00	18.0000	24.30
3.	Manipur	13.00	75.7035	77.5242
4.	Meghalaya	1.7438	1.5750	NIL
5.	Mizoram	5.00	9.3150	9.00
6.	Nagaland	4.00	7.9987	10.0095
7.	Sikkim	0.7500	0.9113	3.3236
8.	Tripura	11.00	31.9950	21.5731

Funds provided to North Eastern States under CADWM

(Rs in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	Amount 2004-05	Amount 2005-06	Amount 2006-07
1.	Assam	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NIL	212.10	188.13
3.	Manipur	128.1	121.428	207.038
4.	Meghalaya	16.399	NIL	NIL
5.	Mizoram	14.21	13.616	NIL
6.	Nagaland	50.00	109.505	NIL
7.	Sikkim	NIL	NIL	NIL
8.	Tripura	7.52	NIL	NIL

[Translation]

(e) If so, the details thereof?

Budgetary Assistance for Agricultural Research

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

(a) whether the Government is providing budgetary assistance for research and development in agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided to the aforesaid purpose during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred on research and development in the country during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the Government has constituted any monitoring committee to ensure proper utilisation of the budgetary allocation; and

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

(b) and (c) DARE/ICAR do not allocate funds on the basis of States as its Institutes do not function on the basis of territorial jurisdiction. The year-wise details of which for the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) The DARE/ICAR have inbuilt mechanism of monitoring all the Institutions under their umbrella for proper utilization of Budgetary Allocations at regular intervals by the concerned Subject Matter Divisions, Institute Management Committees, Plan Implementation & Monitoring Division and Senior Officers Committee Meetings.

Statement

The details of Budgetary Assistance provided to DARE/ICAR and Expenditure incurred during the last three years

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates		Expenditure	
	Plan	Non-Plan	Plan	Non-Plan
2004-05	1000.00	753.31	858.99	775.00
2005-06	1150.00	792.00	1048.98	876.17
2006-07	1350.00 + 50.00*	810.00	0941.25	676.77 (upto Dec., 2006)

*Rs.50 crore allocated as Supplementary Grant.

*[English]***Assistance to Zoological Parks**

116. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of zoological parks in the country to which financial assistance has been provided during the last two years;

(b) the manner in which proper care of animals and birds in zoos is ensured;

(c) whether any instances of negligence leading to the death of animals have come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has provided financial assistance to 33 Zoos during the financial year 2004-2005 and to 28 Zoos during 2005-2006.

(b) The Recognition of Zoo Rules, 1992 prescribes the standards & guidelines for proper upkeep of animals & birds in the zoos. The Zoos are evaluated periodically to assess the compliance of these standards & guidelines. Strict action is taken against the zoos, which fail to comply these guidelines and their recognition is refused.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Control over Private Channels**

117. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some channels registered abroad are presenting their programmes in India, are causing a lot of revenue loss to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure revenue recovery from such channels?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) This Ministry does not keep any records pertaining to revenue earned by channels which are registered abroad

Production and Procurement of Wheat

118. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of production of wheat has been declining over the past two decades;

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

(c) whether any targets were fixed by the Government for production of wheat during the ensuing Rabi season;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has reviewed the ensuing Rabi crop situation;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof indicating the extent to which the targets are likely to be achieved, State-wise;

(g) whether the Government has asked the States to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the farmers in the wheat growing States;

(h) If so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto;

(i) the likely impact of fall in wheat production on food based welfare schemes; and

(j) the steps taken to promote sustainable production of wheat in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Following table shows the rate of production (yield) of wheat from 1990-91 to 2006-07:

	Yield (Kg/Hectare)								
Year	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Yield	2281	2394	2327	2380	2559	2483	2679	2485	2590
Year	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*	
Yield	2778	2708	2762	2610	2713	2602	2619	2675	

*2nd advance estimates as on 05.02.07

The yield of wheat shows long term increasing trend during the years 1990-91 to 2006-07. It increased from 2281 kg/hectare to 2778 kg/hectare during the 1990s. Recently, 2002-03 was a drought year, rainfall from south-west monsoon was 13% less than its long period average in 2004-05 and there was abnormal rise in temperature in the States of north-western region in 2005-06, which adversely affected the yield of wheat during these years.

(c) and (d) The Government has fixed a target of 75.53 million tonnes for production of wheat during the ensuing Rabi season 2006-07.

(e) and (f) Continuous monitoring of the crop situation is done by the Government in the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group meetings held in the Ministry. The 2nd Advance Estimates of production of wheat for 2006-07 were released on 05.02.2007. State-wise targets and estimated achievements for 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement.

(g) and (h) Government has organized a series of meetings with the major wheat growing States to evolve strategies for increasing productivity and production of

wheat during 2006-07 as also to review the water, power and other inputs position.

(i) The procurement of wheat during Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2006-07 was low and the Government imported 55 lakh tonnes of wheat to meet the requirements of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and welfare schemes. It is estimated that sufficient wheat would be procured in RMS 2007-08 for TPDS and welfare schemes because of higher production estimates and higher procurement price for wheat announced by the Government.

(j) In order to increase the production of wheat in the country a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat)" subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture with effect from October 2000 is under implementation. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for propagation of improved production technology, integrated pest management through field demonstrations, training of farmers including women, transfer of technology through electronic media and published literature, farm implements, installation of sprinkler irrigation system, varietal replacement and production of certified seeds.

Statement**State-wise Targets and Achievements of Production of Wheat during 2006-07**

(Lakh Tonnes)

State	Target	Achievement *
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	0.05	0.1
Arunachal Pradesh	0.09	#
Assam	0.69	0.7
Bihar	38.64	32.4
Chhattisgarh	0.82	0.7
Gujarat	19.89	31.1
Haryana	98.96	97.0
Himachal Pradesh	7.51	3.7
Jammu and Kashmir	4.76	4.7
Jharkhand	1.50	2.0
Karnataka	1.88	1.5
Madhya Pradesh	82.25	60.6
Maharashtra	18.53	15.3
Manipur	0.03	#
Meghalaya	0.02	#
Nagaland	0.15	#
Orissa	0.06	0.1
Punjab	159.75	145.0
Rajasthan	62.55	56.7
Sikkim	0.08	v #
Tamil Nadu	0.01	0.0
Tripura	0.03	#
Uttar Pradesh	239.85	255.0
Uttaranchal	8.04	7.8

1	2	3
West Bengal	8.43	9.5
D & N Haveli	0.01	#
Delhi	0.72	#
Others	NA	1.3
All India	755.30	725.00

*2nd advance estimates released on 05.02.2007

NA: Not Applicable

#Included in Others

*[English]***Foodgrain Procurement**

119. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to procure the entire quantity of surplus foodgrains, particularly wheat, from the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government has formulated any scheme for procurement of wheat upto a stipulated target from each State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) As per the existing foodgrains procurement policy of the Government, Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations are carried out by the Government agencies [Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies] in districts all over the country where there is marketable surplus of foodgrains. Farmers have the option to sell their produce at MSP or in the open market, as is advantageous to them. Therefore, the quantum of procurement by Government agencies depends on several factors such as production, market arrivals, open market prices, extent of private participation etc. Hence no targets are fixed for procurement by Government agencies.

In order to ensure adequate procurement of wheat in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2007-08, the Minimum Support Price announced is Rs. 750 per quintal which is Rs. 100 per quintal more than Rs. 650 per quintal announced for RMS 2006-07. During a meeting held on 12.2.2007, Food Secretaries of wheat producing states as well as FCI have confirmed that all arrangements to ensure adequate procurement of wheat have been made for the ensuing RMS 2007-08. During the meeting FCI and State Governments have been asked to open sufficient number of procurement centres to maximize procurement.

Production of Alphanso Mango

120. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alphanso Mango is being produced in the country especially in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase its production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided for the purpose to the farmers during the last three years and the current financial year. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Alphanso Mango is being cultivated in 1.60 lakh ha area in the districts of Konkan region of Maharashtra State. Besides Maharashtra, Alphanso Mango is also being cultivated in the States of Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) during the X Plan with effect from 2005-06, for holistic development of horticulture sector adopting an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach for development of horticultural crops, having comparative advantage. Mango including Alphanso variety is being promoted under the Scheme.

Under NHM, variety-wise allocation of funds is not done. The State-wise details of funds provided for area expansion of various horticultural crops including Mango during 2005-06 and 2006-07 under NHM is given in the enclosed statement. In Maharashtra State, financial assistance of about Rs. 37.00 crore has been provided to the farmers during the last three years through various schemes.

Statement

(Area in ha. and Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	States	2005-06		2006-07	
		Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25398.00	2333.13	42637.00	3805.00
2.	Bihar	3320.00	326.46	17020.00	2028.95
3.	Chhattisgarh	10740.00	859.01	30681.10	3447.12
4.	Delhi			150.00	37.60
5.	Goa	155.00	12.91	750.62	48.19
6.	Gujarat	27032.00	2594.84	34460.00	3586.17
7.	Haryana	2780.00	627.52	3553.56	622.15

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Jharkhand	7000.00	857.58	28216.00	2404.45
9.	Karnataka	17010.00	1394.58	37450.00	3683.38
10.	Kerala	10830.00	944.26	40645.40	3299.11
11.	Maharashtra	28495.00	3267.61	93540.69	6788.24
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5950.00	680.52	21250.00	2563.24
13.	Orissa	18900.00	1967.65	31401.00	3488.97
14.	Punjab	2480.00	321.62	9050.00	1035.00
15.	Rajasthan	11662.00	1300.31	28118.00	2832.92
16.	Tamil Nadu	8369.00	919.57	39295.00	3547.69
17.	Uttar Pradesh	14940.00	1897.69	27392.40	3266.36
18.	West Bengal	8480.00	982.85	18500.00	1560.97
19.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	582.00	64.68
20.	Lakshdweep	-	-	-	-
21.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-
Total		203541.00	21288.11	504692.77	47910.19

Survey on Rural Labourers and Agricultural Workers

121. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted on Rural Labourers and Agricultural Workers of the North-Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, the strategy adopted for involving registered trade unions of Rural and Agricultural Workers for Welfare measures in the said Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The Government have not conducted any survey on Rural Labourers and Agricultural workers of the North-Eastern Region.

(b) Does not arise.

Varsha Bima Yojana

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

(a) the main features of the Varsha Bima Yojana being run by the Union Government;

(b) whether only the farmers of such areas can be benefited from this scheme which have the facilities to collect the rain related statistics;

(c) if so, the States where the farmers have been deprived of the benefits of this scheme because of the non-availability of rain related statistics;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take any step to provide the benefit of the said scheme to all the farmers of all those selected States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Varsha Bima Yojana is not run by the Government of India. Varsha Bima is being run by the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) on its own on pilot basis. The main features of the scheme are as under :-

- (i) The scheme is designed for specific crops where historical evidence shows that the yield of these crops is strongly correlated to rainfall.
- (ii) The scheme provided three coverage options:
- Sowing failure Insurance (SFI) covering deficit rainfall sowing period.
 - Seasonal Rainfall Insurance (SRI) covering rainfall during the entire crop season.
 - Vegetative Phase Insurance covering the period (from 16th August to 31st October/30th November).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The scheme can be implemented only in those areas where historical yield data of last 10 to 15 years and rainfall data for a period of at least 30 years are available. During Kharif 2006 season scheme was implemented in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In rest of the States/UTs., the scheme was not implemented so farmers in these areas could not avail the benefits of the scheme.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government, at present.

(e) Does not arise.

Production of Foodgrains

123. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of foodgrains is likely to increase during 2006-07 over the previous year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the production of various foodgrains alongwith the extent of increase or decrease over the previous year, grain-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) As per the 2nd Advance Estimates released on 05.02.2007, production of total foodgrains during 2006-07 is estimated at 209.17 million tonnes, which is 0.58 million tonnes higher as compared to 208.59 million tonnes of foodgrains production achieved during 2005-06.

(c) Following table shows the production of various foodgrains alongwith the extent of increase or decrease over the previous year:

Crop	Production (Million Tonnes)		
	2006-07*	2005-06	Difference (Col. 2-Col. 3)
1	2	3	4
Rice	90.13	91.79	-1.66
Wheat	72.50	69.35	3.15
Jowar	7.72	7.63	0.09
Bajra	7.54	7.68	-0.14
Maize	13.56	14.71	-1.15
Total Coarse Cereals	32.02	34.06	-2.04

1	2	3	4
Tur	2.64	2.74	-0.10
Gram	6.16	5.60	0.56
Total Pulses	14.52	13.39	1.13
Total Foodgrains	209.17	208.59	0.58

*2nd Advance Estimates released on 05.02.2007

[English]

Allocation for ICAR

124. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total budget allocated for Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in the current financial year, State-wise and Research Centre-wise;

(b) whether the allocation has been fully utilised by ICAR;

(c) If not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the expenditure incurred on different heads by these centres, particularly in the North-Eastern Region (NER) during the said period; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for improvement in the activities of ICAR in the NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The total budget allocated for DARE/ICAR is Rs. 1400 crore under Plan and Rs. 810 crore under Non-Plan for the current financial year (2006-07). Further, it is stated that no State-wise allocations are being made. However, the Institute-wise allocations made by DARE/ICAR are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Since the current financial year expires on 31 March, 2007 the expenditure details have been worked out upto 31st December, 2006 and are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) An amount of Rs. 140 crore has been earmarked in the Annual Plan 2006-07 for North Eastern Region. The details of expenditure incurred by the Institutes located in North-Eastern Region under Plan as well as Non-Plan are also contained in the enclosed Statement.

(e) The activities of ICAR Institutions located in NER are being monitored at regular intervals by the concerned Subject Matter Divisions, Institute Management Committees, Research Advisory Committees, Regional Committees and Quinquennial Review Teams.

Statement

*Indian Council of Agricultural Research
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi 110001
Summary of B.E. 2006-07 vis-a-vis Expenditure upto December, 2006*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Subect matter division		B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure (Upto December, 2006)	% Utilization w.r.t. B.E.
1		2	3	4
1.	Crop Science	31800.00	21635.88	68%
2.	Horticultural Science	7000.00	3342.69	48%

	1	2	3	4
3.	Natural Resource Mgmt.	8500.00	5680.39	67%
4.	Agril. Engineering	4000.00	2233.47	56%
5.	Animal Science	8500.00	3853.39	45%
6.	Fisheries	3000.00	1846.05	62%
7.	Agril. Eco & Stats.	400.00	215.99	54%
8.	Agril. Education	26200.00	28163.04	107%
9.	Agril. Extension	26950.00	15976.24	59%
10.	Hqrs. (Inc. MIS)	2550.00	202.31	8%
11.	Externally Aided Proj.	10050.00	258.77	3%
12.	National Fund For Strategic Res.	5000.00	0.79	0%
	Total (A) ICAR	133950.00	83408.22	62%
13.	Cau*	5500.00	4761.61	87%
14.	Deptt. of Agril. Research & Education	50.00	21.65	43%
15.	Indo US Knowledge Initiative	500.00	180.07	36%
	Total (B) DARE	6050.00	4963.33	82%
	Grand Total (Plan) [A+B]	140000.00	88371.55	63%

*Central Agricultural University, Imphal to cater to the needs of quality human resource, region specific research and technology dissemination in the North Eastern Region (NER)

Plan B.E. 2006-07 vis-a-vis Expenditure (Upto December, 2006)

PLAN

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%) vis-a-vis BE
1	2	3	4	5
	CROP SCIENCES			
1.	CICR, Nagpur	200.00	84.76	42%
2.	CRIJAF, Barrackpore	112.82	47.17	42%
3.	CRRI, Cuttack	380.00	161.88	43%

1	2	3	4	5
4.	CTRI, Rajahmundry	100.00	94.11	94%
5.	IARI, New Delhi	1703.00	942.76	55%
6.	IGFRI, Jhansi	300.00	204.45	68%
7.	IIPR, Kanpur	268.00	136.36	51%
8.	IISR, Lucknow	151.00	116.98	77%
9.	NBAIM, Mau Nath Bhanjan	354.32	269.85	76%
10.	NBPGR (Incl. DNA Fingerprints) New Delhi	1100.00	312.70	28%
11.	SBI, Coimbatore	295.79	180.25	61%
12.	VPKAS, Almora	121.00	81.02	67%
13.	NRC* Groundnut, Junagarh	170.00	63.40	37%
14.	NRC* Rapeseed Mustard, Bharatpur	220.00	89.04	40%
15.	NRC* Sorghum, Hyderabad	35.53	24.32	68%
16.	NRC* Soybean, Indore	200.00	85.95	43%
17.	NCIPM, New Delhi	100.00	66.74	67%
18.	NRC* Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi	110.00	113.58	103%
19.	PD Biological Control, Bangalore	80.00	43.83	55%
20.	PD# Maize, New Delhi	272.00	132.14	49%
21.	PD# Oilseeds, Hyderabad	250.00	173.49	69%
22.	PD# Rice, Hyderabad	275.00	110.68	40%
23.	PD# Wheat, Karnal	84.01	60.57	72%
24.	Dte. of Seed Research, Mau	493.00	377.75	77%
25.	Seed Production in Agril Crops & Fisheries	13789.94	11394.33	83%
Total Institutes		21165.41	15368.11	73%

*National Research Centre

#Project Directorate

Plan		(Rs. in lakhs)		
S.No.	Name of AICRPs	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
1	2	3	4	5
Crop Sciences				
1.	Under Utilized Crops & UEP - NBPGR	90.00	74.00	82%
2.	Arid Legumes - CAZRI JODHPUR	36.81	25.46	69%
3.	Chickpea - IIPR, Kanpur	298.64	104.14	35%
4.	Pigeon Pea - IIPR, Kanpur	322.00	250.30	78%
5.	Mullarp - IIPR, Kanpur	210.67	153.74	73%
6.	Pearl Millets - Jodhpur + HQR	220.00	154.15	70%
7.	Small Millets - Bangalore + HQR	210.00	141.39	67%
8.	Biological Control - PDBC, Bangalore	53.00	24.33	46%
9.	Sorghum - NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad	254.32	204.73	81%
10.	Linseed - Kanpur + HQR	261.00	112.53	43%
11.	Cotton - CICR, Nagpur	316.00	253.90	80%
12.	Jute & Allied Fibres - CRIJAF, Barrackpore	150.00	122.97	82%
13.	Tobacco - CTRI, Rajamundry	156.00	79.00	51%
14.	Sugarcane- IISR, Lucknow	210.00	232.42	111%
15.	Groundnut - NRC Groundnut, Junagarh	196.00	139.49	71%
16.	Rapeseed Mustard- NRCRM, Bharatpur	228.93	181.72	79%
17.	Soybean - NRC Soybean, Indore	260.00	139.88	54%
18.	Honey Bee Research & Training -Hisar + HQR	23.58	11.83	50%
19.	White Grubs/Arthropods, Jaipur + HQR	15.22	7.58	50%
20.	Agricultural Acarology, Bangalore	20.00	0.00	0%
21.	Pesticides Residues - IARI, New Delhi	201.00	107.52	53%
22.	Nematodes - IARI, New Delhi	102.00	81.47	80%
23.	Economic Ornithology, Hyderabad	4.60	2.69	58%
24.	Net work Program. on Insect Bio-systematic, IARI, N. Delhi	512.00	321.73	63%

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Rice—PD Rice, Hyderabad	578.00	448.13	78%
26.	Sesame & Niger—DOR HYDERABAD	213.00	167.80	79%
27.	Maize—PD Maize, New Delhi	245.00	142.20	58%
28.	Wheat & Barley—PD Wheat, Kamal	501.25	385.90	77%
29.	Rodent Control—CAZRI, Jodhpur	68.89	42.44	62%
30.	Oil Seed—DOR, Hyderabad + HQR	162.00	135.70	84%
31.	Technology Mission on Cotton—CICR, Nagpur	400.00	329.53	82%
32.	Forage Crops. IGFR1, Jhansi	44.59	37.16	83%
33.	Network Program on Transgenic.NRCPB, New Delhi	1215.51	450.94	37%
34.	Application of Micro org. in	1600.69	1201.00	75%
35.	Pipe line Project	1253.89		0%
TOTAL : AICKPS#		10634.59	6267.77	59%
\$All India Coordinated Research Project				
TOTAL : CROP SCIENCES		31800.00	21635.88	68%

PLAN

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
1	2	3	4	5
HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES				
1.	CARI, Portblair	315.50	86.77	28%
2.	CIAH, Bikaner	183.45	19.72	11%
3.	ICISH, Lucknow	256.00	136.93	53%
4.	CITH, Srinagar (J&K)	273.91	66.70	24%
5.	CPCRI, Kasargod	196.06	76.87	39%
6.	CPCRI, Vittal	50.00	33.50	67%
7.	CPCRI, Kayangulam	35.00	9.02	26%
8.	CPRI, Simla	183.86	69.31	38%
9.	CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram	120.78	53.82	45%

1	2	3	4	5
10.	IIHR, Bangalore	302.02	245.01	81%
11.	IISR, Calicut	135.00	47.58	35%
12.	IIVR, Varanasi	451.54	97.78	22%
13.	NRC Banana, Tiruchirapalli	114.30	39.65	35%
14.	NRC Cashew, Puttur	127.00	64.98	51%
15.	NRC Citrus, Nagpur	126.59	101.43	80%
16.	NRC Grapes, Pune	250.31	130.70	52%
17.	NRC Med. & Aro. Plants, Anand	285.00	183.89	65%
18.	NRC Mushroom, Solan	134.07	96.27	72%
19.	NRC Oilpalm, Pedavegi	78.13	16.98	22%
20.	NRC Onion & Garlic, Pune	200.00	112.32	56%
21.	NRC Orchids, Sikkim	214.10	69.77	33%
22.	NRC Seed Spices, Ajmer	113.43	24.27	21%
23.	NRC Litchi, Muzaffarpur	404.08	88.75	22%
24.	NRC On Pomegranate, Solapur	592.50	211.44	36%
Total : Institutes		5141.63	2083.44	41%

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of AICRPs	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
1	2	3	4	5
HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES				
1.	Tropical Fruits—IIHR, Bangalore	116.87	75.94	65%
2.	Sub Tropical Fruits—CISH, Lucknow	131.58	108.65	83%
3.	Arid Fruits—CIAH, Bikaner	140.00	74.33	53%
4.	NSP Vegetables—IIVR, Varanasi	159.44	13.66	9%
5.	Mushroom—NRC Mashroom, Solan	71 .82	52.35	73%
6.	Potato—CPRI, Shimla	105.25	57.00	54%
7.	Tuber Crops—CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram	94.00	78.33	83%

1	2	3	4	5
8	Palms—CPCRI, Kasaragod	170.18	151.53	89%
9	Cashew—NRC Cashew, Puttur	92.10	78.85	86%
10	Spices—IISR, Calicut	119.00	92.29	78%
11	Medicine & Aro.Plant—NRC M&AP, Anand	103.20	54.43	53%
12	Betelvine—NRC M&AP, Anand	80.00	42.36	53%
13	MCRP On Vegetables—IIVR, Varanasi	329.62	294.42	89%
14	Horticulture (IARI + NRC PB)	145.31	85.11	59%
Total : AICRPS		1858.37	1259.25	68%
Total: Horticultural Sciences		7000.00	3342.69	48%

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT				
1.	CAZRI, Jodhpur	240.00	98.55	41%
2.	CRIDA Hyderabad	150.00	104.06	69%
3.	CS & WCR & TI, Dehradun	360.00	250.47	70%
4.	CSSRI Kamal	279.26	161.27	58%
5.	ICAR Res. Complex Neh, Barapahi**	610.00	367.00	60%
6.	ICAR Res. Complex Eastern, Patna	124.74	140.34	113%
7.	Centre for Makhana	355.00	78.97	22%
8.	ICAR Res. Complex, Goa	193.50	79.70	41%
9.	IISS Bhopal	243.00	127.16	52%
10.	NBSS & LUP, Nagpur	759.00	197.76	26%
11.	WTC for E.R., Bhubaneswar	181.00	119.39	66%
12.	NRC Agro Forestry, Jhansi	253.00	151.87	60%
13.	NRC Weed Science, Jabalpur	121.50	96.54	79%
14.	PD Cropping System, Modipuram	73.14	69.73	95%
Total : Institutes		3943.14	2042.81	52%

*Institutes located in NER for conducting Region specific Research

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of AICRPs	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 06	Utilization (%)
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT				
1.	Agro-Meteorology—CRIDA, Hyderabad	303.00	252.50	83%
2.	Network Impact, Adaptation—CRIDA, Hyderabad	213.00	177.50	83%
3.	Agro-forestry—NRCAF, Jhansi	482.00	411.00	85%
4.	Weed Control—NRCWS, Jabalpur	201.36	190.35	95%
5.	Cropping System Res.—PDCSR, Modipuram	551.00	488.47	89%
6.	Water Management—WTCER, Bhubaneswar	697.35	582.00	83%
7.	Ground Water Utilization—WTCER, Bhubaneswar	222.75	115.00	52%
8.	Dryland Agriculture—CRIDA, Hyderabad	782.00	650.04	83%
9.	Salt Affected Soils—CSSRI, Karnal	400.00	146.86	37%
10.	Network On Organic Farming, PDCSR, Modipuram	38.40	29.30	76%
11.	Micro Secondary & Pollutant Elements -IISS	294.00	196.75	67%
12.	Network Bio-fertilizers—IISS, Bhopal	93.00	77.16	83%
13.	Soil Test with Crop Response—IISS, Bhopal	238.00	197.78	83%
14.	Long Term Fertilizer Experiments—IISS, Bhopal	41.00	122.87	300%
Total : AICRPS		4556.86	3637.58	80%
Total: Natural Resource Management		8500.00	5680.39	67%

PLAN

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING				
1.	CIAE, Bhopal	400.35	313.67	78%
2.	CIPHET, Ludhiana	358.00	137.32	38%
3.	CIRCOT, Mumbai	732.54	290.77	40%
4.	ILRI, Ranchi	129.01	92.16	71%
5.	NIRJAFT (JTRL), Kolkata	123.63	70.59	57%
Total : Institutes		1743.53	904.51	52%

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S.No	Name of AICRPS	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING				
1.	FIM—CIAE, Bhopal	400.00	229.42	57%
2.	Human Engg. Safety Studies—CIAE, Bhopal	157.36	120.59	77%
3.	Application of Plastic in Agriculture-CIPHET	79.92	63.78	80%
4.	Post Harvest Technology—Cipheta, Ludhiana	1253.14	663.13	53%
5.	Renewable Sources Of Energy—CIAE, Bhopal	220.00	141.74	64%
6.	Utilization of Animal Energy—CIAE, Bhopal	139.05	103.39	74%
7.	Network on Rnaem—CIAE, Bhopal	7.00	6.91	99%
Total : AICRPS		2256.47	1328.96	59%
Total: Agricultural Engineering		4000.00	2233.47	56%

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
1	2	3	4	5
ANIMAL SCIENCES				
1.	CARI, Izatnagar	218.00	113.22	52%
2.	CIRB, Hissar	401.00	62.90	16%
3.	CIRG, Makhdoom	141.00	10.06	7%
4.	CSWRI, Avikanagar	200.00	67.79	34%
5.	IVRI, Bhopal (HSADL)	659.55	353.08	54%
6.	IVRI, Izatnagar	1030.85	484.52	47%
7.	NBAGR, Karnal	250.00	118.86	48%
8.	NDRI, Karnal	699.00	228.15	33%
9.	NDRI, Bangalore	101.00	43.15	43%
10.	NIANP, Bangalore	318.00	214.56	67%
11.	NRC Camel, Bikaner	123.00	93.39	76%
12.	NRC Equines, Hissar (Including Vety. Type Culture—Rs. 415.00 Lakhs)	930.00	181.30	19%

1	2	3	4	5
13.	NRC Meat, Hyderabad	340.00	59.17	17%
14.	NRC Mithun, Jharnapani**	141.00	93.58	66%
15.	NRC Pig, Guwahati**	600.00	469.33	78%
16.	NRC Yak, Dirang**	131.00	103.51	79%
17.	PD Admas, Bangalore	108.00	63.47	59%
18.	PD FMD, Mukteshwar	150.00	125.00	83%
19.	PD Cattle, Meerut	204.00	32.96	16%
20.	PD Poultry, Hyderabad	183.00	128.29	70%
21.	IVRI Bangalore	42.05	20.60	49%
22.	IVRI, Mukteshwar	78.55	54.01	69%
Total : Institutes		7049.00	3120.90	44%

**Institutes located in NER for conducting Region specific Research

PLAN

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of AICRPs	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilization (%)
1	2	3	4	5
ANIMAL SCIENCES				
1.	Network—Animal Genetic Resources-NBAGR	85.00	78.39	92%
2.	Sheep—CSWR1, Avikanagar	148.00	87.17	59%
3.	Goat—CIRG, Makhdoom	97.00	44.75	46%
4.	Buffaloes—CIRB, Hissar	167.00	71.93	43%
5.	Pig—NRC Pig, Guwahati**	150.00	44.56	30%
6.	Cattle Research—PD-Cattle	416.00	182.61	44%
7.	Integrated Rural Development—NDRI, Karnal	0.00		
8.	R&D Support Indigenous Milk—NDRI, Karnal	0.00		
9.	Foot & Mouth Disease I VRI-Muktes.	0.00		
10.	Poultry—PD Poultry, Hyderabad	145.00	117.77	81%
11.	Gastro Intestinal Parasitism—IVRI, Izatnagar			

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Haemorrhagic Septicemia (in GIP)	80.00	49.68	62%
13.	Blue Tongue Disease (in GIP)			
14.	Improvement of Feed Sources- NIANP	163.00	55.63	34%
	Total : AICRPs	1451.00	732.49	50%
	Total: Animal Sciences	8500.00	3853.39	45%

**Institutes located in NER for conducting Region specific Research

(Rs. in. lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure Upto December, 2006	Utilisation (%)
FISHERIES				
1.	CIBA, Chennai	300.38	183.32	61%
2.	CICFRI, Barrackpore	242.73	141.45	58%
3.	CIFA, Bhubaneswar	400.12	271.38	68%
4.	CIFE, Mumbai	468.89	283.64	60%
5.	CIFT, Cochin	454.71	302.35	66%
6.	CMFRI, Cochin	513.02	392.22	76%
7.	NBFGR, Lucknow	239.07	160.48	67%
8.	NRC Cold Water Fisheries, Bhimtal	246.82	111.21	45%
9.	Pipeline Project.	134.26		
	Total : Fisheries	3000.00	1848.05	62%
AGR. ECONOMICS & STATISTICS				
1.	ASRI, New Delhi	182.01	126.90	70%
2.	NCAP, New Delhi	217.99	89.09	41%
	Total: Agricultural Eco. & Stats.	400.00	215.99	54%
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION				
1.	NAARM, Hyderabad	164.75	130.04	79%
2.	Strengthening of Agricultural Education	26000.00	28033.00	108%
3.	Pipeline Project	35.25		
	Total: Agricultural Education	26200.00	28163.04	107%

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure	
			utilization	(Upto December, 06)%
1	2	3	4	5
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION				
1.	NRC Women, Bhuban.	107.85	43.42	40%
2.	ZC-TOT* - I, Ludhiana	39.46	34.88	88%
3.	ZC-TOT* - II, Kolkata	65.07	48.86	75%
4.	ZC-TOT* - III, Barapani**	52.39	51.34	98%
5.	ZC-TOT* - IV, Kanpur	55.10	36.28	66%
6.	ZC-TOT* - V, Hyderabad	68.60	58.53	85%
7.	ZC-TOT* - VI, Jodhpur	41.90	32.92	79%
8.	ZC-TOT* - VII, Jabalpur	37.25	20.04	54%
9.	ZC-TOT* - VIII, B'lore	76.90	55.97	73%
10.	New KVKa/Exp by Instt.	26345.33	15594.00	59%
11.	Pipeline Project	60.15		
Total Agricultural Extension		26950.00	15976.24	59%
*Zonal Coordinating Unit-Transfer of Technology				
**Located in NER for region specific Transfer of Technology				
Headquarter (MIS)				
1.	A.S.R.B., Pusa	30.00	45.00	150%
2.	Head Qtr (MIS & Gen.)	2470.00	132.75	5%
3.	Publication Division (DIPA), Pusa	50.00	24.56	49%
Total MIS		2550.00	202.31	8%
Externally Aided Projects				
1.	Indo-French Seabass Breeding-CIBA	50.00	46.87	94%
2.	N.A.I.P. (Releases/expenditure)	10000.00	211.90	2%
Total E.A.P.		10050.00	258.77	3%
Grand Total		128950.00	83408.22	65%
CAU*		5500.00	4761.61	87%,

1	2	3	4	5
	DARE	50.00	21.65	43%
	National Fund for Strategic Res.	5000.00	0.79	0%
	Indo-US Knowledge Initiative	500.00	180.07	36%
	Total (ICAR + DARE)	140000.00	88372.34	63%

*Central Agricultural University, Imphal to cater to the needs of quality human resource, region specific research and technology dissemination in the North Eastern Region (NER)

Indian Council of Agricultural Research
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi 110 001

Summary of B.E. 2006-07 vis-a-vis Expenditure upto December, 2006

NON-PLAN

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Subject Matter Division	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure (upto December, 2006)	% Utilization w.r.t. B.E.
1.	Crop Science	19460.00	17492.86	90%
2.	Horticultural Science	7120.00	6683.29	94%
3.	Natural Resource Mgmt.	8165.00	7815.95	96%
4.	Agril. Engineering	2390.00	2248.81	94%
5.	Animal Science	12190.00	11037.43	91%
6.	Fisheries	5820.00	5202.39	89%
7.	Agril. Eco & Stats.	1260.00	1017.19	81%
8.	Agril. Education	525.00	428.57	82%
9.	Agril. Extension	80.00	64.32	80%
10.	ICAR Hqr.	6075.00	4446.60	73%
	Total (A)	63085.00	56437.41	89%
11.	Pension	11750.00	10188.70	87%
12.	P Loans & Advances	1600.00	552.61	35%
	Total (B)	13350.00	10741.31	80%
	Grand Total (Non Plan) [A+B]	76435.00	67178.72	88%

Non Plan B.E. 2006-07 vis-a-vis Expenditure (upto December, 2006)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure	Pension upto December, 06	P. Loans	NPS	Utilization (%) vis-a-vis BE
Crop Sciences							
1.	CICR, Nagpur	1004.00	801.01	68.18	1.56		80%
2.	CRIJAF, Barrackpore	836.00	778.90	95.72	6.51		93%
3.	CRRI, Cuttack	1 1.41.00	1134.86	95.53	7.99		99%
4.	CTRI, Rajahmundry	1 030.00	883.05	181.08	2.84		86%
5.	IARI, New Delhi	7236.00	6842.90	2248.72	14.29	148.12	95%
6.	IGFRI, Jhansi	1054.00	929.67	50.09	11.36		88%
7.	IIPR, Kanpur	569.00	457.39	14.97	2.95	1.47	80%
8.	IISR, Lucknow	867.00	779.57	48.12	13.39		90%
9.	NBPGR, New Delhi (Incl. DNA Finger Priming)	1175.00	1052.13	78.63	5.66		90%
10.	SBI Coimbatore	759.00	649.35	53.09	8.37	1.41	86%
11.	VPKAS, Almora	469.00	415.83	23.48	1.60		89%
12.	NRC Groundnut, Junagarh	248.00	191.15	12.13			77%
13.	NRC Rapeseed Mustard, Bharatpur	165.00	138.20		5.59		84%
14.	NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad	348.00	323.82	28.57	2.17		93%
15.	NRC Soybean, Indore	211.00	180.63	17.78	2.00		86%
16.	NCIPM, New Delhi	157.00	117.06	1.89	2.79		75%
17.	NRC Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi	235.00	194.88	14.06			83%
18.	PD Biological Control, Bangalore	203.00	167.19	14.16	4.02		82%
19.	PD Maize, New Delhi	262.00	203.67	22.04	33.00		78%
20.	PD Oilseeds, Hyderabad	504.00	402.11	20.03			80%
21.	PD Rice, Hyderabad	598.00	518.84	67.44	7.14	2.36	87%
22.	PD Wheat, Karnal	389.00	330.65	18.07	3.69		85%
Total		19460.00	17492.86	3173.78	136.92	153.36	90%

NON-PLAN

(R.s. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Institute	B.E. 2006-07	Expenditure	Pension upto December, 06	P. Loans	NFS	Utilization
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Hosticultural Sciences							
1.	CARI, Port Blair	470.00	389.36	11.47	10.00		83%
2.	CIAH, Bikaner	279.00	245.29	11.29	0.57		88%
3.	CISH, Lucknow	443.00	492.21	36.88	5.07		111%
4.	CITH, Srinagar (J&K)	82.00	73.75	0.46	1.21		90%
5.	CPCRI, RS, Kayangulam	194.75	183.80	43.58	0.73		
6.	CPCRI, Kasargod	660.72	602.70	166.66	5.68		91%
7.	CPCRI.Vittal	245.53	209.41	39.92	1.47		85%
8.	CPRI, Simla	1109.00	1144.37	152.24	11.89		103%
9.	CTCRI, Thiruvanthapuram	482.00	448.93	59.62	9.46		93%
10.	IIHR, Bangalore	1391.00	1301.10	342.84	9.34	2.01	94%
11.	IISR, Calicut	334.00	302.99	29.44	0.67		91%
12.	IIVR, Varanasi	210.00	248.55	11.25	7.11		118%
13.	NRC Banana, Tiruchirapalli	144.00	106.23		2.60		74%
14.	NRC Cashew, Puttur	161.00	128.21	7.02	0.39		80%
15.	NRC Citrus, Nagpur	231.00	175.18	0.54	2.70		76%
16.	NRC Grapes, Pune	95.00	104.40				110%
17.	NRC Med. & Aro. Plants, Anand	92.00	69.42		4.16		75%
18.	NRC Mushroom, Solan	138.00	131.81	3.50	5.19		96%
19.	NRC Oilpalm, Pedavegi	170.00	149.08	30.39	2.04		88%
20.	NRC Onion & Garlic, Pune	81.00	78.75	7.02	1.66		97%
21.	NRC Orchids, Sikkim	60.00	56.33				94%
22.	SRC Seed Spices, Ajmer	47.00	41.42				88%
Total		7120.00	6683.29	954.12	81.94	2.01	94%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NON-PLAN							
Natural Resource Management							
1.	CAZRI, Jodhpur	1433.00	1347.32	331.75	22.95	12.31	94%
2.	CRIDA Hyderabad	678.00	656.87	157.00	0.71		
3.	CS & WCR & TI, Dehradun	1163.00	1151.92	143.52	9.26		99%
4.	CSSRI Kamajl	661.00	655.75	76.35	4.00		99%
5.	ICAR Res. Complex Neh, Barapani**	1703.00	1554.39	42.00	20.42		91%
6.	ICAR Res. Complex Eastern, Patna	416.00	438.73	11.62	3.10		105%
7.	ICAR Res. Complex, Goa	164.00	148.96	19.19	2.63		91%
8.	IISS Bhopal	225.00	179.16		7.95		80%
9.	NBSS & LUP, Nagpur	869.00	949.40	168.41	7.16		109%
10.	WTC for E.R., Bhubaneswar	162.00	142.82	0.83	3.69		88%
11.	NRC Agro Forestry, Jhansi	141.00	125.64	1.75	0.75		89%
12.	NRC Weed Science, Jabalpur	178.00	183.68	1.42	4.79		103%
13.	PD Cropping System, Modipuram	284.00	226.62	23.86	5.04		80%
14.	PCU-AGRO-MET (CRIDA, Hyderabad)	13.00	3.60				28%
15.	PCU-Dryland (CRIDA, Hyderabad)	18.00	13.83				77%
16.	PCU-Micro-Nutrient (IISS, Bhopal)	21.00	13.69				65%
17.	PCU-Soil-Test (IISS, Bhopal)	7.00	10.34				148%
18.	PCU-Salt (CSSRI, Kamal)	21.00	8.28				39%
19.	PCU-W.M.WTC for ER. Bhubneshwar	8.00	4.95				62%
Total		8165.00	7815.95	977.70	92.45	12.31	96%

** Located In Ner For Conducting region specific Research

NON-PLAN**Agricultural Engineering**

1.	CIAE, Bhopal	765.00	799.51	22.76	17.77		105%
2.	CIPHET, Ludhiana	162.00	151.53	6.88	2.00		94%
3.	CIRCOT, Mumbai	562.00	510.78	135.42	1.83		91%
4.	ILRI, Ranchi	415.00	329.10	29.15	6.91		79%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	NIRJAFT (JTRL), Kolkata	413.00	398.63	73.72	0.95		97%
6.	CIAE, Bhopal (Non Plan Scheme)	55.00	43.93				80%
7.	(CIAE, Bhopal)						
8.	(CIAE, Bhopal)						
9.	PCUS-APA (CIPHET, Ludhiana)	7.00	3.35				48%
10.	PCUS-PHT (CIPHET, Ludhiana)	11.00	11.98				109%
Total		2390.00	2248.81	267.93	29.46	0.00	94%

\$project Coordinating Unit

NON-PLAN

Animal Sciences

1.	CARI, Izatnagar	612.00	664.31	52.93	6.90	9.76	109%
2.	CIRB, Hissar	491.00	478.53	23.69	20.57		97%
3.	CIRG, Makhdoom	569.00	519.53	17.90	3.99		91%
4.	CSWRI, Avikanagar	1066.00	825.25	143.54	2.58		77%
5.	IVRI, Bhopal (HSADL)	,199.25	166.33		2.00		83%
6.	IVRI, Bangalore	380.25	289.65	15.80	6.04		76%
7.	IVRI, Izatnagar	3829.25	3608.12	1232.43	44.46	75.67	94%
8.	IVRI, Mukteswar	543.25	430.17	110.94	1.62		79%
9.	NBAGR, Kamal	217.00	190.65	0.20	0.72		88%
10.	NDRI, Kamal	2597.40	2442.25	707.31	14.00	46.75	94%
11.	NDRI, Bangalore	478.60	376.85	19.68	1.04		79%
12.	NIANP, Bangalore	197.00	177.41	0.01	5.00		90%
13.	NRC Camel, Bikaner	165.00	139.72	13.17	8.28		85%
14.	NRC Equines, Hissar	236.00	228.78	13.15	4.40		97%
15.	NRC Meat, Hyderabad	36.00	40.09		0.50		111%
16.	NRC Mithun, Jhamapani**	56.00	44.79				80%
17.	NRC Pig, Guwahati**	26.00	27.07		0.20		104%
18.	NRC Yak, Dirang**	91.00	65.05	0.35	5.25		71%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	PD Admas, Bangalore	40.00	44.64				112%
20.	PD FMD, Mukteshwar	26.00	23.99	3.89			92%
21.	PD Cattle, Meerut	152.00	115.44	0.68	1.61		76%
22.	PD - Poultry, Hyderabad	182.00	138.81	0.61	1.53		76%
Total		12190.00	11037.43	2356.28	130.69	132.18	91%

* Located in NER for Conducting region Specific Research

NON-PLAN

Fisheries

1.	CIBA, Chennai	409.00	387.15	25.03	3.95		95%
2.	CIFRI, Barrackpore	892.00	794.40	551.33	10.00	1.24	89%
3.	CIFA, Bhubaneshwar	731.00	550.34	31.97	5.45	19.33	75%
4.	CIFE, Mumbai	1069.00	939.19	38.57	3.09	18.00	88%
5.	CIFT, Cochin	826.00	751.48	106.66	1.98		91%
6.	CMFRI, Cochin	1550.00	1483.11	603.52	14.81	1.52	96%
7.	NBFGR, Lucknow	223.00	200.96	18.34	3.84		90%
8.	NRC Cold Water Fisheries, Bhimtal	120.00	95.76	11.30	1.05		80%
Total		5820.00	5202.39	1386.72	44.17	40.09	89%

NON-PLAN

Ag. Eco & Statistics

1.	IASRI, New Delhi	1149.00	951.60	130.69	2.74	16.99	83%
2.	NCAP, New Delhi	111.00	65.59	13.49		17.07	59%
Total		1260.00	1017.19	144.18	2.74	34.06	81%

Agricultural Education

1.	NAARM, Hyderabad	525.00	428.57	16.46	2.87	13.10	82%
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Agricultural Extension

1.	NRC Women, Bhubneshwar	80.00	64.32	0.00	0.00		80%
2.	ZCUs Pension-Loans & Adv.	0.00	13.54	0.10	14.43	0.94	

Management Information System

1.	A.S.R.B., Pusa	367.00	243.00				66%
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Head Qtr. (MIS & Gen.+PR + Un Cont.)	3818.80	2251.73	911.43	16.94		59%
3.	Publication Division (DIPA), Pusa	260.00	183.91				71%
4.	Education Division (A) Other Items	1300.00	1125.26				87%
	(B) Other Charges	329.20	254.65				77%
	Total	6075.00	4058.55	911.43	16.94	0.00	87%
	Pension	11750.00					0%
	P. Loans & Advances	1600.00					0%
	Total	76435.00	56062.90	10188.70	552.61	388.05	73%
	A.P. Cess Fund	4000.00					
	DARE	565.00					
	Grand Total	81000.00					

*Inclusive of PIU, NATP

Baglihar Hydro Electric Project

125. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Pakistan regarding Baglihar Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an expert committee has been constituted by the World Bank for Baglihar Dam Project;

(d) if so, whether the above mentioned committee has given any decision or report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The issues raised by Pakistan on the design of the Baglihar Hydroelectric Plant were

discussed in 8 meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission held between March, 2000 and May 2004 and in two meetings at the level of the concerned Secretaries of the two Governments held in June 2004 and January 2005, but no agreement could be reached.

(c) A Neutral Expert, Professor Raymond Lafitte from Switzerland, was appointed by the World Bank on 10.05.2005 on the request of the Government of Pakistan, for the Expert Determination of the Points of Difference raised by the Government of Pakistan.

(d) The above mentioned Neutral Expert has given his Expert Determination on 12.02.2007

(e) The Expert Determination

- upholds India's design flood value of 16,500 cumec against Pakistan's calculations of 14,900 cumec
- upholds India's design of gated spillways
- upholds India's design of size and level of sluice spillways
- provides for freeboard of 3 m as against 4.5 m designed by India and 0.84 m calculated by Pakistan

- provides for a maximum pondage of 32.56 million cubic metres (MCM) as against 37.5 MCM calculated by India and 6.22 MCM by Pakistan
- fixes the intake level 3 m higher than as designed by India
- provides for India to resort to drawing down of reservoir for its maintenance & sustainability during monsoon season each year. This will enable sediment management and ensure the sustainability of the project.

In accordance with the relevant provision of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 the decision of the Neutral Expert on all matters within his competence shall be final and binding upon the Parties and upon any Court of Arbitration established under the relevant provision of the Treaty.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid on the Table.
Shri P. Chidambaram.

...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007, under rule 71 (2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—5790/07]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): I beg to lay on the Table: —

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—5791/07]

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU) On behalf of Shri Oscar Fernandes, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 5792/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 123 (2) (a) of the Constitution :-

- (1) The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 (No. 1 of 2007) promulgated by the President on the 23rd January, 2007.
- (2) The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 (No. 2 of 2007) promulgated by the President on the 29th January, 2007.
- (3) The National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 (No. 3 of 2007) promulgated by the President on the 29th January, 2007.

- (4) The Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Ordinance, 2007 (No. 4 of 2007) promulgated by the President on the 2nd February, 2007.

(Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—5793/07)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Sir, I beg, to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) S.O. 2163 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 2006 constituting the Central Fertilizer Committee consisting of the Chairman, Members and Convener mentioned therein.
- (2) The Fertilizer Control (Third Amendment) Order, 2006 published in Notification No. S.O. 2164 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 2006.
- (3) S.O. 2165 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December 2006 notifying the specifications in respect of the provisional fertilizers Urea Phosphate to be manufactured by M/s. Gujarat State Fertilizer and Chemical Ltd. for a period of three years.

(Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—5794/07)

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Papers are being laid on the Table of the House, and you are disturbing the House. What is this going on in the House?

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian 36/Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—5795/07)

12.02 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following 13 Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Ninth Session of Fourteenth Lok Sabha, and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 23rd November 2006:

1. The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order Amendment Bill, 2006;
2. The Indian Rifles (Repeal) Bill, 2006;
3. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 5 Bill, 2006;
4. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 6 Bill, 2006;
5. The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
6. The Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 2006;
7. The Appropriation (No. 6) Bill, 2006;
8. The Administrative Tribunals (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
9. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006;
10. The English and Foreign Languages University Bill, 2006;
11. The Rajiv Gandhi University Bill, 2006;

12. The Tripura University Bill, 2006;

13. The Sikkim University Bill, 2006;

Sir, I also lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, of the following seven Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament, and assented to by the President:

1. The Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
2. The Uttaranchal (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2006;
3. The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
4. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2006;
5. The Dalmia Dadri Cement Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 2006;
6. The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006; and
7. The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Bill, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—5789/07]

12.03 hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that I had received a letter dated 14 February 2007 from Shri Subodh Mohite, an elected Member from Ramtek Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra resigning from the membership of Lok Sabha with immediate effect.

I accepted his resignation with effect from 14 February 2007.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Lalu Prasad.

... (Interruptions)

12.03% hrs.

[At this stage, Shri Srichand Kriplani and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. What are you doing?

... (Interruptions)

12.04 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET—2007-2008

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now the House will take up Railway Budget 2007-08.

[Translation]

*THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Presenting my fourth consecutive Railway Budget, I have a tremendous sense of pride and gratitude. Under the guidance of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and able leadership of the hon'ble Prime Minister the Railways have started earning profit. It is a pro-poor Budget that is why they do not want to hear it. (Interruptions) Pride in the fact that without imposing undue burden on the common man, the Railways are poised to create history by generating a cash surplus before dividend of Rs. 20,000 cr. As against Rs. 14,700 generating a cash surplus before dividend of Rs. 20,000 cr. as against Rs. 14,700 cr. in the previous year. It has created a record of earning cash surplus. Peeved at it they do not want to listen to the Budget Speech.(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Unparliamentary words will not go on record.

*Also placed in Library, See No. LT—5796/07.

**Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It is going to create a new history of earning cash surplus before dividend. This is the same Railway that defaulted on payment of dividend and whose fund balances dipped to Rs. 359 cr. In 2001. They pretend to be pro-poor but they do not want to listen to the pro-poor budget. During BJP's regime it was not in a position to pay the dividend, that's why they are peeved at ...*(Interruptions)** I express heart felt gratitude towards 14 lakh railway employees who in the face of stiff competition have conquered all odds with an indomitable spirit displaying matchless zeal, vigour and team work. Sir, Lord Krishna was acclaimed as Girdhar when in a moment of crisis he lifted Mount of Govardhan on his finger. However, he did this with the supporting hands of thousands of fellow villagers. Even though people are giving me the credit for the turnaround of the Railways, with all humility I would like to share with the august House that this miracle have been brought about through the tireless efforts of 14 lakh railway employees and unbounded affection and support of my country men. Sir, I would just say:

Navajis hai sabki, karam hai sabhi ka,

Bade fakhra se ham bulandi par aaye.

Tarakki ke sare mayaron se aage,

Naye dhang laaye, nayee soch laaye.

By rendering an unprecedented surplus inspite of the reduction in passenger fares, we have disproved the myth that Railways were sinking in to a financial crisis due to social obligation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very sad day that presentation of the Railway Budget, which is a constitutional requirement, is not being fulfilled.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Our turnaround strategy based on a perfect blend of commercial wisdom and empathy for the people has made the Railways a centre of attraction for the world :

Maana ki badi-badi baaten karna hamen nahin aaya,

Magar dil par badi kaarigari se naam likhte hain.

Financial Performance during the Current Year

Railways have turned in a record breaking performance during the first nine months of the current

year. Our Passenger earnings have increased by 14 per cent and Other coaching earnings by 48 per cent during the first nine months. A historic increase of 17 per cent was registered in both freight earnings and gross traffic earnings up to December. Based on the growth registered so far, the revised estimates for Passenger, Other coaching, Freight and Gross Traffic Earnings have been kept at Rs. 17,400, 1,726, 42,299 and 63,120 cr respectively. Gross Traffic Earnings are likely to go up by 16 per cent in comparison with last year and exceed Budget Estimates by 5.5 per cent.

Ordinary Working Expenses have been contained in spite of increase in the price of diesel and payment of bonus at higher rates by effecting economy in expenditure. Under the accounting reforms process, losses on operation of strategic lines, receivable as a subsidy from the Ministry of Finance, have been reflected as a deduction from Ordinary Working Expenses. Accordingly, in Revised Estimates these have been increased by Rs 64 cr and are pegged at Rs. 38,091 cr. After providing for Rs. 4,108 cr and Rs. 7,416 cr towards DRF and Pension Fund respectively in the Revised Estimates, the Total Working Expenditure is likely to be Rs. 49,615 cr. Interest received on Railways fund balances has been included in Miscellaneous Receipts. Thus Railways' Cash Surplus before Dividend is expected to be Rs. 20,063 crore; Net Revenue Rs 14,870 cr. and Surplus, after payment of Dividend of Rs. 3,579 crore and deferred Dividend of Rs.663 crore, is expected to be Rs. 10,627 crore. In 2006-07 the Railways are poised to achieve an operating ratio of 78.7 per cent. Sir, this is perhaps the first occasion in the glorious history of 150 years of Indian Railways when our fund balances would reach Rs. 16,000 crores and the Net Revenue to Capital ratio, an historic level, of 20 per cent. Indian Railways' name would thus be included in the select club of Railways in the world, having an operating ratio of less than 80 per cent. However, we should not be complacent with this achievement. Imbued with a new zeal and enthusiasm, Railway employees are eager to write a new saga of development:

Jitna ab tak dekh chuke ho, ye to has shuruat hai.
Khe! tamasha aage dekho, dariya dil saudagar ka.

Quantum Jump in Freight Business

Our freight performance has been outstanding for the third consecutive year and incremental loading this year is likely to be about 60 MT. Thus the incremental

*Not recorded.

loading of about 170 MT achieved in the three years of the UFA Government would exceed the total incremental loading of the 1990's by 120 per cent. To maintain this rate of growth, we have on the one hand, taken several steps to improve the availability of trains and on the other, have adapted our policies to the needs of the market and customers.

Cement and Steel—Mission 200 Million Tonnes

Sir, since introduction of the New Economic Policy in the year 1991, Railways have been constantly losing share in cement and steel traffic. As a result Railways' share in transportation of these commodities has declined from two thirds in 1991 to one third .

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only the Railway Minister's speech will go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I am glad to inform the House that in the first nine months of this year we have increased our transportation of cement and steel by five to seven percent.

12.11 hrs.

[Then Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav and some other hon. Members went out of the House]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: While the cement and steel industry registered a growth rate of ten percent this year, our cement and steel traffic have increased by twenty to thirty percent. This is the result of market and customer oriented policies. Now we are focused on Mission 200 Million Tonnes. We are hopeful that by the year 2011-12, Railways traffic from cement and steel industry will increase to 200 MT each.

Container Traffic—Mission 100 Million Tonnes

Sir, 15 licenses have been issued for the running of container trains in the last two years. All out efforts will be made to increase our container traffic to 100 million tones by 2011-12, from the present 20 million tonnes. We are confident that over the next five years, investment worth several thousand crores of rupees will flow in for the development of container wagons, terminals and other related rail infrastructure.

A high level working group has been constituted to achieve these two Missions, which will establish dialogue

with the cement and steel industry and container operators with a view to develop and implement packages suited to customer requirements.

Triple Stack Container Train

Sir, after successful experimentation of running double stack container trains on diesel route, double stack container trains are now running between Pipavav and Jaipur. In 2007-08, efforts will be made to run triple stack container trains with low height container on diesel routes and double stack container trains on electrified routes on pilot basis. Such containers would be useful for loading of motor vehicles.

Long Term Service Level Agreements

We have recently, signed a 30 year long term Service Level Agreement (SLA) for transportation of coal. Several new cement, steel and mega power plants are being set up in the country. We will provide necessary support services for laying new lines up to their facilities, enhancing capacity of existing lines, making available wagons designed to suit their specific requirements, formulation of pricing policy and in developing loading and unloading terminals. We invite all entrepreneurs to enter into long term SLAs with the Railways.

Merry Go Round System for Coal

Several companies, including NTPC, are operating their own MGR Systems. New power plants are also planning setting up of MGR_systems. Railways has domain expertise in running these systems more efficiently and economically. Therefore, we invite all existing and new companies to enter into SLAs with the Railways for the running of MGRs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not show papers. It is a breach of privilege. I will have to issue notice. Do not do that.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: We would like to assure them that the Railways will transport their coal at costs that are lower than their existing costs.

Development of Freight Terminals

There has been a significant increase in Railways traffic with the commissioning of the warehouse complex

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

in the Bangalore Goods shed. We have therefore decided to develop all basic facilities at freight terminals handling more than 15 rakes per month, over the next three years. A new Plan sub head is being opened for expenditure on development and upgradation of freight terminals to ensure adequate provision of funds for these works. Various options will be explored to implement these projects including entrusting these works to IRCON, KRCL or through Public Private Partnership.

Improvement of NTKM to GTKM Ratio

Sir, for a payload of one tonne, Railways carry a tare weight of a little less than a tonne. An improvement of one percent in this ratio would yield an additional earning per annum of Rs 1500 cr. Talk of the country. ...*((interruption))** A multi pronged strategy of increasing the payload and reducing the tare weight of trains, running trains loaded in both directions and minimizing empty running of trains for maintenance and examination and other such measures would have to be simultaneously adopted over the next few years to effect a 5 per cent improvement in this ratio. All types of vacuum brake rolling stock will be eliminated in two stages. Wagon examination and maintenance centres will be reorganized to minimize empty running of trains. Several trains have wagons that run empty in both the directions. After implementation of FOIS, the numbers and location of such wagons will be monitored to detach them for repair at the nearest depot.

Higher Axle Load Goods Trains

I am happy to inform the House that the pilot project of introducing of 22.3 and 22.9 Tonne axle load trains has yielded good results. Recently, 25 T Axle load trains have also been run on pilot basis. In 2007-08 we will extend running of 22.9 tonne axle load trains on several routes and 25 tonne axle load trains on select other routes.

Wagons with better payload to tare weight ratio

Sir, Wagons are the bread winning horses of the Railways. An increase of 10% in wagon productivity would lead to an annual incremental earnings of Rs. 4000 crore for the Railways. We have earned several thousand crores by improving the wagon turnaround time and enhancing per wagon payload. RDSO has designed new covered and open wagons with a pay load to tare weight ratio of 3 and above, fit for 22.9 T axle load. The carrying capacity

of freight trains comprising of such open and covered wagons will improve by 10 and 30% respectively, compared with existing trains. We have therefore decided to stop procurement of open and covered wagons of old design from 2007-08. Production of 25 T axle load wagons and 22.9 T axle load wagons of new design will commence in 2007-08. Similarly, 22.9 T and 25 T Axle load wagons suitable for steel and petroleum products will also be manufactured.

Manufacture of new design wagons by Wagon Manufacturers

Railways procure wagons based on RDSO's designs. We have decided to bring about a total change in this system. Now, wagon manufacturers will be permitted to supply wagons of their own designs, with RDSO recommended bogies, coupler, draft and brake gear. RDSO will certify and approve the new designs of wagons from the safety angle within 9 months. Sir, these higher pay load lower tare weight wagons with new technology would be costlier compared to old wagons. To encourage the development of such new technology wagons, a suitable freight discounts policy will be evolved so that benefits of the new technology are shared by the Railways and investors. Detailed guidelines in this regard will be issued early.

Arrangement of rolling stock maintenance

Sir, we have improved our loading with available resources through better utilization of existing rolling stock. Through rationalization of driver and loco links over the last two years, we have been able to spare more than 250 engines for running other trains. World class facilities will be provided at all train examination points where more than 5 goods trains are examined per day. The target for 2007-08 would be to cover most air brake trains under the system of premium CC or premium end to end examination. We have decided to make unit exchange spares based maintenance arrangements for all types of rolling stock. This would bring about significant improvement in the productivity of rolling stock.

Throughput enhancement works

Sir, speedy expansion of capacity on the 20,000 kms long high-density network is imperative to maintain the present rate of growth. An integrated approach of route-wise planning and implementation will be undertaken to obtain full benefits from investment on these routes. This network will be made capable for running 23 T axle load

*Not recorded.

trains and mineral routes would be upgraded for running of 25T axle load trains. Need based enhancement in line capacity of such routes will be undertaken by constructing second, third or fourth lines. Distance between two sections will be reduced by installing IBS and automatic signaling will be provided at both ends of busy junction stations to enhance line capacity. For seamless and faster rail movement, flyovers and by-passes etc. will be constructed at busy junction stations and yard designs will be modified to avoid cross movement of the trains. High speed turnouts with a speed of 30 km per hour will be laid on such routes. In 2007-08, 200 each diesel and electric locomotives and 11,000 wagons will be produced. Adequate funds provision would be made for throughput enhancement works.

Complaint Redressal Mechanism

Sir, most rail customers complain more about the quality of our service rather than our tariff. We have therefore decided that on every Zonal Railway one SAG Officer will be nominated to attend to customer grievances and directions will be given for disposal of all customer complaints within three months. At my level too, I have constituted a Freight Customers Co-ordination Consultative Committee for all freight customers.

Market Surveys

Railways earns ninety per cent of its freight business from transportation of a few select commodities. With a view to broad base our business and improve stability in the growth rate we would like to diversify and increase the mix of carried commodities. Every zonal railway will engage an independent market survey agency to identify new traffic streams.

Passenger Business

Sir, increasing passenger fares does not necessarily imply a corresponding increase in earnings from trains, though earnings from individual passengers may go up. In the current year by inducting 700 additional coaches in popular trains, we have facilitated travel of more people and increased the earnings of the Railways. Our policy of licensing of parcel and catering services through open tender has also borne good results. In 2006-07, there has been an increase of 48% in other coaching earnings and it is likely that earnings from catering license fee will increase to Rs. 120 cr. It is for these reasons that despite reduction in fares, the losses in coaching business are

likely to decrease by several hundred crores in the current year. Sir, we have shown that one can earn even while serving the common people, by playing the volume game. Continuing this approach in 2007-08 we will add another 800 coaches in popular trains.

Provision of cushioned seats in unreserved passenger coaches

Sir, I am well acquainted with the travails and difficulties faced by passengers traveling in unreserved second class coaches. Presently, unreserved second class coaches in mail/express and ordinary passenger trains are mostly provided with wooden seats without cushion. This causes inconvenience to the passengers in sitting. Therefore, we have decided that from 2007-08, production of wooden seats will be stopped. In future, cushioned seats will be manufactured for unreserved second class coaches as is the case for sleeper coaches. Sir.

Baat main kaayade ki karta hun,
desh ke fayade ki karta hun.
Jis tarah ped saya deta hai,
har musafir ka dhyaan rakhta hun.

Provision of additional ordinary general coaches

The common people have travel in suffocating crowds due to paucity of unreserved second class coaches. It is a poor man's budget and they want to stop the speech. But remember, I will keep reading it out till 5 p.m. Therefore, we have decided that from this year in every newly introduced train, in place of four, six unreserved second class coaches will be introduced. Alongside, excluding fully air-conditioned AC and Jan Shatabdi trains, in existing trains also wherever possible, efforts will be made to increase the number of unreserved second class coaches.

Facility of reservation of lower berth for senior citizens and ladies

Senior citizens and ladies face considerable inconvenience when they are allotted upper or middle berths. Therefore, I have decided that a quota of adequate lower berths will be provided in AC and Sleeper classes for senior citizens and women above the age of 45, traveling alone.

Concession for students

Sir, while presenting the budget 2004-05 and 2005-06, I had announced concessions for unemployed youth

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

appearing for interviews for jobs in Central and State Government exams. It is now proposed to give 50% concession to students appearing in the main written examination conducted by Union Public Service Commission and Central Staff Selection Commissions.

Special coaches for handicapped passengers

We have manufactured SLRD and SRD coaches for the convenience of handicapped passengers. These specially designed coaches are equipped with wider doors, wider cushioned seats, more aisle passage and specially designed toilets for passengers on wheel-chair. So far we have manufactured 1250 such coaches and it is planned to introduce such coaches in all Mail and Express trains over the next 2 years. We also plan to add coaches for handicapped passengers.

Introduction of Vendors' Coaches

Milk and vegetable vendors and other retail sellers transport milk, fruits and vegetables by trains. Due to absence of earmarked space in the passenger trains, these vendors carry their milk cans and baskets hanging from the windows. Vendor coaches will be provided on sections where transportation of these commodities through passenger trains is common.

Introduction of train enquiry call centre

From June to September 2007, train enquiry call centres will start functioning in all four regions of the country. By dialing the telephone number 139, passengers will be able to obtain information about arrival and departure of trains, seat availability etc. at local call rates from any part of the country. Sir, in these call centres international level facilities like SMS alert will be provided. In future call centres will provide several services like Railway Ticketing, Taxi Booking, Hotel Booking etc.

Provision of Hand held Computer Terminals for TTE

Under the existing PRS system, reservation charts are taken out a few hours before the departure of trains. Often, due to unforeseen circumstances, several passengers with reservations do not travel. As a result many berths remain vacant. Since this information is not fed into the PRS system, passengers on board the trains or waitlisted passengers at ensuing stations are not aware of the vacancy position. Therefore we have proposed to provide hand held computer terminals to TTEs, in reserved

coaches. The TTE will feed in the current vacancy position, coach-wise and berth-wise in to these hand held terminals. These terminals will be directly linked to the PRS system to transmit the berth reservation position from running trains to the PRS system. Based on this information the PRS will allot vacant berths to waitlisted passengers at ensuing stations. Hand held terminals will be made available to the TTEs as a pilot project on four pairs of trains next year, these would include three Shatabdi Express Trains running between New Delhi-Amritsar, New Delhi-Dehradun and New Delhi-Ajmer and Golden Temple Express.

Distribution of Reserved Tickets

More than 5 lakhs reserved tickets are issued every day from 3000 PRS counters in nearly 1300 reservation centres. PRS facility will be made available at all Group D stations and some Group E stations through PRS counters or PRS-cum UTS counters over the next two years. PRS counters will also be provided in premises of Post Offices and Defence organizations to be operated by them. The scheme of booking reserved rail tickets on the internet has become extremely popular. To expand the outreach of reserved railway ticketing in all parts of the country, e-tickets will be issued through e-seva of State Governments, Post Offices, petrol pumps and ATMs of Banks.

Unreserved Ticket Distribution

At present there are nearly 2200 computerised UTS counters in the country. Over the next two years the number of such counters will be increased to 8000. Further, 6000 automatic ticket vending machines will be installed in major cities and connected with the UTS terminals over the next two years. Ticket would be available at the press of a button by using smart cards or currency coins. The coupon ticketing system introduced for suburban passengers in Mumbai, has gained popularity. We will try to introduce this system in Chennai and Kolkata also. In order to make the scheme of MST renewal through internet popular, it has been decided to provide this service free of cost. In the next year, Central Railway will undertake a pilot project of issuing tickets through multi-purpose smart cards. Under this scheme customers will have the facility to obtain MST as well as daily ticket on the same smart card. This card could be bought and recharged from different places in the city. These cards would be readable on touch, by the hand held terminals of TTEs. The scheme will be expanded after the success of the pilot projects.

These measures undertaken over the next two years would alleviate to a large extent the problem of long queues at ticket counters.

Increase in capacity of passenger coaches

Sir, Innovation is not only an invention or discovery. Using new methodologies in daily processes is also innovation. We have designed coaches with new layouts, having significantly higher capacity than the previous coaches. The capacity of sleeper coaches has been increased from 72 to 84, AC Chair Car from 67 to 102, AC 3 Tier from 64 to 81, AC 2 Tier from 46 to 48 and AC 1st from 18 to 22. I have myself visited the Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala and inspected these newly designed coaches. These coaches will be convenient and comfortable for the passengers. We have, therefore, decided to start the production of these new design coaches from 2007-08.

Rakes with standard composition

Due to absence of standard composition for passenger trains, several trains reach the destination in the morning and remain standing till night. To ensure better utilization of the rake links, we have decided to increase the number of passenger trains having standard rake composition. Last year, on a pilot basis, through revision in maintenance practices, BPC of passenger trains was given for 3500 kms in place of 2500 kms. This system would be expanded further in 2007-08. These two decisions will result in considerable increase in availability of coaches.

Passenger Amenities at Stations

Sir, last year I had announced that within the next two years people will observe a perceptible improvement in the get-up and facilities available at all major stations. According to this announcement, we had started the work of developing five railway stations as model stations in each division. I am happy to inform the House that this work will be completed at 225 such stations by March 2007. Taking this programme further we will similarly develop another 300 stations this year.

Cleanliness Year—2007

Sir, celebrating the year 2006 as the year of customer service with a smile we have tried to improve passenger amenities at stations. The year 2007-08 will be observed

as 'Cleanliness Year'. During this year, a special campaign will be launched to ensure cleanliness and hygiene at station premises, in passenger trains, railway lines, waiting rooms etc.

Railways' New Profile—11 Five Year Plan

The year 2007-08 is the first year of the 11th Five year plan. Sir:

Ho izaazat to karun bayan dil apna
Sanjon rakkha hai maine rail ka ek sapna.

The Railways are targeting a freight loading of 1100 million tonnes and passenger traffic of 840 crore by the terminal year of the 11 Five year plan. In order to make this unprecedented growth a reality, it is absolutely essential that in the next few years the Railways' transport capacity be expanded and doubled, unit cost be brought down by playing the volume game and customers be provided world-class services.

The quantum jump in investment

During the 11th Five Year Plan, we will invest many times more as compared to earlier plans. There is no readymade investment policy for a vast network like the Indian Railways. The growing demand for transportation can only be met through a harmonious blend of short term and long term policies. Our short term policy of investing in low cost high return projects has been successful in eliminating network bottlenecks and in ensuring effective utilization of rolling stock. Alongside a twin mid-term and long-term investment strategy will be adopted to enhance productivity through, modernization and technological upgradation on the one hand and enhancement of capacity of the network and rolling stock on the other.

Construction of Dedicated Freight Corridors

Construction of the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors will start in the year 2007-08. These will be completed during the 11th Five Year Plan at a cost of about Rs. 30,000 crores. Even though the Golden Quadrilateral and its diagonals constitute 16% of the rail network, more than 50% of the traffic moves on these routes. As these routes are super-saturated, I have given directions for conducting of pre-feasibility surveys for construction of East-West, East-South, North-South and South-South corridors. My dream is to construct these

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

corridors in a manner that they develop into efficient and economical trunk routes for speedier, longer, heavy-haul trains. After completion of the freight corridors, the problem of passenger and goods trains running on the same network at different speeds will be solved and most of the level crossings would be converted into RGBs. Where possible ordinary passenger trains running on these routes will be replaced by MEMU and DEMU trains. This will facilitate increase in the speed of passenger trains.

Gauge Conversion

Sir, on account of partial gauge conversion on various routes of the Railway network, the remaining metre and narrow gauges have become like islands. Cut off from the main network, these lines give the Railways less than 1 per cent freight traffic whereas they still constitute 20 per cent of the total network. As a result Railways are losing thousands of crores of rupees annually. Even freight traffic has become a losing proposition on these lines. Therefore we will make all efforts to convert the majority of the metre-gauge lines to broad gauge during the 11th Five Year Plan. Priority will be given to accord approval for execution of projects which will serve as alternate routes on the network; significant among these are Udaipur-Ahmedabad, Lucknow-Sitapur-Pilibhit-Shahjehanpur, Dhasa-Jetalsar, Jaipur-Sikar-Churu-Jhunjhunu, Ratlam-Khandwa-Akola, Chhindwara-Nainpur and Ahmedabad-Botad. Projects where the State Governments contribute 50 per cent of the total cost would also be given priority in sanction and implementation. Gauge conversion will facilitate integrating the remote and far-flung areas of the country with the national mainstream. Integration with the unigauge network and consequent increase in traffic and reduction in unit cost of these lines will reduce losses being incurred on these lines.

Construction of High Speed Passenger Corridor

Sir, India is today seen as a rising power in the world. The rapid growth of the economy, rising industrialization and urbanization and unprecedented growth in intercity travel, has opened infinite possibilities for developing high speed passenger corridors. Hon'ble Prime Minister while laying the foundation of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor had expressed the hope that the Indian Railways would also develop world class passenger systems. Therefore, we have decided to conduct pre-feasibility studies for construction of high speed passenger corridors, equipped with state of the art

signaling and train control systems, for running high speed trains at speeds of 300 to 350 kms per hour; one each in the Northern, Western, Southern and Eastern regions of the country. These trains will cover distances of up to 600 kms in two to three hours. All alternatives including Private Public Partnership will be considered for implementation of these corridors. Global warming and changing climatic conditions are a world wide concern today. These energy efficient and environment friendly systems would go a long way in alleviating these concerns.

Suburban Services

Suburban services are the lifeline of our nation's commercial capital Mumbai. To mitigate the overcrowding of Mumbai's trains, enhancement in capacity of these services will have to be undertaken during the 11th Five Year Plan. During this plan period MUTP-Phase I will be completed. The work on Phase II costing Rs. 5,000 crore is also proposed to be started. Financing of the Rs. 5,000 crore MUTP Phase II project will be done with the participation of Railways, State Governments and multi-lateral funding institutions. All our efforts will be made to complete both these phases within the 11th Five Year Plan so that suburban services and long distance trains are completely segregated. This will enhance their capacity by 56 per cent. Ongoing works on suburban services in Kolkata and Chennai will also be completed on priority basis. During the 11th Five Year Plan efforts will be made to introduce air-conditioned class services in suburban trains in Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata and escalators at major stations.

Rolling Stock Modernization and Capacity Augmentation

In view of the demands of growing traffic, along with expansion of network, availability of rolling stock will be increased through effective utilisation of available rolling stock, technical upgradation and modernisation and by setting up new production units. During the 11th Five Year Plan production of rolling stock will be doubled as compared with the previous Plan. Capacity of existing rail coach and loco production units will be enhanced through expansion of these units. High horse power, energy efficient locomotives with new technology will also be produced. During this plan, production of MEMU, DEMU and EMU coaches will also be stepped up. One new factory each for rail coaches, diesel locomotives, electric locomotives and wheels will also be established.

The locomotives to be manufactured in these units will be equipped with state of the art technology and will be capable of hauling longer, heavier high axle load trains. The new Rail Coach Factory will produce high capacity, modern and comfortable coaches. Similarly production of 32 tonne axle load, higher payload lower tare weight and track friendly wagons will start for the new Dedicated Freight Corridors.

Use of IT in the Railway services

In the XI five year plan, investment in IT projects will be increased to several thousand crore rupees to harness the immense possibilities offered by IT in the interest of Indian Railways. IT applications will be deployed to increase passenger and freight earnings, improve the image of the Railways in the eyes of the customer, reduce operating costs, ensure effective utilization of human and physical resources and to help the top management in arriving at long-term policy decisions by developing MIS & LRDS. A commercial portal will be developed in the next 3 years for yield management, specially to attract traffic for returning empties and filling up vacant seats. All modules of FOIS including rolling stock maintenance and examination, revenue apportionment, crew management, control charting COIS etc. will be integrated and implemented in a time bound manner for completion by 2010. Alongside ERP packages will be implemented in workshops, production units and selected zonal railways. A common website integrating the more than 50 different web-sites of Railways will be developed with built in facilities like e-payment and e-tendering. For an integrated approach in IT, CRIS will be entrusted with coordination of all IT applications of the Railways and for development of a comprehensive vision on IT. CRIS will be developed as an autonomous and empowered organization, drawing officers from various Railways services. Indian IT companies have hoisted the national flag all over the world. We invite these companies to take part in various IT projects of the Railways under public private partnership.

Railway Electrification

The electrified network will be extended over the Golden Quadrilateral and its diagonals, and in all directions from Kashmir to Kanniya Kumari and Guwahati to Amritsar by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan. Electrification of Thiruvananthapuram-Kanniya Kumari, Thiruchur-Guruvayur, Tiruchirapalli-Madurai, Barabanki-Gorakhpur-Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati and Jalandhar to Baramullah sections

will be completed during the 11th Five Year Plan. In the first phase, electrification of Jalandhar-Jammu, Barabanki-Gorakhpur-Barauni and Tiruchirapalli-Madurai sections are proposed to be taken up in 2007-08. Similarly, doubling and electrification of Pune-Wadi-Guntkal and electrification of Daitari-Banspani, Haridaspur-Paradeep new lines will be undertaken by Indian Railways' Public Enterprise RVNL in the coming years.

Public Private Partnership Schemes

Investments at a much larger scale will be required for the above mentioned capacity and expansion network as compared with the provision made in the Tenth Five Year Plan. The funding of this plan of several lakh crores would require multi-source approach based upon deployment of internal resources, market borrowing, public private partnership and budgetary support. The improved financial performance of the Railways will enable a large share of the financing to be met from internal and external budgetary resources. I am not in favour of blind privatisation of the Railways nor is PPP a compulsion or fashion for us. We are seeking partnership with the private sector on the terms that are in the interest of Railways and our customers. For example, by leasing out catering and parcel services we have reduced our catering and parcel losses of more than a thousand crores. We have enhanced our capacity by attracting private investments in the wagon investment schemes and siding liberalization schemes etc. Even while retaining the core activity of train operations, we have awarded licenses to private parties for running container trains, which is likely to attract investment of thousands of crores in wagons and construction of terminals over the next few years. We want to have many more such PPP Schemes where one and one make eleven and not two. Public Private Partnership options will be explored with the aim of modernization of metro and mini-metro stations with world class passenger amenities, development of agro retail outlets and supply chains, construction of multi-modal logistic parks, warehouses and budget hotels and expansion of network and increase in production capacity. We have constituted a PPP Cell which will develop the policy framework to provide non-discriminatory level playing field to investors, prepare the bankable documents and set up the procedure for awarding partnerships through open tendering system.

Railway Safety

Railway safety is our prime concern. I am glad to inform the House that funds for replacement of overaged

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

Railway assets are now provided as soon as the assets become due for replacement. Sir, we have allocated Rs. 5,500 crore towards Depreciation Reserve Fund for the year 2007-08 as compared to Rs. 2,100 crore provided in 2001-02. This has had a direct impact on Railways' safety record. Although the gross traffic volume has increased from 724 Million train kilometres in 2001-02 to 825 Million train kilometres in 2005-06, the number of accidents is expected to be less than 200 in 2006-07 against 473 in the year 2001.

Of the Rs. 17,000 crore Special Railway Safety Fund, most of the works of renewal of overaged tracks, bridges, track circuiting and rolling stock will be completed by March 2007 and all remaining works will be completed by March 2008. Sir, as per our Corporate Safety Plan, the testing of Anti-collision Device on North East Frontier Railway is in its last phase and is likely to be completed by March 2007. Besides this, the General Managers of the Zonal Railways have been delegated the powers to approve construction of subways costing upto Rs. 50 lacs, to reduce accidents at unmanned level crossings. The production of better crash worthy coaches has commenced. In future, the number of such coaches will be further increased to ensure safety of passengers.

Railway Security

In view of the serious bomb blasts which occurred last week on 18th February in train number 4001 Delhi-Attari Link Express near Panipat and in July 2006 in Mumbai Suburban Services, we have taken several steps to strengthen and modernize the security arrangements. In order to provide necessary equipments and other resources for Railways security works, adequate funds are being made available from Passenger Amenity and Machinery & Plant Plan heads. The allocations for these works will be enhanced substantially and I would like to assure the House that funds will not be a constraint for these works. Besides increasing the number of trained dogs in the existing dog squads, in many sensitive divisions of the country explosive detection devices, door frames and hand held metal detectors are being installed to provide better security for trains and passengers. In addition, equipments like CCTV and smart video cameras have been installed at sensitive stations. In consultation with security experts, an integrated extensive security and surveillance system will be developed for Mumbai Suburban Services which will be equipped with high quality security equipments. Railway Protection Force is escorting 1,450 trains everyday. 8,000 vacant posts in

Railway Protection Special Force will be filled up shortly on an all India basis. Intensive training is being imparted to Railway Protection Force, in order to increase their professional expertise and efficiency. Recently, Jagjivan Ram Railway Protection Force Academy, Lucknow has been given the status of a Centralized Training Institute.

Achievement of Railways in Sports

As always, Railways have, registered important achievements in sports at National and International level this year too. In the Commonwealth Games held in Melbourne, Indian Railways' athletes contributed by winning two gold and six silver medals. In the recently concluded Asian Games held at Doha, athletes from Indian Railways made a major contribution by winning two gold, two silver and nine bronze medals. In 2006-07, teams from Indian Railways have participated in 33 team championships and won 19 out of them. Former National Badminton Champion Ms. Madhumita Bisht has been awarded with Padma Shree for her outstanding contribution and three Sports persons Ms. Dola Banerjee for Archery, Shri Akhil Kumar for Boxing and Shri Sushil Kumar for Wrestling have been decorated with Arjuna Awards.

International Cooperation

Indian Railways have signed a memorandum of understanding with Italy, Germany, Russia and South Africa to promote bilateral cooperation. The Railways are playing an important role in promoting the 'Look East' policy of the Government. The programme for training of Railway personnel BIMSTEC and Mekong Ganga countries launched by Indian Railways has been widely acclaimed. Taking this initiative further, the Railways has extended this facility of free training to the railway personnel of African countries in the current financial year. Chairman Railway Board has been elected first chairman of Asian Railway Association. Indian Railways is playing an important role in the functioning of the UIC (International Railways Union). The Chairman Railway Board has already been elected as the first non European President of UIC.

Staff Welfare

Sir, 14 lakhs employees have brought about the financial transformation of the Railways by showing

incomparable passion and commitment. We have boosted the morale of railway employees by paying them bonus equal to 65 days' salary in place of 59 days' salary.

Jisne Pahunchaya Bulandi Par Usey Sammaan Den,
Karee Mehnat Ko Unki Milkar Maan Den.

Railways' contribution to the Staff Benefit Fund is proposed to be increased from Rs.30 per person to Rs. 35 per person. Out of this additional contribution Rs. 3 will be utilised to give immediate relief in times of crisis arising out of natural calamities and Rs. 2 will be utilised to provide training for developing occupational skills of physically challenged children especially girls, of Railway employees*. They do not want to listen to...*(Interruptions)*

In order to bring about fundamental improvement in the condition of staff colonies, various alternatives for their development and maintenance through IRWO or through Public Private Partnership will be explored. Decision on this subject will be taken after arriving at a general consensus and taking the staff federations into confidence. In order to provide accommodation to the relatives of indoor patients admitted in large hospitals in metropolitan cities, rest houses with 50 rooms each will be constructed near the hospitals in 4 large cities, namely Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. The railway employees will be provided accommodation in these rest houses at nominal charges.

An extensive programme of training to develop market and customer friendly attitude amongst frontline staff, who are in constant contact with the customers, will be organized at selected stations. Upon the success of this programme, it would be extended throughout the country.

With a view to improve the promotional prospects of Group 'D' employees, a committee has been constituted to make an in-depth study of all matters relating to the subject and to submit its report within 6 months. We have decided that ex-servicemen and Central Government employees recruited in the Railways will be eligible for post retirement complimentary passes by giving a weightage equivalent to half of their prior service while calculating their eligibility based on length of service in the Railways.

Organizational and Human Resource Development

Railways will have to develop a strong management team in which players play, not for themselves, but for the success of the team to tackle complex situations of the competitive market and to fulfill the growing expectations of its customers. A decision in the matter

would be taken by December 2007, after evolving a consensus through dialogue with representatives of all Railway services and based upon recommendations of different expert groups constituted so far. The institutions of GMs, DRMs and CAO (Construction) would be strengthened and developed as profit centre, business unit and project unit respectively by suitable empowerment.

Sir, Railway employees and officers require training at periodical intervals in view of rapid changes in the underlying economic and competitive environment. We have, therefore decided that Railway officials will be sent on training to reputed national institutions once every five years and for foreign training every ten years. Officers would have to undergo a mandatory training before promotion to JA, SA and HA grade.

The Railway Staff College Building in Vadodara will be renovated in consultation with renowned architects in such a way that its old elegance and splendour is retained even while it is equipped with all modern amenities. Rail Bhawan would be made centrally air-conditioned and a building equipped with modern facilities.

Establishment of Railway Chair at IIM, Ahmedabad

It has been decided to set up a Chair at IIM Ahmedabad to encourage research in Railway infrastructure and management.

Recruitment Drive for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Ninety five per cent of the vacancies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been filled up by launching special drives. Similarly seventy five per cent of the backlog in filling up vacancies in the promotional quotas has been successfully cleared.

Recruitment of candidates from backward class

Action is being taken for the recruitment of candidates from backward classes on all the Zonal Railway against the reservation quota of 27 per cent.

Public Sector Undertakings

During the year 2005-06, 9 public sector undertakings of the Ministry of Railways have put up a good performance and achieved a combined turn over of Rs.7,034 crore and earned net profit of Rs. 818 crore. They have made a combined dividend payment of

*Not recorded.

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

Rs. 274 crore to the Railways. Container Corporation of India Limited registered a turnover of Rs. 2,489 crore and have earned a net profit of Rs. 526 crore. IRFC has registered a turnover of Rs. 2,020 crore and a net profit of Rs. 334 crore. IRCON International Limited achieved its highest turnover so far, of Rs. 1,113 crore and earned a net profit of Rs. 81 crore in 2005-06. On the basis of its excellent performance, this company has been given a schedule "A" status. RITES has registered a turnover of Rs. 426 crore and a net profit of Rs. 99 crore.

RVNL

RVNL is executing 46 projects at a cost of about Rs. 12,000 crore to expand the capacity on high density network of which 14 would be completed by the end of 2006-07. Construction of 544 kilometre Broad Gauge line is likely to be completed in the year 2007-08. Out of the remaining 24 projects, 16 projects will be completed in 2008-09 and the rest in 2009-10. In addition, new projects would be handed over to RVNL for implementation. As per the extant practice, public private partnership projects for expansion of network are being executed by SPVs constituted the basis of MOU.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing? Do not take the House to a ridiculous level. Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It has been decided that in future all options for award of Public Private Partnership projects including awarding the project through open competitive bidding would be explored. While awarding the projects which are linked to a particular port or factory to an SPV, the concession period of each project would be fixed with a view to ensure reasonable rate of return on investment, rather than having a predetermined concession period for all the projects.

Passenger Services

We operate more than 9,000 passenger trains everyday. In view of the increasing demand of the passengers, I propose to introduce the following services from the year 2007-08.

New Trains

1. Shri Chhatrapati Sahu Maharaj Terminus, Kolhapur-Ahmedabad Express (Weekly)
2. Howrah-Rampurhat Express (Daily)
3. Jhansi-Kanpur Express (Daily)
4. Pune-Gorakhpur Express (Weekly)
5. Delhi-Shamli DEMU (Daily)
6. Bapudham Motihari-Varanasi (3 Days a week)
7. Bikaner-Jaisalmer Express (Two pairs) (Via Kolayat) (Daily)
8. Mumbai-Aurangabad Janshatabdi Express (6 Days in a Week)
9. Bhagalpur-New Delhi Express (Weekly)
10. Bijapur-Bagalkot Express (6 Days in a Week)
11. Allahabad-Mathura Express (Daily)
12. Nasik-Pune Express (Daily)
13. Coimbatore-Nagercoil Express via Madurai (Daily)
14. Bhubaneswar-Rameswaram Express (Weekly) (After Gauge Conversion)
15. Gorakhpur-Yesvantpur Express (Weekly)
16. Yesvantpur-Chennai Express (Weekly)
17. Farrukhabad-Kasganj Express (Two pairs) (Daily) (After Gauge Conversion)
18. Indore-Amritsar Express (Weekly)
19. Chennai Egmore-Nagore Express (Daily) (After Gauge Conversion)
20. Rewa-Jabalpur Intercity Express (Daily)
21. New Delhi-Sahibabad EMU Service (Daily)
22. Banka-Bhagalpur Passenger (6 Days in a week)
23. Chennai Egmore-Rameswaram Express (6 Days in a week) (After Gauge Conversion)
24. Chhapra- Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus(Mumbai) Jansadharan Express via Siwan, Gorakhpur (Weekly)

25. Mumbai-Ajmer/Udaipur Express (3 Days in a week) (After Gauge Conversion)
26. Solapur-Bagalkot Express (6 days in a week)
27. Ajmer-Ratlam Express (Daily 2 pairs) (After Gauge Conversion)
28. Vadodara-Bhilad Express (Daily)
29. Patna-Dehri-on-Sone Intercity Express (Daily)
30. Gandhidham-Palanpur Express (Daily)
31. Lucknow Jn-Saharanpur Express (Daily) (In lieu of Lucknow-Saharanpur Link Express)
32. Jabalpur-Delhi *via* Itarsi (2 Days in a week)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening here? Sit down please. I request all of you to please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD:

Garib Rath

While introducing the Garib Rath last year, I had announced that in the coming years, all the State capitals will be linked with Garib Rath trains. Pursuant to this announcement, I propose to introduce following new Garib Rath trains :-

1. Secunderabad-Yesvantpur Garib Rath Express (3 days in a week)
2. Jaipur-Bandra (Terminus) *via* Ahmedabad Garib Rath (3 days in a week)
3. Kolkata-Patna Garib Rath Express (3 days in a week)
4. Bhubaneswar-Ranchi Garib Rath Express (3 days in a week)
5. Thiruvananthapuram-Lokmanya Tilak (Terminus) Garib Rath Express (2 days in a week)
6. Kolkata-Guwahati Garib Rath Express (2 days in a week)
7. New Delhi-Dehradun Garib Rath Express (3 days in a week)

8. Raipur-Lucknow Jn. Garib Rath Express (2 days in a week)

Extension of trains

I am glad to announce the extension of run of the following services :-

1. 4517/4518 Allahabad-Ambala Cantt. Unchahar Express upto Chandigarh
2. 207/208 Tirupati-Guntakal Passenger upto Hubli
3. 2315/2316 Sealdah-Ajmer Ananya Express upto Udaipur
4. 2105/2106 Mumbai-Nagpur Vidarbha Express upto Gondia
5. 1103/1104 Agra Cantt.-Nizamuddin Intercity Express upto New Delhi
6. 9165/9166 Ahmedabad-Faizabad Sabarmati Express upto Varanasi
7. 4649/4650 Amritsar-Darbhanga Saryu Yamuna Express upto Jai Nagar (After Gauge Conversion)
8. 2705/2706 Secunderabad-Vijayawada Express upto Guntur
9. Shikohabad-Farrukhabad Passenger upto Kasganj (After Gauge Conversion)
10. 3185/3186 Sealdah-Darbhanga Gangasagar Express upto Jai Nagar (After Gauge Conversion)
11. 364 Kottayam-Thiruvananthapuram Passenger upto Nagercoil
12. 571/572 Manduadih-Mau Passenger upto Azamgarh
13. 209/210 Howrah-Darbhanga Passenger upto Jai Nagar (After Gauge Conversion)
14. 5037/5038 Kanpur-Farrukhabad Express upto Kasganj (After Gauge Conversion)
15. 6509/6510 Ajmer-Bangalore Express upto Mysore
16. 4673/4674 Amritsar-Darbhanga Shaheed Express upto Jai Nagar (After Gauge Conversion)

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17. 531A/532A Parli-Latur Passenger upto Osmanabad (After Gauge Conversion)
18. 2413/2414 Jammu Tawi-Jaipur Express upto Ajmer
19. 5107/5108 Lucknow-Kanpur Utsarg Express upto Kanpur Anwarganj
20. 469/470 Lucknow-Farrukhabad Passenger upto Kasganj (After Gauge Conversion)
21. 5309/5310 Aishbagh-Bareilly Rohilkhand Express upto Kasganj
22. 2465/2466 Jodhpur-Sawai Madhopur Express upto Indore
23. Gaya-Klul Passenger upto Jhajha (1 pair)

Increase in frequency

Hon'ble Members will be happy to know that it is proposed to increase the frequency of the following trains :

1. 9311/9312 Indore-Pune Express (from 2 days in a week to 3 days in a week)
2. 1561/1562 Miraj-Belgaum Passenger (from 6 days in a week to daily)
3. 2149/2150 Pune-Patna Express (from 2 days in a week to 4 days in a week)
4. 2843/2844 Puri-Ahmedabad Express (from 3 days in a week to 4 days in a week)
5. 2345/2346 Howrah-Guwahati Saraighat Express (from 5 days in a week to daily)
6. 1563/1564 Miraj-Belgaum Passenger (from 6 days in a week to daily)
7. 2309/2310 New Delhi-Patna Rajdhani Express (from 2 days in a week to daily)
8. 6603/6604 Thiruvananthapuram-Mangalore Express (from 3 days in a week to daily)
9. 2835/2836 Hatia Yesvantpur Express (from weekly to 2 days)

10. 209/210 Machilipatnam-Tirupati Passenger (from 3 days to daily)
11. 6595/6596 Patna-Bangalore Express (from 2 days in a week to 6 days in a week)
12. 2419/2420 New Delhi-Lucknow Gomti Express (from 6 days in a week to daily)
13. 6527/6528 Yesvantpur-Kannur Express (from weekly to 3 days in a week)
14. 6315/6316 Bangalore-Kochuvelli Express (from weekly to 3 days in a week)

Annual Plan 2007-08

Sir, the outlay of Annual Plan for the year 2007-08 is proposed at Rs. 31,000 crore. This is the largest Annual Plan for the Railways so far and exceeds the plan outlay for the current year by 32 per cent. The outlays of the Annual Plans over the last three years have increased by about two and a half times. It is a matter of pride that three fourths of the plan outlay will be sourced from internal and extra budgetary resources and the share of internal resources alone would be 56 per cent. Deployment of internal resources is projected at Rs. 17,323 crore; 61 per cent more than last year. Extra budgetary resources will include Rs.5,000 crore for leasing of rolling stock through IRFC, loan of Rs.240 crore to be raised by RVNL and investment of Rs.500 crore under the Wagon Investment Scheme. The total budgetary support to be received from General Exchequer of Rs. 7,611 crore includes Rs. 1,165 crore for SRSF, Rs. 725 crore from Central Road Fund and Rs. 5,721 crore for the remaining projects.

*.....The thrust of the Annual Plan is maintaining the high growth rate through early completion of throughput enhancement works, traffic facilities and works related to network expansion and development of high traffic density routes. The outlay for traffic facilities plan head has been increased by 30 per cent to Rs.800 crore. In order to remove impediments to better operation and better turnaround of wagons, upgradation and development of goods sheds, construction of flyovers/bypass, IBS and other traffic facility works have been given highest priority. The proposed outlay for doubling has been increased almost two fold at Rs.2,000 crore to expedite execution of doubling projects. Besides this Rs. 1,358 crore will be spent on projects to be executed by RVNL. The allotment of Dedicated Freight Corridor has been proposed at Rs. 1,330 crore.

*...*This part of the speech was treated as laid on the Table.

Outlay for the four other major planheads have been kept at Rs. 5,036 crore. Provision of Rs. 1,610 crore has been made for New Lines, Rs. 2,404 crore for Gauge Conversion, Rs. 300 crore for Electrification and Rs. 722 crore for Metropolitan Transport Projects. The outlay for safety related plan heads includes Rs. 3,360 crore for Track Renewal, Rs. 597 crore for Bridge Works, Rs. 1,597 crore for Signal And Telecom works, Rs. 551 crore for construction of Road Over/Under Bridges and Rs. 500 crore for manning of unmanned level crossings. Additional fund of Rs. 2,725 crore have been sought from Ministry of Finance for the national projects of Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern Region, namely Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla, Jiribam-Imphal Road (Tupul) and Kumarghat-Agartala new line and Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam gauge conversion projects.

Ongoing Projects

In the current year, construction of about 2000 kilometres of broad gauge lines is likely to be completed. This has been possible because of Railways' financial turn around and decentralization of powers to field units. Railways are executing the ongoing National projects in Jammu and Kashmir and the North Eastern Region in all earnestness. The construction of new line between Kakapore and Budgam in the Kashmir Valley is almost complete and will be opened for passenger traffic operations shortly. I express my gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for declaring the construction of Bogibeel Bridge on river Brahmaputra, Rangliya-Murkongselek gauge conversion and Azra-Byrnihat and Dimapur-Kohima New Line projects as "National Projects".

New Lines

It gives me a great pleasure to inform that construction of new lines from Kolayat to Phalodi, Daitari-Banspani and Gandhinagar-Kalol has already been completed. Karimnagar-Jagityal section of Pedapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad is nearing completion.

The target for construction of new lines in 2007-08 has been fixed at 500 kilometres. The sections include:

1. Puntamba-Shirdi
2. Mahoba-Khajuraho
3. Qazigund-Kakapore and Budgam-Baramulla
4. Jaggyapet-Malachervu
5. Kottur-Harpanhalli

On completion of these sections, work on Puntamba-Shirdi and Jaggyapet-Malachervu new line projects will be completed.

Gauge Conversion

Gauge conversions of Neemuch-Ratlam, Samakhiali-Gandhidham of Gandhidham-Palanpur, Latur-Osmanabad of Miraj-Latur, Trichy-Puddukottai of Trichy-Manamadurai, Khagaria-Hasanpur of Khagaria-Samastipur, Kinwat-Mudkhed of Adilabad-Mudkhed and Basvanna Bagewadi-Bagalkot of Solapur-Gadag have already been completed. Besides this, works on Ajmer-Chittaurgarh, Puddukottai-Karalkudi of Trichy-Manamadurai, Vriddhachalam-Salem of Cuddalore-Salem, Manamadurai-Rameshwaram, Sonamukhi-Rainagar of Bankura-Damodar railway line and Hasanpur-Samastipur gauge conversion projects are likely to be completed shortly.

After completion of gauge conversion works on these sections, the projects of Neemuch-Ratlam, Gandhidham-Palanpur, Ajmer-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur, Khagaria-Samastipur, Adilabad-Mudkhed, Cuddalore-Salem and Madurai-Rameshwaram will be completed. During 2007-08, a target of completion of about 1,800 km of following gauge conversion works has been fixed:

1. Kurduwadi-Osmanabad of Miraj-Latur
2. Saharsa-Dauram Madhepura of Mansi-Saharsa-Purnea
3. Phulera-Ringus-Rewari of Ajmer-Ringus-Rewari
4. Pipar Road-Bilara
5. Darbhanga-Sitamarhi of Jayanagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj
6. Akola-Purna
7. Pratapnagar-Bodli of Pratapnagar-Chhota Udepur
8. Pakala-Madanapalli of Dharmavaram-Pakala
9. Kaptanganj-Thawe of Kaptanganj-Thawe-Chhapra
10. Bagalkot-Gadag of Solapur-Gadag
11. Mathura-Kasganj of Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura
12. Katihar-Jogbani

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13. Guntakal-Kalluru of Guntur-Guntakal-Kalluru
14. Vellore-Thiruvannamalai of Villupuram-Katapadi
15. Karaikkudi-Manamadurai of Trichi-Manamadurai
16. Mehsana-Patan
17. Shimoga-Anandapuram of Shimoga Talguppa

With the completion of these sections, Trichy-Manamadurai, Katihar-Jogbani, Akola-Purna, Solapur-Gadag, Pipar Road-Bilara, Guntur-Guntakal-Kalluru, projects would be completed. Gauge conversion of Sakri-Nirmali and Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Bazar have been targeted for completion in 2008-09.

Doubling

During 2006-07, doubling of 450 km is expected to be completed, while about 700 km has been targeted for the year 2007-08.

New projects

I feel great pleasure in informing the House that gauge conversion of Bardhaman-Katwa, Sadulpur-Bikaner and Ratangarh-Degana, Mailaduturai-Karaikkudi and Thiruturaipundi-Agastiyampalli have been included in the Budget. Dahod-Indore via Jhabua and Deoband (Muzaffamagar)-Roorkee new line construction works have been included in the Budget. Doubling works of Pen-Roha, Mau-Indara, Kukrana-Panipat, Bimlagarh-Dumitra (Part), Barabanki-Burhwal, New Guwahati-Digaru, Alwar-Harsauli, Samalkot-Kakinada, Kalumna-Nagpur, Barbil-Badajamda, Adra-Joychandipahar, Kuruppantara-Chingavanam, Ramanagram-Mysore, Ambalapuzha-Haripad, Arasikere-Birur, Titlagarh-Raipur, Gokulpur-Midnapore and Mahananda Bridge between Malda and Old Malda have been given approval. Gauge conversion work of Bhojipura-Pilibhit-Tanakpur and new lines between Chhota Udepur-Dhar, Bihta-Aurangabad, Rayadurg-Tumkur, Bariarpur-Mananpur, Chandigarh-Baddi and Sultanganj-Katuria have been given in principle approval. Doubling of Pune-Guntakal which includes Bhigwan-Mahol is being processed for seeking approvals. Action on Wardha-Nanded via Yavatmal-Pusad new line will be taken after the receipt of approval from Government of Maharashtra on the cost sharing of the project. Further action regarding new line between Masrakh-Rewa Ghat via Taraiya-Amnour, Damoh-Kundalpur and Araria-Supaul

and doubling of Muzaffarpur-Bettiah-Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar will be taken after receiving the survey reports. For some of these projects the Governments of Uttarakhand, Karnataka and West Bengal have given their consent for sharing a part of the total cost. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for construction of new lines between Cuddappah-Bangalore on 50:50 cost sharing basis. All such proposals will be considered on highest priority while seeking necessary approvals. I would once again like to request all the State Governments to co-operate by sharing the cost of new and ongoing projects on 50:50 basis.

Surveys

On the demand of the Hon'ble Members the following survey works are proposed to be taken up:

New lines

1. Karad-Chiplun
2. Aligarh-Kasganj
3. Rupai-Parshuramkund
4. Gudur-Durgarajapatnam
5. Shri Satya Sai Prashanthi Nilayam-Kadiri via Nallamada
6. Morappur-Dharmapuri
7. Madurai-Karaikkudi
8. Gaya-Natesar
9. Needmangalam-Puddukottai
10. Nanjangud-Nilambur
11. Tellichery-Mysore
12. Dindigul-Kumuli via Bodinayakkanur
13. Tumkur-Davangere
14. Dharwad-Bayalahongal-Belgaum
15. Ratlam-Banswara
16. Markapur-Shrisailem
17. Chakia-Bairgania via Madhubani, Phenara, Piprahi
18. Kinwat-Mahur

Gauge conversion

1. Chhindwara-Nainpur
2. Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma including extension upto Abu Road
3. Indara-Dohrighat

Doubling

1. Rajkharaswan-Adityapur third line
2. Sambalpur-Talcher
3. Mudkhed-Parbhani
4. Secunderabad-Bhongir third line
5. Jirat-Katwa
6. Adra-Gardhubeshwar
7. Khurda Road-Puri

Rail Flyovers

1. Dongaposi
2. Dum Dum
3. Itarsi
4. Katni.

Establishment of New Electric Loco Works at Madhepura

In order to meet the demands of growing rail traffic and in spite of an annual increase in the production capacity of Chittaranjan-Locomotive Works from 150 to 200 engines per year, setting up of a new electrical locomotive workshop has become inescapable. Therefore a new Electric Locomotive Factory at a cost of about Rs. 1,300 crore will be set up at Madhepura. This will help in all round development of the backward areas of North Eastern region and North Bihar.

Modern Signalling Arrangement

Track circuiting at more than 96 per cent places on A,B,C routes, multi-aspect colour light signaling system on A and C routes and other upgradation works from Special Railway Safety Fund have been completed at 1,036 stations. All other works taken up under this fund

are targeted to be completed by March 2008. To bring about qualitative improvement in reliability of signaling systems, an integrated plan will be prepared and executed during 2007-08. Sir, till now signalling has been mainly used for Railway safety, whereas modern signalling systems have possibilities to effect improvement in line capacity. Therefore we have decided that the average distance between two block sections on high density networks will be reduced from 12 kilometres to 8 kilometres by using the IBS system. Certain junction stations having heavy traffic will be provided with Automatic Block Signaling System on their approaches.

Joint Venture with Kerala Government

Sir, in view of the rapidly growing passenger services there is going to be a requirement of additional passenger coaches in future. At present, Railways have a limited capacity to manufacture ICF design fabricated bogies for passenger coaches. Railways will try to make good this shortfall by setting up a joint venture company with Steel Industries Kerala Limited, Alleppey, a public sector undertaking of the Government of Kerala.

Setting up of Wagon, Bogie Complex at Dalmianagar

The new Dedicated Freight Corridor is being constructed to operate 32.5 tonne axle load goods trains and double stack container trains. At present only 22.9 tonne axle load wagons are being manufactured in the country. To manufacture higher axle load wagons, production of new technology bogies, couplers, draft gears, would be necessary, for which an industrial complex will be developed at Dalmianagar. To achieve this objective all alternatives, including execution through public private partnership, would be considered.

Suburban Services

In keeping with the announcement made in the last Budget for Mumbai suburban services, three additional rakes have been provided on Western Railway and the fourth rake will be made available by March 2007. On Central Railway also one additional rake has been added in Thane-Turbhe area and another will be available by March 2007. I am happy to inform the House that work of DC to AC conversion has been completed on Kasara to Titawala section. The quadrupling work from Borivili to Virar is likely to be completed soon and induction of new rakes through MRVC will also start early. With the help rakes, 150 new Suburban trains are proposed to be

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introduced, by making by making suitable adjustments in the time table on Western and Central Railways. I hope these efforts will bring substantial improvement in Railway services.

Four additional EMU rakes have been provided in the current year for Kolkata resulting in increase in the suburban services from 1,039 to 1,050. Five more rakes will be added in the next few months. In Chennai five new EMU rakes have been provided in the current year, as a result of which there has been an increase in suburban services by 30. Besides composition of 27 rakes have been increased from 8 to 9 coaches and four other rakes from 3 to 6 coaches. In the next few months 6 more rakes will be added, which will fulfill the increased requirement of MRTS and other services.

PART II

Budget Estimates 2007-08

Sir, I shall now deal with the Budget Estimates for 2007-08.

The target for freight loading for the year 2007-08 has been kept at 785 MT and for freight output at 516 billion tonne kms. Maintaining the double digit growth rate, the Budget Estimates for Freight, Passenger and other Coaching Earnings have been kept at Rs. 46,943 crore, Rs 20,075 crore and Rs 2,200 crore respectively. Gross Traffic Earnings have been projected as Rs 71,218 crore, reflecting an increase of Rs. 7,248 crore on the Revised Estimates for the current year.

Sir, provision for Ordinary Working Expenses for 2007-08 has been kept at Rs. 42,687 crore, which is 12 per cent more than the Revised Estimates for 2006-07. Provision for Depreciation Reserve Fund has been pegged at Rs. 5,496 crore and Pension Fund at Rs. 8,683 crore. Thus total Working Expenses will be Rs. 56,687 crore and Net Traffic Receipts Rs. 14,631 crore. While Railways' cash surplus before dividend is projected at Rs. 21,578 crore, the targeted Operating Ratio is 79.6 per cent. Fund balances to end of the next financial year are estimated at Rs. 16,170 crore. The memorandum on rate of dividend payable to General Revenues for 2007-08 has been submitted for consideration of the Railway Convention Committee. Dividend payable for 2007-08, assessed on the basis of the rate of dividend for 2006-07, is estimated at Rs. 3,909 crore. In 2007-08, the Railways will not only meet this liability but will also discharge entire remaining

deferred dividend liability of Rs. 664 crore. In the Plan outlay for the next year, Rs. 17,323 crore will be provided from internal resources.

Dynamic Pricing and Commercial Policy

The dynamic pricing policy for freight traffic introduced in the year 2006-07, has yielded encouraging results. Therefore, this year we have made a policy for reducing fares at varying rates, for all services of AC 1st class and AC II tier class and new design coaches for AC III tier and AC Chair Car, during peak and non-peak seasons, in popular and unpopular trains. Similarly commercial policy for freight transportation has also been made dynamic and different wharfage rates have been prescribed for busy and non busy goods terminals ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD:

Passenger Services

*Sir, I had announced a reduction of one rupee per passenger in the fares of second class in August 2005. Despite reduction in fares, there has been a growth of 14% in passenger earnings. The boundless affection and patronage of the people has helped Railways stage a turnaround. In recognition of this I announce a reduction of one rupee per passenger in the daily ticket fares of non suburban ordinary passenger and non superfast mail-express trains. Sir,

Daur-e-mehngai mein bhi rail sasti rakhi,

par kamai mein koi kamee na rakhi

Last year we had increased the speed of some trains and upgraded them to super fast trains. On popular demand, I have decided that the super fast surcharge levied on second class tickets for super fast trains shall be reduced by 20 per cent.

Sir, we have designed new Sleeper class, AC Chair Car and AC 3 tier Coaches. From 2007-08, only these high capacity coaches will be manufactured. We have decided to share a portion of the benefits of this enhanced capacity with our customers. In the newly designed sleeper class coach there will be a general reduction in fare by 4 per cent. This reduction will be applicable during both lean and peak seasons. The fares for the newly designed

*...This part of the speech is treated as laid on the Table.

AC-3 tier and AC chair car coaches would be reduced by 8 per cent in lean season and 4 per cent in peak season. In popular trains, this reduction will be uniformly 4 per cent, throughout the year.

Fares for AC I class will be reduced by 6 per cent in the lean season and 3 per cent in the peak season. The fare will be reduced uniformly throughout the year by 3 per cent in popular trains.

Fares for AC-2 tier class will be reduced by 2 per cent during the peak season and 4 per cent during the lean season. The fares will be reduced uniformly throughout the year by 2 per cent in popular trains.

Sir, thousands of people come to Mumbai from outside for tourism and various other purposes. For the benefit of such people, we have decided to issue tourist tickets valid for, one, three and five days on the Mumbai Suburban Service, as a pilot project. Such ticket holders will be able to travel any number of times, from any station to any station on the suburban stations of Central and Western Railways of Mumbai. As a result of this, passengers will not have to stand in a queue again and again to buy tickets.

The scheme of booking e-ticket through internet from home has become very popular. To further encourage e-ticket usage, we have decided to reduce the per e-ticket charge for Sleeper class and AC classes e-tickets from Rs.25 to Rs.15 and Rs.40 to Rs.20 respectively. Besides this minimum charge there will be an additional charge of Rs.5 per passenger for booking of every additional passenger subject to the maximum charges for one ticket being Rs.25 in sleeper class and Rs.40 for AC classes.

Parcel and Luggage Services

Sir, the policy to lease brake vans and parcel vans, through open tenders, at scheduled or lower rates, has borne good results. However, there are several trains in which, during last year, less than 60 per cent of SLR capacity was utilized and where SLRs could not be leased at scheduled or higher parcel rates in spite of inviting open tenders. Taking the rationalization process further, we have decided that the scheduled parcel rates for all such trains will be downgraded to the next lower class. If any train is leased out at scheduled rates in one direction but no lease offer is received, even after inviting open tenders, in the return direction, and its utilization is

less than 60% of its capacity, then its class will be downgraded to the next lower class in that direction. This will bring about a reduction in parcel booking rates in less popular trains. A review of parcel and luggage rates will be completed in the first two months of each financial year i.e. 31st May.

Sir, under the present luggage rates structure, luggage rates for all trains are 20 per cent higher than the parcel rates applicable for Rajdhani trains. It is worth mentioning that the parcel rates for Rajdhani Express trains are three times the parcel rates for ordinary passenger trains. Rationalizing these luggage rates, we have decided that in trains where in spite of calling open tenders at scheduled rates, offers for leasing of SLRs have not been received and where utilization of capacity is less than 60 per cent, the luggage and parcel booking rates will be the same. As a result of this decision luggage rates in ordinary passenger and less popular mail and express trains will be reduced up to 60 per cent.

Freight Business

Sir, to maintain the unprecedented growth in freight transportation, I announce the following reduction and discount schemes:-

Sir, last year I had reduced the classification for diesel and petrol from class 240 to 220 thereby reducing the tariff by about 9 per cent. Taking the rationalization process further, I propose to reduce the highest class from 220 to 210. This will bring down the freight for diesel, petrol and ammonia etc, by about 5 per cent.

On the demand of mineral based industries like steel, cement etc., freight rates for transportation of all minerals including iron ore and limestone will be charged at Class 160 in place of 170. This will reduce the freight rates for these commodities by about 6 percent."

Empty Flow Direction Freight Discount Scheme

Our goods trains run loaded in one direction and mostly run empty in the return direction. The percentage of empty running is worse in the case of open wagons. Last year we had announced a freight discount of 30 per cent during lean season and 20 per cent during peak season on incremental loading in the empty flow direction. We have made several important changes to make this policy more effective. Since railways face the problem of empty running of wagons throughout the year, we have

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decided that in place of 20%, empty flow discount of 30%, will be given during the peak season also. This discount will apply to both open and covered wagons in both peak and lean season for traffic with a lead of more than 700 kms. General Managers of Zonal Railways will be delegated powers to offer this discount on traffic with a lead of less than 700 kms also, under certain conditions.

Presently, bagged consignments of wheat, fertilizers and cement loaded in open wagons are given a discount of 20, 30 and 15 per cent respectively. This discount is given in both loaded and empty flow directions. We have now decided that in cases of incremental loading of bagged consignments in open wagons in empty flow directions an additional Empty Flow discount at the rate of 30 per cent will be given but after giving both these discounts, the minimum charge payable will not be lower than freight payable at Class LR-3. Thus the discount for incremental loading of cement, wheat and fertilizers in bags, in empty flow direction will increase up to about 40 percent. I am confident that by giving a such a heavy discount we will be able to attract FCI and various fertilizers and cement companies to load in open wagons returning empty. The calculation of incremental loading will be done on the basis of type of wagon.

In empty flow direction, in addition to block rake loading, facility will be given for loading of less than train load traffic. In open wagon rakes 20 per cent discount will be given for loading 31 to 57 wagons and 10 per cent discount will be given for loading 20 to 30 wagons. In covered wagon rakes 20% discount will be given for loading of 31 to 39 wagons and 10% discount will be given for loading 20 to 30 wagons. Permission to load less than 20 wagons will not be given during the peak season. However in the non-peak season from July to September facility to load 15 to 19 wagons would be available but no discount would be given.

At present this discount is not available on transportation of coal, coke and all types of raw material meant for steel plants. With a view point of making this discount more broad based it is proposed to extend this discount to all commodities except coal, coke and iron ore.

Two Leg Freight Discount Scheme

It has also been decided that if train load traffic is offered in covered wagons for both up and down

directions, then, a discount of 20 per cent in lean season and 15 per cent in peak season would be given for traffic in both directions. This discount will not be available for commodities placed in LR-1 or lower classes.

Incremental Freight Discount Scheme for Non-peak Season

We have been successful in tackling effectively the stabling of empty trains during the lean season due to the 15 per cent incremental freight discount. Further liberalizing this scheme, we have decided that this discount shall be available on all commodities except for all types of coal, coke, iron ore and commodities placed in class 120 or below during the lean season. The maximum distance between two unloading points will be increased from 200 to 400 kms for the immensely popular two point rake scheme during lean season.

Commodity Based Freight Policy

Requirements and expectations of customers for specific commodities are different. Therefore, we have decided to develop a commodity based tariff policy to better address the needs of our customers for major commodities transported by rail and to provide a stronger base to railway's competitive capabilities. We will introduce this new policy on an experimental basis from 1st April through an exclusive package for cement.

Dynamic Commercial Policy

Last year, I had announced a dynamic pricing policy for freight loading which has yielded the expected results. Taking this process further, we have decided to make the commercial policy also dynamic.

Dynamic Wharfage Rate

At present the wharfage rates and free time are the same at all terminals whether small or big, busy or unused. We have decided to increase free time allowed for loading and unloading and to reduce wharfage rates at under utilized small terminals.

Dynamic Demurrage Rate

Currently demurrage rates are uniform throughout the year though utilization of wagons is more during the peak season and less during non-peak season. We have, therefore, decided that during non-peak period on an

experimental basis, at a few terminals, one hour extra free time will be given depending on the state of usage of the terminals.

Tariff Policy based on Traffic Route

More than half of the Railways traffic runs on high density routes. Due to lack of traffic, two-thirds of Railways network is being utilized at far less than its capacity. Therefore, we have decided that goods traffic originating and terminating on these underutilized routes will be given a discount on normal freight rates. Detailed guidelines in this regard will be issued shortly.

Liberalization of Wagon Investment Scheme

At present customers subscribing to wagon investment scheme and container train licensees have to buy their own wagons. It is proposed to allow any person to avail the benefit of these schemes by procuring or leasing wagons or containers. Currently wagon investment scheme is limited to open and covered wagons. In order to expand the scope of the scheme, we have decided to extend the benefits of the wagon investment scheme for all types of general purpose wagon as well as special purpose wagons suitable for specific commodities. Proposals of charging of freight, on the basis of per train kilometre instead of per tonne kilometre, for wagons meant for lighter commodities like motor vehicles will also be considered.

Conclusion

Sir, the Railways is fast emerging as a dynamic and vibrant entity. The guidance, encouragement and support of the Hon'ble Prime Minister has helped the Railways grow from strength to strength. The unstinted support given by the members of the House to our policies and the faith they have expressed in the railway family has boosted our morale and self confidence.

Har saal nayaa saal tarakki ka, pragati ka,
Aapka hai saath to phir ye safar jaari rahega.

Sir, I have not increased the fares, instead it has been reduced....*(Interruptions)* It is people's Budget. The railway is gaining new heights under the guidance of the hon. Prime Minister and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. Therefore, they do not want to hear to me. They have no concern with it. ...*(Interruptions)*

With these words, Sir, I commend the Railway Budget 2007-08.

13.02 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day will be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

(I) Need to take steps to facelift the city of Hyderabad

[Translation]

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV (Secunderabad) Hyderabad, a cultural city of India has a population of 60-70 lakh. People of many a community live peacefully in this city. It is emerging as a commercial hub of South India. It has made remarkable progress in the field of software and hardware which attracts a large number of foreigners here. However, filth scattered at several places and unplanned infrastructure has harmed its beauty.

Therefore, through this House, I would urge the Government to take steps at central level for beautification of the city of Hyderabad.

(II) Need to improve the dietary and nutritional intake of people in the rural areas of the country

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI (Nizamabad) Sir, the World Health Organisation report of 2002 on environmental health had pointed out that skeletal fluorosis is a crippling disability affecting millions of people in various regions of our country. Intake of fluoride in the water and foodstuffs is the primary factor in the incidence of endemic skeletal fluorosis.

It is opined that removal of excessive fluoride from drinking water is difficult and expensive. The national Institute of Nutrition had carried out a survey in eight States (715 villages) to assess diet and nutritional status

*Treated as laid on the Table.

[Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi]

of individuals in the rural areas. It was reported that the consumption of protective foods such as pulses, milt and fruits were woefully inadequate. It was also noted that only a third of the pre-school and school age children were consuming diets adequate in protein and energy and the most common forms of morbidities among different age groups were fever, diarrhea, dysentery and acute respiratory infections.

Keeping such a disturbing trend in view, I would like to request the Hon'ble Health Minister, through you, Sir, to take the above facts with the seriousness it deserves, and initiate steps on war footing to improve the diet and nutritional status of individuals in the villages of our country.

- (iii) **Need to spend some amount of the profit earned by ONGC in Mehsana, Gujarat for the development of the region.**

[Translation]

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL (Mehsana): Thousands of oil wells are located in my Parliamentary Constituency Mehsana from which ONGC extracts oil and gas worth billions of rupees. Recently, in an advertisement, ONGC has stated that one percent amount out of the profit earned on oil and gas explored from here is spent on the development work in this area and to meet social obligation of this area. But I am sorry to inform the House that ONGC has never spent the said one percent amount out of its profit in Mehsana area. ONGC is getting best quality of crude oil from Mehsana. Mehsana oil wells contribute almost 35 per cent to ONGC's bottom line. Exploration of oil by ONGC in this area has made the land uncultivable, has resulted in excess level of fluorides in the ground water of the area and water table has depleted to approximately 1500 feet.

I would urge the Government to ask ONGC to spend one per cent of its profit earned from Mehsana located oil wells for development work in this area.

- (iv) **Need for effective implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in Bihar and other parts of the country**

[English]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR (Aurangabad, Bihar) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is an excellent opportunity to tackle the widespread unemployment and

poverty in our rural countryside where agriculture is the sole means of earning livelihood. This makes them dependent on the monsoon and whenever it fails drought prevails as in my constituency Aurangabad for two successive years. It means enormous distress for farmers and farm labourers which is heightened by lack of opportunities for alternative employment.

This scheme provides opportunities for some employment to the rural needy and makes them eligible for monetary compensation, it may not fully eliminate unemployment but if implemented with sincerity it will be a big step towards progressively reducing poverty. But, it is not being implemented diligently. A very small number of job cards are being issued and, where issued, very few jobs are awarded. The requisite allowance is also not paid. Funds meant for this scheme have been withdrawn but not disbursed.

The Government should not permit this situation. It should have a monitoring mechanism to check actual progress district-wise in the country, especially in Bihar. This will ensure the effective implementation of the scheme.

- (v) **Need to declare 'Vishwakarma Jayanti Day' as a holiday**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) The millions of masons, bricklayers, junk smiths, carpenters, gold smiths and artisans, specially with technical skill believe in lord Vishwakarma. It is believed by these communities, that lord Vishwakarma has created the world and even now they do all the work after worshipping the lord Vishwakarma.

It has been their demand since long that a 'Vishwakarma Jayanti' should be declared as 'holiday' or 'optional holiday' by the Union Government.

I urge the Government of India to consider this demand of all the Vishwakarma's of the country sympathetically and declare 'Vishwakarma Jayanti Day' as holiday.

- (vi) **Need to withdraw the service tax on legal profession**

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Sir, the legal profession in India is one of the largest in the world and second only to USA. There are more than 1 million people working in this profession. Our country is having very few

rich lawyers but there are many lawyers who are poor and they find it hard to make both ends meet and their plight in small places is known to all. Against this backdrop of the position of the members of the Bar, the Government of India has to examine where it would be fit and proper to introduce Service Tax on the legal profession.

The Service Tax was first introduced in the year 1994 and the main objective was the service sector should continue to the growth of the economy. It should be highlighted that this is in addition to profession tax levied by the various State Governments. The average lot of professional lawyer is very miserable. If the legal profession is brought under the tax net, the service provider will pass on the same to the poor litigants and it again increases the cost of legal services.

I shall, therefore, fervently request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to kindly reconsider the imposition of Service Tax on the members of the legal profession so as to save them from additional burden and to safeguard the interests of the poor litigants.

(vii) Need to establish a Maritime University in Gujarat

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) The State of Gujarat with its 1600 kms coast line has emerged as one of the most developed maritime state and has been able to invite foreign investments for the development of various ports and maritime activities on its coast. With a view to make available maritime sector, establishment of a maritime university/institute in Gujarat is an absolute necessity.

I urge upon the Government to take an early action in the matter.

(viii) Need to provide special financial package to the farmers whose crops have been affected due to recent rains and hailstorms in Bundelkhand, Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Bundelkhand in UP had heavy down pour continuously for five days in the month of February destroying standing ready crops of farmers and late sown wheat crops got damaged by hailstorms. The farmers in this area were facing drought earlier. Some of the farmers have taken loan for sowing the crops and crops got destroyed.

In view of the above, I urge the Central Government to announce a special package for compensating farmers whose crops got destroyed due to heavy down pour and hailstorms and also who had been facing drought and announce a moratorium on recovery of loans taken by them so that owing to financial hardships farmers do not resort to suicides.

(ix) Need to upgrade Malviya Engineering College, Rajasthan into IIT.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) Rajasthan based Malviya Engineering College has vast area of land, buildings and also qualified teachers. Recently, the Central Government has announced that an IIT will be set up in Rajasthan. The action has been initiated for construction of an international airport at Jaipur. The capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur is being connected with broad gauge railway line also.

Therefore, I urge the Central Government to upgrade Malviya Engineering College to IIT, so that students of Rajasthan can be benefited.

(x) Need to check the rise in prices of Essential Commodities

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) Unchecked rise in the prices of essential commodities has made the livelihood of common man very difficult and challenging. The prices of food grains, eatables and other essential commodities are sky rocketing day by day. It has become very difficult for the public to sustain the living.

The hike in prices of petrol and diesel during recent years has also resulted in increase in prices. Therefore, there is a need for the Central Government to check the rise in prices of essential commodities completely and also lower the prices of consumer items for providing relief to the public.

(xi) Need to introduce a regular Express and Shatabdi train between Berhampur and Rourkela, Orissa

[English]

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundergarh): The people of Orissa are facing a lot of difficulties in the absence of any direct train connecting Berhampur, the commercial city of Southern Orissa and steel city Rourkela. A sizeable population of Southern Orissa are living in Rourkela city

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

as most of their earning members are working in the steel plant. Besides, a large number of workers belonging to the southern districts of the state are engaged in the steel plant. In addition to that there are also a couple of business communities settled in the steel city. All these people like to visit their birth places. Railway is the only means of communication for them.

On introduction of a direct daily train between these two major cities, the people at large will be greatly benefited. As such, I demand that a regular Express and a Shatabdi train between Berhampur—the gateway to South India and Rourkela, the gateway to Eastern India be introduced at the earliest.

(xii) Need to take steps to stop the move to bifurcate the existing Palakkad Railway Division

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palaghat): A year ago there was a proposal by the Ministry of Railways to create a new Railway Division at Salem. During the discussions regarding this proposal in the Parliament, the Hon'ble Railway Minister had assured that the new proposed Railway Division at Salem will be created by taking route kilometers in a justified manner from all nearby railway divisions like Chennai, Trichy, Madurai, Bangalore as well as Palakkad. But, recently, the Railway Ministry had given a proposal to bifurcate the existing Palakkad Railway Division, not even taking a single route kilometer from the nearby railway divisions. After this bifurcation, the oldest Palakkad Railway Division will be having around 400 route kilometers only. This move will adversely affect the future existence of oldest Palakkad Railway Division.

So, I urge upon the Government to stop immediately all the steps taken to bifurcate the existing Palakkad Railway Division.

(xiii) Need to implement the Interim Report of the multi-disciplinary team headed by Dr. Swaminathan for preservation and development of Kuttanadu wet-lands in A & Alappuzha district of Kerala

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Government of India had constituted a multi-disciplinary team to study and suggest programmes for preservation and development of Kuttanadu Wetlands of Alappuzha district in Kerala where there is severe agrarians crisis. The farming condition prevailing in Alappuzha warrants a separate rehabilitation

programme specifically suitable for the areas. M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation Chennai headed by renowned scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, which was assigned by the Govt. to study on the sustainable development of Kuttanadu Wetlands Eco-system has already submitted its Interim Report to the Government. I would urge upon the Government to expedite the Action Plan on the basis of this report and to preserve and develop the Wetlands of Kuttanadu and save the farmers from debt trap and suicide.

[Translation]

(xiv) Need to introduce a new channel on Doordarshan exclusively for Environmental related issues.

SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA (Etawah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while drawing attention of the hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting to the important issue of national interest and also public interest, I would like to state that national channel of Doordarshan, which has access all over India and whose viewership include farmers, poor people and the youth alike does not provide comprehensive coverage of environmental issues, whereas, the foreign channels provide detailed coverage of environmental issues round the clock. But, unfortunately, the rural folk have no access to it. In absence of information regarding environment felling of trees goes on unabated resulting in environmental crisis.

Therefore, I would urge the hon'ble Minister to start a channel under Doordarshan exclusively on environment so that poor farmers and other youth have access to the information regarding environment which would help in mitigating the said crisis.

(xv) Need to introduce Intercity railway service between Gorakhpur

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): The people of Poorvanchal have been demanding for introduction of an intercity train between Gorakhpur-Chapra for many years and in pressing for their demand they have jammed the roads many a time. At present no train service between these two cities is available to facilitate timely arrival of passengers. Many educational and vocational institutes have been demanding for introduction of a fast train which may reduce travel time between these two cities. But, the Government have not fulfilled their demand, whereas, their demand is in public interest and also justified.

Through this House, I would urge the Central Government for making a provision for introduction of an intercity train service between Chapra and Gorakhpur.

(xvi) Need to start developmental work in Patna and Bodhgaya under Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) So far no work has been started for development of Patna and Bodhgaya included in Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission. Bihar is already a backward state and the problems of Patna are becoming serious day by day. The population is also increasing every day and development works in Patna are in commensurate with its population. Patna is already facing the problem of sewerage, drinking water, drainage, power supply, disposal of waste and the Government have failed to find out any solution to these problems. When the city was included in the said mission people saw a ray of hope in that it being a Government scheme, their problems could be resolved but the said scheme also seems to be in a state of limbo.

Therefore, through the House, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Urban Development and urge that special attention may be paid towards solution of said problems and efforts may be made to expedite the work under said plan without any further delay.

(xvii) Need to clear the proposal of the State Government of Maharashtra for grant/loan from World Bank of Slum Sanitation Programme Stage-II in Mumbai

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): The State Government of Maharashtra have forwarded a proposal for Grant/Credit/Loan from World Bank for Slum Sanitation Programme - Stage II in Mumbai in the year of 2004 to Union Government and the proposal of State Government is still pending with the Union Government.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to look into the proposal and clear the same.

(xviii) Need to release Rs. 95 crores to the Union Territory of Puducherry to find a permanent solution to check recurring natural disasters in Yanam region

SHRI M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Yanam Region, one of the regions of the Union Territory of Puducherry situated at a distance of 890 km. away from Puducherry,

is constantly shattered by natural disasters. Every time, the East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh is hit by natural calamity, Yanam is also utterly affected. With great relief and rehabilitation work every year, we have to nurse this region back to normalcy. The temporary measures taken are washed away by the next year's disaster. Consequently, the people of the region have to live perpetually in fear and shock. In August 2006, the region was again ravaged by the severe rains in the upper catchment area of Godavari River. The Central team which assessed the damaged concurred with our view that something permanent has to be done to avert the fury of constant natural disasters. Unless we take preventive measures of permanent nature to face the onslaught of floods, cyclones and other natural hazards, we have to be spending every year substantial amount of public resources for the relief and rehabilitation of the people marooned in Yanam. It is in this context that the Government of Puducherry has prepared a special package for permanent improvement of Yanam Region which may be approved by the Government of India keeping the long term interest of Yanam people. This is a justifiable proposal in view of its wholesome impact on the region and its people. Realizing that prevention is better than cure, the Government should release Rs. 95 crores as requested by the Government of Puducherry so that people can live peacefully irrespective of any natural disaster.

(xix) Need to restore the subsidy scheme for Ornamental Fish Culture by the Marine Produce Exports Development Authority, Kochi

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): The repeal of the subsidy scheme for Ornamental Fish Culture has, critically impacted the livelihood of those connected with over 1000 mini farms, set up across the country. Under the discontinued scheme offered by the Marine Products Exports Development Authority, Kochi, 50% of Rs. 80,000—unit cost of a mini farm—was provided as subsidy. This encouraging measure was supplemented by practical oriented training programmes in Ornamental fish Culture, including assisting the farmers in farm designing, breeder selection, breeding, live feed culture, rearing, disease management and marketing, offered to farmers by National Aquaculture Society, Kozhikode. This NGO manned by trainees of the Ornamental Fish Culture Training Programme, started by the Trainers Training Centre of CMFRI, Kochi has since January 2003 set up mini farms in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Goa.

[Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar]

The sudden withdrawal of subsidy has hit these small farmers very hard. Debt-stressed farmers, dependent on traditional agriculture are committing suicide on an unprecedented scale in Kerala.

This unilateral decision has dented our efforts in realm of exports. Aggressive promotion will catapult our foreign exchange earnings, a paltry Rs. 6.5 crore out of a Rs. 30,000 crore international market. Domestic market worth Rs. 200 crore are growing at the rate of 12%, also affords ample potential.

Hence, I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to take up the matter expeditiously.

(xx) Need to run Chandrabhaga Express train daily between Pandharpur and Mumbai and introduce a superfast train daily from Delhi to Manmad/Kopergaon

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): A large number of domestic as well as foreign devotees come to worship in Vithal Rakumai temple on Chandrabhaga river in Pandharpur in Solapur district and Sirdi based world fame Sai Baba Dham in Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra, but they face acute shortage of civic amenities.

There is a need to develop both these religious places of world fame into the world level tourist center, increasing the frequency of Chandrabhaga Express running between Pandharpur-Mumbai from twice a week to daily. In view of large number of devotees visiting Sai Baba Sirdi Dham, there is a need to run a daily super fast train from Delhi-Manmad/Kopergaon, increasing reservation quota for these two places in trains passing through this route and providing at least a five minutes stoppage of all the trains passing through Kopergaon.

In view of religious importance of world famous religious places namely Vithal Rakumai temple and Baba Sainath temple and also the large number of domestic and foreign devotees coming to these temples. I urge the Central Government to take immediate necessary steps.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow, the 27th February, 2007.

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, February 27, 2007/Phalgun 8, 1928 (Saka).

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