

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Eighth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 08, 2006/ Sravana 17, 1928 (Saka)

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

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

### OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

**Re : Participation of Opposition in the Proceedings of the House**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, as you find, I am sorry that hon. Members of the Opposition are not here. Once again, I take this opportunity of making a request to all the hon. Members in the Opposition to please come and participate in the proceedings of the House to which they are entitled and I consider that without the participation of the Opposition, parliamentary democracy cannot function adequately. Therefore, I, once again, make a request that they should join us. Let them exercise their rights as Members of Parliament.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is for the first time in the history of Indian Parliament that the opposition has shown such an irresponsible attitude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not complicate the matter further.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I would like to lay that the opposition has every right to oppose and criticize the Government and pull them for their omission and commission. This Chair is the highest seat in this House in parliamentary democracy. It is not just opposition to the Speaker, but in fact such a conduct is against the dignity of the supreme parliamentary position. I think that either the opposition or\* has started this practice ... (Interruptions)

\* Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not take any name.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The way the opposition is displaying disrespect to the Chair in public, press and through electronic media and newspapers is creating unusual situation. Therefore, I would like to submit that it is the duty of hon'ble Members to maintain the dignity of the Supreme seat of the Parliament. He is the custodians of the House. This is a question of the dignity of the House. This is not only an unprecedented situation but is an open disrespect being shown to Parliamentary democracy. This is the only seat through which we present our views. Today, crores of people are viewing the proceedings of the House. This House is the mirror of the common man where we reflect their problems. By disrespecting the House and the Chair in the House, a strange situation has been created. Therefore, it is an act to in danger the Parliamentary democratic system. This is definitely an attempt to put on end to parliamentary democracy.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have given your opinion.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Fundamental forces are wrongfully trying to put a question mark on the parliamentary democracy of the country. Therefore, parliamentary democracy system should be protected.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not complicate the matter further. I am hoping that they would come and participate in the proceedings of the House. There is some misunderstanding obviously. I did not want to insult anybody. There may be some impression that I was critical of them.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way the main Opposition Party is behaving inside the House from the very beginning is most unfortunate. Their main attempt is to disrupt the proceedings of the House. Even after two years, they are not in a position to accept the defeat.

MR. SPEAKER : In their absence, let us not get into all this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, what are they doing?

I am in the House for the last 26 years, but I have never seen slogans being raised against the Chair not only inside the House but also outside. The comment made by the Opposition leaders is very unfortunate.

Sir, we are here to reflect the feelings and the problems faced by the people of our country.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me go into Question Hour now. You just associate. It amounts to suspension of Question Hour without any notice. We cannot have a debate.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, we are not getting an opportunity to reflect the views of the people of our country...*(Interruptions)* Sir, if there is no discussion, if there is no debate, how can we raise the matters relating to the problems of the people? It is very unfortunate the way they are behaving ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please. I will call you one by one. How can I call both of you together?

*[Translation]*

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal) : Sir, ever since the office of Speaker has come into existence, it has been the most important office than any other office in the parliamentary democracy. There is a saying in UK that 'Once a Speaker, always a Speaker'. Irrespective of the coming into power. If the Speaker so desires to remain in the office, then he will remain the Speaker.

Therefore, it is not uncommon for a Member or the opposition to walk out of the House after putting his view points, as a matter of fact it is his right. If the Member feels that his views are not being heard, he can do so. But casting aspersions or charges against the Speaker while walking out of the House is a different thing and our party cannot associate itself with it. We condemn this act.

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the manner in which the entire opposition has issued a statement that they oppose the Speaker, my Bahujan Samaj Party strongly opposes and condemns it. I would like to say that there should be a healthy practice in the House, everything should be discussed within the rules. I would like to say that if any important issue comes up and the entire opposition refuses to participate in the discussion on that issue, they do not want to participate in the discussion and the Government is wrongly blamed and such charges are leveled against the Chair, then it is absolutely condemnable. My party strongly opposes it.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : You can associate, if you want to.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur) : Thank you Sir. I received a detailed letter from the hon. Speaker that you have written about the functioning of the House. It is unexpected and unfortunate that for the past two years continuously the ....*(Not recorded)* is indulging in slogan mongering in the House. It is unfortunate.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not mention the name of the Party.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Sir, they can boycott the House. But now they have started boycotting the Chair, which is respected by the whole country. So, I condemn the attitude and behaviour of the Opposition Parties on behalf of the DMK Party. Sir, the Temple of Democracy is being ridiculed by the act of the Opposition Parties.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura) : Sir, I express my deep disappointment and deep sense of anguish at the absence of the entire Opposition from the House. The Opposition has a right to do what they think to be better. They can also boycott, but that is not the issue. The point is that the Parliament cannot function without a fruitful Opposition.

We are supporting the Government, but on many occasions, we have deep resentment against the Government policies. We criticise the Government, we even go out of the House. That is a part of the Parliamentary functioning and system. But, unfortunately, the main Opposition Party has also a responsibility. That is my point. If the Government has a responsibility towards the parliamentary system, the Opposition equally has a responsibility to run the House, to run the system because they were in the Government. In the future, they may also be in the Government. Therefore, let us not work to wreck the parliamentary system...*(Interruptions)* That is separate. I am speaking of principles. They should not be sensitive ...*(Interruptions)* The principle is the Opposition can go to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Let us not weaken the parliamentary system, go close to Pakistan and destroy the Parliament in the overall interest of the country.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry) : Sir, Pattali Makkal Katchi expresses its deep concern and anguish over the boycott of the Opposition Parties. It is quite unfortunate. They should not have cast aspersions on the Speaker, which is the supreme institution of parliamentary democracy ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am sure, they would reconsider their decision. I have expressed my unhappiness and I am again and again, also sitting here, requesting to the Opposition that they join.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : Therefore, the institutions like the Office of the Prime Minister and the Office of the Speaker must be protected and there is no denigration of the Office of Speaker. They should constructively participate in all the deliberations. We have not seen a more liberal Speaker than you in allowing the Opposition to express all the views of the people. Therefore, I earnestly appeal to them to attend the House and participate in all the constructive deliberations of the House and contribute to the democratic development of the country.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us all appeal to them; let us request them to come and join.

SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH (Srinagar) : On behalf of my Party, I would like to join with my colleagues and associate with everything that they have said before this.

We are also deeply disappointed at the attitude of our colleagues, our friends in the Opposition, and the way in which they have targeted the institution of the Speaker because of their own political frustration and their own political anguish. I believe, Sir, — and evidence bears us out — the fact that your Chair is above every other seat in this House, is a reflection of the fact that the Speaker's Office is above politics, above division, and above the sort of sloganeering and shouting that we have seen. As a junior colleague and a junior Member of this House, all I can do is to earnestly appeal to my friends, whom I was a part of not so long ago, to please reconsider their decision, to please look at the fact that by targeting the Speaker, they are targeting the institution of Parliament. By targeting the Speaker, they are weakening Parliament and by targeting the Speaker they are weakening themselves. All I can ask them to do is to function as a responsible Opposition Party, to come back and do the job for the people of the country.

MR. SPEAKER : I am again requesting them to come back.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi) : Sir, I am deeply aggrieved by the way in which the Opposition has abstained itself from the proceedings of the House. Yesterday, they demonstrated in front of our hon. Speaker, which has to be respected as the Chair of the people of the country. This is most regrettable and that should be condemned in the future. This sort of thing should not recur.

MR. SPEAKER : They are all our colleagues. We shall work together; I have no doubt about it.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : That sort of sloganeering has degraded the Parliamentary forum itself. I wish that this shall not be repeated by them in future at least.

MR. SPEAKER : If there is any misunderstanding, it will always be cleared.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Respected Speaker, Sir, on behalf of TDP, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by all our fellow Parliamentarians and the Political parties. TDP deeply resents the way the aspersions were cast at the Speaker's Chair. As your Excellency feels, in any Parliamentary democracy, the Opposition has got as much responsibility as the Ruling Party. They have got a right to boycott or stage a walk out, but the way have cast aspersions on the Speaker, TDP resents them.

[Translation]

SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA (Alipurduar) : While associating myself with the feelings expressed by the hon'ble Members, I would like to submit through you that if the opposition says anything against the ruling party, then that is understandable but since there has been attack on the office of the Speaker in this fashion, I strongly condemn it and would also like to request through you that keeping in view the dignity of the Chair, the opposition should come back and join this August House and they should respect the feelings of the people.

[English]

SHRI SUBRATA BOSE (Barasat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the views and opinions expressed by all the hon. Members of the House today. I would only respect the Opposition to the come back to the House and corporate with the hon. Speaker so that the House can be run fruitfully and full discussions can be held on all the subjects. I shall cite an example that yesterday there had to be a curtailment of the discussion under Rule 193, which is really very unfortunate. I again associate myself with the views expressed by the hon. Speaker.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is against the Constitution for the opposition to speak against the Chair and boycott the proceedings of Lok Sabha. I would like to move a Motion to condemn the acts of the opposition and we all should pass this motion

condemning their act. Opposition is required here for strengthening democracy. I would like to appeal to the opposition to come inside and join the discussion or otherwise if they want to remain outside then they should remain outside for all time to come ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very painful situation for me that the entire Opposition is absent. I have appealed to them. I am sure that they will reconsider. I have, on my behalf, repeatedly assured, and I have repeatedly sought cooperation from all sections of the House. If there is any mistake, if there is anything we can always sort it out by discussion amongst us. I may have committed mistake. Somebody else may commit mistake. It is not that it cannot happen. Amongst the friends, it can always happen.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki) : Sir, I, on behalf of my Party, I associate with the sentiments expressed by the leaders of various parties here. It is very unfortunate and quite unprecedented in the history of our Parliament that the Opposition is boycotting the House protesting against the rulings of the Chair. That is very unfortunate. It should never happen in a democracy. Along with the leaders of various parties. I would very fervently request our friends in the Opposition to participate in the proceedings of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : The Leader of the House wants to say something.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the sentiments expressed by the hon. leaders of different political parties and groups. I am extremely sad that the principal Opposition party and their associates are abstaining themselves from the participation in the House as a mark of protest against the Chair. This is most unfortunate. The Opposition can have differences, should have differences with the Government for certain action of the Government. It is understandable if they boycott the House or in any other form they express their resentment but it is really painful that if they take this decision to launch their protest against the Speaker, who is the custodian of the prestige, honour and dignity of the House as a whole.

As the Leader of the House, I would, most respectfully, appeal to the Leader of the Opposition and all the members of the various Opposition Groups, "Please come back, participate in the debate and make your own contributions." Parliament is nothing but for debate,

discussions, and, therefore, they can make their contributions effectively in participating in whatever manner they want. I would not like to go into the stories of the past. I will request personally over phone the Leader of the Opposition to come back. I am appealing to the Leader of the Opposition and all leaders of various Opposition parties, who have taken this unfortunate decision, to reconsider their decision, to come back as soon as possible and to participate in the deliberations of the House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, and at the same time, I, on behalf of my Party, would like to reiterate our total trust and confidence in you and the way you have conducted the business of the House since your assumption of this Office.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you. I am thankful to all sides of the House who are present here. You may have reservations but we cannot function without the participation of the Opposition. I feel that our parliamentary democracy means and involves the participation of the Opposition.

I, once again, make my request to them and appeal to them to please join. They will have their rights to discharge and I am sure they have to exercise, and I am sure that they will be able to do that.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, let us take up Question Hour.

Q.No. 221 is postponed. Q.No. 222 is postponed.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Sir please allow my Question ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have only postponed it. It is not killed.

\* 221

\* 222

11.20 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 223, Shri A Sai Prathap.

\*Question were postponed to 22/8/2006.

[English]

### **Declining Expenditure on Higher Education**

\*223. SHRI A. PRATHAP : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether per student expenditure on the higher education has declined, as per the report of the Central Advisory Board of Education;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to lay adequate focus on higher education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

(a) to (c) According to the Report of a Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on "Financing of Higher and Technical Education", public expenditure per student on higher education at constant prices during the period 1990-91 to 2002-03, generally showed a downward trend.

Reason for the general downward trend has been inadequate budgetary allocation keeping in view the number of the students and inflationary trends.

Central Plan allocation for Higher Education has been substantially raised from Rs. 873.27 crore in 2005-06 to Rs. 1403.50 crore in 2006-07.

SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP : Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Kothari Commission on Education recommended six per cent of the national GDP to be spent. If so, how much is being spent at present; and what are the steps taken to further increase the resources to spend the required and desired expenditure on higher education?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please. I have postponed. I have a right. Please concede that right. Just now, you spoke about the Speaker's rights.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Mr. Sai Pratap, please put your Supplementary.

SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP : Sir, I have asked whether the Kothari Commission on Education recommended six

per cent of the national GDP to be spent on education. If so, how much is being spent at present; and what are the steps taken further to increase the resources to spend the required and desired expenditure on higher education?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, it is a fact that the Kothari Commission did make such a recommendation. But the factual position is that over the years, we are not spending that amount on higher education. On the contrary, it has been coming down. In the last decade, there has been a specific decline in real terms of expenditure.

Sir, this is a matter of a commitment, and I would like to say only this much that this Government is committed to spending six per cent of the National GDP on education, and the ratio has to be between primary and higher levels. Our emphasis, at the moment, is on primary education because unless we have a strong base, we cannot build a superstructure on it. At the same time, the Government is trying to raise the expenditure on higher education. In fact, in the year, 2006-07, it has been substantially raised from Rs. 873 crore to Rs. 1,403 crore. So, the trend is now settled. I am quite sure that in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, this will be formalised in a better way.

SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP : Sir, in connection with Part 'C' of my Question, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether adequate provisions have been made in the National Education Policy to meet the challenges of globalisation and internationalisation of Indian Higher Education. If not, whether the Government propose to revise the Education Policy accordingly.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, while raising our efforts to come in tune with globalisation of higher education, I must, with all sincerity, sound a note of caution that we should not try to get into this blind race of competing because competition is all right, as it goes. But we must not lose sight of our basic objective. Therefore, the Government is adopting a cautious and progressive attitude in our relationship with the new challenges that have come up in education globally. I can assure the House that our effort will be matched adequately to the needs of the nation.

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN : Sir, it is an established fact that today education is completely commercialised. It has become a commodity beyond the reach of the students of poor families. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, how does the Government of India ensure higher education to the students from the poor families.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, this is exactly what I was referring to recently. This is the balance, which we have to

maintain. We cannot allow commercialisation to be the guiding principle of higher education, and yet we must expand education in a manner so that we compete with the world in technology, in excellence, and in areas where we have to go forward; and this is the challenge which we have to meet.

I can assure the hon. House and the hon. Member that this is going to be the basic guiding principle of the Education Policy of this Government.

[Translation]

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that so far as financing of higher and technical education is concerned, a child can become a doctor or engineer only if he gets admission in class one. If he does not get admission in class one, how can he become a doctor, engineer or a good citizens. Children who go for higher education, face competitions at first. However, how can those children get higher education who have studied in villages in such schools where there are no proper teaching staff? I am not making any allegation on anyone but this is a fact that the children pass out of such schools in villages where there are no teachers. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether any facility of higher education will be provided to the poor children of villages where there are no teachers in schools. Moreover, I would also like to know whether this Government are going to implement uniform syllabus in the entire country for the benefit of poor children of the villages to enable them to appear in competitions in view of syllabus for schools in villages which is different from the C.B.S.E. syllabus.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Deputy Speaker has put the question in regard to the educational system. I am obliged to him that he has asked this question in a very important context. So, I had stated in the beginning of the speech that our priority is primary education and whatever efforts are being made, are already known to him. Hence, I will not repeat it. At the same time, I would like to state that the responsibility of primary education lies mainly with the states. We supplement in their efforts and help them in shouldering their responsibility. This is ironical that those responsible for the same, are not trying to keep pace with the work. However, I hope that in view of recent developments, the efforts made by the States and the Central Government in this regard, will sort out the problem mentioned by the hon'ble Deputy Speaker.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Manoj, do you want to put a question?

DR. K.S. MANOJ : Yes, Sir.

The hon. Minister has said that our main concern is about the primary education.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a Question on higher education. Why are you going to primary education?

DR. K.S. MANOJ : In reply to the question, the hon. Minister has said that.

MR. SPEAKER : That was in response to the hon. Deputy-Speaker's question.

DR. K.S. MANOJ : The hon. Minister said our primary concern is for primary education. The guidelines prescribed under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and all that are not suitable for different States. The same guidelines are not suitable for different States. I Would like to know from the hon. Minister whether some of the guidelines for the SSA should be modified according to the needs of the States.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it within your jurisdiction?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, this is a question on the SSA. It is not directly related to this Question. But whatever needs to be modified, we have an open mind and if it is brought to our knowledge we will certainly try to do it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vijoy Krishna-absent.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply that whatever provision is made for acquiring higher education in every financial year, the same is not being spent. Moreover, highly talented students living in various parts of the country, are not able to acquire higher education due to poverty.

Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the he is going to provide facility of higher education viz engineering, medical etc. to poor students so that justice is done to them.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it depends on your recommendation as to what amount of money is allocated to us. Furthermore, this is ironical that most of the children of our country are not able to get higher education due to poverty and other problems. This is not a matter happiness to be expressed in the House. In the present circumstances, eight to ten percent children of our country opt for higher education whereas this percentage is more than thirty in other countries. We will have to make investment, give incentives and provide various facilities to the poor students in order to make it more effective.

Such efforts can prove to be effective as stated by the Hon'ble Member.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Members have expressed their concern regarding higher education facilities and employment opportunities for the poor as well as SC/ST's students.

Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development whether any scheme has been formulated to link education to employment...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have put your question.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Despite the fact that the students have to move from pillar to post in search of employment, they do not get any employment. Their parents incur expenditure to enable them to get education upto graduation and post-graduation level. Do you have any such programme to enable them to get employment directly or to link them to any employment?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concern expressed by the hon'ble Member is genuine and is related to facts. However, this problem cannot be solved by the Dept. of Education itself. If the training of skill is streamlined, there may be more opportunities of employment.

Vocational education is another subject under which some efforts are being made. However, I myself say that these efforts are insufficient and concerted efforts are not being made in this regard. We will try to include this issue of imparting training in skill in eleventh five year plan in a systematic way so that children can master the skill and become economically sound.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, research and development are significant components to determine the status of our higher education. In the wake of the globalised economy, we are now facing a stiff competition insofar as patent regime is concerned. How many of our educational institutions are engaged in accomplishing patents? What is the global share of our country in terms of patents?

MR. SPEAKER : It is an important question, but it does not arise out of the main Question.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, I would seek your indulgence for a little deviation from the core Question.

MR. SPEAKER : You have already deviated.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, 36 B.Ed colleges under Kolkata University and Kalyani University have been derecognised in the State of West Bengal, as a result of which more than 7,000 students have been affected. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is pondering over to sort out this chronic problem being faced in our State.

MR. SPEAKER : Then, you are withdrawing the first question. Only the second one is allowed.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, the emphasis is on the second question. All I can say is that we are making all efforts to see that the problems being faced by the students of West Bengal on these issues are dealt with in a manner so that they cease to exist.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN : In the reply given by the hon. Minister, it has been said that public expenditure per student on higher education during the period 1990-91 to 2002-03 generally showed a downward trend. I feel that this is not a happy situation at all. I would like the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to please enlighten the House about the trend during 2003-04 to 2005-06, that is, during the last three years. I would also like to know whether the trend is improving or it is still a downward trend. I would also like to know how far the Budgetary provisions of 2006-07, as has been given in the reply, will be adequate to meet the requirements.

What is the ratio of budgetary allocation? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. Sorry. You are asking too many questions.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN : What is the ratio between Budgetary allocations for school education and higher education sectors in 2006-07 Budgetary provisions?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a debate. You have asked to many questions. There is a trend for increasing allocation.

Hon. Minister, he wants to say whether you can provide more funds.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, the fact that there is a trend for increased allocation is not a bad sign. We should all help to see that it goes in that direction and ultimately, the allocation which higher education deserves must be



given to it, which would take care of the research and all other things which have been referred to.

[Translation]

MOHD. SHAHID : Thank you very much. I am very thankful that you allowed me to speak. I would like to conclude in two minutes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You may raise the question direct, there is no need to make a speech.

MOHD. SHAHID : The people of this country have much expectations from the hon'ble HRD Minister. I just want to say that today education, particularly higher education is a major problem before our country because it is so expensive that a poor man is unable to afford it to his children. That is why all the problems are cropping up. When children do not get education, they do not get any engineering or doctor degree, then they turn towards evil, which ruins the society. I would like to ask as to what steps the Government are contemplating to take so that all the children of our society can get education and they can choose the right path in life.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Member has asked a very relevant question. In general, this thing can be said but when we go to implement it, we face difficulties. In higher education, as I at the out set the government are to view of providing resources, increasing avenues, it is another thing. Higher education should not be allowed to become a tool to make money, moreover this is also a decision of this Government. We will have to take a middle path between these two. Children of a commonman should get such education that they may become economically strong, they may get jobs. That I have mentioned as vocational education. Since this is a separate subject, I can only say that we are trying to implement this aspect in the country by giving it adequate importance in the eleventh five year plan.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The last supplementary to be asked by Shri Francis George.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have given enough opportunity to the hon. Members to put questions on this issue.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, the students who have opted for Vocational Higher Secondary Education (VHSE) courses have got a real problem in going for mainline higher educational courses. In Kerala, there are

37,000 students who have opted for VHSE courses. The All India Association of Universities has also recommended this particular course in Kerala to be recognised at par with other secondary certificate courses ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : How can the hon. Minister give an *impromptu* answer to this question being asked by you?

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, I would like to know only this from the hon. Minister. Will the HRD Ministry issue an order to make the VHSE courses in Kerala at par with other secondary certificate courses in the country? This would allow the students in Kerala to opt for higher educational courses in the mainline outside Kerala State.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, can you answer this question? I think that this question does not come under the Question that is before us.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, there is a procedure regarding equivalence of the degrees. I cannot order anybody to accept this or not to accept that. There is a procedure to implement equivalence among degrees in one State or in one part of the country or the other, and that procedure has to be gone through for this. I think that this procedure will help the Kerala Government, and the students of Kerala to acquire it.

MR. SPEAKER : A lot of hands are still being raised by the hon. Members to ask supplementaries even after my allowing eight hon. Members to ask their questions. Therefore, please cooperate with me. Now, I would like to go to the next Question.

### Protection of Refugees

\*224. ADV. SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of registered refugees in the country as on December 31, 2005;

(b) whether the Government proposes to ratify the Refugee Convention 1951 and enact a comprehensive refugees protection legislation;

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

(d) if not, the justification therefor;

(e) whether a Model Law on the subject had engaged attention of the Government in the past;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) The total number of registered foreign refugees (excluding Pakistanis) as on 31.12.2005 is 2,15,869.

(b) to (d) Government of India is not a party to 1951 Geneva Convention on the status of refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The main reasons, inter-alia, why India has not signed the above Convention and its Protocol are as follows:

- (i) The Protocol is only a partial regime for refugee protection.
- (ii) The convention and protocol are designated primarily to deal with individual cases and not with situation of mass influx.
- (iii) They do not address adequately situations faced by the developing countries.
- (iv) The situation of mixed flows have not been adequately addressed as in many cases, refugees are, in fact, economic migrants.
- (v) There is no balance between rights and obligations of receiving and source States.
- (vi) The concept of international burden-sharing has not been developed adequately in the convention.
- (vii) The convention and the Protocol do not address the question of minimum responsibility of State not to create refugee flows.
- (viii) Cooperation with other States in the resolution of refugee problems has not been addressed in the convention and its protocol.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) A draft model law 'Refugee and Asylum Seekers Protection Act, 2000' was prepared by Justice P.N. Bhagwati. This draft model law, inter-alia, defines persons who will be refugees, who will not be refugees, procedure for refugee status determination and rights and duties of refugees, etc. Keeping in view the existing domestic laws and national security considerations, action has been initiated for taking a final view on this draft law.

ADV. SURESH KURUP : Sir, India is one of the

largest refugees receiving countries in South Asia. Still we do not have a proper legislation in this regard. The courts always have consistently come to the rescue of the refugees in this country. The hon. Supreme Court has clearly stated that refugees are entitled to the protection of article 21 of the Constitution of India. Therefore, our Government should bring forth a model legislation upholding our great democratic and plural traditions, and it should be a landmark legislation in the asylum jurisprudence in this area.

I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. What prevents the Government from bringing forth such a legislation?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, we have prepared a draft Bill, and different Ministries are considering the draft Bill. There are certain difficulties being faced by our country in making this law. If the neighbouring countries are also not having the same kind of legislation with them, then it creates difficulty.

We have been helping the refugees coming to our country in manner that is acceptable to the United Nations and the international community, and in a manner in which the refugees have been treated in the countries that have laws for this purpose. We are trying to raise this issue in SAARC as all other countries also should cooperate in this regard. We are consulting with the neighbouring countries to respond to this issue in a manner, which makes it possible for all of us to have laws as well as to cooperate in helping the refugees.

ADV. SURESH KURUP : I believe that we should take the lead in this regard.

I would like to know about the model legislation prepared by hon. Justice. P.N. Bhagwati. There were reports that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has examined it, and sent it to the Government for its response. What is the response of the Government with regard to this issue?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are not in a position to give any kind of assurance as such, but the idea is really laudable, and it should be accepted and acted upon. However, while doing so, we shall have to consider the practical difficulties involved in it. In fact, the Government of India is talking to the countries of SAARC in order to prepare their minds also to have something of this kind in their countries because if the refugees are coming and if they are not taken back, they have to stay here or they

shall have to go to some other countries. The question is, "Can we only receive the refugees and allow them to stay here?" The countries from which they are coming also should be in a cooperative mood to take them back, if it is necessary, after giving them the assurance that they would be treated properly. These are some of the practical difficulties. However, the idea, as I said, is good, and it has to be accepted. We are in the process of consulting all Departments concerned in the country as well as the countries of South Asia, South East Asia and other countries also.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir the population of people belonging to Bangla Speaking Namshoodra Community who migrated from Bangladesh West Bengal is 38 lakh. They all want to be the citizens of India. I would like to say that the cut off date of 1971 needs to be extended and law amended for the people who want to be citizens of the country. The people of India who go to America, England get the citizenship of those countries. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether he would consider giving citizenship of this country to the people who love this country and want to live here.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is about refugees and not about giving citizenship. Athawaleji has brought this issue before me earlier also. His question has many dimensions. But we have to see the way it can be solved. It will be appropriate if I reply the question without going into the context of this question in detail.

[English]

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE : Hon. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part (a) of the question, which is about the total number of registered refugees in the country, the reply given is about the registered foreign refugees, and the supplementary that I want to put, I am sorry to say, does not relate to this question.

MR. SPEAKER : Then do not put it.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE : Sir, if you allow me, then only I will put it. It does not relate to this question.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I would like to know from the Minister concerned whether this matter discussed with the SAARC countries. A discussion will be taking place in the SAARC on the sidelines. I would like to know whether there is any attempt on the part of the

Government to discuss this issue, which we could not meet without a legislation and which is necessary. I would like to know whether the Government is prepared to discuss the issue in SAARC countries.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : This is exactly what I have said. The Government is discussing this issue informally with SAARC countries, but I do not think that this matter has been formally discussed in SAARC countries. I agree with you that a law of this nature can be helpful, and we should have a law of this nature. If it is enacted by the neighbouring countries, it does help. We are in the process of raising it formally and also with SAARC countries.

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Tibetans and their Government in exile settled in India and a majority of them are settled in the State of Himachal Pradesh, and His Holiness Dalai Lama is also residing over there. I would like to know from the Home Minister as to how much time the Government needs to negotiate with China to resolve the problem of those who are settled there and who are in exile.

MR. SPEAKER : It does not arise out of question.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We have received the refugees from Tibet and they are allowed to stay here, but I do not think that we are treating them as Government in exile because no political activities are carried on by them.

MR. SPEAKER : They are not permitted also.

MR. SPEAKER : Q. Nos. 225, 226 and 227 are postponed.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what about Question No. 226?

MR. SPEAKER : That Question has been postponed.

[English]

You know as to why I have postponed them.

\*225

\*226

\*227

**Trade Balance**

+  
\*228 SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :

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

(a) the details of targets fixed for export of various items and services during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has achieved the prescribed targets during the said period;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the value of imports exceeded exports during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to balance the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) No targets are fixed for export of Services. The export performance of merchandise goods during the last three years has consistently been higher than the targets fixed. Details are given in the statement laid to the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) to (c) The target for export growth of merchandise goods and the achievement against these targets during the last three years are given below along with the target for the current year :

Year	Growth Rate (%)	
	Target	Achievement
2003-04	12	21
2004-05	16	31
2005-06	16	23
2006-07	21	-

(d) The value of imports and the value of exports during the last three years are given below :

(US\$Billion)

Year	Exports	Oil Imports Imports	Other Imports	Total
1	2	3	4	5
2003-04	63.8	20.6	57.6	78.2

1	2	3	4	5
2004-05	83.5	29.8	81.7	111.5
2005-06 (P)	102.7	44.0	105.1	149.1

(P) Provisional

It will be seen from the above that total imports exceeded exports mainly on account of sharp growth in oil imports.

(e) There are no measures to restrict imports or artificially balance trade that may lead to dampening of the growth of the economy or a resurgence of inflationary pressures. Government's major thrust has been on export promotion. A number of measures have been taken to further boost exports which include, inter-alia, bringing into force the SEZ Act, 2005, procedural simplification to reduce transaction cost of exporters and signing regional trade agreements to leverage exports in line with India's comparative advantage. Besides, a number of fresh initiatives have been taken in the Foreign Trade Policy (2006-07) to give an added fillip to exports. These include the Focus Product scheme, Focus Market scheme, Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojna, Duty Free Import Authorisation Scheme and a number of measures for the Gems & Jewellery sector.

**[Translation]**

SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the details of import and exports as given by the hon'ble Minister in reply to the question, it appears that the achievement shown against the import target is on the higher side. As regards the exports, the increase in exports is due to import of oil. The hon'ble minister in his reply, has also stated that it has slowed down the development of the economy or the pressure of inflation may gain increase.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my first supplementary question is that if the development of the economy is slowed down, what steps the govt. would like to take?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we see the figures, our exports have increased. Our exports have been continuously registering an increase of more than 20 percent during the last three years. The way our exports have increased this year, we expect that our goal will be achieved. It is a fact that the value of rupee has decreased today. It has affected both our imports and exports. But I am fully confident that we will be able to achieve our set goals, the facilities and means to be provided in our export policy as per our export policy declared this year. Whatever

be the status of the economy now, our exports will perform better.

**SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, a number of steps have been initiated in the Foreign Trade Policy, 2007. They include, inter alia, signing of regional trade agreements and taking measures for the special agricultural and village industry scheme. The Govt. of Gujarat has sent a scheme to set up an export zone in Saurashtra to promote the production of agriculture e.g. export of groundnut and groundnut seeds under this special agricultural and village industry scheme. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the Govt. has any plan to export groundnut seeds?

**SHRI KAMAL NATH :** Sir, in the export policy announced, our rural areas and agricultural sector were given highest priority. This scheme was earlier known as special agricultural scheme only. This year, we have included the village industry to it. Therefore, it has been named as 'Special Agricultural and Village Industry' so that not only the export of our traditional products are allowed under it, but export of the things related to agricultural sector may get some facility and means. As regards to the issue of groundnut raised by the hon'ble Member, the question of setting up an export zone will be considered as and when the proposal from the Govt. of Gujarat is received.

**SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the answer of my question...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**MR. SPEAKER :** This will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

**MR SPEAKER :** Shri Barad, please take your seat.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :** Sir, exports and imports both are increasing with the pace of time in our country. But, increase in imports is more than the exports. Because of this trade deficit has increased to the tune of more than 39 billion dollars in the previous year, while this deficit was 27 billion dollars prior to the last year. If we calculate this deficit in terms of rupees, then it will surpass trillions. The economic situation of the country where trade deficit has gone up, has been adversely affected. What steps are taken to reduce imports in the country and what success Government has got through such steps?

**SHRI KAMAL NATH :** Sir, if we look at the figures of

exports and imports and see our import of oil, we will find that during 2003-04, our oil import was around 20 billion dollars. It increased to 44 billion dollars in the year 2005-06. It means that it has increased more than twofold. If we keep oil separately and see figures of our imports and exports, then we will find these are almost equal. It means that cause of our deficit is import of oil. Even figures are clearly vindicating the point. As far as the concern of the hon'ble Member, I would like to tell him that like the way there is increase in our exports, there is no doubt about the fact that prices of oil have also increased, prices of oil are increasing and the last year's figures of import of oil will also increase this year. But we hope that our imports, if we do not include oil in that, means our non-oil imports and our exports will almost remain equal.

*[English]*

**SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :** Sir, since the Special Economic Zones Act came into operation in February, 2006, different exporters, particularly in the IT sector, have been facing serious problems with regard to the size of the land that is required for Special Economic Zones. That is because the IT sector has grown in different places, sometimes in small areas. If they have to enjoy the facilities of SEZ, they have to come to a particular place. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the demand of different small IT sector companies spread over a long area that the Special Economic Zones should be given to the small areas also?

**SHRI KAMAL NATH :** Yes, Sir, this has been notified now in the Rules. There were different views within the Government about the size of the IT sector especially IT SEZs, which move up vertically. What we have done is, we have fixed a minimum area limit along with the built up area so that it can move vertically. This is specially for the IT and gem and jewellery sector which do not require large areas can move vertically upward; there is a large scope for employment generation. This has been notified and is now largely reported to be satisfactory.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[Translation]*

### Employment in Small Scale Industries Sector

\*229. **SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :**

**SHRI HITEN BARMAN :**

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

\* Not recorded.

(a) the number of people employed in the small scale industries sector during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of new small scale industries set up in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the employment opportunities available with the small scale industries sector are more in comparison to multinational companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures taken to this effect to strengthen this sector?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The estimates of the number of people employed in registered and unregistered small scale industries during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given below :

(Employment - lakh persons)

Item/Year	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Estimates of employment in SSI sector	271.42	282.57	294.91

(b) The estimated number of registered and unregistered small scale industries (SSI) set up during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is given below:

Item/Year	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Number of SSI units set up	4,45,637	4,63,778	4,82,841

State-wise details of these industries are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Information on employment in multinational companies is not compiled centrally. However, according to available information, the growth of employment in the SSI during last three years has been as under :

(Employment - lakh persons)

Year	Estimated employment in SSI	
	Employment	Growth rate
2002-03	260.21	4.36%
2003-04	271.42	4.31%
2004-05	282.57	4.11%

The State Government and the Union Territory Administrations are primarily responsible for the promotion and development of small scale industries. However, Central Government has taken several policy decisions and implements a number of schemes/programmes for the development and promotion of SSI in the country. These include, inter alia, (i) facilitating availability of credit mainly through public sector banks/financial institutions and (ii) assistance for technology up-gradation, obtaining ISO 9000/14001 certification, marketing, integrated infrastructural development and entrepreneurship development.

Besides, the Government implements the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), which are specifically for creating employment opportunities.

#### Statement

State-wise estimated number of Small Scale Industries set up in the country during the last three years

Sl.No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Number of SSIs Set up		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	3097	3223	3434
2.	Himachal Pradesh	3227	3359	3151
3.	Punjab	15961	16611	13714
4.	Chandigarh	942	981	902
5.	Uttaranchal	4510	4694	5196
6.	Haryana	9458	9843	7955
7.	Delhi	7500	7806	7006
8.	Rajasthan	18703	19465	20193
9.	Uttar Pradesh	72344	75288	85648
10.	Bihar	21998	22893	23157
11.	Sikkim	16	16	22
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	53	55	79
13.	Nagaland	587	611	1597
14.	Manipur	2033	2116	1871
15.	Mizoram	471	490	620

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Tripura	1031	1073	962
17.	Meghalaya	954	993	1254
18.	Assam	8233	8568	8932
19.	West Bengal	32673	34003	30960
20.	Jharkhand	5610	5838	6152
21.	Orissa	16446	17115	15950
22.	Chhattisgarh	11178	11633	10691
23.	Madhya Pradesh	33612	34980	35763
24.	Gujarat	22462	23376	26563
25.	Daman and Diu	127	133	475
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
27.	Maharashtra	34036	35422	36843
28.	Andhra Pradesh	37080	38589	34789
29.	Karnataka	27905	29041	31049
30.	Goa	301	313	404
31.	Lakshadweep	23	23	31
32.	Kerala	19180	19961	14427
33.	Tamil Nadu	33375	34734	52387
34.	Pondicherry	375	391	465
35.	Andaman and Nicobar	136	141	199
Total		445641	463778	482840

[English]

**FDI in Agriculture/Plantation Sectors**

\*230 SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to permit 100% FDI in agriculture and plantation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some sections of the society have opposed the decision to allow 100% FDI in agriculture and plantation sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) FDI policy of the Government is incorporated in the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue Security by Persons Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2000 (FEMA Regulations) as amended from time to time. Schedule I to the FEMA Regulations list out the activities where FDI is permitted and activities where FDI is prohibited. Amendment to the FEMA Regulations dated 18th June 2003 showed Agriculture and Plantation in the list of prohibited activities for FDI and activities under this sector where FDI is permitted as exceptions. Based on the review of the FDI policy and procedures undertaken by the Government in January 2006, the following changes have been made in the policy for Agriculture and Plantations sector :

(i) Since some of the activities in the Agriculture and Plantation Sector were already permitted for FDI from 2003 and 2002 respectively, it no longer remained a prohibited sector. It was therefore, removed from the list of prohibited activities and the activities permitted in the Agriculture sector were indicated and brought under the sector specific policy for FDI, in the Annexure to Press Note 4 (2006) dated 10th February, 2006.

(ii) FDI upto 100% was allowed in Aquaculture in addition to Floriculture, Horticulture, Development of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture and Cultivation of Vegetables & Mushrooms, under controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors.

(iii) The word "etc." appearing after the word 'Mushrooms' was removed, thereby restricting FDI to Cultivation of Vegetables & Mushrooms only.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government has since clarified, through issue of a Press Release and by informing the Reserve Bank of India, that the present/extant policy for FDI in Agriculture and Plantation sector is as under :

(i) FDI upto 100% is permitted under the automatic route in the under-mentioned activities viz. Floriculture, Horticulture, Development of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture, Aquaculture and Cultivation of

Vegetables & Mushrooms, under controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors. [Permitted vide amendment to FEMA Regulations dated 18th June, 2003 and partially amended vide Press Note 4 (2006) dated 10th February, 2006, as given in reply to (a) & (b)]

- (ii) FDI upto 100%, with prior Government approval, is permitted in Tea plantation subject to the conditions of divestment of 26% equity of the company in favour of an Indian partner/Indian Public, within a period of five years; and prior approval of the State Government concerned in case of any future land use change. [Permitted vide Press Note 6 (2002) dated 5th July, 2002]
- (iii) Besides the above two, FDI is not allowed in any other Agriculture sector/activity

**Infrastructural Facilities at  
Textile Centres**

\*231 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether government is providing financial

assistance for the development of infrastructural facilities at the existing Textile Centres;

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

(c) the details of such financial assistance provided to State Governments, particularly Maharashtra, during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the details of the projects received, rejected, cleared and pending for approval under the said schemes, State-wise; and

- (e) the reasons for their rejection/pendency?

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

(b) and (c) Under the Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS), approved in March 2002, 100% Central assistance is provided for critical components of the project such as Common Effluent Treatment Plant, Water Supply and Drainage Facility and Creche Buildings for Apparel Units. Other components are funded in the ratio of 75:25 between Centre and State/Reputed Agency concerned. Total Central assistance is subject to a maximum of Rs. 20 Crore per centre.

18 projects have been sanctioned under the TCIDS. State-wise sanction of project and financial assistance provided year-wise is as under :-

(In Crore Rupees)

State	Number of Project	Central Share	Central Share Releases			
			2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
Andhra Pradesh	2	8.08	0.98	00	0.66	1.94
Gujarat	4	63.70	00	00	5.24	5.24
Haryana	1	20.00	5.23	1.98	3.05	10.26
Jammu and Kashmir	1	6.26	00	00	00	00
Kerala	1	20.00	00	00	0.19	0.19
Madhya Pradesh	1	11.00	0.71	1.85	1.07	3.63
Maharashtra	3	60.00	00	5.50	5.64	11.14
Rajasthan	2	36.14	4.00	0.67	10.00	14.67
Tamil Nadu	2	30.61	00	00	13.22	13.22
Uttar Pradesh	1	14.72	00	00	00	00



(d) and (e) The Scheme was in operation from 2002 to 2005, during which 18 projects were sanctioned as stated above. After the merger of the TCIDS into the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) in July 2005, no new projects was sanctioned under the TCIDS.

#### **Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Tribals**

\*232 SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure/restrict development projects in tribal territories to prevent land acquisition and displacement of tribal communities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has given guidelines for resettlement and rehabilitation of all displaced tribals;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government for its proper implementation?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal for a total ban on acquisition of land in tribal areas or on displacement of tribal communities. However, as per the provisions of Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act 1996, the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level are required to be consulted before land is acquired in the Scheduled Areas for development projects and before resettling or rehabilitating persons affected by such projects. The National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected families (PAFs), 2003, contains certain specific provisions for rehabilitation of ST Project Affected Families (PAFs) over and above the provisions which apply to others.

(d) to (f) There are no specific guidelines of the Supreme Court with regard to resettlement and rehabilitation of all displaced tribals. However, the Supreme Court has, in different cases, passed orders to ensure proper resettlement and rehabilitation of the families displaced by various development projects. The directions of the Supreme Court are implemented by the concerned Project Authorities and Governments.

#### **Support Price of Coffee**

\*233 SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coffee growers in the country are suffering due to inadequate pricing of coffee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the support price of coffee during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) For more than the past one year coffee prices have been recovering from the low prices scenario, and are now reasonably remunerative to the growers.

(c) No support price mechanism for coffee is prevailing in the country as on date.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Cooperative Spinning Mills**

\*234 SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain co-operative spinning mills in the country, particularly in Orissa, have been closed down on falling sick;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to privatize these mills;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken for their revival along with the details of the mills that have been revived during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA) : (a) to (e) As on 30th June 2006, in the co-operative sector 70 spinning mills in the country and 5 spinning mills in the state of Orissa were closed. The co-operative sector mills are under the purview of respected State Governments and the decision regarding their privatization is to be taken by their management or by the concerned State Governments. The Union Government tries to create a conducive atmosphere for the industry through its policy measures. In the recent past the following important measures have been taken by the Union

Government for the textile sector including the co-operative textile sector :

- To improve productivity and quality of cotton for manufacturer and export of competitive downstream textile products, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC).
- The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector.
- For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- To provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units meeting international environmental and social standards, a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) based Scheme known as the "Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP)" has been introduced in July 2005.
- In 2004-05 Budget, the entire textile sector, except for man-made fibre and filament yarn was provided optional exemption from excise duty.
- To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery had been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items.
- In the Current Budget (2006-07), with a view to making textile industry more competitive:-
  - Import duty on raw materials such as DMT, PTA and MEG has been reduced from 15% to 10% and for paraxylene from 5% to 2%.
  - CENVAT on all man made fibre and yarn has been reduced from 16% to 8% and import duty on all man made fibre and yarns from 15% to 10%.
  - The peak rate at ad-valorem component of customs duty for all non-agricultural products including textiles has been reduced from 15% to 12.5%.

- Special CVD of 4% has been extended to all goods in order to counter balance various internal taxes like sales tax and VAT and to provide a level playing field to indigenous goods which have to bear these taxes. However, fabrics are exempted from this levy.
- Government has launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.
- Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment in the textile sector under automatic route.
- Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investments may be encouraged in these sectors.
- The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has a Scheme for rehabilitation of sick co-operative spinning mills in the shape of a package under which NCDC provides loan assistance to the extent of 70% of the rehabilitation cost to the State Governments for participating in the equity as well as providing term loan for the rehabilitation of the sick cooperative spinning mills.

#### Nutrition Projects in States

\*235. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government has received proposals during 2005-2006 and thereafter from the State Governments for nutrition projects under the Integrated Child Development Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the projects sanctioned, State-wise;
- (c) the present status of each of these projects;
- (d) whether there has been any significant improvement in the nutrition level of the children as a result of these projects;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the assistance given/to be given to various States during the said period for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI

RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Launched in 1975, in 33 Blocks, the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme was gradually expanded to 5652 Projects by the end of IX Five Year Plan. It was continued in the X Plan, within the sanctioned 5652 Projects, and 7.80 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs). However, to implement the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) of the Government and to comply with the directions of the Supreme Court in Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by the Peoples' Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), the States/UTs were requested to furnish their requirements for additional projects, as per existing population norms, for the expansion of the Scheme. Based on these requirements, 446 additional ICDS projects and 1.88 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCS) was sanctioned by Government of India during 2005-06. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I

To ensure coverage of all habitations/settlements under the Scheme, population norms for sanction of Anganwadi Centres were relaxed and the States/UTs asked to submit their requirements for Projects /AWCs based on the revised population norms. Requirements of 165 additional projects, 106969 AWCs and 25961 Mini-AWCs has been received from the States/UTs. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II. These proposals are under process for obtaining approval at the competent level.

(c) It takes about one year for a new projects/AWC from the date of sanction to become operational. Accordingly, all new projects/AWCs sanctioned in 2005-06 are expected to be operational in 2006-07.

(d) and (e) As the projects will be fully operational during 2006-07 only, any assessment of improvement in the nutritional level of children would be possible only after a year or so.

(f) Details of funds released to States/UTs under the ICDS (General), including projects sanctioned during 2005-06 and 2006-07, are given in the enclosed Statement III.

**Statement-I**

Sl. No.	State	Number of ICDS Projects and Anganwadi Centres sanctioned during 2005-06	
		ICDS Projects	Anganwadi Centres
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	9562
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21	678

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	23	6659
4.	Bihar	144	19715
5.	Chhattisgarh	6	9148
6.	Goa	Nil	Nil
7.	Gujarat	33	3523
8.	Haryana	12	2813
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	10894
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	19	6817
11.	Jharkhand	Nil	6683
12.	Karnataka	Nil	11313
13.	Kerala	Nil	3258
14.	Madhya Pradesh	31	9537
15.	Maharashtra	44	12864
16.	Manipur	Nil	Nil
17.	Meghalaya	7	961
18.	Mizoram	2	231
19.	Nagaland	2	265
20.	Orissa	Nil	3279
21.	Punjab	6	2691
22.	Rajasthan	17	11041
23.	Sikkim	6	488
24.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	3049
25.	Tripura	11	2220
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1	31498
27.	Uttaranchal	Nil	1134
28.	West Bengal	58	17100
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	94
30.	Chandigarh	Nil	10
31.	Delhi	5	526

1	2	3	4
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	77
33.	Daman and Diu	Nil	10
34.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil
35.	Pondicherry	Nil	11
Total		466	188168

**Statement-II**

Sl. No.	State	Requirement of ICDS Projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) received from States/UTs		
		ICDS Projects	AWCs	Mini-AWCs

1	2	3	4	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	7843	3409
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	1125	Nil
3.	Assam	4	5007	Nil
4.	Bihar	7	560	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	5542	1483
6.	Goa	Nil	100	Nil
7.	Gujarat	Nil	3000	Nil
8.	Haryana	9	892	270
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	412	Nil
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	6586	Nil
11.	Jharkhand	Nil	1243	Nil
12.	Karnataka	Nil	2646	405
13.	Kerala	Nil	3464	Nil
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	9914	Nil
15.	Maharashtra	35	9877	7490
16.	Manipur	4	3138	Nil
17.	Meghalaya	Nil	19	1234
18.	Mizoram	Nil	90	Nil
19.	Nagaland	Nil	159	Nil

1	2	3	4	
20.	Orissa	Nil	4217	3111
21.	Punjab	Nil	2748	Nil
22.	Rajasthan	4	1510	2681
23.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	1539	3168
25.	Tripura	3	1257	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	62	13170	Nil
27.	Uttaranchal	Nil	1872	2676
28.	West Bengal	Nil	17512	Nil
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	51	Nil
30.	Chandigarh	Nil	41	Nil
31.	Delhi	16	1678	Nil
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil	4	34
33.	Daman and Diu	Nil	10	Nil
34.	Lakshadweep	Nil	13	Nil
35.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		165	106969	25961

**Statement-III**

Funds released during 2005-06 and 2006-07 under ICDS Scheme (GEN) including for Operationalisation of Newly Sanctioned ICDS Projects

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	2005-06 Amount Released	2006-07 (as on 31.7.2006) Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14750.69	8765.43
2.	Bihar	5036.11	9373.04
3.	Assam	4412.01	3379.28
4.	Goa	373.53	195.47

1	2	3	4
5.	Gujarat	9917.54	5807.09
6.	Haryana	5312.47	2411.66
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3480.88	1385.83
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	4989.19	3074.80
9.	Jharkhand	4288.33	4016.64
10.	Karnataka	14176.11	5854.83
11.	Kerala	5725.65	3997.93
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9498.48	8002.16
13.	Maharashtra	16808.92	9470.16
14.	Orissa	10600.69	6220.23
15.	Punjab	5591.61	2678.63
16.	Rajasthan	7459.77	5968.24
17.	Tamil Nadu	15212.94	8650.24
18.	Uttaranchal	2861.67	1479.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	31989.58	18138.29
20.	West Bengal	19391.00	8622.68
21.	Delhi	1290.03	625.78
22.	Pondicherry	233.68	185.22
23.	Andaman and Nicobar	212.82	158.96
24.	Chandigarh	156.87	130.44
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	70.10	45.03
26.	Daman and Diu	47.74	56.78
27.	Lakshadweep	42.67	33.92
28.	LIC	800.00	
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	1780.28	712.37
30.	Assam	22462.56	4219.56
31.	Manipur	1664.87	770.78
32.	Meghalaya	2158.35	508.07
33.	Mizoram	1476.66	315.84

1	2	3	4
34.	Nagaland	2531.64	697.97
35.	Sikkim	354.75	15.10
36.	Tripura	2779.91	753.79
Total		229940.11	124860.23

#### Export/Processing of Marine Products

\*236 SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up Sea Food Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their salient features;

(c) whether there has been any infrastructural problems like water pollution, clean water etc. in the marine food processing industry;

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government;

(e) whether the Government has initiated steps for the further promotions of Marine Products Processing Industry particularly for the zones where marine food processing industry is concentrated; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Marine food processing faces problems of water pollution and non-availability of clean, potable water. Government has been extending financial assistance to the seafood processing units for establishment of effluent treatment plants, installation of water purification systems, etc.

(e) and (f) Schemes for up-gradation of processing facilities, assistance for production of value added products and marketing support, etc. are being implemented.

[Translation]

#### Withdrawal of Target Plus Scheme

\*237 SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has discontinued the Target Plus Scheme meant for promotion of exports;

(b) If so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether any new schemes has been introduced replacing the Target Plus Scheme for promotion of export; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) The Target Plus Scheme has been abolished for exports from 01.04.2006 onwards. A two-member committee was formed to review various export promotion schemes, particularly with respect to WTO compatibility. The committee recommended the abolition of the scheme on account of incompatibility with WTO principles, lacking linkages with duties and taxes borne by exporters, and strain caused to government exchequer. The government accepted the recommendations and decided to abolish the scheme for exports from 01.04.2006 onwards.

(c) and (d) With the objective of providing thrust to employment generation particularly in semi-urban and rural areas, certain products that generate large employment are covered under the newly introduced 'Focus Product Scheme'. This Scheme allows duty credit facility at 1.25% of the FOB value of exports for notified products, such as value added fish and leather products, stationery items, fireworks, sports goods including toys, and handloom & handicraft items. It is necessary to access new markets, especially where exports are comparatively low. For this another scheme, 'Focus Market Scheme', has also been introduced which allows duty credit facility at 2.5% of the FOB value of exports of eligible products to specified countries. Exports to 57 countries of Africa and Latin America would get the benefit. The scripts and the items imported under both these schemes are freely transferable.

#### **Prices of Cement**

\*238. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :  
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR :

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

(a) whether the cement prices has been constantly rising in the country during the last three years and the current years;

(b) if so, the percentage increase in the cement prices during the said period along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the cement companies have agreed to sell cement at lower rates only to the Central agencies;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to control the prices of cement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Cement prices have increased since December, 2005 at varying rates across the country. The Cement manufacturers have cited increase in the input and transportation costs as reasons for the price increase.

(c) to (e) Government had urged cement manufacturers to rationalize cement prices. Responding to it, the Cement Manufacturers' Association gave an undertakings to maximize production and dispatch of cement; ensure that the retailers do not indulge in profiteering; bring in fresh investments to create additional capacities of 30-35 million tonnes in next 4-5 years; and supply cement on priority and at 5% discount on the ruling prices to the Central Government Departments.

[English]

#### **Mahila Coir Yojana**

\*239 SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has launched Mahila Coir Yojana;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) whether such scheme is in operation all over the country;

(d) if so, the total number of women coir workers covered under the scheme alongwith the funds sanctioned during last three years including subsidy provided under the scheme;

(e) whether the scheme has been successful in enhancing the status of women; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Government has been implementing 'Mahila Coir Yojana' for self-employment of rural women artisans. Under the scheme,

motorised ratts are distributed among women artisans after training them in spinning coir yarn. Subsidy of 75% of the cost of the ratt, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7500/- for motorised ratt and Rs. 2925/- for motorised tradition ratt, is also given.

(c) The scheme is implemented in areas, there coir is produced or areas where it is easily sourced from nearby areas.

(d) to (f) The scheme has been successful in providing employment to rural women coir artisans and improving their productivity. Consequently, their incomes and living standards have improved. The details of assistance provided under the scheme during last three years are as below:-

Year	Subsidy on ratts distributed (Rs. lakh)	No. of ratts distributed	No. of women trained
2003-04	64.26	1556	6829
2004-05	112.80	3212	13318
2005-06	643.66	4220	36168

#### Competition of Cottage and Village Industries

\*240 SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the stiff competition being faced in India by cottage and rural industries due to globalisation of the Indian economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had announced khadi package in the year 2001;

(d) if so, the names of the cottage and rural industries which have benefited from the package; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to enhance the competition of cottage and rural industries in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Government has adopted the policy of strengthening the cottage and rural industries facing competition on account of globalisation of the Indian economy, so that they remain competitive in the market economy and generate new job opportunities.

(c) and (d) For promotion of khadi and village industries, Government announced a package on

14.05.2001. The package consists inter alia of modernisation of khadi bhawans/sales outlets, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures for market promotion, brand building, cluster development, etc.

(e) To strengthen the cottage and rural industries and make them competitive, Government has been implementing schemes like Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate Scheme (ISEC) providing subsidised rates of interest on bank loans, Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improving designs and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) for setting up village industries by providing subsidy in the form of margin money. Assistance is provided to khadi and village industry units to participate in exhibitions at the national, sub-national levels, etc. for improving marketing of both khadi and village industry products. These facilities are available to all eligible cottage and rural industries.

Further, the Government has recently approved the Scheme of Fund for Registration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) in 100 clusters of khadi, village and coir industries over five years beginning 2005-06. The scheme envisages assistance for setting up of common facility centres (CFC), quality improvement, training and capacity building, development of new products, improved packaging, new design, market promotion, etc.

[Translation]

#### Cellular Jail

1675. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cellular Jail associated with the freedom movement at Andaman and Nicobar Islands has completed its 100 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to pay tribute to the freedom fighters detained in the said jail;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is in possession of list of such freedom fighters including their records;

(f) if so, the details thereof?

(g) whether any arrangement has been made to display the list for viewing of the common people; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a)

and (b) Yes. The Cellular Jail, now a National Memorial has completed hundred years of its existence. Its construction began in 1896 and was completed in 1906.

(c) and (d) Yes. A series of programme have been chalked out and are under implementation during 2006-07, both at Port Blair as well as at other venues in the mainland.

(e) and (f) Andaman & Nicobar Administration has published a book titled "Unsung Heroes of Freedom Struggle in Andaman-who's who", which carries the names of all Freedom Fighters incarcerated in the Cellular Jail. There is a reference library exclusively on the Freedom movement with special reference to Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the premises of the Cellular Jail, which has archival records of Freedom Fighters, their biographies and autobiographies, etc.

(g) and (h) Yes. The names of all Freedom Fighters have been displayed on the marble slabs erected in the Central tower of the Cellular Jail. Wherever the photographs of the Freedom Fighters are available, the same have been displayed in the Cellular Jail museum.

[English]

#### Opening of Sub-Office of KVIC

1676. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to open sub-offices of Khadi & Village Industries Commission at places other than the State Capital all over the country ;

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

(c) whether such offices will be opened in Hubli district of Karnataka;

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

(e) the time by which the sub-offices of KVIC are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has set up State Offices at State capitals. However, in larger States it has set up Division Offices/Sub-Offices as well. Thus Divisional Offices have been set up Meerut, Varanasi and Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, Bikaner in Rajasthan, Madurai in Tamilnadu, Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Nagpur in Maharashtra and Sub-Offices at Dudhani in Dumka District of Jharkhand, Sambalpur in Orissa, Dhanbada in Siliguri District of West Bengal, Silchar in Cachar District of Assam, Nadathara in Thrissur District of Kerala, Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, Palanpur in Banaskantha

District of Gujarat and Haldwani in National District of Uttaranchal.

(c) and (d) Hubli District of Karnataka is well served by the State Office of KVIC at Bangalore and Central Silver Plant at Chittradurga. There is, therefore, no proposal to open sub-office of KVIC in this District.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Export Oriented Industries

1677 SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has established export oriented industries in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the other States where such industries were established during the last two years, State-wise; and

(c) the number of firms which have established their units in Uttar Pradesh and the number of firms which have given clearance to set up their units there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) The Government does not set up Export Oriented Units (EOUs). The Units are set up by the private individuals/corporate bodies with the approval of the Government. As on 31st March, 2006, a total number of 2,037 Export Oriented Units were functioning in the country. A list indicating the State-wise distribution of the functional EOUs is enclosed as statement.

(c) As on 31.3.2006 a total number of 84 EOUs were functioning in Uttar Pradesh. Further a total number of 35 Units were given approval to set up EOUs in the state during the last two years.

#### Statement

S.No.	States/Union Territories	Nos. of EOUs in operation as on 31.3.2006
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	197
2.	Assam	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4.	Bihar	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	4
6.	Goa	27



1	2	3
7.	Gujarat	231
8.	Haryana	69
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
11.	Jharkhand	6
12.	Karnataka	330
13.	Kerala	52
14.	Madhya Pradesh	27
15.	Maharashtra	305
16.	Manipur	0
17.	Meghalaya	0
18.	Mizoram	0
19.	Nagaland	0
20.	Orissa	6
21.	Punjab	42
22.	Rajasthan	86
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	391
25.	Tripura	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	84
27.	Uttaranchal	2
28.	West Bengal	81
29.	Delhi	38
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
31.	Chandigarh	2
32.	Daman and Diu	12
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	18
34.	Lakshadweep	0
35.	Pondicherry	13
Total		2037

*[English]***Proposals for Border Roads**

1678 SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals for construction of road network alongwith the international borders are lying pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the established cost of these projects; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (c) The Border Guarding Forces have been projecting, from time to time, the requirement of road network in their areas of deployment for effective management of borders. Such proposals are examined and approved by the Government taking into account their feasibility, operational utility and strategic importance. This is an ongoing process.

Construction of border roads along India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders have been undertaken by the Government of facilitate patrolling by the Border Security Force to secure these borders.

The Government have recently apporved a proposal for construction of 27 road links of operational utility in border areas along India-China border.

*[Translation]***Leasing out of NTC Mills**

1679 SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Mohanlal Ganj) : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to run some of the mills of national Textile Corporation (NTC) by leasing them out;

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

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be announced by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN) : (a) and (b) Government has proposed to modernize and run 29 mills of NTC through Joint Venture route by forming Special

Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with the private partners. List of these mills is enclosed as Statement.

(c) NTC invited Expression of Interest (EOI) in November, 2005 to run the mills through joint venture with private entrepreneurs on lease basis, to which response was not encouraging. Therefore, it was decided to appoint an Adviser to suggest a better model of Joint Venture. Appointment of Adviser is the final stages.

(d) The proposal for Joint Venture has been approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as a part of the Revival Scheme for NTC, which is proposed to be implemented by the year 2008. However, the entire scheme of Modified Rehabilitation Scheme (MRS) to which the Joint Venture proposal pertains, is yet to be approved by the Competent Authority.

#### Statement

*List of 29 Mills proposed to be modernized & run through joint venture route*

S.No.	Name of the Mills	Location
1	2	3

#### NTC (Apkkm) Ltd.

##### Andhra Pradesh

- |    |                         |           |
|----|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Tirupati Cotton Mills   | Renigunta |
| 2. | Ananthapur Cotton Mills | Tadapatri |

##### Karnataka

- |    |                           |           |
|----|---------------------------|-----------|
| 3. | Sree Yallama Cotton Mills | Davangere |
|----|---------------------------|-----------|

##### Kerala

- |    |                |        |
|----|----------------|--------|
| 4. | Parvathi Mills | Quilon |
|----|----------------|--------|

#### NTC (DPR) Ltd.

##### Punjab

- |    |                      |        |
|----|----------------------|--------|
| 5. | Kharar Textile Mills | Kharar |
| 6. | Suraj Textile Mills  | Malout |

##### Rajasthan

- |    |                          |                   |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 7. | Mahalaxmi Mills          | Beawar            |
| 8. | Shree Bijay Cotton Mills | Shree Bijay-Nagar |

#### NTC (Guj.) Ltd.

##### Gujarat

- |    |                             |           |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 9. | Ahmedabad New Textile Mills | Ahmedabad |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------|

#### NTC (MN) Ltd.

##### Maharashtra

- |     |                         |        |
|-----|-------------------------|--------|
| 10. | India United Mills No.1 | Mumbai |
| 11. | Kohinoor Mills No. 1    | Mumbai |

1	2	3
12.	RBBA Mills	Hinganghat
13.	Savatram Ramprasad Mills	Akola

#### NTC (SM) Ltd.

##### Maharashtra

- |     |                               |            |
|-----|-------------------------------|------------|
| 14. | Apollo Textile Mills          | Mumbai     |
| 15. | Chalisgaon Textile Mills      | Chalisgaon |
| 16. | Dhule Textile Mills           | Dhule      |
| 17. | Goldmohur Mills               | Mumbai     |
| 18. | Nanded Textile Mills          | Nanded     |
| 19. | New City of Bombay Mfg. Mills | Mumbai     |
| 20. | Aurangabad Textile Mills      | Aurangabad |

#### NTC (UP) Ltd.

##### Uttar Pradesh

- |     |                              |                 |
|-----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 21. | Swadeshi Cotton Mills.       | Maunath-bhanjan |
| 22. | Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini | Naini           |

#### NTC (WBABO) Ltd.

##### West Bengal

- |     |                           |         |
|-----|---------------------------|---------|
| 23. | Laxminarayan Cotton Mills | Rishra  |
| 24. | Sodepur Cotton Mills      | Sodepur |

##### Bihar

- |     |                          |         |
|-----|--------------------------|---------|
| 25. | Bihar Co-operative Mills | Mokameh |
|-----|--------------------------|---------|

##### Orissa

- |     |                     |           |
|-----|---------------------|-----------|
| 26. | Orissa Cotton Mills | Bhagatpur |
|-----|---------------------|-----------|

##### Assam

- |     |                       |            |
|-----|-----------------------|------------|
| 27. | Associated Industries | Chandrapur |
|-----|-----------------------|------------|

#### N.T.C. (TN & P) Ltd.

##### Tamil Nadu

- |     |                             |            |
|-----|-----------------------------|------------|
| 28. | Sri Sarda Mills             | Coimbatore |
| 29. | Coimbatore SPG & WVG. Mills | Coimbatore |

[English]

#### Powerloom Cloth Production

1680. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage share of powerloom cloth manufactured of the total cloth manufactured during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of shuttleless looms available in the country as on date and required during mid-term plan for expansion of the sector, separately;

(c) the state of availability of manufactured shuttleless looms in the country;

(d) whether the Government proposes to empower weavers to import automatic shuttleless looms to complete successfully in international market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN) : (a) Powerloom sector contributes about 62% of total cloth production. The details of production for the last 3 years are as under :-

Year	Total production of cloth (in mn. sq. mtr.)	Production from powerloom (in mn. sq. mtr.)	Percentage of production by powerloom
2003-04	42383	26947	64%
2004-05	45378	28325	62%
2005-06	49008 (Provisional)	30254 (Provisional)	62%

(b) As on 30-6-2006, approximately 48,421 shuttleless looms are working in the country, out of which the share of decentralised powerloom sector is 32000. It is estimated that about 50000 additional shuttleless looms are required to be installed by 2009-10, to meet the projected cloth production.

(c) The total manufacturing capacity of shuttleless looms in the country is around 1200 only.

(d) and (e) There is no restriction for the powerloom units for the import of shuttleless looms to compete successfully in the international market.

For modernization of textile and decentralised powerloom sector, the Government has launched Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), which provides reimbursement of 5% interest on loans. An additional option has been given to decentralised powerloom sector to avail of 20% Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) under the scheme, in lieu of 5% interest reimbursement. The capital ceiling for machinery has been increased from Rs. 60.00 lakh to Rs. 1.00 crore for decentralized powerloom sector. The vintage of second hand imported shuttleless loom has been increased from 10 years to 15 years with residual life of minimum 10 years under the scheme.

[Translation]

#### Iron Ore Mines

1681. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Chhattisgarh

has submitted any proposals to the Union Government regarding vacation or denial of lease in respect of State iron ore mines to NMDC, a public sector undertaking;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

#### Self-Employment Scheme

1682. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of assistance extended to the craftsmen and weavers of Orissa for self-employment during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of craftsmen and weavers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN) : (a) The development schemes like Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana for Cluster Development, Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme, Marketing Support Scheme, Export Promotion Scheme and Special Handicraft Training Projects Scheme etc. being implemented in the handicrafts sector and Dindyal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Marketing Promotion Programme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Handloom. Export Scheme, Integrated handloom Cluster Development etc. in the handloom sector indirectly encourage self-employment amongst the artisans and the weavers. The details of financial assistance provided to various implementing agencies viz State Handicraft Development Corporations/Societies/NGOs etc. for implementation of schemes of Handicrafts Sector and to Government of Orissa for implementation of schemes of Handlooms Sector during each for the last three years are as under:-

(Rs. In lakh)		
Year	Amount Released for Handicraft Sector	Amount Released for Handloom Sector
2003-04	139.09	Rs. 236.92
2004-05	163.19	Rs. 666.48
2005-06	329.13	Rs. 900.46

(b) Number of artisans benefited through implementation of above schemes in the handicraft sector are 4390. As regards handloom sector, the schemes are implemented by the State Government through Cooperative

Societies, which benefits lakhs of weavers directly and indirectly. As per census of handlooms (1995-96), the total number of weavers and allied workers in Orissa were 2,46,782.

[English]

#### Anti Dumping Duty on Shrimp

1683. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any discussion has been held between India and US to remove all barriers in trade and services especially on anti-dumping duty imposed by US on the export of Indian shrimp to US; and

(b) If so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Discussions have been held between India and the U.S.A. to remove trade barriers, including lifting of anti-dumping duty on export of Indian shrimps to the U.S.A.

(b) The issues relating to barriers in trade and services have been taken up in Indo-US Trade Policy Forum Meetings, wherein the issues pertaining to anti-dumping duty on Indian shrimp exports have also been discussed. Consultations have also been held with USA on related Customs Bond issue under the disputes settlement mechanism of WTO. However, the anti-dumping duty still continues to be in force.

#### Swalamban Scheme

1684. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the approval of the Planning Commission it has been decided to transfer the Swalamban Scheme to the States w.e.f. April 01, 2006 after the Union Government meets all the committed liabilities; and

(b) if so, the details of committed liabilities and the manner in which these will be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) It has been decided, in consultation with Planning Commission, to transfer the Swawlamban (NORAD) Scheme to the States w.e.f. April 01, 2006. As per the decision, Government of India would liquidate the committed liabilities in respect of on-going activities/projects. All States/Organisations/Institutions have been requested to furnish the details of liabilities to enable this Ministry to liquidate the same. Balance funds, etc. are being released to the implementing agencies as per the provisions of the Scheme.

[Translation]

#### Information and Communication Technology Programme in Schools

1685. SHRI KAILASH BHATIA :  
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA :

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

(a) the number of schools selected in the Information and Communication Technology programme in schools, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds allotted for the purpose during the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether the utilisation certificate for allotted amount has been received by the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (d) State wise details of (i) number of schools for which sanction has been accorded for implementation of ICT @ School Scheme, (ii) amount sanctioned since inception of the Scheme (15th December, 2004), (iii) amount released, and (iv) amount for which utilisation certificates have been received given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of Schools	Amount Sanctioned	Gross amount released as Central Share	Net amount released after adjustment of unspent balance from other schemes	Amount for which utilisation certificate received
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Karnataka	480	2400.00	1200.00	1200.00	—
2.	Nagaland	53	319.59	319.59	319.59	31.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Goa	230	1150.00	292.50	292.50	—
4.	Sikkim	103	621.09	270.00	270.00	—
5.	Daman and Diu	15	75.00	33.70	25.00	—
6.	Rajasthan	100	500.00	500.00	53.26	—
7.	Bihar	180	900.00	225.00	—	—
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	140	844.20	90.00	—	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	230	1150.00	575.00	—	—
10.	Punjab	200	1000.00	500.00	—	—
11.	Orissa	200	1000.00	500.00	—	—
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	154	928.62	464.31	444.81	—
13.	Mizoram	60	306.18	150.00	150.00	—
14.	Haryana	100	500.00	250.00	230.50	—
15.	Uttaranchal	25	150.75	75.00	75.00	—
16.	Kerala	125	625.00	312.50	312.50	—
17.	Tamil Nadu	125	625.00	312.50	2.10	—
18.	West Bengal	200	1000.00	393.17	393.17	—
Total		2720	14095.43	6463.27	3768.43	31.96

[English]

#### Introduction of Merit Scholarship Scheme

1686. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has introduced Merit Scholarship Schemes for the benefit of Medical and Engineering students.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the banks have been instructed to waive collateral surety on loans to students;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for the easy availability of educational loans to students of economically weaker sections in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has started a new merit scholarship scheme for professional studies (Medical and Engineering) from the year 2005-06. 500 scholarships (150 for Medical and 350 for Engineering) are available for such meritorious students. Under this scheme Rs. 1000/- per month is paid to the selected candidates for a period of 4 years.

(c) to (e) The Revised Model Educational Loan Scheme of Indian Banks' Association provides broad guidelines to the banks for providing financial support from the banking system to deserving/meritorious students for pursuing higher education in India and abroad. The main emphasis is that every meritorious student, though poor, is provided with an opportunity to pursue education with the financial support from the banking system with affordable terms and conditions and that no deserving student is denied an opportunity to pursue higher education for want of financial support. For such loans upto Rs. 4.00 lakhs, no security is required. Above Rs. 4.00 lakhs and

upto Rs. 7.5 lakhs collateral in the form of a suitable third party guarantee is required. The bank may, at its discretion, waive third party guarantee if satisfied with the net-worth/means of parent who would be executing the document as "Joint borrower". Above Rs. 7.5 lakhs, collateral security of suitable value or suitable third party guarantee along with the assignment of future income of student for payment of installments is required.

Subject to repaying capacity of the parents/students, the following ceiling has been imposed regarding quantum of finance.

1. Studies in India - Maximum Rs. 7.5 lakhs
2. Studies abroad - Maximum Rs. 15 lakhs

#### Rate of Interest :

Upto Rs. 4 lakhs — BPLR+ 1%

Above Rs. 44 lakhs — BPLR+1%

#### **Competition of SSI with Multi-National Companies**

1687. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any step to protect small scale industries from the multinational companies being set up under the liberalization policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The steps taken by the Central Government to help small scale industries (SSI) face competition include, inter alia, central excise examination up to Rs. 1 crore to SSI units with annual turnover of up to Rs. 4 under the General SSI Excise Exemption Scheme, exemption from collateral security requirements for loan upto Rs. 5 lakh (upto Rs. 25 lakh for units with good track record and financial position), capital subsidy of 15 per cent with a loan ceiling of Rs. 1 crore under Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for Technology Upgradation of SSIs, reimbursement of charges for acquiring ISO 9000/14000 certification to the extent of 75 per cent of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 75,000/-, reimbursement of fee to the extent of 75 per cent subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 40,000/- under Performance and Credit Rating Scheme for SSIs, etc.

#### **RTI in PSUs**

1688. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Right to Information Act is applicable in all Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Mines particularly in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the source from where the public will get informations on these PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Proposal from Karnataka for Central Assistance**

1689. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted a request for release of second instalment of Central assistance to meet cooking cost under NPONSPE-2004 of Rs. 7539.68 lakhs and also sought sanction of revised proposal for the same purposes for the period from January 01, 2006 to June 30, 2006;

(b) if so, the present position of the proposal and main reasons for delay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) Request from Govt. of Karnataka for release of Central assistance to meet cooking cost was recieved for the following period:-

Period	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
(i) 01.05.2005 – 31.12.2005	7539.65
(ii) 01.01.2006 – 30.06.2006	4715.24

(b) and (c) After due scrutiny of the above proposals, the Central Govt. has released the following admissible amount :-

Period	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Date of Release
(i) 01.05.2005 – 31.12.2005	6754.68	26-7-2005
(ii) 01.01.2006 – 30.06.2006	3950.31	24-1-2006

### Progress of Assam Accord

1690. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the agreed time frame for clause-wise implementation of Assam Accord is being adhered to;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of progress made so far after the tripartite talks held with All Assam Student Union and Government of Assam subsequent to PM level meeting of May 05, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (d) Action has been completed on various clauses of the Assam Accord. Certain clauses of the Accord viz. economic development of Assam, measures to prevent infiltration are of continuous nature and need to be monitored continuously. Government of Assam has held discussions with All Assam Students Union (AASU) to decide agreed time frame for various clauses of the accord.

2. In pursuance of decisions taken in the tripartite meeting chaired by the Prime Minister on 5.5.2005, following action has been taken :

(a) The Government of Assam has started the work to update the National Register of Citizens (NRC). The Central Government has released an amount of Rs. 1.02 crore in 2005-06 to the State Government for this purpose. It has been agreed that additional Rs. 2 crore will be made available to the State Government for this work in the current financial year.

(b) Border fencing under Phase II along Indo-Bangladesh border in Assam is expected to be completed by December 2006. The Central Government has also approved the proposal for replacement of border fencing constructed in Phase-I.

(c) Work for implementation of Assam Gas Cracker project has started.

(d) Government is committed to provide all possible assistance to the State of Assam to deal with the flood problem.

(e) The Government of Assam has been asked to engage an internationally renowned Consultant for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for revival of Ashok Paper Mill.

3. The implementation of the Assam Accord reviewed by the Union Home Minister on 2.1.2006 and by Secretary (Border Management) on 29.7.2006.

### Demand of Coal by NALCO

1691. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of annual requirement of coal in NALCO; and
- (b) the quantum of coal received by NALCO from domestic sector and from import during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) and (b) NALCO uses coal in two plants viz. Captive Power Plant (CPP) located at Angul and Steam Generation Plant (SGP) located at Damanjodi. The quantum of coal received by NALCO from domestic sector and from import during each of the last three years for its two plants is given below:-

For CPP, Angul :

(in Million Tons)				
Year	Requirement	Receipt from Domestic source	Receipt from import	Total receipt
2003-04	3.6	4.455	NIL	4.455
2004-05	4.85	5.126	NIL	5.126
2005-06	5.25	4.90	0.208	5.108

For SGP, Damanjodi :

(in Lakh Tons)				
Year	Requirement	Receipt from Domestic source	Receipt from import	Total receipt
2003-04	11	10.02	NIL	10.02
2004-05	11	9.243	NIL	9.243
2005-06	11	10.63	0.16	10.79

### Women's Participation in Sericulture Sector

1692. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to promote women's participation in the sericulture sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of future Schemes/strategy for sericulture under Eleventh Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) Yes Sir, Central Silk Board has been implementing the following schemes for upliftment of rural women in sericulture during the X plan:

1. Establishment of Seri-Technology Complex for Women.

2. Development and popularization of women friendly technology for avoiding drudgery in sericulture.

3. Catalytic Development Schemes.

(b) The details of the schemes are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The approach paper for the XIth plan is still in the stage of formulation and empowerment of women in sericulture is an important consideration in that.

### Statement

*The details of Establishment of Seri-Technology Complex for Women: (Funded by Dept. of Biotechnology-New Delhi)*

Central Sericultural Research And Training Institute (CSR & TI, Mysore) under Central Silk Board has taken up the project at a total cost of Rs. 81.33 lakhs with funds from DBT commencing from February, 2004 over a period of 5 years. The objective of the project is to provide training to selected women sericulturists from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Maharashtra. Besides hands on-training for skill development with new cutting edge sericulture technologies, it involves demonstration, field study tour and participatory approach in local language. As against the target to train 3375 women Sericulturists, the institute has so far imparted training to 1532 persons as per programme-wise details given hereunder:

Programmes	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (upto July, 2006)	Total
Integrated nutrient and diseases management in mulberry by eco-friendly approach	70	127	42	239
Young age silkworm rearing	134	198	54	386
Composite silkworm rearing course	54	99	18	101
Integrated pest and diseases management, an eco friendly approach with bio-pesticides, bio-fungicides and botanicals	49	98	26	173
Silkworm seed production	08	0	0	08
Value addition to bye products of sericulture industry by better resource management	20	34	0	54
Drudgery reduction through agronomically sound appliances/hand tools	253	236	82	571
<b>Total no. Of trainees</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>1532</b>

### **Development & popularization of women friendly technology for avoiding drudgery in sericulture (funded by DBT)**

CSB has taken up the project at a total cost of Rs. 11.56 lakhs over a period of 5 years with funds from department of science & technology, New Delhi. The project commenced during October, 2003. The objective of the project is reducing drudgery in sericulture by popularizing women friendly technologies. Under the programme, survey has been conducted in the states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu to identify the activities involving more drudgery in sericulture. This apart development of tools, equipments and machines for reduction of drudgery among women workers is in progress.

### **Catalytic development programme :**

Under the Catalytic Development Programme presently being implemented by the Central Silk Board in collaboration with the State Government emphasis has been given for the promotion of women's participation in sericulture.

### **Agro Clinics/Centres**

1693. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up some Agro Clinics and Agro Business Centres in the country; particularly in Orissa;



(b) if so, the number of such clinics and centres proposed to be set up in 2006-07, State-wise;

(c) whether any such clinics or centres proposed to be set up in the scheduled districts in the current financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the total amount likely to be spent on such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The Government (in the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation) has launched the Central Sector Scheme of Agri-Clinics and Agri Business Centres under which unemployed graduates in agriculture and allied areas are provided training so that they could set up Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres, as self-employment ventures.

(b) The scheme has a target of training 3000 unemployed graduates in agriculture and allied areas during 2006-07.

(c) and (d) The scheme covers the entire country without State and District specific targets.

(e) An outlay of Rs. 11 crore has been provided for implementation of the scheme in 2006-07.

#### **Smuggling of Drugs**

1694 SHRI MILIND DEORA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and the Gulf countries are the biggest transit points for narcotics drugs supply as brought out by the World Drug Report, 2006 released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for this menace;

(c) whether drug addiction is on the rise in some States as observed in the Report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps the Government proposes to check trafficking of Drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) and (b) The World Drug Report, 2006 released by UNODC does not refer to India as one of the biggest transit points for Narcotics Drugs supply.

(c) and (d) The World Drug Report, 2006 also does not indicate that drug abuse is on the rise in some States of India. However, the Government has taken a number of

steps to check trafficking of narcotics drugs within the country as well as across the borders. These include :-

(1) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, airports foreign post offices etc.

(2) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.

(3) Improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.

(4) Intelligence sharing through coordination meetings of multi-disciplinary enforcement agencies under various foras like LJA meetings (SSB is the lead intelligence agency Nepal border), Subsidiary Multi Agency Coordination (SMAC) meetings, Regional Economic Intelligence Meetings (REIM) and Central Economic Intelligence Meeting (CEIM).

(5) Strengthening of international liaison improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.

(6) Increased international cooperation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of precursor chemicals.

(7) Building of an electronic data base of offenders.

(8) Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.

(9) Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards to informants and officers for providing information leading to seizures of Narcotics drugs.

#### **Retirement Age of Anganwadi Workers**

1695. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the retirement age fixed for government employees is also applicable to the Anganwadi Workers and helpers;

(b) if not, the age limit upto which AWWs/AWHs continue to work State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to make any uniform service rules for them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of benefits extended by Union Government/State Government separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter regarding age limit in respect of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers has been left to the State Governments for taking an appropriate view in the matter. Some States have fixed the age limit of 58/60 years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In recognition of the services being discharged by them, the government has extended the following benefits:-

- Honorarium doubled in the year 2002, to Rs. 1000/- per month for AWWs & Rs. 500/- for AWHs.
- Allowed paid absence on maternity at par with women employees of organized sector.
- The GOI has introduced Anganwadi Bima Yojana w.e.f. 1.4.2004 under Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Scheme.
- In order to motivate AWWs and give recognition to good voluntary work, a scheme of awards for AWWs has been introduced both the national and state level. The award comprises Rs. 25,000/- cash and citation at centre level and Rs. 5,000/- cash and citation at State level.

Apart from the above, many State Governments are giving monetary benefits to AWWs/AWHs out of their own resources for extra work being done by them under other than ICDS Scheme.

State Government have also been requested to :-

- Consider services rendered by AWWs as additional qualifications for recruitment as Primary School Teachers, ANMs & other such village based posts.
- Recruit at least 25% of supervisors under ICDS Scheme from matriculate AWWs with 10 year's experience.
- Set up AWWs & Helpers Welfare Fund at the State/UT level out of the contributions from AWWs/AWHs and State/UT Governments.
- Set up Grievance Redressal Machinery at the State/UT level & Distt. Level for prompt redressal of grievances.

### Iron Ore Deposits

1696. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of iron ore deposits in various States;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal for the various states particularly from the State Government of Kerala for exploration and tapping of iron ore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) As per available information the state-wise resources of iron ore in India as on 1.4.2005 are as under:-

(in '000 Tonnes)			
State	Reserves (Prov.)	Remaining resources (Prov.)	Total resources (Prov.)
Andhra Pradesh	10044	1588064	1598108
Assam	0	27980	27980
Bihar	0	644	644
Chhattisgarh	559654	2091179	2650833
Goa	370550	432619	803169
Jharkhand	2477823	1506608	3984431
Karnataka	613362	8283704	8897066
Madhya Pradesh	32418	167588	200006
Maharashtra	16709	260711	277420
Orissa	1697396	2316240	4013636
Rajasthan	2008	539974	541982
Uttar Pradesh	0	38000	38000
Kerala	0	83435	83435
Nagaland	0	5280	5280
Tamil Nadu	0	481876	481876

(b) and (c) The status of the proposals received by Ministry of Mines for grant of prior approval in respect of

mineral concession proposals for minerals in first schedule of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 from various State Governments is available on the website of Ministry of Mines i.e. <http://www.mines.nic.in>. Recently, a proposal for grant of prospecting licence for iron ore received from State Government of Kerala has been approved.

#### **GSI proposal for R & D**

1697. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India proposes to set up an autonomous body for research and development, training and consultancies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government is likely to finalise the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) to (c) The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has sent a proposal to the Ministry of Mines for setting up an autonomous body, with the aim of providing assistance and knowhow, and promoting application of knowledge for effective management of the earth system and its natural resources. The proposal is at a very preliminary stage and no time frame in this regard can be fixed.

#### **Human Trafficking**

1698. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA :  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :  
SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP :  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :  
SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI :  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of human trafficking are on increase in India recently;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that has come to the notice of the Government during the last one year till date;

(c) the number of deaths allegedly occurred during the process of illegal transport;

(d) whether a report published by the US has highlighted India as a main centre of trafficking;

(e) if so, whether the government has any plan to amend the Emigration Act to provide maximum punishment to illegal agents; and

(f) if so, the other stringent measures adopted/likely to be adopted to keep a vigil on this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) and (b) As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of cases registered under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITPA) during the years 2003, 2004 & 2005 were 5510, 5748 and 5908 respectively. Further, as per statistics compiled by NCRB based on provisional monthly figures available so far, 1648 cases have been registered under the ITPA.

(c) No such data is maintained centrally.

(d) The US State Department's Report on Trafficking in Persons – 2006 has *inter alia* observed that India is a source, destination, and transit country for men, women and children trafficked for the purposes of forced or bonded labour and commercial sexual exploitation.

(e) The Emigration Act, 1983 seeks to protect emigrants from exploitation unscrupulous agents and foreign employees and provides for a regulatory framework for the emigration of Indian workers for overseas employment on a contractual basis. A comprehensive proposal for amendments to the existing Emigration Act has been initiated by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. The proposed amendments include provisions for more stringent penalties for violation of the provisions of the Emigration Act. A new provision to punish those indulging in "People smuggling" has also been proposed. A new section has been proposed to empower the Central Government to constitute special courts in the interest of speedy trials under the Emigration Act.

(f) "Police" and "Public order" are state subjects, and the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention and combating of crime of human trafficking. The Union Government is taking several measures, in concert with the State Governments for prevention and control of crime of trafficking as well as measures for rehabilitation of victims. The Union Government has advised all the State Governments to deal with the crime of trafficking in a holistic manner and to evolve an effective, and comprehensive strategy encompassing rescue, relief

and rehabilitation of victims besides taking deterrent action against the law violators. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up a Nodal Cell for dealing with matters relating to trafficking in human beings. The Cell is *inter alia* responsible for collecting and analyzing the data related to trafficking from the State Government/UT Administrations, identifying problem areas and analyzing causes for their being source/transit/destination areas, monitoring of action taken by State Governments/UT Administrations for combating the crime and organizing co-ordination meetings with nodal Police Officers of States/UTs.

[Translation]

#### Pakistan/PoK Tourist

1699. YOGI ADITYA NATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons from Pakistan and Pak Occupied Kashmir (PoK) visited Jammu & Kashmir on tourist Visa by bus so far;

(b) the number of them left India;

(c) whether Supreme Court has issued any notice to the Union Government in connection with cases for the claims of properties in Jammu & Kashmir by these tourists;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government apprised Supreme Court of their opinion with regard to this case; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) As reported by the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, 745 persons from Pak Occupied Kashmir (PoK) have visited Jammu and Kashmir by Srinagar-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakote bus services, whereas 246 persons travelled on foot through Line of Control (LoC) crossing points (total 991 PoK persons) on travel permits of whom 897 have returned till 4.8.2006.

(c) to (f) Yes. The notice has been received in response to an application filed by the Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (I.A. No. 2 of 2005 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 578 of 2001) in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India asking, among other things, to restrain the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir from entertaining applications by the residents of PoK visiting the State by Srinagar-Muzaffarabad Bus for restoration of their properties in the State. The matter is sub judice.

[English]

#### Foreign Visitors in India

1700. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreigners visited India during each of the last three years; country-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to provide the basic requirements during their visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Country-wise details of foreigners who visited India during the last 3 years are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Action is initiated for upgrading facilities in major immigration check posts (ICPs) in the country for faster clearance. Ministry of Tourism gives central financial assistance of State/UTs on specific tourist related projects for development of tourist infrastructure in the tourist destinations and circuits every year. In order to ensure safety and security of tourists, the States/UTs are requested to deploy tourist police forces in select tourist destinations.

#### Statement

##### Country-wise arrival of foreigners 2003-2005

Country	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4
Afghanistan	10034	12810	13988
Alaska (USA)	28	0	0
Albania	71	112	230
Algeria	501	818	770
Andorra	26	42	26
Angola	441	474	543
Anguilla	2	0	0
Antigua & Barbuda	4	3	19
Antilles (Netherland)	360	89	385
Argentina	1793	2799	3392
Armenia	244	264	310
Aruba	0	14	21

1	2	3	4
Ascension Island	0	2	4
Australia	59291	81654	96514
Austria	17719	21093	27386
Azerbaijan	417	456	614
Azores	0	2	3
Bahamas	28	36	177
Bahrain	4208	4420	5009
Bangladesh	497722	490821	485640
Barbados	156	201	199
Belarus	498	629	685
Belgium	17942	24031	25096
Belize	308	388	685
Benin	13	3	120
Bermuda	5	1	2
Bhutan	5393	7054	8126
Bolivia	113	154	154
Bosnia & Herzegovina	64	46	78
Botswana	343	421	505
Brazil	4525	7397	7001
British Overseas City	1	4	0
British Protectorate	1	18	3
British Solomon Islands	22	27	25
British Sub. & Colo.	2	69	0
Brunei	287	498	581
Bulgaria	1338	1400	1716
Burkina Faso	12	28	13
Burundi	17	69	81
Canada	107755	135967	156287
Canary Islands	1	0	0
Cape Verde Islands	9	7	25
Cayman Island	2	4	5

1	2	3	4
Central African Rep.	166	198	1685
Chad	139	121	403
Chile	1049	1636	1618
China	20288	34113	44340
China (Taiwan)	13574	18179	19153
China Turk	0	2	0
Christmas Islands	4	1	3
Ciskei	2	1	0
Cocos Island	3	0	0
Colombia	1369	1725	2035
Comoros	60	56	142
Congo	198	244	367
Cook Island	28	7	8
Costa Rica	368	389	455
Croatia	1005	1403	1564
Cuba	162	179	212
Cyprus	378	431	646
Czech	3383	4130	4655
Dahomey	768	148	626
Deigo Garcia	0	1	0
Democratic Yemen	20	4	28
Denmark	11861	15863	19893
Djibouti	253	288	316
Dominican Island	5	6	9
Dominican Republic	192	265	525
East Timor	1	3	5
Ecuador	230	226	316
Egypt	3352	3940	4061
El Salvador	944	1078	1393
Equatorial Guinea	12	42	16

1	2	3	4
Eritrea	342	344	305
Estonia	529	593	939
Ethiopia	2290	2661	3224
Falkland Islands	1	2	3
Faroes Island	5	4	0
Fiji	1516	2003	2351
Finland	9024	12538	16000
France	97518	132050	151199
French Guinea	2	2	2
French Plynesia	2	0	0
Gabon	32	23	70
Gambia	76	111	433
Georgia	366	438	485
Germany	87523	116748	129935
Ghana	717	925	1209
Gibraltar	8	20	24
Greece	3601	4716	4768
Green Land	2	1	14
Grenada	1880	1233	3237
Guadeloupe	3	7	21
Guatemala	122	390	173
Guinea	120	171	148
Guinea Bissau	24	25	87
Guyana	353	359	444
Haiti	57	101	125
Hawaii	0	1	4
Honduras	89	80	137
Hong Kong	1083	1965	1858

1	2	3	4
Hungary	1994	3540	3795
Iceland	210	245	401
Indonesia	9109	11550	12853
Iran	17684	24835	28145
Iraq	792	1153	1627
Ireland	7497	9004	11085
Israel	32137	39286	42944
Italy	47160	65572	67465
Ivory Coast	155	243	488
Jamaica	289	340	371
Japan	77395	96992	102760
Jordan	1703	2436	3354
Kazakhstan	2350	2476	3257
Kenya	16490	17593	19644
Kingdom of Tonga	67	63	39
Kiribati	9	7	15
Korea (North) DPR	1349	1479	2536
Korea South	35600	47835	51750
Kuwait	2369	2965	3020
Kyrgyzstan	540	612	542
Laos	169	129	217
Laticva	421	605	1070
Lebanon	1410	2257	2295
Lesotho	213	192	263
Liberia	134	123	158
Libya	256	384	490
Liechtenstein	31	41	59
Lithoria	2	32	37
Lithuania	498	720	962
Luxemberg	442	583	690

1	2	3	4
Macau	19	73	92
Malagasy (Madagascar)	95	106	217
Malawi	250	306	345
Malaysia	70147	84390	98571
Maldives	18005	21681	34126
Mali	56	2541	103
Malta	470	535	1764
Martinique	191	145	314
Mauritania	311	364	418
Mauritius	16248	19847	19994
Mayotte	2	23	8
Mexico	3585	4577	5382
Micronesia	1	6	0
Moldova	236	245	140
Monaco	6	36	11
Mongolian	593	810	1018
Morocco	888	1144	1316
Mozambique	810	1044	1293
Myanmar	3700	5061	5679
Namibia	74	112	203
Nauru	9	13	8
Nepal	43597	53207	79736
Netherlands	41939	51211	53459
New Caledonia	7	7	8
New Herbrides (Vanuatu)	16	23	40
New Zealand	13379	16762	20518
Nicaragua	55	91	102
Niger Republic	669	1178	1140
Niue Island	12	15	45
Norfolk Island	0	0	2
Norway	8550	10631	11305
Oman	12419	14927	15021
Others	9741	13095	21073

1	2	3	4
Pakistan	9253	67416	94057
Palau	3	9	5
Palestine	491	672	735
Panama	467	492	599
Papua-New-Guinea	95	299	383
Paraguay	211	161	152
Peru	465	639	663
Philippines	8693	10492	12479
Poland	6389	8508	10958
Portugal	8568	10655	11473
Puerto Rico	3	1	6
Qatar	1421	1788	2304
Reunion Island	19	16	54
Rodrigues Island	0	0	19
Romania	1532	1938	2410
Russia	31353	47133	56625
Rwanda	138	130	127
Saint Marin	1	1	0
Samoa (West)Togolese	9	6	25
Samoa American	1	0	0
San Marino	10	4	5
Sao Tome & Principe	44	27	31
Saudi Arabia	9762	11932	12364
Senegal	402	392	530
Seychelles	1032	1383	1407
Sierra Leone	117	118	595
Singapore	48918	60710	71443
Slovak Republic	180	213	283
Slovenia	470	504	394
Somalia	357	357	509

1	2	3	4
South Africa	24350	32148	39234
Spain	30624	42897	45055
Sri Lanka	108334	129058	137661
St. Lucia	31	38	55
St. Vincent & Grenadines	2	0	0
Stateless	1313	1365	1171
Stateless-Afghanistan	1	0	0
Stateless-Malaysia	12	24	20
Stateless-Tanzania	8	25	29
Stateless-United Kingdom	179	11	159
Stateless-USA	5	5	16
Stateless-Vietnam	1	4	2
Sudan	2061	2487	3637
Suriname	344	614	705
Swaziland	434	587	919
Sweden	20805	26184	29250
Switzerland	25123	28540	33591
Syria	1717	2349	2471
Tajikistan	370	526	958
Tanzania	8489	9956	11119
Thailand	26273	33442	42245
Tonga (Togo)	101	140	229
Transkei	2	42	94
Trinidad & Tobago	761	1095	1564
Tunisia	620	1796	931
Turkey	5548	7092	7916
Turkmenistan	261	475	551
Turks & Caicos Isl.	9	2	13
Tuvalu	53	41	104

1	2	3	4
U.S.A.	408781	526120	618578
Uganda	1409	1560	1613
Ukraine	4314	5106	7140
United Arab Emirates	21449	23187	26545
United Kingdom	453886	556763	647787
Upper Volta	4	6	1
Uruguay	362	336	239
Uzbekistan	1609	1795	2125
Vanuatu	0	4	7
Vatican City	26	25	44
Venda	51	1	0
Venezuela	766	909	1517
Vietnam	2274	2598	3509
Virgin Isl. (UK)	11	2	0
Virgin Island (US)	0	0	1
Wallis Futuna Island	10	6	3
Yemen	7724	8826	9614
Yugoslavia	532	546	795
Zaire	0	2	5
Zambia	1352	1469	1855
Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)	649	851	1071
Total	2803240	3478444	3967382

**Financial Assistance to Victims of  
Natural Calamities**

1701. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN :  
SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any request from various States including Kerala to make changes in the existing eligibility criteria for assistance under natural calamities;

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



(c) the action taken so far by the Government therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (c) Various States Governments have requested for revision of existing items and norms of assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and for the inclusion of some new calamities in the list of defined natural calamities, which are eligible for assistance from CRF/NCCF.

The Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted an Expert Group which comprised of representatives of concerned Central Ministries and some States, to review and revise the extant items and norms of assistance from CRF/NCCF for the period of the Award of the Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) i.e. till 2009-10.

In order to facilitate to comprehensive review of the extent items and norms of assistance, the Expert Group sought the views/suggestions of all the States and the concerned Central Ministries/Departments/Organisations. The Expert Group also had series of meetings and consultations with concerned Central Ministries/Departments.

The Expert Group has since submitted its report to the Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The report of the Group is being examined by the Government. Thereafter, the proposal for revision of items and norms of assistance from CRF/NCCF will be placed before the High Level Committee (HLC), shortly for consideration. After the approval of HLC, the approved items and norms will be notified and circulated to all the States and the concerned Central Ministries/Departments for implementation.

[Translation]

#### **Reserved Seats in Central Universities**

1702. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

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

(a) whether the reserved seats were not provided to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Universities as well as in other professional educational institutes during the years of 2005 & 2006;

(b) if so, the percentage of the students of the

aforesaid categories admitted to the above institutions during the said period;

(c) the reasons for failure in filling up the reserved seats in these institutions;

(d) the names of the institutions wherein the lowest/highest number of seats were filled up with the reserved category of students; and

(e) the action taken/to be taken by the Government against these institutions for not filling the seats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The prescribed level of reservation of seats is 15% for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and 7.5% for those from Scheduled Tribes. The enrolment of students belonging to the SCs/STs varies in depending on availability of eligible students as well as the pattern of population in respect of geographical location of each Central University.

[English]

#### **Handloom Weaving**

1703. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether handloom weaving is our cultural heritage; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to protect age-old tradition craft of weaving?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Handloom Textiles constitute a timeless facet of the rich cultural heritage of India.

(b) The Government of India has been implementing a number of development schemes and programmes to protect the age old tradition craft of weaving. These scheme, mainly, are Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Marketing Promotion Programme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Handloom Export Scheme, Integrated Handloom Cluster Development, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Health Insurance Scheme and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Yojana. Besides, Government of India has introduced "Handloom Mark Scheme" to provide a collective identity to the handloom products and also to serve as a guarantee for the buyer that the product being purchased is a genuinely hand woven product.

### Intellectual Property Rights

1704. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to develop Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regimes to protect the biodiversity and promote sustainable development;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the existing policies in this regard and its achievements; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Patents Act, 1970 as amended in 2005 have sufficient provisions for protection of biodiversity and promotion of sustainable development.

The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 was enacted to provide for conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components, fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources or associated knowledge. This Act aims at regulating access to biological resources and associated knowledge of the country so as to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use.

As per the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970 as amended in 2005, plants, animals and traditional knowledge are not considered inventions and are therefore not patentable subject matter. This Act also provides for mandatory disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material used in an invention, while applying for patent. Failure to do so entails opposition to patent application and revocation of patent, if granted.

(c) Does not arise.

### Freedom Fighter Pensioners

1705. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR :  
SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any report that the persons receiving freedom fighters pension under the Sainik Samman Pension Scheme were infants when the country gained independence;

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

(c) whether any investigation has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome of the investigation and action taken by the Government against such persons, State-wise; and

(e) the action taken by the government against officials who have been found involved in sanctioning the pension without proper verification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) to (e) The Central Scheme *per se* does not prescribe any minimum age for being eligible for Central Samman pension. No age-wise statistics of Samman pensioners are maintained.

Receipt of complaints/information from various sources alleging bogus/fraudulent pensions is a continuous process. Each such matter is examined with reference to the applicable provisions of the Central Scheme, in consultation with the concerned State Government. On examination, wherever it is established that the claim does not meet the eligibility criteria and the evidentiary requirements of the Central Scheme, the pension is suspended/cancelled, after following due process. Such matters are dealt with individually.

The Hyderabad Liberation Movement (HLM) is (*inter-alia*) a movement recognized under the Central Scheme for the purpose of grant of Samman pension, with movement-specific relaxed eligibility and evidentiary requirements.

In claims pertaining to the C.H. Rajeshwara Rao Committee-recommended HLM cases, which had been referred to State Governments for verification in 1998, an age of 15 years as in March 1947 was prescribed (in June 1998) as a matter of reasonable administrative appropriateness.

As per information at the end of the Central Government, in 2006-07 (to date), 3 pensions have been suspended and show-cause notices issued for cancellation on receipt of subsequent State Government/District Collector-cum-Magistrate's reports to the effect that, contrary to their earlier verification, the ages of the pensioners were less than 15 years as in March 1947. Simultaneously, pensions of 10 pensioners who had given wrong/false certificates when the said 3 pensions were initially sanctioned have also been suspended and show-cause notices for cancellation also issued to them. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has also been requested to institute criminal proceedings against the guilty.

As per information received from the end of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, in the State Government's Vigilance enquiries (instituted in 2005-2006) it has been indicated that infants have been sanctioned pension; however, the State Government has not mentioned the exact number.

As reported by the State Government, on receipt of certain allegations/complaints from the public, 7364 cases of freedom fighters for sanction of pension under the Central Scheme in respect of Karimnagar, Nalgonda, Warangal and Khammam Districts were referred to the Director General Vigilance & Enforcement). After enquiry, the Director General (Vigilance & Enforcement) has submitted his report to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. In that report, it is noticed that several irregularities have taken place in sanction of pension to freedom fighters in the said four Districts. The Director General has made certain recommendations to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, which are as follows:

- (i) to constitute special teams for 100% verification;
- (ii) to address the Government of India for cancellation of pensions in which irregularities have been noticed;
- (iii) to initiate action against the concerned officials;
- (iv) to explore the possibility of involving services of Mandal Literacy Officer/Mandal Education Officer/ Head Master of the Village to assist the applicants in processing their proposals for sanction of pension and to avoid brokers; and
- (v) to reconsider the issue of taking the entry of age as per 1995 voters list as conclusive evidence.

In the Vigilance report, initiation of action against certain officials, viz. District Revenue Officer, Revenue Divisional Officer, Mandal Revenue Officer, Mandal Education Officer, etc., has been recommended for their lapses in supervision, negligence in attesting the EPIC 1995 and negligence in attesting the Voter List of 1995 etc.

The State Government has reported that after receipt of the C.I.D. report also (on an enquiry referred to the Crime Branch, Criminal Investigation Department (C.I.D.), Government of Andhra Pradesh, in 2005-2006), a decision will be taken in the matter by them.

[Translation]

#### Closure of Big Industries

1706. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the industries both in public and private sector closed down during the last three years in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the reasons for their closure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for revival of these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) The data on closed industrial units in the country is compiled by Labour Bureau, Shimla under the Ministry of Labour and Employment. As per the information available with the Labour Bureau, 9 units in the public sector and 385 units in the private sector were closed during the period 2003-05. Out of these, 6 units were closed in the public sector and 49 units were closed in the private sector in Uttar Pradesh. The State-wise number of industrial units closed during the last three years, as per information available with the Labour Bureau, is given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Labour Bureau has not conducted any study to assess the reasons for closures of units. As per the information collected under the Industrial Disputes Act, permanent closures are due to various reasons such as industrial disputes, financial stringency, shortage of raw materials and power, natural calamities, trade union problems, etc. As per the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, the sick industrial companies referred to them attribute change in Government policies, managerial problems, production and technical problems, marketing problems, financial problems, lack of adequate infrastructure, delay in sanction and disbursement of Team Loan by financial institutions and banks and high cost of interest as the reasons for their sickness/closure.

(d) Besides providing a policy regime that facilitates and fosters growth and development of industries, steps taken for revival of sick industrial units, *inter-alia*, include setting up of Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and issue of guidelines by Reserve Bank of India to banks for financial support and amalgamation of sick units with healthy units. Wherever feasible rehabilitation schemes are sanctioned for the revival of the units registered with the BIFR which, *inter alia*, include restructuring of the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, Government assistance for public sector units, merger with other companies, relief and concessions in the form of rescheduling of dues by Financial Institutions, banks and Government and change of management.

**Statement****State-wise list of industrial units closed**

S.No.	State	2003		2004		2005	
		Public Sector	Private Sector	Public Sector	Private Sector	Public Sector	Private Sector
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	-	2	-	1	-	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Bihar	-	2	-	1	-	-
6.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Goa	-	2	-	1	-	2
11.	Gujarat	-	39	-	32	-	7
12.	Haryana	1	1	-	4	-	2
13.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	-	-
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	3	-	1	-	-
15.	Jharkhand	-	6	-	3	-	1
16.	Karnataka	-	6	-	9	-	8
17.	Kerala	-	5	-	8	-	1
18.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
19.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-
21.	Manipur	1	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-
24.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	NCT of Delhi	-	3	-	-	-	-
26.	Orissa	-	3	-	2	-	-
27.	Pondicherry	-	6	-	-	-	-
28.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	1
29.	Rajasthan	-	2	-	1	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-
31.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-
32.	Tripura	-	22	1	99	-	45
33.	Uttar Pradesh	-	14	5	22	1	13
34.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	West Bengal	-	1	-	2	-	-
Total		2	117	6	187	1	81

### Recruitment of Primary Teachers in KVs

1707. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria fixed by the Government for the recruitment of various categories of teachers for Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether the Government recently restricted recruitment of B.Ed. graduates to the post of primary teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

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

(d) whether there has been any resistance from B.Ed. graduates in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) The criteria for recruitment of various categories of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas as per the Recruitment Rules of Kendriya Vidyalayas Sangathan (KVS) are in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, some of the non-selected candidates for the post of Primary Teacher in Kendriya Vidyalaya filed a case in Hon'ble CAT, Principal Bench, New Delhi appealing that inclusion of B.Ed alongwith JBT as an essential qualification for recruitment to the post of a Primary Teacher by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is in violation of norms prescribed by National Council for Teachers Education. Hon'ble CAT quashed the advertisement published by KVS inviting applications from candidates possessing B.Ed. along with JBT as essential qualification for recruitment of Primary Teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas and directed KVS to proceed and finalise appointment by issuing fresh advertisement in respect of Primary Teachers by ensuring that such of the

candidates who possess B.Ed or other higher educational qualification, without possessing JBT or equivalent qualification are not considered. KVS has filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble High Court, New Delhi against the decision and Hon'ble High Court has stayed the order of the Hon'ble CAT. The matter is sub judice.

(d) and (e) Some candidates with B.Ed qualification have approached the court of law and the matter is sub judice.

### Statement

*The Criteria for Recruitment of various categories of Teachers for Kendriya Vidyalayas as per Recruitment Rules of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan*

#### 1. Post Graduate Teachers

a) Pay Scale : Rs. 6500-200-10500

b) Upper Age Limit : 40 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

#### c) Essential Qualifications :

i) Two years integrated Post Graduate M.Sc Course of Regional Institute of Educational of NCERT in the concerned subject with atleast 50% marks in aggregate or Master's Degree from a recognized University with at least 50% marks in aggregate in the following subjects :-

S.No.	Name of Post	Subject (s)
1	2	3
a.	PGT (English)	English
b.	PGT (Hindi)	Hindi

1	2	3
c.	PGT (Physics)	Physics/Electronics/Applied Physics/Nuclear Physics
d.	PGT (Chemistry)	Chemistry/Bio Chemistry
e.	PGT (Economics)	Economics/Applied Economics/Business Economics
f.	PGT (Commerce)	Commerce with Accounting/ Cost Accounting/Financial Accounting as a Major subject of study. Holder of degrees of M.Com. in Applied/Business Economics shall not be eligible
g.	PGT (Maths)	Mathematics/Applied Mathematics
h.	PGT (Biology)	Botany/Zoology/Life Sciences/Bio Sciences/Genetics/Micro Biology/Bio-Technology/Molecular Bio/Plant Physiology provided they have studied Botany and Zoology at Graduation level
i.	PGT (History)	History
j.	PGT (Geography)	Geography
k.	PGT (Sanskrit)	Sanskrit
l.	PGT (Political Science)	Political Science
ii)	B.Ed. or equivalent qualification from a recognized University.	
iii)	Proficiency in teaching through Hindi and English media	
d)	<b>Desirable :</b> Knowledge of Computer Applications.	
2.	<b>Post Graduate Teacher (Computer Science)</b>	
a)	<b>Pay Scale :</b> Rs. 6500-200-10500	
b)	<b>Upper Age Limit :</b> 40 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.	

**c) Essential Qualifications :**

At-least 50% marks in aggregate in any of the following :

- i) B.E. or B.Tech (Computer Science/IT) from a recognized University or an equivalent Degree or Diploma from an institution/University recognized by the Govt. of India.

or

B.E. or B.Tech (any stream) and Post Graduate Diploma in Computers from any recognized University.

or

M.Sc. (Computer Science)/MCA or Equivalent from a recognized University

or

B.Sc (Computer Science)/BCA or Equivalent and Post Graduate degree in any subject from recognized University.

or

Post Graduate Diploma in Computer and Post Graduate degree in any subject from a recognized University.

or

'A' Level from DOEACC and Post Graduate degree in any subject

or

'B' or 'C' Level from 'DOEACC' Ministry of Information and Communication Technology

- ii) Proficiency in teaching in Hindi and English.

Note : For subsequent Promotion the incumbent will have to acquire B.Ed or equivalent qualification from a recognized University.

**3. Trained Graduate Teachers**

- a) **Pay Scale Rs. 5500-175-9000**

- b) **Upper Age Limit :** 35 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

**c) Essential Qualification :**

- i) Four Years Integrated degree course of Regional Institute of Education of NCERT in the concerned

subject with at least 50% marks in aggregate; or Second Class bachelor's degree with at least 50% marks in the concerned subjects (s) and in aggregate including electric and languages in the combination of Subjects as under :-

S.No.	Name of the Post	Subject (s)
a.	TGT (English)	English as an elective subject at Degree level
b.	TGT (Hindi)	Hindi as an elective subject at Degree level
c.	TGT (Social Studies)	Any two of the following : History, Geography, Economics and Pol. Science of which One must be either History or Geography
d.	TGT (Science)	Chemistry, Botany and Zoology
e.	TGT (Sanskrit)	Sanskrit as an elective subject at Degree level
f.	TGT (Maths)	Maths with any two of the following subjects :- Physics/Chemistry/Electronics/Computer Science/Statistics
ii.	B.Ed. or equivalent qualification from a recognized University.	
iii.	Proficiency in teaching through Hindi and English media	
d)	Desirable : Knowledge of Computer Applications.	
4.	Primary Teachers	
a)	Pay Scale : Rs. 4500-125-7000	
b)	Upper Age Limit : 30 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.	
c)	Essential Qualifications	
i)	Senior Secondary (Class XII) with 50% marks.	
ii)	JBT-after Senior Secondary (Class-XII) or B.Ed or equivalent or B.El.Ed.	
iii)	Proficiency in teaching through Hindi and English media	
d)	Desirable : Knowledge of Computer Applications.	
5.	Drawing Teacher	
a)	Pay Scale : Rs. 5500-175-9000	

b) Upper Age Limit : 35 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

c) Essential Qualifications :

Five years' recognized Diploma In Drawing and Painting/Sculpture/Graphic Art.

or

Four years' Diploma in Fine Arts and Crafts from Viswa Bharti, Shanti Niketan.

or

Diploma in Fine Arts from Govt. School of Arts and Crafts, Patna.

or

M.A. in Drawing and Painting from Agra University, Agra

or

Equivalent recognized Degree.

or

B.Ed Degree/Diploma in Fine Arts from Regional College of Education.

d) Desirable : Working knowledge of computer application.

6. Work Experience Teacher

a) Pay Scale : Rs. 5500-175-9000

b) Upper Age Limit : 35 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

c) Essential Qualifications

1. Electrical Gadget and Electronics :

i) Three year Diploma after Higher Secondary in Electrical/Electronics Engineering from an institution recognized by State Govt./Govt. of India. (The minimum qualification for admission to the Diploma Course should be atleast Higher Secondary)

or

Degree in Electrical or Electronics Engineering from a recognized University.

or

B.Sc. (Tech.), B.Ed. from Regional College of Education, Bhopal/Bhubneshwar/Mysore/Ajmer

(ii) Knowledge of Computer Operation

(iii) Working Knowledge of Hindi & English.

d) **Desirable** : One year practical experience in a recognized Workshop/Institution.

## 2. Sewing Needle Work And Embroidery :

i) A Three-year Diploma after Higher Secondary in Tailoring/Sewing, Needle Work and Embroidery from an institution recognized by State Govt./Govt. of India.

or

A Three-year Diploma after Higher Secondary in Home Science from an institution recognized by State Govt./Govt. of India. The minimum qualification for admission to the Diploma Course should be Higher Secondary.

or

B.Sc (Home Science), B.Ed. from a recognized University.

ii) Knowledge of Computer Operation.

iii) Working Knowledge of Hindi & English.

**Desirable** : One year practical experience in a recognized Workshop/Institution/Factory

## 7. Yoga Teacher

a) **Pay Scale** : Rs. 5500-175-9000

b) **Upper Age Limit** : 35 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

## c) Essential Qualifications

i) Graduation in any subject or equivalent from a recognized University.

ii) One year Training in Yoga from a recognized Institution.

## 8. Physical Education Teacher

a) **Pay Scale** : Rs. 5500-175-9000

b) **Upper Age Limit** : 35 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

## c) Essential Qualifications

University Degree with recognized Diploma in Physical Education or BPED from Laxmibai College of Physical Education OR equivalent qualification. Distinguished sportsmen who have represented the Country in recognized National or International events may also be made eligible for appointment on TRIAL BASIS provided they possess the University Degree and the condition of possessing the Diploma in Physical Education or equivalent qualification shall not apply.

## 9. Music Teacher

a) **Pay Scale** : Rs. 4500-125-7000

b) **Upper Age Limit** : 30 Years relaxable upto five years in the case of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Age relaxation for SC/ST and other categories as applicable under Govt. of India Rules would be applicable.

## c) Essential Qualifications

Degree in Music from a recognized University OR Higher Secondary with any of the following viz. Sangeet Visharad of Gandharav Maha Vidyalaya, Bombay OR Bhatkhande Sangeet Vidyapeeth, Lucknow Or Indira Kala Sangeet Viswa Vidyalaya, Khairagarh (MP) OR Sangeet Prabhakar Examination of Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad OR equivalent qualification from other recognized Institutions. The following Degree/Diploma awarded by Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh will also be treated as equivalent qualification for the post of Music Teacher.

i) Sangeet Bhaskar with Graduation in any discipline.

ii) Sangeet/Nritya Bhushan with Graduation in any discipline.

iii) Sangeet Bhushan with Sr. Secondary/ Intermediate/Part-I of 3 years Degree Course.

iv) Sangeet/Nritya Visharad with Sr. Sec./ Intermediate. 3 - year degree Part-I Examination



[English]

#### Loss to NDMC

1708. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID :  
DR. RAJESH MISHRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has caused financial loss due to hiring trucks of private companies for lifting garbage in areas under its jurisdiction despite having its own trucks;

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

(c) the estimated loss caused to the council on this account and the action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The New Delhi Municipal Council has not suffered any financial loss due to hiring of trucks as private trucks are hired by it because the number of trucks available with it for lifting garbage in areas under its jurisdiction is less than the requirement.

[English]

#### Increase in Import of Items

1709. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of items whose import has increased during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the reasons for increase in import; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce imports of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) The top commodities whose imports have increased during the last three years include petroleum crude & products; machinery except electrical and electronics; electronics goods; gold, pearls, precious and semi precious stones, etc. Most of the Commodities recording a higher growth of import reflect the growth of demand for raw-materials, intermediate products and capital goods from the manufacturing sector or growth of commodity prices as in the case of crude oil.

(c) Whereas promotion of export is an important objective of the Government's Trade Policy, imports are largely governed by the emerging needs of the economy and international prices of commodities. The Government normally does not take measures to restrict imports which may lead to dampening of the growth in the economy and resurgence of inflationary pressures.

[Translation]

#### Incentive on use of Khadi

1710. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide incentive to the people for using of Khadi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Through Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC), the Government provides rebate on sale of khadi and khadi products of encouraging the consumers to use khadi products. The KVIC also organizes and participates in fairs, exhibitions, fashion shows, etc., for promoting and popularizing khadi in the country.

[English]

#### Illegal Firearms Trade

1711. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the illegal firearms trade is flourishing in the capital and also in other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether such illegal firearms are mostly used in crimes and the various State Governments have failed to check such rising trend; and

(d) if so, the strategies adopted by the Government to bring changes in the Arms Act to ban manufacturing and use of illegal arms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) and (b) There is no specific information to suggest that illegal firearms trade is flourishing either in the capital or in other parts of the country.

(c) and (d) Some of such illegal arms are used in criminal activities. There is, however, no input to suggest that State Governments have failed to check them. Under the directions of the Government of India, the States and UTs conduct frequent drives to unearth unlicensed/illegal arms. Proper inspection of the licensed dealers and manufacturers of arms is being regularly conducted by the States and UTs to check any diversion. The existing provisions in the Arms Act are potent enough to deal with such offences and bring the offenders to book as the punishment prescribed is stringent ranging from three years to life imprisonment with fine.

#### Export of Tea

1712. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :

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

(a) the export of tea during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise;

(b) whether several countries including Egypt and Pakistan are turning to India for tea in wake of the drought in Kenya;

(c) If so, the details thereof alongwith necessary steps being taken to meet such demand;

(d) the extent to which the export of tea has increased in the recent past; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the tea export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAI RAM RAMESH) : (a) Details of major country-wise export of tea during the last three years alongwith foreign exchange earned are given below:-

Country	Years					
	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06*	
	Quantity (Million Kg)	Value (US \$ Million)	Quantity (Million Kg)	Value (US \$ Million)	Quantity (Million Kg)	Value (US \$ Million)
Russian Federation	42.76	60.91	36.87	60.74	33.10	54.56
Kazakhstan	13.07	26.88	13.63	31.95	07.34	16.91
UK	20.75	39.36	19.88	41.22	20.81	40.09
Iraq	14.27	19.42	38.38	45.58	28.69	33.62
USA	8.45	24.61	7.93	25.86	8.96	29.71
UAE	25.70	62.41	24.28	60.51	26.03	59.58
Pakistan	06.54	06.43	4.68	05.04	10.57	09.79
Others	51.53	123.76	60.16	158.21	45.56	124.98
Total	183.07	363.78	205.81	429.11	181.06	369.24

\* Provisional

Tea export during 2006-07 (April-May) were 22.89 million kg. of value US\$ 43.36 million as compared to 21.25 million kg. of value US\$ 50.48 million during the corresponding period of 2005-06.

(b) and (c) Pakistan is one of the major importers of tea from Kenya. A delegation from Pakistan Tea Association visited India during April, 2006 and had extensive discussions with the Indian Tea Association/producers/

exporters etc., for importing Indian tea into Pakistan in the wake of the drought in Kenya. It is expected that higher volume of Indian tea would be exported to Pakistan this year. It is also expected that the export of tea from India to various countries including Egypt may go up during 2006 due to drought in Kenya

The increased export demand is expected to be met by the tea industry through increased production.

(d) The export of tea from India registered an increase from 183.07 million kgs. in 2003-04 to 205.81 million kgs. in 2004-05 (an increase of 12.4%). However, tea exports during 2005-06 came down to 181.06 million kgs. Tea exports during 2006-2007 (April-May) were 22.89 million kgs. as against 21.25 million kgs. during the corresponding period of 2005-06 (an increase of 7.7%)

(e) Steps taken to increase exports of tea include implementation of a medium term export strategy, encouraging production of quality teas especially orthodox type of teas, participation in major trade fairs/exhibitions abroad, lending promotional support to Indian exporters in marketing Indian brands, field sampling at specialty stores and in principal markets, exchange of tea delegations, launching media campaigns to increase consumer awareness, etc.

#### Textile Units in Andhra Pradesh

1713. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded a proposal to Union Government to set up new textile units in coastal areas which are most suitable for the textile industry;

(b) whether the State Government has sought assistance from the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the assistance/aid provided/likely to be provided by the Union Government; and

(d) the time by which new units are likely to be set up in coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### Construction Activities of Pak on Border Area

1714. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Strategic construction works are on increase in the border area of Pakistan near Indo-Pak International border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) and (b) It has been reported that Pakistan Rangers/Army troops are engaged in the construction of bunkers/pill boxes, new posts, observation towers, defence bundhs, etc. along/in close proximity of International Border.

(c) Strong protest notes are lodged by Border Security Force with their counterparts in Pakistan. Pakistani activities are being closely monitored and suitable remedial measures are being adopted to deny advantage to them.

[English]

#### Investment by MNC in Industrial Sector

1715. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY :  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :  
SHRI GANESH SINGH :  
SHRI IQBAL AMHED SARADGI :

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

(a) the details of the industries in which foreign investment has been made during the each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise and sector-wise;

(b) the number of persons provided employment by such industries, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has signed any agreement with some other countries to invest in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the investment proposals, country-wise and sector-wise; and

(e) the States where this investment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) Statements showing country-wise and sector-wise Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows received during the last three years and the current year (April-May) are given in the statement-I and II respectively.

(b) FDI, like any other investment, has the potential of generating employment opportunities. Separate data regarding number of persons employed in various companies with FDI is not maintained centrally.

(c) Under the liberalised economic environment, investment, decisions, including choice of location, are determined by various techno-economic factors such as the investment climate, macro-economic policy of the host country, policies of the transnational corporations, and commercial judgement of the investors. Government has entered into a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement with Singapore, which includes an agreement on investment. The agreement with Singapore was entered into in June 2005 and came into force from August 2005.

(d) FDI equity inflow from Singapore during August 2005 to May 2006 is US\$ 273.76 million. Major sectors attracting investment are Soaps, cosmetics & toilet preparations, Services sector, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals (other than fertilisers).

(e) The States attracting major investments from Singapore are Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

**Statement-I**

**Country-wise FDI Inflows  
(From April 2003 to May 2006)**

(Amount in crore)

Sl.No.	Country	2003-04 Apr-Mar FDI in Rs.	2004-05 Apr-Mar FDI in Rs.	2005-06 Apr-Mar FDI in Rs.	2006-07 Apr-Mar FDI in Rs.	Total FDI in Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Australia	91.30	84.98	41.33	33.18	250.80
2.	Australia	9.26	21.87	7.19	0.01	38.34
3.	Bahamas	12.05	26.04	2.69	0.00	40.78
4.	Bahrain	49.25	0.00	1.01	0.01	50.27
5.	Belgium	81.98	2.47	54.00	0.54	139.00
6.	Bermuda	3.24	12.07	0.76	0.00	16.08
7.	Brazil	0.00	0.11	0.14	0.00	0.25
8.	Bangladesh	12.87	13.39	1.15	0.00	27.41
9.	Bulgaria	0.01	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.64
10.	Canada	46.50	65.64	53.73	1.33	167.19
11.	Cayman Island	91.15	38.27	132.55	0.61	262.58
12.	Channel Island	3.00	2.45	18.58	0.00	24.03
13.	China	0.26	5.98	4.17	0.01	10.42
14.	Croatia	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
15.	Czech Republic	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.44
16.	Cyprus	16.29	12.09	309.97	6.55	344.90
17.	Denmark	63.63	95.49	207.14	0.77	367.03
18.	Finland	0.03	6.69	14.77	0.00	21.49
19.	France	176.27	536.78	82.20	71.68	866.92
20.	Greece	0.01	0.01	0.24	0.00	0.26
21.	Germany	373.40	663.18	1,344.53	44.22	2,425.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Hongkong	97.74	49.23	116.36	46.87	310.20
23.	Hungary	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.47
24.	Indonesia	8.27	1.28	4.71	0.41	14.67
25.	Ireland	4.90	3.95	40.24	0.00	49.09
26.	Isle of Man	0.76	2.00	1.97	0.00	4.73
27.	Israel	1.12	0.56	20.00	0.06	21.74
28.	Italy	25.00	124.86	179.39	2.95	332.21
29.	Liechtenstein	3.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.06
30.	Japan	360.45	575.19	925.07	73.75	1,934.45
31.	Kazakhstan	0.00	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.10
32.	Korea (North)	0.00	1.50	0.10	0.00	1.60
33.	Lebanon	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
34.	Korea (South)	109.94	157.04	269.05	50.42	586.45
35.	Kuwait	0.42	7.25	0.87	0.00	8.55
36.	Luxembourg	17.16	2.09	25.85	7.50	52.60
37.	Malaysia	217.36	36.50	31.10	4.58	289.54
38.	Mauritius	2,608.68	5,141.36	11,441.07	3,538.55	22,729.66
39.	Mexico	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
40.	Maldives	0.01	0.00	13.06	0.00	13.07
41.	NRI	72.53	296.29	2,288.68	46.19	2,703.69
42.	Nepal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35
43.	Netherlands	2,247.32	1,216.81	340.37	180.00	3,984.50
44.	Nevis	0.00	0.00	83.96	0.00	83.06
45.	New Zealand	0.00	0.49	0.55	0.00	1.04
46.	Nigeria	4.50	2.14	0.00	0.00	6.65
47.	Norway	0.58	0.62	2.53	0.10	3.83
48.	Oman	37.44	24.86	2.13	0.00	64.44
49.	Panama	0.00	0.06	10.60	0.00	10.66
50.	Phillipines	0.00	1.29	0.73	0.00	2.02
51.	Poland	1.10	0.25	7.04	0.00	8.39
52.	Portugal	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.00	0.56
53.	Qatar	0.05	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.40
54.	Russia	0.20	1.21	1.61	113.71	116.74
55.	Saudi Arabia	28.20	0.20	3.95	0.15	32.50
56.	Singapore	171.73	821.73	1,218.24	116.02	2,327.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
57.	Scotland	0.00	0.00	8.79	0.00	8.79
58.	South Africa	11.75	20.93	97.30	0.00	129.98
59.	Slovakia	0.00	7.93	0.00	0.00	7.93
60.	Spain	9.15	27.54	38.05	78.74	153.48
61.	Sri Lanka	0.00	1.68	2.10	0.00	3.78
62.	Sweden	187.34	338.19	137.00	0.85	663.38
63.	Switzerland	206.61	353.38	425.83	30.12	1,015.94
64.	Taiwan	2.63	12.76	4.26	0.01	19.67
65.	Thailand	5.63	11.17	21.87	8.73	47.41
66.	Turkey	0.19	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.23
67.	U.A.E.	77.33	177.71	219.41	13.05	487.50
68.	U.K.	768.54	458.34	1,164.13	211.47	2,602.47
69.	U.S.A.	1,658.25	3,055.31	2,209.83	681.01	7,604.40
70.	Ukraine	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.05
71.	Venezuela	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
72.	Uruguay	0.00	0.00	6.33	7.25	13.58
73.	British Virginia	9.61	6.52	24.26	6.76	47.15
74.	West Indies	0.00	1.10	130.97	0.00	132.07
75.	Yugoslavia	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.47
76.	Unindicated Country	0.07	61.09	614.63	20.19	695.99
77.	Malta	0.42	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.51
78.	Iran	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
79.	Muscat	0.00	0.00	0.91	0.00	0.91
80.	Tanzania	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
81.	Georgia	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
82.	Gibraltar	0.01	10.08	37.03	0.00	47.12
83.	Jordon	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.03
84.	Vietnam	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
85.	Ice Land	0.80	0.00	78.03	0.00	78.83
86.	Kenya	4.62	0.00	0.04	0.00	4.66
87.	Egypt	0.00	0.07	0.22	0.00	0.29
88.	Yaman	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.04
89.	Cuba	0.01	2.15	2.16	0.00	4.31
90.	Liberia	0.00	0.00	48.64	0.00	48.64
91.	Mayanmar	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
92.	Malta	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02
93.	Morocco	69.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	69.97
94.	Columbia	0.01	0.00	1.09	0.00	1.10
95.	British Isles	0.00	22.68	1.21	0.00	23.89
96.	Aruba	1.74	0.22	0.00	0.00	1.96
97.	Virgin Islands	0.00	0.58	0.00	3.58	4.15
98.	Peru	0.00	0.16	0.04	0.00	0.20
99.	Tunisia	0.00	19.84	0.00	0.00	19.84
100.	Uganda	0.00	0.41	3.12	0.00	3.52
101.	Seychelles	0.00	4.47	0.00	0.00	4.47
102.	West Africa	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.07
103.	Fiji Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.63	13.63
104.	Advance of inflow*	1,880.76	2,485.15	0.00	0.00	4,365.90
105.	Stock Swapped*	172.50	0.00	28.37	0.00	200.87
Grand Total		12,117.27	17,137.87	24,612.74	5,415.81	59,283.69

Note : 1. Amount includes the inflows Received through SIA/FIPB route, acquisition of existing shares and RBI's automatic route only.

2. \*denotes that the Advance of inflow & Stock Swapped are not segregated country-wise by RBI, Mumbai.

### Statement-II

#### Sector-wise FDI Inflows (from April 2003 to May 2006)

(Amount in crore)

Sl.No.	Sector	2003-04 Apr-Mar	2004-05 Apr-Mar	2005-06 Apr-Mar	2006-07 Apr-Mar	Total
		FDI in Rs.	FDI in Rs.	FDI in Rs.	FDI in Rs.	FDI in Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Metallurgical Industries	146.06	880.95	680.84	160.09	1,867.94
2.	Fuels (Power & Oil Refinery)	520.94	759.00	415.71	387.84	2,083.49
3.	Boilers and Steam Generating Plants	0.20	2.34	0.00	0.00	2.54
4.	Prime Movers other than Electrical	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
5.	Electricals Equipment (Incl. S/W & Elec)	2,449.32	3,280.58	6,499.06	958.36	12,587.33
6.	Telecommunications	531.95	588.41	3,023.46	1,383.83	5,527.65
7.	Transportation Industry	1,417.13	815.10	982.99	318.09	3,533.31
8.	Industrial Machinery	13.93	40.74	187.52	20.11	262.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Machine Tools	250.75	50.73	100.25	3.43	405.16
10.	Agricultural Machinery	0.11	0.01	415.97	0.00	416.09
11.	Earth-Moving Machinery	0.05	0.47	231.30	0.00	231.82
12.	Miscellaneous Mechanical & Engineering	100.07	56.73	226.21	3.37	386.37
13.	Commercial, Office & Household Equipment	40.96	62.46	111.41	4.50	219.33
14.	Medical and Surgical Appliances	9.26	24.05	6.72	0.00	40.03
15.	Industrial Instruments	4.16	4.95	1.69	0.00	10.80
16.	Scientific Instruments	0.07	0.14	0.45	0.00	0.66
17.	Fertilizers	99.29	61.90	19.31	0.00	180.50
18.	Chemicals (Other than Fertilizers)	93.69	908.68	1,979.06	81.93	3,063.36
19.	Photographic Raw Film and Paper	1.35	27.62	0.00	0.00	28.97
20.	Dye-Stuffs	2.00	5.42	0.00	0.00	7.42
21.	Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	501.67	1,342.91	759.70	10.32	2,614.60
22.	Textiles (Includ Dyed, Printed)	42.84	196.84	414.67	26.21	680.56
23.	Paper and Pulp including Paper Product	31.68	12.41	122.90	1.80	168.80
24.	Sugar	0.25	13.51	13.10	0.00	26.86
25.	Fermentation Industries	7.82	41.64	28.57	0.00	78.03
26.	Food Processing Industries	510.85	174.08	182.94	3.75	871.63
27.	Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati	7.79	41.03	54.00	0.74	103.56
28.	Soaps, Cosmetics and Toilet Preparations	0.00	4.09	388.49	1.74	394.32
29.	Rubber Goods	29.31	184.18	150.77	0.70	364.96
30.	Leather, Leather Goods and Pickers	32.18	2.03	4.89	0.34	39.44
31.	Glass	24.11	38.47	3.54	1.37	67.50
32.	Ceramics	6.78	123.09	25.02	4.40	159.29
33.	Cement and Gypsum Products	44.04	0.73	1,969.82	1.99	2,016.58
34.	Timber Products	0.50	0.31	465.64	0.00	466.45
35.	Defence Industries	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
36.	Consultancy Services	257.13	1,166.83	206.44	13.61	1,644.02
37.	Service Sector	1,235.27	2,105.53	2,565.04	1,089.25	6,995.11



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
38.	Hotel & Tourism	226.80	168.85	315.59	22.33	733.58
39.	Trading	104.66	65.72	123.43	108.95	402.77
40.	Miscellaneous Industries	1,319.11	1,399.71	1,907.83	1,406.75	6,033.39
42.	Advance of Inflow*	1,880.76	2,485.15	0.00	0.00	4,365.90
43.	Stock Swapped*	172.50	0.00	28.37	0.00	200.87
Grand Total		12,117.27	17,137.87	24,612.74	5,415.81	59,283.69

Note : 1. Amount includes the Inflows Received through SIA/FIPB route, acquisition of existing shares and RBI's automatic route only.

2. \*denotes that the Advance of Inflow & Stock Swapped are not Sector-wise by RBI, Mumbai.

### Patent of Agriculture Products

1716. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Spices Board has taken any initiative to patent some of our agricultural produces under geographical indications like Darjeeling Tea, Malabar Pepper, Idukki, Cardamom, Vyanadu Turmeric etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any limitation of Spices Board to patent under geographical indications of certain special agricultural produces;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Spices Board has already filed its application for registering Malabar pepper and Tellicherry pepper with the Geographical Indications Registry at Chennai. Board has also taken initiative to register Alleppey Green Cardamom, Coorg Green Cardamom and Guntur Sannam Chilli under Geographical Indication Act. Spices Boards has not faced any limitation to register spices under Geographical Indications Act.

Tea Board has registered Darjeeling Tea as a Geographical Indication under the Geographical Indications (Registration and Production) Act, 1999.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

### Right of Education Bill

1717. MS. INGRID MCLEOD :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

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

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to enact the Right to Education Bill for providing free and compulsory education to the children in the age of 6th to 14 years group.

(b) if so, the details thereof including salient features of the proposed legislation; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be enacted and laid on the floor of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) A draft Model Bill on Right to Education, to be adopted by the States, containing provisions relating to the child's right to free and compulsory education of equitable quality, responsibility of the State and appropriate governments etc., has been circulated recently to the Central Ministers/Departments concerned and the State Governments for their comments.

[English]

### Stock of Foodgrains for Export

1718. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the stock position of wheat and sugar for export as on June, 2006;

(b) the quantity of wheat and sugar to be exported during the current financial year; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No separate stocks of wheat and sugar are earmarked for export.

(b) The quantity of wheat and sugar to be exported is not determined by the Government as exports are commercial dealings by individual traders and are guided by the prevailing market conditions including supply and demand factors.

(c) Does not arise.

### Bilateral Agreement between India and France

1719. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation from India recently visited France;

(b) If so, the details alongwith the discussions held and agreement signed by both the countries;

(c) the extent to which trade between both the countries is likely to be increased;

(d) whether both the countries have also agreed to strengthen cooperation in the area of intellectual property right;

(e) whether France has also agreed to open its liaison office in India; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) A delegation led by Minister of Commerce and Industry visited France during May 30 June 1, 2006 for the 14th Session of the Indo-French Joint Committee, held in Paris on 31 May 2006, the two sides discussed ways and means of promoting bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation in various sectors.

The Minister of State (Industrial Policy and Promotion) visited France during July 11-12, 2006 and 15 July, 2006. A Memorandum of Understanding between India and France on cooperation in the areas of intellectual property rights was signed on 15 July 2006.

(c) The two countries have targeted to double bilateral trade within five years.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Ministry for Foreign Trade on the Republic of France has decided to enhance its presence in India through reinforcement of its economic and trade offices network under the umbrella of the French Embassy throughout India by 2006.

[Translation]

### Setting up of Co-operative Tea Processing Factories

1720. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tea Board proposes to set up certain co-operative tea processing factories in Assam;

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

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred on setting up of these factories; and

(d) the number of persons likely to get employment from these factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No Sir. Processing units are set up by plantation owners/ entrepreneurs themselves.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### Leaking out of Question Papers

1721. SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to U.S. Q.No. 3896 dated December 20, 2005 regarding leaking out of question papers and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be tabled on the floor of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) No centralised information is maintained by the Ministry regarding leakage of question papers in Technical Entrance Examination as they are conducted by various organizations across the country. However, information has been collected from various State Governments, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) of Indian Institutes of Technology, Common Admission Test (CAT) of Indian Institutes of Management etc. Except CBSE and CAT Entrance Exams, various State Government and other agencies have informed that there has been no leakage of question papers for the Technical Entrance Examinations conducted by them in the last two years. The CBSE has informed that :-

(i) question paper for All India pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance (Preliminary) Test, 2004 was leaked.

(ii) The Delhi Police has so far arrested 18 persons against whom a charge sheet has been filed in the

court of Metropolitan Magistrate, Karkardooma Court, Delhi. Two persons are absconding and they have been declared proclaimed offender.

- (iii) A high-level Committee was constituted to study the existing system of examination and suggest necessary measures for further strengthening the system.
- (iv) On the recommendations of the Committee, further measures have already been taken to ensure the smooth conduct of successive professional entrance exams by the CBSE like All India pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance Preliminary and Final Examination and also All India Engineering Entrance Examination.

Regarding Common Admission Test (CAT) for Indian Institute of Management (IIMs), the CAT 2003 test paper was allegedly leaked from the printing press. The test was cancelled and a re-test was conducted in February, 2004. IIMs reviewed the entire process of conducting test, so that secrecy and confidentiality is maintained. Several additional precautions, i.e. change of the printing press, additional seal for each question paper, additional security during test conduction, additional deployment of faculty and staff during conduction of the test, etc. were implemented in subsequent years and the IIMs have successfully conducted three tests (re-test for CAT, 2003, CAT-2004 and CAT-2005) without any problem.

[Translation]

#### **Militant Training to Youths**

1722. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether I.S.I. Pakistan has lured youths of the country to indulge in disruptive activities;
- (b) if so, whether youths of several States are provided militant training in the neighbouring countries;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) the details of the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such activities effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) Available inputs indicate that some Indian youths from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been lured by I.S.I. to carry out violent and subversive activities in India. It has also come to notice that some of these Indian youths had visited Pakistan, Bangladesh etc. and received arms training.

(d) The Government pursues a multidimensional approach to deal with terrorism and extends support to the States in neutralizing terrorist activities. The Government has taken measures which include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment for security forces both at the Centre and in the States, undertaking well coordinated intelligence based operations, etc. Besides, mechanisms have been set up to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation to deal with global dimensions of terrorism.

#### **Juvenile Justice Law**

1723. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any notice in September, 2005 to the Union Government as well as to many State Governments with regard to a public interest litigation on proper implementation of juvenile justice law, protection and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders, setting up of juvenile justice board and providing basic facilities to them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has given the reply of the notice to the Supreme Court; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Export of Stones**

1724. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

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

- (a) the quantity of precious stones exported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise; and
- (b) the details of the agencies engaged in export of stones, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND

INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Due to different units used to quantify various precious stones, quantity-wise cumulative figures of export of precious stones can not be compiled. Moreover, State-wise data on quantity of precious stones exported is not maintained by Government of India. However, data on export value of precious stones (excluding diamonds) exported through notified ports during the last three years and during April-June, 2006 is as follows :-

(In Million US\$)

Port	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	April-June 2006
Mumbai	10.53	10.83	4.90	1.60
Jaipur	141.05	158.16	212.04	45.49
Delhi	26.77	23.60	16.07	2.52
Kolkata	0.04	0.03	0.20	0.48
Chennai	0.08	0.13	0.31	0.00
Cochin	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hyderabad	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>178.48</b>	<b>192.75</b>	<b>233.53</b>	<b>50.09</b>

(Source : Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council)

Data on foreign exchange earned country-wise, through export of precious stones (excluding diamonds) is as follows :-

(In Million US\$)

Country	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	April-June 2006
1	2	3	4	5
U.S.A.	91.21	88.35	99.06	21.61
Hond Kong	23.92	26.53	37.87	6.52
Thailand	20.61	28.06	39.58	7.87
Japan	12.99	13.60	15.51	2.72
Taiwan	1.38	1.72	1.62	0.44
Lebanan	0.64	1.31	1.34	0.33
U.A.E.	1.91	2.90	5.01	1.51
Australia	1.09	0.88	1.13	0.11
Israel	1.09	1.29	1.25	0.30
Canada	1.25	1.31	1.43	0.18

1	2	3	4	5
Germany	6.10	8.57	8.06	1.64
Switzerland	2.34	7.60	4.99	0.76
France	4.58	4.40	2.49	0.77
Italy	9.13	11.45	12.79	3.70
Spain	1.73	1.64	2.80	0.49
U.K.	2.83	2.70	5.51	1.39
Belgium	1.08	0.74	0.81	0.53
Others	5.59	7.34	8.14	2.21
Gross Exports	189.47	208.39	249.09	53.05
Return Consignment	10.99	15.64	15.56	2.96
Net Exports	178.48	192.75	233.53	50.09

(Source : Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council)

(b) Export of precious stones is made by private exporters, which is regulated by the provisions of Foreign Trade Policy and Customs notifications. As per Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), a representative body of the trade, details of their registered member-exporters enrolled in their various Regional offices is as follows :-

Regional Office	No. of entities
Mumbai	85
Delhi	84
Jaipur	882
Kolkata	5
Chennai	39
Surat	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>1109</b>

#### Asbestos Mining

1725. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has made any request to the Union Government to lift the ban imposed on Asbestos mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Rajasthan has requested the Central Government to lift the ban on grant/renewal of mining leases of asbestos.

(c) Indian Bureau of Mines in consultation with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Directorate General of Mines Safety is considering guidelines for safe mining of asbestos by way of reducing permissible limit of airborne respirable asbestos fibre dust. The guidelines have not yet been finalized.

#### **Extension to Vidarbha and Maharashtra Development Board**

1726. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has constituted Vidarbha and Maharashtra Development Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has extended the tenure of such Boards;

(d) if so, the reasons for extending the tenure;

(e) whether the Government has reviewed the working and achievement of the such Boards before extending their tenure; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) and (b) Three Development Boards viz. the Vidarbha Development Board, the Marathwada Development Board and the Development Board for the Rest of Maharashtra, constituted in terms of Article 371 (2) of the Constitution, are functioning in Maharashtra since 1.5.1994.

(c) The term of the Development Boards has been extended upto 30.4.2010.

(d) In April 2005, the Governor of Maharashtra reported that the Development Boards had since their establishment taken many initiatives with respect to the responsibilities entrusted to them under Article 371(2) of the Constitution and there were many areas where their activities had reached a crucial stage which needed an effective thrust. He, therefore, recommended for extension

of the term of the Development Boards up to 30.4.2010, which was accepted by the Union Government.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission undertook a performance evaluation study of the Statutory Development Boards and submitted its report on 3.9.2003. The Planning Commission supported the continuance of these Development Boards.

#### **Reserves of Gold and Gem Stones**

1727. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :  
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :  
SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the places in the country where gold, precious/less precious gem stones are available, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to implement any special plan for extraction and exploitation of these reserves in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the quantity of Gold and such stones available in these reserves and the quantity of stones extracted annually during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;

(e) the value of gold exploited and such stones extracted and the extent thereof used in local market;

(f) the number of such mines closed during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(g) the details of employees of such mines declared surplus and steps taken for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Setting up of Regional Office of NVS**

1728. SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Regional Office by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti at Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) There is no such proposal as present.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Tea Package for Small Tea Growers**

1729. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN :

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

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

(a) whether the Government has approved any special package for small tea growers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Directorate of some small tea growers has been formed under the aegis of the Tea Board;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith funds provided as incentives for production of orthodox tea so far, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to open new Tea Auction Centres/branches of Tea/Coffee Board in various parts of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Developmental needs of the small tea growers are being met from the ongoing 10th Plan Schemes of the Tea Board which includes assistance by way of subsidy for new planting, replanting and rejuvenation of old and uneconomic tea areas and creation of irrigation facilities. Special assistance is also given to the small growers towards organizing themselves into self-help groups.

(c) and (d) The developmental needs of the small tea growers are being looked after by the Development Directorate in the Tea Board. State-wise details of orthodox tea subsidy disbursed upto 31st July, 2006 are given below:

States	Funds disbursed (Rs. in crores)
1	2
Assam	7.05
West Bengal (excluding Darjeeling)	1.80

1	2
Darjeeling	2.95
Tamil Nadu	6.52
Kerala	2.68
Others (Himachal Pradesh, Tripura etc)	0.26
Total	21.26

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Norms for FDI**

1730. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the FDI norms laid down for investment particularly in manufacturing sector;

(b) whether there is any proposal to ease FDI norms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise and benefits likely to be accrued therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Detailed FDI Policy norms have been amended by Government from time to time. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100% is permitted on the automatic route in all manufacturing activities except:-

(i) Defence Industry (where there is an equity cap of 26% and entry route restriction).

(ii) Cigars & Cigarette manufacturing (where there is an entry route restriction);

(iii) Where provisions of Press Note 1(2005 series) are attracted i.e. where the foreign investor has an existing joint venture in India in the same field (where there is an entry route restriction);

(iv) Where more than 24% foreign equity is proposed to be inducted for manufacturer of items reserved for Small Scale sector (where there is an entry route restriction).

(b) and (c) The review of FDI policy is undertaken on a continuous basis with the objective to liberalise/rationalise/simplify both policy and procedures so as to optimize benefits for the industry and entrepreneurs. The policy was last reviewed in January 2006.

### ARI Proposals from States

1731. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from various States particularly from Andhra Pradesh for Agro and Rural Industry (ARI) during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(c) the time by which all proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) All proposals received from various States, including Andhra Pradesh, upto end June 2006 for cluster development under the 'Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries' (SFURTI) have been examined. Seven clusters in Andhra Pradesh have been identified for development under SFURTI, out of the total 68 such clusters for various States.

[Translation]

### Conversion of Hindus in J & K

1732. SHRI RAKESH SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether terrorists are forcibly converting Hindus in Jammu and Kashmir as a part of their strategy to make the non-Hindu zone;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to check such incidents in the valley and check migration of Hindus from there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) No incident regarding forcible conversion of Hindus in Jammu and Kashmir by terrorists has been reported till date.

[English]

### Fee Structure in Private Deemed Universities

1733. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) proposes to set up a committee to study the prevailing fee structure in the Private Deemed Universities and recommend a uniform admission policy as reported in the *Economic Times* dated July 03, 2006; and

(b) if so, the details and terms of reference thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), there is no proposal to set up a committee to study the prevailing fee structure in the Private Deemed Universities and recommended a uniform admission policy. However, the UGC guidelines for Deemed to be Universities has a provision that admission procedure and fee fixation for students shall be in accordance with the norms/rules prescribed by the UGC.

### Profits/Losses by Agro and Rural Industries

1734. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agro and rural industries existing as on date in various States particularly in Himachal Pradesh; State-wise;

(b) the total number of earned profit/incurred loss during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for incurring losses by these industries; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to review/help these industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) For setting up agro and rural industries (ARI) in the rural areas of the country, the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) provides assistance to prospective entrepreneurs under its credit-linked subsidy scheme, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The State/Union Territory-wise details of total number of units set up by eligible beneficiaries under the REGP (up to 31 March 2005) in the country, including Himachal Pradesh, are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The state-wise details of the present financial status, including profit/loss, of individual or groups of units of these industries are not maintained centrally.

(c) The reasons for such industries incurring loss include inadequate availability of credit; infrastructure constraints, use of obsolete technology, inconsistent quality of products, product designs not be in keeping with the market demands, difficulties in market access, lack of entrepreneurial/managerial skills, etc.

(d) Existing units/self-employment ventures, which were set up with credit from banks but have now become sick, are eligible for rehabilitation assistance to sick small scale industries, as per the guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). These measures include, inter alia, waiver of penal interest on cash credit and term loan from the year the unit started making cash losses, segregation of unpaid interest on cash credit and term loan from the total liability and treating the former amount as a separate interest-free loan, reduced rate of interest (reduction of up to 3 per cent for tiny units) on unpaid term loans, additional working capital loan at a rate of interest not exceeding the prime lending rate, etc.

Further, based on the "Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises" announced by the Government in Parliament on 10 August, 2005, the RBI has issued guidelines on 8 September, 2005 to all public sector banks that envisage debt restructuring mechanism for nursing sick/potentially sick small and medium enterprises (SME) including rural agro industrial units, back to health.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise details of the units set up under the REGP (upto 31 March 2005)*

S.No.	Name of the State	Number of REGP units
1	2	3
1.	Chandigarh	156
2.	Delhi	228
3.	Haryana	6249
4.	Himachal Pradesh	2374
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	7556
6.	Punjab	10467
7.	Rajasthan	27434
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	422

1	2	3
9.	Bihar	1100
10.	Jharkhand	1058
11.	Orissa	4157
12.	West Bengal	19807
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	422
14.	Assam	3865
15.	Manipur	840
16.	Meghalaya	3293
17.	Mizoram	1070
18.	Nagaland	4941
19.	Sikkim	286
20.	Tripura	666
21.	Andhra Pradesh	14858
22.	Karnataka	14093
23.	Kerala	9341
24.	Lakshadweep	10
25.	Pondicherry	956
26.	Tamil Nadu	6741
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15
28.	Goa	2439
29.	Gujarat	1474
30.	Maharashtra	21684
31.	Chhattisgarh	1787
32.	Madhya Pradesh	19884
33.	Uttaranchal	2307
34.	Uttar Pradesh	17725
Total		209705

#### **Policy for Industrial Hubs**

1735. PROF. CHANDER KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial hubs at present, State-wise;



(b) the policy of the Government regarding opening of industrial hubs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The term "Industrial Hubs" is normally not used in Government parlance. However, wherever there is a concentration of industry the terms Industrial Park/Cluster/Growth Centre are used by this Ministry and in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries. The number of Industrial Parks, Growth Centres, IIUS Clusters, SSI (Small Scale Industries) Clusters and IID Centres, State-wise, is shown in the Statement enclosed.

(b) **Industrial Parks** : Under the Industrial Park Scheme the benefit of income tax exemption is given for developing and operating or maintaining and operating an Industrial Park since April 1, 1997. The Scheme which was to end on 31st March 2006 has been extended till March 2009.

**IIUS Clusters** : Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) aims at enhancing overall competitiveness of the domestic industry by providing quality infrastructure through public-private partnership in selected functional clusters/locations which have greater potential to become globally competitive. Special feature of this initiative is that the scheme is implemented through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) formed by the cluster/industry association at the individual cluster level. The user industry has to contribute minimum 15% of the project cost.

**Growth Centres** : With a view to promote industrialisation of backward areas in the country, the Government of India, in June, 1988, had announced the Growth Centre Scheme. These Growth centres would be endowed with

basic infrastructure facilities such as power, water, telecommunications and banking to enable them to attract industries. These have been allocated amongst States on the basis of combined criteria of area, population and extent of industrial backwardness. Each Growth Centre would be developed over an area of 400-800 Hectares at an estimated cost of Rs. 25-30 crore. The Central Government assists the State Governments by contributing upto Rs. 10 crore by way of equity for each growth centre. The balance funds are to be raised by the State Governments and their agencies that implement the projects. The amount of Central assistance has been increased to Rs. 15 crore for each growth centre in the North Eastern Region including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu & Kashmir in view of the continued backwardness of these Regions.

**IID Centres** : Under the Industrial Infrastructure Development (IID) Scheme of Ministry of Small Scale Industries, financial support for setting up of new industrial estates and upgradation of existing IID Centres are provided.

(c) **Industrial Parks** : Since the inception of the Industrial Park Scheme in 1999 till date (4/8/06), 213 approvals have been given out of which 24 have been withdrawn for various reasons.

**IIUS Clusters** : 26 Clusters have been sanctioned so far under the IIUS.

**Growth Centres** : Under the Scheme 71 Growth Centres have been sanctioned to be set up throughout the country. The total amount of Central assistance released under the Scheme since its inception is Rs. 548.94 crore.

**IID Centres** : Till date 84 new IID Centres have been sanctioned and 21 IID Centres have been taken up for upgradation.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise details of Industrial Parks, IIUS Clusters, Growth Centres, SSI Clusters and IID Centres*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Industrial Parks	IIUS Clusters	Growth Centres	SSI Clusters	IID Centres
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	-	-	-	1	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15	2	4	71	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	1	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Assam	-	-	3	8	9
5.	Bihar	-	-	5	54	-
6.	Chandigarh	1	-	-	-	-
7.	Chhattisgarh	-	1	2	25	2
8.	Delhi	-	-	-	2	-
9.	Goa	-	-	1	-	-
10.	Gujarat	5	4	3	103	1
11.	Haryana	1	1	2	38	21*
12.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1	20	1
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	-	2	13	2
14.	Jharkhand	-	-	1	15	-
15.	Karnataka	37	2	3	125	4
16.	Kerala	1	1	2	151	8
17.	Madhya Pradesh	-	1	4	91	8
18.	Maharashtra	57	2	5	75	2
19.	Manipur	-	-	1	4	-
20.	Meghalaya	-	-	1	1	-
21.	Mizoram	-	-	1	1	2
22.	Nagaland	-	-	1	-	1
23.	Orissa	-	1	4	4	3
24.	Pondicherry	-	-	1	-	-
25.	Punjab	1	1	2	69	3
26.	Rajasthan	40	1	5	38	10
27.	Sikkim	-	-	1	-	-
28.	Tamil Nadu	11	5	3	128	10*
29.	Tripura	-	-	1	-	1
30.	Uttar Pradesh	7	1	7	134	8
31.	Uttaranchal	4	-	1	16	3
32.	West Bengal	8	3	3	36	1
Total		189	26	71	1223	105
Grand Total		1614				

\*Includes existing IID Centres taken up upgradation (Haryana 18 and Tamil Nadu 3)

[Translation]

### Export of Poor Quality Spices

1736. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

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

- (a) whether the spices are being exported by the Government as per International demand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some countries have sent back the consignments of spices due to its poor quality during the last year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to export good quality spices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Government is not directly exporting spices to other countries. However, during 2005-06, a quantity of 320527 tonnes of spices valued at US\$ 517.90 million was exported.

(c) and (d) Government is not aware whether some countries had sent back the consignments of spices due to its poor quality during the last year but have received 31 numbers of rapid alert notifications from the European Union because of the contamination of spices exported mainly with aflatoxin, ochratoxin, Sudan dye and microbial contaminants.

(e) Spices Board has set up a NABL certified Quality Evaluation Laboratory at Cochin. The Laboratory is engaged in analysing spice samples to evaluate the physical, chemical, residual and microbiological quality aspects. The Laboratory also conducts proficiency/validation programmes with internationally reputed laboratories abroad. On an average 30,000 samples are analysed per annum in this laboratory. Board also assists processor produce for quality assurance. For quality improvement, Board is implementing, 'Integrated Pest Management' and Integrated Disease Management' in selected villages in spice growing tracts.

[English]

### Visit of Delegations

1737. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the heads of States of Saudi Arabia, France, USA and Australia with their business delegations visited India during first quarter of this year;

(b) if so, whether anyone of them has shown interest in Indian agro and rural industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to project the importance of agro and rural industries products in the International market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (c) His Majesty King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia visited India on the eve of Republic Day of India and had meeting with Prime Minister of India Joint Business Council Meeting was organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). No specific interest was shown in Indian Agro and Rural Industries.

H.E. Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic along with the business delegation visited New Delhi on 20.2.2006. The delegation did not comprise of representatives from the Agro Rural Industries.

H.E. George W. Bush, President of United States visited India from March 1-3, 2006. The two sides endorsed an agreed workplan to bilateral trade in agriculture through agreements that lay out a path to open the US market and provide for discussions on current regulations affecting trade in fresh fruits, vegetables, poultry and dairy products.

Prime Minister of Australia visited India on 6th March, 2006 when a Trade and Economic Framework (TEF) between the two countries was signed. Initiatives and cooperation under TEF in key potential sectors including agriculture and food beverage industry will strengthen bilateral trade and investment.

(d) Not applicable.

### Indo-China Trade Through Nathula Pass

1738. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the traders of India and China are facing a lot of difficulties in selling their wares through Nathula Pass opened recently for border trade as reported in the *Times of India* dated July 20, 2006;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to lay down any guidelines for import and export of items through Nathula Pass?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There were some difficulties in export and import through Nathula Pass during the period from 6.7.2006 to 27.7.2006. Export and import was not allowed without valid Import-Export Code in Terms of Para 2.2 of Foreign Trade Policy read with para 2.8 of Handbook of Procedures. Vide Public Notice No. 36(RE-2006)/2004-2009 dated 27.7.2006, issued by DGFT, it has been notified that Import-Export Code shall not be required for import and export upto CIF value of Rs. 25,000.

(c) Guidelines have been issued by DGFT vide Public Notice No. 20 (RE-2006)/2004-2009 dated 13.6.2006 and Public Notice No. 36 (RE-2006)/2004-2009 dated 27.7.2006 for smooth functioning of border trade through Nathula Pass.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of Urdu Schools

1739. SHRI MUNSHI RAM :  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :

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

(a) whether the Government intends to set up Urdu Schools on the pattern of Navodaya Vidyalayas to promote education among minorities as reported in *Dainik Jagran* dated July 13, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria fixed for the selection of sites for their establishment;

(c) if not, the initiatives being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether sufficient number of teachers are available for setting up of schools; and

(e) if not, the initiatives being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A.

FATMI): (a) The Standing Committee of the National Monitoring committee for Minorities Education has recommended that Urdu medium schools on the lines of the Navodaya Vidyalayas may be established by the Government in minority dominated districts. There is no decision in this regard.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Fencing at Border

1740. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the militants cut through barbed wire as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated July 21, 2006;

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

(c) whether the power supply to barbed wire fence separating India and Pakistan along the line of control is erratic;

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

(e) whether the infiltration is high this year as the militants are taking full advantage of the darkness;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Intelligence reports indicate that terrorists in camps across the border are being trained in techniques to breach the Line of Control (LoC) fence and wire cutters have also been recovered by Security Forces from possession of killed terrorists on LoC during infiltration bids foiled.

(c) and (d) The barbed wire fencing erected all along LoC/International Border in Jammu and Kashmir has the provision for electricity through back up Gen Sets for use as and when electricity gets disrupted.

(e) and (f) As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, 299 terrorists are estimated to have infiltrated till June 30, 2006 as compared to 92 in the corresponding period of last year.

(g) The Government in tandem with the State Government, have adopted a multi-pronged approach, to contain cross-border infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir,

which includes, inter-alia strengthening of border management and multi-tiered and multi-modal deployment along International Border/Line of Control and near the ever changing infiltration routes, construction of border fencing, improved technology, weapons and equipment for security forces, improved intelligence and operational coordination and synergising intelligence flow to check infiltration and pro-active action against the terrorists with the State. The counter infiltration efforts are reviewed periodically at various levels in the State Government (including the two Unified Headquarters headed by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir) and in the Central Government.

#### **Allocation of Funds for Talented Tribal Students**

1741. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of talented Tribal students, particularly in backward areas, are unable to develop the potential due to their poor economic conditions;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to earmark some fund on a separate head every year for development of talented tribal students; and

(d) if not, the steps Governments propose to develop the potential of needy poor ST Students?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) and (b) This Ministry provides financial assistance to all tribal students through the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme. In addition, it also provides assistance through the following schemes :-

- (i) Eklavya Model Residential School
- (ii) Upgradation of Merit
- (iii) Coaching and Allied scheme
- (iv) National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Higher Studies Abroad
- (v) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship

(c) In view of a & b above, there is no proposal in this Ministry to earmark separate funds every year for development of talented tribal students.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Security in Trains**

1742. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a review meeting convened by Home Secretary on July 21, 2006, Ministry of Railways has put a proposal of heavier security cover and special armed escorts for its trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Ministry of Home Affairs thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) The Home Secretary recently discussed with the Chairman, Railway Board, the issue of taking additional measures for the protection and safety of railway property, trains passengers etc. Among others, deployment of well equipped and trained RPF personnel for escort duty in trains particularly in naxal affected areas, better coordination between RPF, GRP and the local police and the need for strengthening RPF came up for discussion.

#### **Bill From States**

1743. SHRI MANJUNATH KANNUR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted "Karnataka Essential Services Maintenance Bill, 2005" for approval;

(b) if so, the details of other Bills received by the Union Government from various State Governments for approval, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which such Bills are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last five years, Bills on the subject of Maintenance of Essential Services received from State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya and Maharashtra have received the assent of the President.

(c) The Karnataka Essential Services Maintenance Bill, 2005 is under consideration of the Govt. and no time frame can be fixed for completion of process.

### Anganwadi Centres

1744. DR. P. P. KOYA : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Anganwadi Centres (AW) functioning at present, State and UT-wise and the number of centres proposed to be opened during the current year;

(b) the criteria followed to open new Anganwadi Centres and retain the existing ones;

(c) the number of Anganwadi Workers/Helpers working in the existing AW Centres all over the country and State/UT-wise;

(d) the number of expectant mothers, lactating mothers, pre-natal and post-natal mothers and children below 5 years are attending the Anganwadi centres throughout the country, State/UT-wise;

(e) the total amount earmarked for Integrated Child Development Scheme per annum and the share of salary, wage and other remuneration etc. rent and establishment charges, nutritional support and medicines;

(f) whether any welfare scheme like EPF, CPF, ESI, Pension Scheme, Gratuity etc. being implemented for the Anganwadi workers/staff working under the scheme;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether there is any provision for periodical assessment of the functioning of the scheme; and

(i) if so, the outcome of such assessment for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) As on 31.12.2005, 745943 Anganwadi Centres were operational in the Country. State-wise details was given enclosed Statement - I. In pursuance of commitment of the Government, as enunciated in the National Common Minimum Programme, and direction of Supreme Court, in a PIL filed by the Peoples Union of Civil Liberties, to set up an AWC in each habitation/settlement, 1.88 lakh AWCs were sanctioned last year which are expected to be operational in the current year. State-wise break-up of these AWCs is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(b) Existing population norms sanction of an AWC are given in enclosed statement-III.

(c) State-wise number of Anganwadi Workers/Helpers sanctioned and in-position as on 31.12.2005 are given in the enclosed Statement-IV.

(d) State-wise details, as on 31.12.2005, of number of beneficiaries of supplementary nutrition and pre-school education are given in the enclosed statement-V.

(e) Funds under the ICDS Scheme are released to State/UTs as per pattern of grant-in-aid approved by the government from time to time. Details of funds released to the State/UTs as grant-in-aid under ICDS Scheme last year and in the current year are given in enclosed statement-VI.

(f) and (g) The ICDS Scheme envisages Anganwadi Workers and Helpers as honorary workers from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part-time basis, in the area of child care and development. In view of their bonorary status under the Scheme, they are not entitled to these benefits. However, in recognition of the services being discharged by them, the Government of India has introduced Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana with w.e.f. 1.4.2004 under the Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Scheme.

(h) and (i) The scheme is monitored by the Ministry through periodical reports and meeting with the State Secretaries in-charge of ICDS. State level Consolidated reports sent by the State Governments are received every month. Due to the close monitoring, there has been considerable improvement in the last year or two resulting in significant increase in the number of beneficiaries as is evident from the details given below:-

Year ending	(in lakhs)	
	Beneficiaries for Supplementary Nutrition	Beneficiaries for PSE
March, 2004	415.08	204.38
March, 2005	484.42	218.41
December, 2005	546.31	237.64

Impact of the scheme has been evaluated, from time to time, in the past.

National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development (NIPCCD) has conducted a quick evaluation of the Scheme (150 Projects) in 2005-06. The preliminary findings of the study are as under :-

- The number of children in the age of 6 months-3 years registered for supplementary nutrition has

increased from 45% to 57% between 1992-2006 of which 78% of the children are actually availing of supplementary nutrition.

- In the case of children in the age group of 3-6 years, number of children registered increased from 56% to 63.5% out of which about 75% are actually availing the benefit of supplementary nutrition. As regards pregnant and lactating mothers, the increase in the number of those registered and availing of supplementary nutrition increased from 78% to 87% and from 78% to 89% respectively between 1992-2006.
- The percentage of children with low birth weight decreased from 41 in 1992 to 29 in 2006.
- The percentage of severely malnourished children in the age group 0-3 years reduced from 7% in 1992 to 1% in 2006 and in case of children in the age group 3-5 years it reduced from 4% in 1992 to 0.8% in 2006.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise number of Anganwadi Centres operational under ICDS Scheme as on 31.12.2005*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Anganwadi Centres Operational as on 31.12.2005
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55950
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2359
3.	Assam	25278
4.	Bihar	57767
5.	Chhattisgarh	20289
6.	Goa	1012
7.	Gujarat	37457
8.	Haryana	13546
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7354
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10398
11.	Jharkhand	22170
12.	Karnataka	40301
13.	Kerala	25373
14.	Madhya Pradesh	49423
15.	Maharashtra	64040
16.	Manipur	4500
17.	Meghalaya	2218

1	2	3
18.	Mizoram	1361
19.	Nagaland	2770
20.	Orissa	34201
21.	Punjab	14730
22.	Rajasthan	35814
23.	Sikkim	500
24.	Tamil Nadu	42677
25.	Tripura	3768
26.	Uttar Pradesh	103523
27.	Uttaranchal	6651
28.	West Bengal	54858
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	527
30.	Chandigarh	300
31.	Delhi	3852
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	138
33.	Daman and Diu	87
34.	Lakshadweep	74
35.	Pondicherry	677
All India		745943

**Statement-II**

*State-wise number of Anganwadi Centres sanctioned under ICDS Scheme during 2005-06*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Anganwadi Centres sanctioned during 2005-06
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9562
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	678
3.	Assam	6659
4.	Bihar	19715
5.	Chhattisgarh	9148
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	3523
8.	Haryana	2813
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10894
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6817
11.	Jharkhand	6683

1	2	3
12.	Karnataka	11313
13.	Kerala	3258
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9537
15.	Maharashtra	12864
16.	Manipur	0
17.	Meghalaya	961
18.	Mizoram	231
19.	Nagaland	265
20.	Orissa	3279
21.	Punjab	2691
22.	Rajasthan	11041
23.	Sikkim	488
24.	Tamil Nadu	3049
25.	Tripura	2220
26.	Uttar Pradesh	31498
27.	Uttaranchal	1134
28.	West Bengal	17100
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	94
30.	Chandigarh	29
31.	Delhi	526
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	77
33.	Daman & Diu	10
34.	Lakshadweep	0
35.	Pondicherry	11
All India		188168

**Statement-III**

*Revised population norms (recommended by the Task Force):*

**Project :** Community/Rural Development Block in a State should be the unit for sanction of an ICDS Project in rural/urban areas, irrespective of number of villages or population covered by it.

**Anganwadi Centre :**

**For Rural Projects  
Population**

500-1500	:	1AWC
150-500	:	1 Mini-AWC

**For Tribal Projects  
Population**

300-1500	1AWC
150-300	1 Mini-AWC

[For habitation with less than 150 population, specific proposal should be submitted by the State Governments for appropriate decision by the Government of India]

**For Urban Projects  
Population**

500-1500	1 AWC
----------	-------

**Statement-IV**

*Statewise number of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers in-position as on 31.12.2005*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Anganwadi Workers inposition	No. of Helpers inposition
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55077	55141
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2359	2359
3.	Assam	25416	25416
4.	Bihar	60041	59797
5.	Chhattisgarh	20128	20046
6.	Goa	999	981
7.	Gujarat	35828	35685
8.	Haryana	13446	13526
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7096	7318
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10520	10363
11.	Jharkhand	20389	20284
12.	Karnataka	39836	40237
13.	Kerala	25183	24908
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45932	45770
15.	Maharashtra	61987	60775
16.	Manipur	4496	4491
17.	Meghalaya	2218	2218
18.	Mizoram	1361	1361
19.	Nagaland	2770	2770
20.	Orissa	33502	33977
21.	Punjab	14604	14581
22.	Rajasthan	35613	35540



1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
23.	Sikkim	496	499	30.	Chandigarh	300	300
24.	Tamil Nadu	42677	36258	31.	Delhi	3852	3852
25.	Tripura	3789	3761	32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	138	138
26.	Uttar Pradesh	99325	100236	33.	Daman and Diu	87	87
27.	Uttaranchal	6592	6574	34.	Lakshadweep	74	74
28.	West Bengal	53490	53149	35.	Pondicherry	677	677
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	527	527		All India	730825	723676

**Statement-V**

*Statewise number of Supplementary Nutrition Beneficiaries and Pre-School Education under ICDS Scheme as on 31.12.2005*

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of Supplementary Nutrition Beneficiaries					No. of PSE Beneficiaries		
		0-3 years	0-3 years	3-6 years	Total Children	Women	Total Children & Women	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	958922	1526391	2485313	650466	3135779	779453	785540	1564993
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40841	30487	71328	10425	81753	15055	15431	30486
3.	Assam	510954	484598	995552	111343	1106895	437968	420628	858596
4.	Bihar	2012101	1999242	4011343	818937	4830280	1013826	933924	1947750
5.	Chhattisgarh	837952	570122	1408074	370507	1778581	306693	310468	617161
6.	Goa	21205	18119	39324	9363	48687	8998	9057	18055
7.	Gujarat	812236	820472	1632708	287138	1919846	695904	656411	1352315
8.	Haryana	484839	445411	930250	232495	1162745	237457	207954	445411
9.	Himachal Pradesh	189245	144792	334037	75006	409043	61492	59841	121333
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	153270	120520	273790	69858	343648	63493	57832	121325
11.	Jharkhand	632227	697049	1329276	401322	1730598	367579	380386	747965
12.	Karnataka	1232636	1237353	2469989	582050	3052039	620609	616744	1237353
13.	Kerala	371967	489486	861453	159025	1020478	243040	242286	485326
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1394953	1234168	2629121	641957	3271078	925812	746647	1672459
15.	Maharashtra	2013736	2589450	4603186	738625	5341811	1312934	1235218	2548152
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	56429	55422	111851
17.	Meghalaya	84538	101560	186098	33254	219352	44593	45405	89998
18.	Mizoram	62496	43071	105567	26816	132383	23644	23199	46843
19.	Nagaland	152240	101836	254076	42413	296489	50402	49059	99461
20.	Orissa	1820372	1859920	3680292	670753	4351045	476723	480159	956882
21.	Punjab	42392	409367	451759	191950	643709	229399	204480	433879
22.	Rajasthan	1326418	1247307	2573725	595525	3169250	656434	638925	1295359

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23.	Sikkim	20483	11388	31871	5793	37664	4859	4943	9802
24.	Tamil Nadu	652710	1056636	1709346	497902	2207248	531725	523861	1055586
25.	Tripura	62199	86006	148205	22088	170293	51086	49966	101052
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3857178	3804758	7661936	1486633	9148569	2021407	1926324	3947731
27.	Uttaranchal	210149	157859	368008	94325	462333	92786	90545	183331
28.	West Bengal	1706170	1846751	3552921	412864	3965785	730043	743600	1473643
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9745	9085	18830	4268	23098	4238	4443	8681
30.	Chandigarh	18288	13193	31481	7804	39285	6525	6668	13193
31.	Delhi	238952	150911	389863	77937	467800	78191	72644	150835
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6353	6167	12520	2184	14704	2514	2505	5019
33.	Daman and Diu	3400	3577	6977	1898	1875	2083	2130	4213
34.	Lakshadweep	2023	1854	3877	986	4863	2023	2001	4024
35.	Pondicherry	22213	4419	26632	8763	35395	2117	2210	4327
All India		21965403	23323325	45288728	9342673	54631401	12157534	11606856	23764390

**Statement-VI**

				1	2	3	4
<b>State-wise position of funds released under ICDS Scheme (General), World Bank assisted ICDS Projects, ICDS Training Programme (Udisha) and Supplementary Nutrition (SN) during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07</b>				13.	Maharashtra	32266.86	17344.1635
				14.	Manipur	2344.45	1435.36
				15.	Meghalaya	2876.12	870.16
				16.	Mizoram	1952.90	556.96
				17.	Nagaland	3460.71	1241.90
(Rs. in lakh)				18.	Orissa	18096.34	12996.6285
				19.	Punjab	6868.14	3692.85
				20.	Rajasthan	13985.87	10975.659
				21.	Sikkim	477.23	217.47
				22.	Tamil Nadu	19266.53	10102.18
				23.	Tripura	3226.97	1274.63
				24.	Uttar Pradesh	52076.79	33873.86
				25.	West Bengal	26660.80	14658.91
				26.	Chhattisgarh	9841.75	6429.01
				27.	Jharkhand	6249.82	6487.57
				28.	Uttaranchal	4137.15	1917.32
				29.	Delhi	2086.72	1320.067
				30.	Pondicherry	319.40	240.25

Sl. No.	State/UT	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26824.69	14280.32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1893.69	886.75
3.	Assam	26003.23	7931.1
4.	Bihar	18393.33	18526.06
5.	Goa	492.66	270.65
6.	Gujarat	13582.36	8821.06
7.	Haryana	7319.71	4282.29
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4393.80	2038.46
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5642.75	3418.36
10.	Karnataka	22038.89	10142.6485
11.	Kerala	9431.93	5565.96
12.	Madhya Pradesh	21229.49	13142.094

1	2	3	4
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	328.21	205.23
32.	Chandigarh	235.16	192.12
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	92.69	68.92
34.	Daman & Diu	61.48	70.52
35.	Lakshadweep	50.19	41.44
Total		364181.81	215518.87

#### Setting up of NALCO Plants

1745. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI :

SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether feasibility report for setting up of Aluminium Plants of NALCO in the country and abroad has been finalised;

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

(c) whether NALCO proposes to diversify its products;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of progress made in regard to expansion programme of NALCO so far, phase-wise; and

(f) the details of investment made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) and (b) M/s Engineers India Limited (EIL), which was assigned to prepare pre-feasibility report for setting up of aluminium smelter of NALCO in Middle East region, has given its final report and the same is under examination/finalisation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The first phase expansion of NALCO has already been completed during 2004. The details of progress of the on going second phase expansion programme is given below :-

Project Segment	Progress of work completed upto July, 2006	
	Schedule	Actual
Mines and Alumina	6.1%	6.6%
Smelter	9.3%	13.0%
Captive Power Plant	16.83%	15.88%

(f) Total value of orders placed upto July, 2006 is Rs. 1740.57 crores.

#### Natural Calamities

1746. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has asked the South Asian countries including India to put in place a social risk management system to protect the poor from various calamities like earthquake;

(b) if so, the details of various suggestions given by the World Bank; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government on these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per information available, World Bank has not made any specific request with regard to various calamities like earthquake. However, in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction held from 18-22 January, 2005 at Kobe, Hyogo, Japan under the auspices of the United Nations, the Member States were called upon to strengthen the implementation of the social safety-net mechanisms to assist the poor people affected by disasters. The Government of India already have many programmes and schemes to protect the poor people and the vulnerable sections of the society from various natural calamities.

#### Cultural Activities of NVs/KVs

1747. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cultural activities among the students of Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas is not upto the mark;

(b) if so, whether the Government has set up an Expert Committee to draw a strategy on the above activities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the report of the Expert Committee is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas are school systems which serve as pace-setters in school level education all over the country.

Apart from academic excellence, they do provide emphasis on cultural activities. Government have constituted a Committee of experts in June 2006, to advise on policies for promotion and understanding of Indian Culture and to promote cultural activities.

(d) The Committee has been asked to give its recommendations within three months from the date of order. i.e., 27.06.2006.

[Translation]

### Quality Education in NVs

1748. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHAN LAL GANJ) : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted a review with regard to the capacity of the Navodaya Vidyalayas in providing quality education; and

(b) if so, the details of the said review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Y.N. Chaturvedi was constituted in June, 2001 to review the Management structure and operating mechanism of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti. The summary of recommendation of the Y.N. Chaturvedi Committee in respect of the capacity of the Navodaya Vidyalayas in providing quality education, is given in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

S.No.	Recommendations of the Committee
1	2
1.	The academic performance of students Navodaya Vidyalayas as indicated by the result of Class X and XII board examinations of CBSE has been very good. The pass percentage for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya students appearing in CBSE examination for Class X is 20% more than for all students and 10% more for Class XII. However, performance in the Board Examination is not the only criterion for judging academic performance of Navodaya Vidyalayas.
2.	It has been ascertained by the study conducted by the IIM, Ahmedabad that there is general appreciation for the educational facilities offered by the Navodaya Vidyalayas with about 80% students and

1	2
	their families being appreciative of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas. Another indicator about the success of the Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas is that 75% of the students passing out of Navodaya Vidyalayas have perused higher education.
3.	Judging by the trend of the recent years, about 18 students compete for each seat in Navodaya Vidyalayas. The large number of applicants speaks of the success of the Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas and it is also indicative of the faith the admission system evokes among people.
4.	The criticism of some of the selected students having inadequate language skill seems to have been over stated. With block-wise reservation, this should be accepted because standards are known to be low in remote areas of many districts. The standard of language skills in such cases does not justify any major change in the testing mechanism. The Navodaya Vidyalayas will have to assume responsibility for improving language skills of those students who are weak in language.
5.	It is felt that the problem of substantial number of students dropping out in various classes is real though the phenomenon of dropout does not necessarily indicate deficiencies in the scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas. It is recommended that Navodaya Vidyalayas created at larger cost should not be allowed to remain substantially unutilized due to vacant seats remaining unfilled in higher classes.
6.	Although the results of board examinations for Class X & XII indicate that the quality of teaching in Navodaya Vidyalayas is of acceptable standard, attention needs to be placed to learning oriented which does not seem to have been attended to so far.
7.	The language learning is presently dominated by emphasis on writing skills as this determines the marks that can be obtained in examinations. The speaking and reading skills are presently neglected. It is recommended that for every class sufficiently large number of books could be identified and divided into 4 or 5 sub categories out of which each students should be asked to choose one book from each category which he should read during 3-6 months and present a summary in a seminar consisting of his class. This would improve learning horizon of the student and it will progressively improve his capacity to understand and assimilate. Through seminar presentation his communication

- | 1   | 2   |
|-----|---|
|     | skill and speaking skill will improve. Speaking skill is, particularly, important in regard to III language.  |
| 8.  | The teaching method needs urgent reform and teachers should be influenced through teacher training and school supervision to shift from lecturing to talking mode.  |
| 9.  | Although there is wide spread perception among teachers that they are over loaded but a study of a daily schedule does not indicate over loading. It has been noted that Samiti has a tendency of prescribing everything which seems good. This can only mean that either student will not pursue most of the activities seriously or they will be over loaded.   |
| 10. | It is recommended that various co-curricular activities will be divided into 3 or 4 groups like one group for creative activities, one for physical activities etc. Each student should be asked to choose one activity in a group for participation and he should be assessed only in regard to that activity.   |
| 11. | It is recommended that for providing more meaning to socially useful productive work, students in each class should be divided into groups of 5/6 students each. They should be given basic implements and should be asked to attend to campus/hostel maintenance and cleanliness under supervision. It should include plantation in the campus and its maintenance. The students can be assigned various duties by a rotation. This concept should be extended to minor repairs through students in secondary classes, though they should not be assigned repair work which may be hazardous.  |
| 12. | The NVS has made large effort in promoting computer literacy. However, there is no syllabus or textbook for computer literacy so far. The draft syllabus indicates an unrealistically high level of skills to be attained by students. This is unrealistic. In computer literacy it will be sufficient if students are taught to operate PCs, are able to input data and take out printouts. The students should be taught to handle windows software which will serve most of his needs. They should also learn to send receive e-mail and access internet. It will be more than sufficient if each student is taught to learn this much but in a thorough manner. |
| 13. | The Navodaya Vidyalayas have been supposed to be pace-setting institutions but no concrete  |

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|-----|---|
|     | programme in this regard has emerged so far. It is recommended that a small number of concrete steps will be preferable to talking about a large number of general ideas.   |
| 14. | An effective teacher training programme is essential for ensuring excellence of Navodaya Vidyalayas. However, it is unfortunate that no teachers training institution has been set up so far for Navodaya Vidyalayas. The teachers of Navodaya Vidyalayas cannot benefit from DIETs or from State colleges for teacher education.   |
| 15. | It is recommended that teacher training institutions on regional should be set up for Navodaya Vidyalayas jointly with Kendriya Vidyalayas or may be separately for each. In these institutions training should be provided in subject matter with every training course having a common component consisting of reform of teaching process, Yoga, value education and computer literacy.   |
| 16. | Sports and physical education is important and desirable. However, it should be realized that because of the pressure to prepare for employment after completion of studies, performance in examinations will remain a dominant concern of all students. Therefore, students should not be expected to achieve excellence in sports. It should be considered sufficient if they participate regularly and with enthusiasm in sports.  |
| 17. | Teaching yoga is good for more than one reason. However, NVS needs to be careful while prescribing yoga for individual schools. While yoga instructors are available in plenty but the quality of their yoga education/training is not acceptably good in many cases. If such teachers are selected, they themselves become a problem. Therefore, NVS should carefully screen yoga institutions and approve only those where teaching standards are acceptable. Only products of such institutions should be eligible to be engaged as yoga teachers. The yoga should be introduced in Navodaya Vidyalayas in stages i.e. only to the extent good yoga teachers become progressively available. |

[English]

#### Evaluation of Education System

1749. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the mechanism available to evaluate the performance and achievements of the present education system;

(b) the steps taken to standardise the school education system and make it job oriented and skill learning process;

(c) whether the Government proposes to evolve a system to periodically conduct tests to determine aptitude and suitability of a student for specific jobs and provide him education and training to improve his employability; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) Education, as a subject on the Concurrent List, is the shared responsibility of both the Central and the State Governments. The responsibility of school education lies primarily with the State Governments. The University Grants Commission, a statutory organization, is responsible for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of university education. The All India Council for Technical Education another statutory organization, is responsible for coordinating development of technical education, promotion of qualitative improvement and maintenance of norms and standards. The National Council for Teacher Education is a statutory body for achieving the planned and coordinated development of teacher education system throughout the country and for regulation and proper maintenance of norms and standards of teacher education.

The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, as modified in 1992, provides that Boards of Secondary Education will be reorganised and vested with autonomy so that their ability to improve the quality of secondary education is enhanced. Vocationalisation through specialised institutions or through the refashioning of secondary education is also envisaged.

(c) and (d) Under a new Scheme of Vocational Education and Training (VET), which is being formulated, it is proposed to set up a National Competency Testing Agency (NCTA) to evolve criterion and methodologies for determining levels of skill profiles, assessment of competencies, accreditation of assessment centers and assessors, and quality control.

#### **Allocation to Small Scale Industries**

1750. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of GDP/total amount allocated to Small Scale Industries during the Tenth Five year Plan;

(b) the amount likely to be allocated to this sector for the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the allocation to this sector in order to boost its competitiveness with other sectors and to create more employment?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The total Plan outlay for the Ministry of Small Scale Industries for the 10th Five year Plan is Rs. 2200 crore. Plan outlays for this sector do not appear to have been fixed on the basis of a fixed percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

(b) The estimated Eleventh Plan outlay for the small scale industrial sector has not been finalized.

(c) the issue of increased Plan allocation is taken up with the Planning Commission at the time of formulation of each Five Year Plan as well as each Annual Plan.

#### **Swa-Shakti Project**

1751. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Swa-shakti Project jointly funded by IFAD, World Bank and Government of India launched in October, 1999 was culminated on June 30, 2005; and

(b) if so, the funds allotted by IFAD, World Bank and Union Government for this scheme during the last year?

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

(b) IFAD and World Bank allocated funds for the entire project period and not annually. World Bank contribution and IFAD contribution for the whole project was Rs. 4347 lakhs and Rs. 4189 lakhs respectively. Government of India's budgetary allocation for the project for 2005-06 was Rs. 500 lakhs.

#### **Revival of Handloom Sector**

1752. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received proposal for revival of handloom sector from Maharashtra Government;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the action taken thereon and the assistance provided to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) to (c) The Government of India has been implementing various schemes/programmes for the development of handloom sector and welfare of handloom weavers. Submission of proposals under different schemes by the State Government including Government of Maharashtra is a continuous process. Viable proposals are considered for financial assistance and remaining unviable proposals are returned to the respective State Governments for necessary rectification.

(d) The Government of Maharashtra has been released Rs. 43.85 lakh during the year 2005-06 on the basis of the viable proposals received.

#### **National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project**

1753. SHRI E. G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has framed any plans in coordination with the State Government under National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (c) The Government has drawn up a National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) to be implemented with external assistance in all cyclone prone coastal States namely Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep and Daman & Diu. The project envisages identification of vulnerabilities and high priority risk investments in the States/Union Territories. The States/Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra & Lakshadweep have identified their high priority risk investments like construction of cyclone shelters, coastal shelterbelt plantation, mangrove regeneration, construction of saline embankments & other similar measures.

The Project shall become operational after the

integration of high priority risk investments identified by the concerned State/Union Territories with other components of the Project so as to seek external assistance.

#### **Rehabilitation of PMF Dependents**

1754. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to rehabilitate the dependents of the Para Military Forces (PMF) Jawans;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) The following measures are in place for rehabilitation of the dependents of Jawans of PMF:-

- (i) 5% vacancies are reserved for compassionate appointment of dependents in the Central Police Forces in Group 'C' and 'D'.
- (ii) Ex-gratia compensation is paid to the Next of Kins (NOK) of the personnel who die in harness.
- (iii) NOKs are eligible for Liberalized Pensionary Award/ Extra Ordinary Pension.
- (iv) NOKs are entitled for substantial insurance cover from the forces insurance/welfare schemes.
- (v) NOKs are also provided immediate lump-sum financial grant, free education/scholarships to the wards and financial assistance for daughter's marriage.
- (vi) Quarters for widows of PMFs personnel who die on duty for limited period.
- (vii) A Resettlement & Welfare Directorate is functioning in MHA dealing with grievances of the dependents and ex-personnel of PMF.

#### **Releasing of Indian Prisoners from Pakistan**

1755. SHRI MILIND DEORA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistani civilian prisoners languishing in Indian jails were released on 30th June, 2006;

(b) if so, the number of prisoners were released

on completion of their sentences and also released on parole;

(c) whether the nationality of the prisoners was verified by the Pakistan High Commission before releasing them; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) 38 Pakistani civilian prisoners lodged in Indian jails were released on 30th June, 2006 on completion of their sentences.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Pakistani civilian prisoners were released after confirmation of their nationality and issue of Emergency Passports by Pakistan High Commission.

#### **Utilisation of India Brand Equity Fund**

1756. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR :  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :

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

(a) the details of funds provided by the Government under India Brand Equity Fund which is now India Brand Equity Foundation, remained unutilised for nine years;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the loans disbursed to the companies out of this fund;

(d) whether the loan disbursed has been paid back; and

(e) if not, the action taken against the companies with outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Government has provided Rs. 83.67 crore to IBEF. Upto 31.3.2006, the expenditure incurred by IBEF is Rs. 22.12 crores. In addition, IBEF has provided an amount of Rs. 16.34 crores as loan to various companies. Balance amount has been invested by the Trust in approved investments and securities.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The details of the loan disbursed by IBEF are as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

i.	M/s. K G Denim	1.48
ii.	M/s. HMT (I) Ltd.	1.00
iii.	M/s International Creative Foods Ltd.	6.00
iv.	M/s Visudhdha Rasayanee Pvt Ltd.	4.25
v.	M/s Clutch Auto	3.50
vi.	M/s Eastman Industries	0.11

(d) M/s K G Denim, M/s. HMT (I) Ltd. and M/s Eastern Industries have paid back their loans. M/s International Creative Foods Ltd. and M/s Clutch Auto are in the process of repaying their loans.

(e) M/s. Visudhdha Rasayanee Pvt. Ltd. has outstanding dues to which they have not responded. Litigation processes have been initiated and are being pursued by IBEF.

#### **Amendment in Human Rights Bill**

1757. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring amendments in the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill to incorporate various changes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received recommendations from various corners to make changes in the Bill;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the implementation of these recommendations will enhance the power of National Human Rights Commission and would also give them power to inquire into the allegations of access by the armed forces and supervisory powers over State Human Rights Commissions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill 2006 has been passed by the Rajya Sabha on 3rd August, 2006.



(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The recommendations received from various sources have been examined by the Government and incorporated appropriately in the Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006.

(e) and (f) The Objects and Reasons of the Amendment Bill as passed by the Rajya Sabha do not envisage changes in the existing provisions of the Act regarding the power to enquire into the allegations of excesses by the armed forces nor does it propose to give supervisory powers to NHRC over State Human Rights Commissions.

#### **Employment to War Widows**

1758. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of war widows, ex-servicemen and their dependents given employment during the last three years by the Khadi Village Industries Commission (KVIC);

(b) whether the KVIC has prepared any scheme for the employment generation of war widows, ex-servicemen and their dependents in rural areas;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the extent to which the scheme will help in providing employment to war widows, ex-servicemen and their dependents?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) does not implement any scheme for providing direct employment to war widows, ex-servicemen and their dependents. However, KVIC has been implementing a credit-linked subsidy scheme, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), to assist entrepreneurs, including war widows and ex-servicemen and their dependents in setting up village industry units in rural areas and small towns with population upto 20,000 throughout the country. Under the REGP, ex-servicemen and women entrepreneurs (including war widows) are entitled to margin money assistance @ 30 percent for projects up to Rs. 10 lakh as compared with @ 25 per cent admissible to applicants of general category. Women entrepreneurs, including war widows

and ex-servicemen, are required to contribute only 5 per cent amount as own contribution (as against 10 per cent for general category).

The number of projects set up by ex-servicemen under the REGP, during the last three years, is given in the enclosed statement. Such details are not maintained separately for war widows.

KVIC has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) to extend the benefits of REGP to war widows, ex-servicemen, etc., in the AWWA fold and to encourage convergence of marketing activities of AWWA and KVIC through their respective outlets.

#### **Statement-I**

*State-wise Details of Projects Set up by Ex-servicemen under REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	0	22	9
2.	Himachal Pradesh	6	11	12
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	7	12	11
4.	Punjab	4	6	3
5.	Rajasthan	15	28	6
6.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	5
7.	Bihar	8	2	6
8.	Jharkhand	50	0	0
9.	Orissa	14	19	4
10.	West Bengal	2	51	21
11.	Assam	0	1	16
12.	Andhra Pradesh	2	37	1
13.	Karnataka	173	19	11
14.	Kerala	10	18	8
15.	Tamil Nadu	16	17	2
16.	Gujarat	0	0	3
17.	Maharashtra	0	35	28

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Chhattisgarh	4	1	1
19.	Madhya Pradesh	3	89	4
20.	Uttaranchal	9	6	4
21.	Uttar Pradesh	7	42	15
Total		331	416	170

#### Chemical Warfare for Forces

1759. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether para military forces guarding borders are trained to face biological and chemical weapons challenges;

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

(c) if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to deal with biological chemical etc. warfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) to (c) The Government has constituted the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) comprising of eight battalions of Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs); i.e. two battalions each from Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Border Security Force (BSF) and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). Each of these eight NDRF battalions will comprise of 18 Specialist Response Teams. Four of these eight battalions are specifically being trained and equipped for responding to nuclear, biological and chemical disasters in the country. These four battalions would be strategically positioned so as to facilitate the expeditious deployment of these battalions to all parts of the country. The process for training of trainers, training of teams and procurement of equipment for the NDRF battalions is already under progress.

#### Coaching Facilities for STs

1760. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the main courses covered under Centrally sponsored Scheme for the coaching of ST Students;

(b) the funds allocated under this scheme during each of the last three years; State-wise;

(c) whether the said scheme is being properly implemented in all the States;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the corrective steps taken by the Government for proper implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) and (b) The scheme for coaching of scheduled tribes students covers pre-examination coaching for competitive examinations which have all India recruitment, such as the Civil Services Examination, Banking Recruitment Services, Railway Board Recruitment Examination, etc. as well as coaching for entrance examinations for professional courses. The State-wise details of funds released by the Ministry during last three years under the scheme are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (f) The Ministry releases funds to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, Universities and NGOs from whom complete proposals are received. To improve the implementation of the scheme, the Ministry now requires a minimum success rate to be reported. To enhance the coverage and increase the response, wide publicity about the scheme is made in the national dailies.

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

#### Details of funds released by the Ministry under Coaching & Allied scheme

S.No.	Name of the State	Funds released by the Ministry		
		2003-04*	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	11.48	32.05
2.	Assam	0.00	2.83	3.23
3.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	3.05	0.00
4.	NCT of Delhi	0.00	9.48	1.69
5.	Gujarat	0.00	11.31	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	8.58
7.	Karnataka	0.00	1.92	2.00
8.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.48
9.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	11.02

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	14.25	7.42
11.	Mizoram	0.00	1.77	7.46
12.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	4.82
13.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	2.67	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.75
Total		0.00	58.76	79.50

\*Funds could not be released due to non receipt of complete proposals from States as well as NGOs.

#### Constitution of Tribes Advisory Council

1761. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the States having fifth scheduled Areas have constituted Tribes Advisory Council as envisaged under Article 244 (i) of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the Members of the Council are the Scheduled Tribes elected representatives; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore along with the provisions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan have constituted Tribes Advisory Councils.

(c) and (d) In terms of the provisions contained in para 4 (1) of the Fifth Schedule all members of the Tribes Advisory Council do not have to be Scheduled Tribe elected representatives. The provision states "There shall be established in each States having Scheduled Areas therein a Tribes Advisory Council consisting of not more than twenty members of whom, as nearly as may be, three-fourths shall be representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State. Provided that if the number of representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the legislative assembly of the State is less than the number of seats in the tribes advisory council to be filled by such representatives, the remaining seats shall be filled by other members of those tribes".

#### Foreign Languages in NVs

1762. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to introduce teaching of French, German and Chinese language from 5th standard in Navodaya Vidyalaya;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced in Navodaya Vidyalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Import of Silk

1763. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the silk available in the country is not sufficient to cater to the needs of the people;

(b) if so, whether the Government has permitted import of silk;

(c) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, country-wise;

(d) whether the cheap Chinese silk available in the country is being smuggled; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government to protect the indigenous silk producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) Yes Sir. The domestic demand for silk in India is estimated to be around 25,000 MTs where as the country's production is around 17,305 MTs(2005-06) resulting into a gap of around 8,000 MTs annually.

(b) The Government has permitted import of silk under the OGL.

(c) Country-wise import of raw silk into India during last three years is given in the statement.

(d) and (e) There is no definite information about the

quantity and value of the smuggled consignments, which are entering the country illegally. The cheap raw silk which is entering India illegally, has affected the silk sector in the country mainly since the year 2001-02.

The Director General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has issued an order on 4th July, 2003 imposing anti-dumping duty on the raw silk imported from China P.R. This imposition of anti-dumping duty has brought certain stability in the Indian silk market. The DGAD has also imposed provisional anti-dumping duty by issuing gazette notification on 28th April, 2006 pending final findings on silk fabric imported from China. This has helped the power-loom industry. However, in order to promote Indo-China border trade a notification has been issued by Directorate General of Foreign Trade vide their notification dated 13th June, 2006 wherein the item "silk" is permitted to be imported freely.

Apart from the above available legal measures the Government have taken several initiatives through Central Silk Board and the State Governments to strengthen the Indian silk industry by focusing on improvement in productivity and quality through improved technology to counter the import of Chinese silk into the country. The Government is implementing an ambitious Catalytic Development Programme to improve both the quality and productivity of Indian raw silk.

#### Statement

##### Country-wise import of raw silk into India during the three years

Sl. No.	Country	2003-04 Qty (M.T.)	2004-05 Qty (M.T.)	2005-06(P) Qty (M.T.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	China P. Republic	7576	7243	8116
2.	China Taipei (Taiwan)	25	54	27
3.	Brazil	269	79	57
4.	Korea Republic	111	18	19
5.	Hongkong	24	2	3
6.	Switzerland	925	101	
7.	Japan	190	423	10
8.	Uzbekistan	45	21	50

1	2	3	4	5
9.	USA	12	-	1
10.	Singapore	-	-	1
	Others	81	7	50
	Total	9258	7948	8334

P : Provisional

Source : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata.

#### Funds to Cottage Industry

1764. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- whether the cottage industries in the country particularly in Karnataka are facing acute financial crisis;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- whether the States, particularly Karnataka has requested for allocation of more funds for development of cottage industry in the State;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Cottage industries in the country, including those in Karnataka, may face financial difficulties due to several reasons such as, weak financial base and managerial skills of entrepreneurs, inadequate credit availability, delayed payment from buyers, etc.

(c) to (e) No specific requests have been received from States, including Karnataka, for higher allocation of funds for development of cottage industries. The Government has, however, been providing adequate funds for implementation of various schemes to promote and develop agro and rural industries, including cottage industries, in the country. This is evident from the following :

(Rs. crore)

Year	Amount released
2003-04	606.13
2004-05	695.98
2005-06	868.03

#### Tiny Sector Industrial Units under IIDS

1765. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the tiny units set up in the country, particularly in Maharashtra, under the Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme (IIDS);

(b) whether the objectives envisaged for setting up of tiny units are being achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a provision to set up tiny units in IIDS on cluster basis;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government proposes to extend the Scheme to other parts of the States where it is not in operations so far; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) A statement showing the number of small/tiny units set up in the IID Centres in the country including Maharashtra is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Based on the proposals for setting up of new Integrated Infrastructure Development (IID) Centres received from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations or eligible non-Governmental organizations (through the respective State Governments), 84 IID Centres have been approved under the Scheme. That the objective of setting up of tiny and small units is achieved is evident from the number of units established in the approved Centres.

(d) and (e) One of the objectives of the IID Scheme is to promote clusters of small scale and tiny units. The Scheme provides for 50% reservation of developed sites for the tiny units.

(f) and (g) The IID Scheme is demand-driven and covers all areas of the country, with 50% reservation for rural areas. Extension of the IID Scheme to various parts of the country, including Maharashtra, thus depends on the respective State Governments submitting acceptable proposals for this purpose.

*Statement*

Sl.No.	State	Location of the Project	No. of small/tiny units set up
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Vill. Nandial, Distt. Mandal, Kurnool	5
		Gajularamaram, Distt. Rangareddy	67
		Vill. Tada, Distt. Nellore	5
		Vijayawadal, Distt. Nellore	12
2.	Assam	Demow, Distt. Sibsagar	1
		Dalgaon, Distt. Darrang	4
3.	Haryana	Vill. Manakpur, Distt. Yamuna Nagar	119
		Vill. Khairpur Distt. Sirsa	3
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Vill. Gwalthai, Distt. Bilaspur	5
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	Vill. Batal Ballain, Distt. Udhampur	23
6.	Karnataka	Vill. Kanbargi, Distt. Belgaum	489
		Malur, Distt. Kolar	66
		Alibad, Bijapur	3
7.	Kerala	Kazhakuttam, Distt. Trivendrum	23
		Irunkoli & Kathipur, Distt. Kannur	27
		Mazhuvannur Distt. Emakulam	75
		Seethangole Distt. Kasargod	36
		Kakknacherry, Distt. Malapuram	17
		Kalpeta, Wayanad	6
		Koratty, Thrissur	20

1	2	3	4
8.	Maharashtra	Ghatodi Pusad, Distt. Yeotmal Vill. Sangavi, Distt. Satara	2 5
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Jaggakhedi, Distt. Mandsour Naogawn, Distt. Sagar Pratappura, Distt. Tikamgarh Sandiya, Distt. Neemuch	2 2 1 20
10.	Mizoram	Pukpui, Distt. Lunglei	43
11.	Orissa	Mukandaprasad Distt. Khurda Pittamaha!, Distt. Rayagada	10 3
12.	Rajasthan	Sangaria, Distt. Jodhpur Gogelao, Distt. Nagaur Niwai, Distt. Tonk  Kaladwas, Distt. Udaipur Hindaun City, Distt. Karauli Bayana, Distt. Bharatpur Khushkhera, Distt. Alwar	327 20 18  102 27 6 6
13.	Tamil Nadu	Urangampathy Distt. Madurai Thirumudi-vakkam, Distt. Kanchipuram Vichoor, Distt. Thiruvellore Kattur Avadi, Block Chennai Vanyanthankottai, Distt. Trichirapalli	69 71 25 12 2
14.	Uttaranchal	Selquei, Distt. Dehradun Pant Nagar, Distt. Udhamasinghnagar Haridwar, Distt. Haridwar Barabanki, Distt. Barabanki	37 84 84 43
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Banthar, Distt. Unnao Kosikotwan, Distt. Mathura Bhadohi, Distt. Bhadohi	3 7 9

#### All India Council for Technical Education

1766. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether prior permission of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is mandatory to start any programme in technical or management education including degrees in disciplines;

(b) if so, whether as per the notification issued by the Union Government, the deemed universities are free to start any programme in technical or management education without the approval of the AICTE;

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

(d) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure maintenance of the mini-

mum standards prescribed by the AICTE by deemed universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) As per AICTE Act, the AICTE is empowered to take such steps as necessary for ensuring coordinated and integrated development of technical education and maintenance of standards. Those who are intending to set up a technical institution for running degree level technical courses are required to take approval of AICTE.

(b) to (d) In the case of Deemed Universities, as per notification No. 2-1/2006-U3 (A) dated 5.4.2006, it is not a prerequisite for an institution notified as a 'Deemed to be University' to obtain the prior approval of the AICTE to start any programme in technical or management education leading to an award, including degrees in disciplines

covered under the AICTE Act, 1987. However, institutions notified as 'Deemed to be University' are required to ensure the maintenance of the minimum standards prescribed by the AICTE for various courses that come under the jurisdiction of the said Council. It is expected that the institution notified as a 'Deemed to be University' maintains the standards of the education higher than the minimum prescribed by the AICTE.

#### Higher Education

1767. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether higher education is a pro-rich and urban phenomenon and the participation of SC/ST in higher education is abnormally low as compared to their population;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government on the imbalance in the urban and rural scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act, 2005, which has already come into force w.e.f. 20th January 2006 enables appropriate laws to be made for the advancement of the weaker sections in matters of admission to all educational institutions, except minority institutions. Each State can make appropriate laws for the purpose. A draft Central legislation in pursuance of the above is under consideration. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has also introduced special programmes for promotion of higher education in rural and backward areas. Relaxation has also been granted in eligibility conditions to the colleges located in rural and backward areas for availing assistance under general development grants from the Commission.

#### Literacy Rate of Tribals

1768. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total tribal population of the country State-wise and gender-wise;

(b) the literacy rate of tribals, gender-wise;

(c) the number of Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDA) are functioning in the country, State-wise;

(d) whether these ITDAs are successfully carrying out their responsibilities/tasks for the development of the tribal community; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) Figures of state-wise and gender-wise tribal population in the country are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) As per the Population Census 2001, the literacy rate of tribals as follows :

Total	Male	Female
47.1%	59.2%	34.8%

(c) to (e) There are a total of 29 Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) functioning in two States, 8 in Andhra Pradesh and 21 in Orissa. In other States, there are Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) which are not registered bodies. The various tasks mainly administrative, regulatory and developmental in nature, as assigned by the State Governments, are carried out satisfactorily by the ITDAs.

#### Statement

State-wise and Gender-wise Tribal population,  
as per Population Census 2001

India/States/UTs	Total		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
India*	84,326,240	42,640,829	41,685,411
Andhra Pradesh	5,024,104	2,548,295	2,475,809
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	29,469	15,127	14,342
Arunachal Pradesh	705,158	352,017	353,141
Assam	3,308,570	1,678,117	1,630,453
Bihar	758,351	393,114	365,237
Chhattisgarh	6,616,596	3,287,334	3,329,262

1	2	3	4
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	137,225	67,663	69,562
Daman and Diu	13,997	7,190	6,807
Gujarat	7,481,160	3,790,117	3,691,043
Goa	566	299	267
Himachal Pradesh	244,587	122,549	122,038
Jammu and Kashmir	1,105,979	578,949	527,030
Jharkhand	7,087,068	3,565,960	3,521,108
Karnataka	3,463,986	1,756,238	1,707,748
Kerala	364,189	180,169	184,020
Lakshadweep	57,321	28,611	28,710
Madhya Pradesh	12,233,474	6,195,240	6,038,234
Maharashtra	8,577,276	4,347,754	4,229,522
Manipur	741,141	374,319	366,822
Meghalaya	1,992,862	996,567	996,295
Mizoram	839,310	422,963	416,347
Nagaland	1,774,026	913,203	860,823
Orissa	8,145,081	4,066,783	4,078,298
Rajasthan	7,097,706	3,650,982	3,446,724
Sikkim	111,405	56,940	54,465
Tamil Nadu	651,321	328,917	322,404
Tripura	993,426	504,320	489,106
Uttaranchal	256,129	131,334	124,795
Uttar Pradesh	107,963	55,834	52,129
West Bengal	4,406,794	2,223,924	2,182,870

\*Excludes population of Paomata, Mao Maram and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur for 2001 Census  
 Note : No notified Scheduled Tribe in Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Delhi and Pondicherry.

#### Survey Report on bridge over Lohit and Khabolu River

1769. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be

pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 1916 dated Marh 15, 2005 and state:

(a) whether M/s Consultant Engineering Services, New Delhi has submitted its survey report on the feasibility and estimate of the bridge in terms of the agreement as assured;

(b) if so, the date of submission of the report, detailed findings of the survey and estimate indicating the present status of its sanction including the source of funding organised;

(c) whether this bridge is proposed for inclusion in the 11th plan of NEC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) and (b) The North Eastern Council has informed that the Government of Assam has engaged M/s Gharzi Eastern Ltd., Kolkata as consultant for the bridge over Lohit and Khabolu Rivers. The Assam State PWD has submitted a feasibility report to the NEC Sectt. on 5th July, 2005 and the estimated cost is Rs. 216.72 crores. The DPR is still awaited from Assam State PWD.

(c) and (d) The Eleventh Plan proposals and priorities of NEC are yet to be finalized. NEC is currently consulting the member States on the formulation of the Eleventh Plan. As such, no firm commitment can be given at this stage.

#### Import of Edible Items

1770. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of edible items imported during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith foreign exchange incurred thereon, country-wise;

(b) the reasons for import of these edibles; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the import of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The country-wise details of import of edible items are given in the publication 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Volume-II (Imports) Annual Number' published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the library of the Parliament.



(b) and (c) Foreign Trade regime has ensured access to imports which are essential for meeting the requirements of exports, consumption, growth and development. However, all imports are subject to applicable rate of customs duties and also to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications and environmental safety norms as applicable for domestically produced edible goods. Import duties on a number of edible items have been increased to regulate imports, wherever necessary.

#### **NGOs Working for Welfare of Tribals**

1771. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints against NGOs which are getting grants for the welfare and development of Tribals for spreading communalism in tribal areas of some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has stopped grants to such NGOs;

(d) if so, the details of such NGOs;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken or being taken or mechanism adopted by Government to ensure that the grants provided to NGOs and States for the welfare of tribals is spent judiciously?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) No complaint against any NGO for using grants released by this Ministry to spread communalism has been received by this Ministry.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

(f) Since 2005-06, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has evolved a decentralised procedure to bring more transparency, and to utilize the funds judiciously for development activities in service deficient tribal areas, by active involvement of all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in identification, scrutiny, examination of the projects run by voluntary organisations through a multidisciplinary State Level Committee. The Ministry provides funds to only those projects of NGOs, which are recommended by the State level Committees and also reported to have utilized the funds released earlier for the purpose for which they were sanctioned.

#### **Bogus Payment to Private Agencies by MCD**

1772. SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any investigation into the bogus payment to private agencies by the officials of slum and jhuggi Department of Municipal Corporation of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details and outcome of the investigation;

(c) the action taken by the Government against each person involved therein; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has investigated a complaint forwarded by the Central Vigilance Commission regarding bogus payment to a private security agency by the officials of the Slum and Jhuggi-Jhopri Department of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The investigation revealed some irregularities in processing the vouchers relating to payment to security personnel deployed in Municipal Corporation of Delhi by the security agency.

(c) and (d) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has initiated regular departmental action for imposition of major penalty against three officials and for minor penalty against four officials.

[Translation]

#### **Ban on Stone Crushers**

1773. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the year 1992 and the Delhi High Court on November 19, 2003 have issued any directions to stop mining and operation of stone crushers on the Mehrauli ridge in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) and (b) As per

available information, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 15.05.1992 in Civil Writ Petition No. 4677 of 1985 had imposed ban on operation of stone crusher in the Union Territory of Delhi w.e.f. 15.8.1992. The Supreme Court vide its judgement dated 6.05.2002 further extended this ban an are area of 5 kms. from Delhi-Haryana Border in the extension of Aravalli hills. The High Court of Delhi restricted mining in the Mehrauli ridge vide its order dated 19.11.2003.

(c) and (d) As per available information, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has started patrolling, continuous monitoring and rehabilitation of mining areas.

[English]

#### Trade with Neighbouring Countries

1774. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the volume of border trade between India and its neighbouring countries during each of the last three years and the current year; country-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the trade with these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Border trade facilities are available for bilateral trade with Myanmar and China. Trade with other neighbouring countries are regulated as normal trade regime.

Data for Volume of border trade with Myanmar and China are as follows :

Country	2003-04 (Rs. Crores)	2004-05 (Rs. Crores)	2005-06 (Rs. Crore)
Myanmar	18.32	11.61	9.07
China	6.07	18.47	4.75

(b) Some of the initiatives for boosting border trade include opening of additional border trading points, diversification of border trade basket, mounting business delegations etc.

[Translation]

#### Financial Assistance to Loktantrik Senani

1775. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA :  
DR. RAJESH MISHRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has declared the persons arrested during the emergency as "Loktantrik Senani" and announced economic assistance to them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Such a decision has been taken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

#### National Policy for Admission In Pvt. Institutions

1776. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

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

(a) whether the country has any policy to regulate admission in private institutions and their fee structure;

(b) if not, whether various courts in their decisions have directed the Government to formulate the policy in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the steps taken by the Government to implement this decision; and

(d) the time by which a national policy is likely to be formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) The Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act, 2005 which has already come into force w.e.f. the 20th January, 2006 enables appropriate laws to be made for the advancement of the weaker sections in matters of admission to all education institutions, except minority institutions. A draft Central legislation in pursuance of the above Amendment is under consideration. State Legislatures may make laws in respect of institutions under the purview of respective State governments.

#### New Offices for Disposal of Patent Cases

1777. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated a new policy for early disposal of patent cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open new offices for early disposal of patent cases; and

- (d) if so, the details/locations thereof State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Patents Rules, 2003, as amended by the Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2006 effective from 5th May, 2006 prescribe specific time-frames for various activities of the Patent Offices in order to ensure time bound disposal of patent applications. These, inter alia, include : a patent application which has to be referred to an Examiner within one month of the request for its examination; the Examiner has to make the report within one to three months thereafter; the Controller has to take a decision on the report of the Examiner within one month of its submission; and the First Examination Report has to be issued within six months of the date of request for examination of a patent application.

- (c) No, Sir.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### Small and Medium Scale Industries

1778. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has placed small scale industries at par with medium scale industries; and

- (b) if so, the likely impact of this move on the small scale industries sector?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 provides, inter-alia, for specific definitions of micro, small and medium enterprises. The enterprises have been classified broadly into those engaged in (i) manufacture/production of goods pertaining to any industry and (ii) providing/rendering of services. The manufacturing enterprises with investment in plant and machinery of more than twenty five lakh rupees and up to five crore rupees are classified as small enterprises (same as small scale industries). Manufacturing enterprises with investment in plant and machinery of more than five crore rupees and upto ten crore rupees are classified as medium enterprises. The support measures contained in section 11 and section 15 to 24 are only for the benefit of micro and small enterprises and are not applicable to medium enterprises. The Government has thus provided a legal framework for the continuum of micro, small and medium enterprises, in consonance with global practices. There is no likelihood of any adverse impact of defining medium enterprises, in addition to micro and small enterprises.

#### Mining of Granite

1779. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme for extracting granite and improving mining activities in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the States in which granite reserves are available in the country, location-wise;

- (d) the details of granite exported during each of the last three years;

- (e) whether the granite export has been badly affected during recent past years;

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

- (g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) and (b) Granite is a minor mineral defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and as per Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957, all powers to make rules and grant mineral concessions for minor minerals have been given to the concerned State Government. The Central Government has notified the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 on 1st June, 1999, to conserve the granite resources and to prescribe a uniform frame work with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite throughout the country.

The Central Government has constituted a Granite Development Council (GDC) including various stakeholders to discuss and redressal issues raised by granite industry.

- (c) As per available information resources of granite (as per United Nation Framework classification UNFC) as on 1-4-2000 are as follows :-

State	(in '000 cu.m.
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2405890
Assam	583950
Bihar	877612
Chhattisgarh	50057
Gujarat	419547

1	2
Haryana	34000
Jharkhand	8847364
Karnataka	9571593
Kerala	2808
Madhya Pradesh	1994084
Maharashtra	1158847
Meghalaya	286467
Orissa	1843204
Rajasthan	8461408
Tamil Nadu	559435
Uttar Pradesh	494819
West Bengal	33426
All India Total	37624611

(d) to (g) As per available information, quantity-wise export of granite during the years 2000-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 is as follows :-

Year	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Quantity (in tonnes)	2183570	2098169	2468182

The export of granite has increased in past few years.

[English]

#### **Association of Civil Society to Counter Terrorism**

1780. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any policy to associate civil society to counter terrorism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to initiate a civil defence movement in the country;

(d) if so, the mechanism proposed therefor; and

(e) the ratio expenditure to be shared by the Union and the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a)

and (b) The public at large is sensitized from time to time to cooperate with law enforcement agencies about suspicious elements and objects.

(c) and (d) Civil Defence is a critical component for disaster management. Civil defence is utilized for mitigation, prevention and preparedness for disasters as well as for response and relief in the aftermath of a disaster. The Natural Disaster Management Authority has been constituted and the states also advised to constitute similar authorities at the State level.

(e) As per present norm, 50% contribution is made by the Central Government in the North East Region excluding Assam and 25% in all other States including Assam.

#### **Financial Assistance to KVIC**

1781. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission is running in losses during the last three years;

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

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Government to the said Commission during each of the last three years; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for the revival of KVIC?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is not a commercial organisation. However, in the course of its promotional activities, the KVIC undertakes some trading activities to market khadi and village industry products. the losses incurred by KVIC in the trading operations during the last three years are as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. crore)
2002-03	1.13
2003-04	1.31
2004-05	1.40

(c) The year-wise budgetary support, including, funds for developmental programmes/schemes, provided by the Government to the KVIC during the last three years is as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. crore)
2003-04	432.60
2004-05	460.99
2005-06	558.56

(d) As part of the Government's National Common Minimum Programme to revamp the KVIC, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 has been amended and the Commission has been re-constituted.

#### Insurance Scheme for Artisans

1782. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bima Yojna for artisans scheme has failed to achieve the target set;

(b) whether only 3569 artisans including women artisans have been covered against the target of 66000 artisans; and

(c) the measures taken to achieve the target in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Since inception of the Scheme Bima Yojana for handcraft artisans in 2003-04, against the 10th Plan target of covering 2,00,000 artisans, till June, 2006 a total of 2,19,194 artisans, including women artisans have already been covered under the scheme.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Nomination of Advisors for Revival of NTC Mills

1783. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NTC has shortlisted three firms as advisors for the revival of its mills as reported in Statesman dated July 18, 2006;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the names of advisors finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) to (c) NTC has shortlisted three firms in a process for appointing an Advisor to help NTC in formulating strategy and required formalities for modernizing some mills through Joint Venture. the financial bids submitted by three-listed parties are under evaluation.

#### Allocation of Funds for Computer Education

1784. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

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

(a) whether the universities have failed to utilise the funds sanctioned for supplying computers to the colleges and develop the infrastructure of the science laboratories for conducting research at the undergraduate level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount sanctioned by the University Grant Commission to various universities for the development of infrastructure for science laboratories to conduct research at the undergraduate level particularly in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) The steps taken by the Government to provide basic infrastructure for the science laboratories to achieve goal of academic excellence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), while there is no such scheme under which grants are provided to universities for supplying computers to the colleges for development of science laboratories, the Commission under the scheme of Establishment of UGC Network Resource Centre (UGC-NRC) in colleges during Xth Plan period, has assisted 3357 colleges so far for the purchase of computer systems. The Commission has also been provided financial assistance to 66 Universities under the scheme of Establishment/Upgradation of Computer Centre in universities during the Xth Plan period.

(c) The Commission has provided grants amounting to Rs. 80.00 lakhs to 4 universities and Rs. 207.35 lakhs to 249 colleges in the State of Uttar Pradesh for purchase of computer systems, networking and internet connection.

(d) The Commission provides assistance for development of infrastructure facilities including science laboratories under General Development Grants and Research Projects.

#### Abandonment of Mines

1785. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Bureau of Mines has abandoned a large number of mines in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of such mines, State-wise;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to revive such mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

#### **AIDS Amongst PMF Personnel**

1786. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether AIDS has been detected among a large number of CRPF personnel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such cases have also been reported from other Para-military forces;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (d) 304 cases of HIV/AIDS have been detected in CRPF and 682 cases in other Para-military forces.

(e) :

- 1) Preparation of an Action Plan for prevention of HIV/AIDS among the CPF personnel.
- 2) Formation of Task Force for prevention of HIV/AIDS in the CPFs.
- 3) Supply of Testing Kits to all unit Hospitals.
- 4) Education of troops and families with regards to HIV/AIDS and preventive measures.
- 5) Regular screening of films of documentaries on HIV/AIDS in unit recreation rooms and Family Welfare Centers.
- 6) Dissemination of educational pamphlets in training schools.

#### **Rajiv Gandhi Chair on Contemporary Studies**

1787. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Rajiv Gandhi Chair on Contemporary Studies in various universities in the country;

(b) If so, the number of universities identified for setting up of the same;

(c) whether there is any delay in setting up of all the Chairs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which all the Chairs would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (e) Yes Sir, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has established 10 Rajiv Gandhi Chairs at the following Universities;

1. Panjab University, Chandigarh
2. University of Delhi, Delhi
3. University of Mumbai, Mumbai
4. University of Calcutta, Kolkata
5. North Eastern Hill University, Shillong
6. University of Allahabad, Allahabad
7. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture, Science & Technology of Kashmir, Srinagar
8. Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi
9. University of Madras, Chennai
10. Barkatullah Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal

The Scheme aims to create National Centres for Academic deliberations and action oriented research in frontier areas of contemporary relevance for improving the quality of life and life management systems. The UGC is making available financial assistance to these universities for the establishment of Chairs.

#### **District Institute of Education and Training**

1788. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States has sought financial assistance to start new District Institutes of Education and Training in the uncovered districts;

(b) if so, the amount of Central assistance sought for, State-wise;

(c) whether any amount has been released so far during the current year for the opening of new District Institutes of Education and Training to States particularly to Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (d) Yes, sir. The position with regard to proposals received from States for establishment of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) in the uncovered districts is indicated below :-

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of DIET's proposed	Amount of Financial assistance sought (Rs. in crore)
1.	Bihar	13	16.90
2.	Jharkhand	12	15.15
3.	Sikkim	1	1.80
4.	Haryana	2	3.50
5.	UT of Pondicherry	1	1.63

In the current financial year, no amount has been released to States for establishment of DIETs as these proposals are yet to be approved by Teacher Education Approval Board (TEAB). As regards Gujarat, all districts are covered with DIETs.

#### Investment Commission for Manufacturing Investment Policy

1789. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRI K.S. RAO :  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR :  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring a National Manufacturing Initiative and Investment Policy for various sectors;

(b) if so, the details and objective of the same;

(c) whether the Investment Commission has made some recommendations in this regard;

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

(e) the likely impact on investment, employment generation and manufacturing hubs;

(f) whether the Government proposes to invite private sector investment in manufacturing investment regions especially in Petro investment regions; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government proposes to launch a National Manufacturing Initiative with the objective of increasing the competitiveness of the manufacturing sector. The Manufacturing initiative is aimed at making the manufacturing sector the prime driving force for employment and economic growth. Government has put in place a liberal policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under which FDI in most of the manufacturing activities is permitted up to 100% on the automatic route.

(c) and (d) Investment Commission has recommended measures to improve the business and investment climate which, inter-alia include removal/reduction of existing restrictions on FDI in certain sectors.

(e) Investment, including Foreign Direct Investment, has the potential to create employment, bring in modern technology and management practices and enlarge the share of manufacturing in the national GDP.

(f) and (g) Setting up of Manufacturing Investment Regions (MIRs) and Petroleum, Chemical & Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) are amongst the initiatives being considered for providing quality infrastructure, speedier clearances and efficient & transparent regulatory systems in order to encourage manufacturing growth. The contours of the policy and legal framework in respect of the scope and establishment of such regions are under consultation with all stakeholders, including the State Governments.

#### Export of Ayurvedic Medicines

1790. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to ban export of raw materials for medicines and other products as reported in Jansatta dated July 20, 2006;

(b) If so, the facts thereof;

(c) the details of Ayurvedic Medicines exported during 2005-2006 and the current year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of Ayurvedic medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(c) As per the latest figures available, during the year 2005-2006 Ayurvedic medicants/medicaments for a total value of Rs. 18,825 Lakhs were exported till January, 2006.

(d) As per the current Foreign Trade Policy, Ayurvedic Medicines are freely exportable. The Policy also rewards exports of Medicinal Plants and their value added variants covered in Minor Forest Produce, under Vishesh Krishi Avam Gramodyog Scheme.

#### **BAN on Import of Indian Fruits**

1791. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

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

(a) the details of fruits exported during each of the last two years and the current year alongwith the foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise;

(b) whether some countries have banned the import of Indian fruits;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, fruit-wise and country-wise;

(d) the names of the countries that have lifted restriction on import of fruits during the current year; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of Indian fruits in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Fruits valued at Rs. 388 Crores, Rs. 362 Crores and Rs. 651 Crores (provisional figures) were exported during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively. Details of the fruits exported to major importing countries during 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given below:

(value : Rupees in crores)

Country	2003-04	2004-05
Bangladesh	107.53	101.17
Bahrain	5.26	4.49
United Kingdom	47.95	43.61
Kuwait	3.02	2.94
Netherlands	27.81	45.70
Nepal	18.30	28.13
Saudi Arabia	18.61	16.58
United Arab Emirates	100.22	81.78
Germany	11.84	6.55

(Source : APEDA)

Country-wise details of exports fruit in 2005-06 and the current year are not available.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. United States of America, China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand have imposed restrictions on the import of Indian fruits on account of incidence of fruit flies, mango, stone, thrips, pulp weevil and other pests in Indian fruit and owing to other quarantine requirements.

(d) Japan lifted the ban on import of Indian mangoes on 23rd June, 2006.

(e) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is extending financial assistance under its schemes for Market Development, Infrastructure, Development, Quality Development and Research Development to exporters to facilitate export of agricultural produce. Other steps in this direction include setting up of Agri Export Zones, provision of facilities for handling perishable cargo at major international airports, participation in fairs, organization of promotion campaigns and buyer-seller meets.

#### **Mining Lease**

1792. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken note of its limitations in providing mining lease under the Forest (Conservation) and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to bring a new policy; and



(d) If so, the details thereof and the time by which new policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) and (b) Mineral concession including mining leases are granted under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and the rules framed thereunder. Beside the provisions of MMDR Act, provisions relating to Forest (Conservation) Act., 1980 (FCA), Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (EPA) and other statutory requirements need to be complied with. As per Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification issued under the EPA, 1986, mining projects of major minerals having lease area of more than 5 ha attract the provisions of EIA Notification and require prior environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests. Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 requires prior approval for diversion of forest land for non forestry use including mining, renewal of mining leases on forest land.

(c) and (d) A High Level Committee set up to review the National Mineral Policy, 1993 and the MMDR Act has recommended that forest clearance may be given in one stage and in the course of public consultation required for environmental clearance, only local people should be eligible to participate in public hearings while outsiders may submit representations.

#### Duty Free Import of Vanaspati

1793. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :  
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :  
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI :  
SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA :

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

(a) whether vanaspati/vegetable oil is being imported from Sri Lanka and Malaysia at zero duty and without any quantitative restrictions under Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement;

(b) If so, whether Directorate of Vanaspati has recommended an imposition of Tariff Rate Quota on imports of vanaspati from Sri Lanka;

(c) If so, the other recommendations made by the Directorate of Vanaspati;

(d) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of Directorate of Vanaspati; and

(e) the other steps likely to be taken by the Government to ensure quality control and stop dumping of Vanaspati in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Vanaspati/Vegetable Oil can be imported from Sri Lanka at Zero duty under India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA) which was signed on 28th December, 1998 and became operational from March 2000. However, vanaspati from Malaysia can be imported at MFN duty.

(b) to (e) Department of Food & Public Distribution, under which Directorate of Vanaspati comes, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and Department of Commerce had decided for imposition of Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) restrictions on imports of vanaspati from Sri Lanka. Government of India has notified that duty free import of vanaspati including bakery shortening and margarine will be canalized. To ensure quality control and avoid dumping of vanaspati, it has been mandated that all imports of vanaspati will have to adhere to the guidelines prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act.

#### Death of PMF Personnel

1794. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ITBP and other border specific Para-military organisations officers and Jawans died or suffered serious high altitude diseases during the last three years, year-wise, rank-wise;

(b) the number of officers and Jawans above the age of 45 in active service at high altitudes on borders;

(c) the number of posts or positions available at base camps and other posting stations to accommodate affected officers;

(d) whether the Government proposes to maintain a young profile of Para-military organisations working at high altitude and work out a mechanism to accommodate officers above 45 years of age in administration and management services at other suitable places to provide them relief from high altitude diseases at growing age and maintain a very quick response efficiency; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Number of personnel died due to high altitude diseases in Central Police Forces (CPF) is given below :

Rank	2003	2004	2005
Comdt	1	0	0
Inspector	3	0	0
Sub-Inspector	5	1	2
Head Constable	5	7	10
Constable	18	5	17
Total	32	13	29

**Suffered high altitude diseases:**

Year	Total
2003	1644
2004	1911
2005	1660

Rank - wise break up is being collected from the CPFs.

(b) 1929

(c) to (e) Affected personnel are given 'soft' postings in establishments located in plain or low altitude areas depending on the condition. Efforts are always made to post younger persons only at higher altitudes and to utilise those in higher age bracket in relatively lighter duties. Expansion of ITBP is also considered by the Government whenever necessary. 38 additional companies have been raised by ITBP in the recent past.

**Survey of FICCI on Export Growth**

1795. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :  
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE :  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT :  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :

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

(a) whether FICCI has conducted any survey to increase the export of the country;

(b) if so, whether FICCI has made any assessment on export during the first quarter of the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether FICCI seeks help from the Government on the growth of this sector on the lines of IIT and IIM;

(e) whether FICCI has given some suggestions/recommendations to the Government regarding growth rate in industrial sector;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Internal Security**

1796. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to constitute any committee to strengthen internal security arrangements and various police organisations to combat terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) There is no proposal to constitute such a Committee.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Extension in Period of TUFs**

1797. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has recently issued directions to the TUFs, allied agencies/Banks not to process any fresh loans under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFs);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of textile units particularly Small Scale textile units have represented the Government to extend the period of TUFs beyond March 31, 2007; and

(d) if so, the reasons for premature closure of the Scheme before expiry of period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : (a) to (d) In view of paucity of Budget provisions under TUFs for the current year, the Government had directed the nodal agencies/nodal banks/co-opted PLIs under TUFs regarding stoppage of fresh sanctions under TUFs w.e.f. 6th July, 2006. However, on 21.07.2006 this direction has been withdrawn in view of assurance from the Ministry of Finance to provide more funds.

[Translation]

**Migration of People**

1798. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of persons are migrating from villages to cities in the country due to inadequate agro based industries in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to set up agro based industries in the villages to check migration of villagers to cities?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Migration of persons from villages to cities and from one State to another State does take place in the country due to various reasons.

The Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has been implementing two credit linked subsidy schemes for employment generation, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) for generation of additional employment opportunities in the country. One of the main objectives of both these programmes is to facilitate generation of additional employment in the local (rural or urban) areas of each State. REGP is implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to assist eligible applicants in setting up village industries in the rural areas and small towns with population up to 20,000 and the PMRY through the Government of State/ Union Territories, in both rural and urban areas, for providing self employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth.

During the last four years of the Tenth Plan, 19.30 lakh additional employment opportunities are estimated to have been generated under REGP and 13.16 lakh opportunities under PMRY respectively. Nearly 50 per cent of the additional employment under PMRY is generated in the rural areas.

[English]

#### Death of DP Personnel

1799. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :  
MS.INGRID MCLEOD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Delhi Police personnel died while on duty during each of the last three years, rank-wise and district-wise;

(b) the total number of applications received from the dependents of deceased employees for appointment

on compassionate grounds during the above period; rank-wise;

(c) the total number of persons appointed on compassionate grounds during the above period;

(d) the total number of applications rejected alongwith the reasons therefor, rank-wise; and

(e) the time by which all the dependents of deceased employees will be appointed in Delhi Police on compassionate grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) : (a) The details of personnel of Delhi Police who died while on duty are given below:-

Rank of the deceased	2003	2004	2005	2006 (upto 27th July)
ACP	-	-	1	-
SI	1	3	1	3
ASI	2	2	1	1
HC	7	5	4	1
Constable	10	8	8	1
Total	20	18	15	6

(b) and (c) 30 applications were received for appointment on compassionate grounds during this period from the dependents of deceased officials, including one Assistant Commissioner of Police, six Sub-Inspectors, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors, seven Head Constables and fourteen Constables. Out of these, 19 candidates have been approved for appointment on compassionate grounds.

(d) Seven applications of dependents of deceased officials i.e. one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector, two Head Constables and three Constables, have been rejected by the Screening Committee in the light of instructions issued by the Government, judgement of the Supreme Court in the case of Umesh Kumar Nagpal Vs State of Haryana and other relevant factors such as size of families, age of deceased officials at the time of death, age of children, presence of earning members, and assets and liabilities of the families.

(e) As per extant instructions, compassionate appointment can be made up to a maximum 5% of the vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota of group 'C' and 'D' posts. It is not possible to prescribe any time frame in this regard as appointments are made on the basis of suitability of applicants and availability of vacant posts.

**Setting up of Satellite  
Centre in IITs**

1800. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish a Satellite Centres in all IITs (Indian Institute of Technology) functioning in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present .

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Non Utilization of  
Funds By NVs**

1801. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned by the Government for the Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether the Navodaya Vidyalayas set up in the country have not fully utilised the fund allocated to them during the last three years;

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

(d) whether the performance of Navodaya Vidyalayas has been satisfactory; and

(e) if not, the steps likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The details of funds sanctioned and utilized by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti during the last three years (2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06) is as follows :-

Year	(Rs. in Crores)			
	Plan		Non-plan	
	Sanctioned	Utilised (including internal resources)	Sanctioned	Utilised (including internal resources)
2003-04	439.56	424.44	130.00	130.24
2004-05	449.00	442.02	139.66	145.20
2005-06	571.00	572.77	150.85	157.43

Some balance at the end of financial years 2003-2004 & 2004-2005 was maintained under Plan to meet the obligatory expenditure during the first two months of the next financial year.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Basic Science**

1802. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the experts have expressed their grave concern over the grim situation of science in India as reported in the Times of India dated July 21, 2006;

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

(c) whether the performance in basic sciences has come down both in terms of percentage of contribution to world science and percentage of high quality research paper;

(d) if so, the details of India's contribution to world science as compared to other countries;

(e) whether the Government has reviewed the situation and found out reasons behind this situation;

(f) if so, the finding thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to provide structure for basic science?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (g) According to the information contained in the report titled 'India Science Report' brought out by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) with the help of the National Council Applied Economic Research (NCAER), the annual enrolment at graduate plus level in

science subjects has gone up from 28.8% in 1995-96 to 34.6% in 2004. However, the number of Ph.Ds in India in relation to M.Sc/B.Tech is low as compared to the position in countries like USA, UK, Germany and Japan.

A Task Force was constituted by the Government in March, 2005 for strengthening basic Scientific Research in universities. In its Report, the Task Force has inter alia, recommended creation of 1000 positions of Research Scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph.Ds from Indian universities within a span of ten years with proper standards, promotion of formal linkage between the Universities and national level institutions including the CSIR laboratories through joint research projects and training, inbuilt component of research in post-graduate programmes pertaining to Science and Technology, upgradation of infrastructural facilities in universities to promote quality scientific research, and, creation of new working centers in Basic Sciences in leading Department of Universities to promote collaborative research. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has been directed to implement the recommendations contained in the Report.

#### **Export of Handloom/Handicrafts**

1803. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the States whose handloom and handicrafts products are in great demand in international market; and

(b) the possibilities explored by the Government to promote handlooms and handicrafts products in these States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA) : (a) Karur and Madurai in Tamil Nadu, Kannur in Kerala and Panipat in Haryana are the major export centres of handloom products.

It is estimated that 80% of the total exports of handicrafts products and carpets is from central and Northern regions of the country. Products of handicrafts and carpets from Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal under Central Region and Rajasthan, J & K, Haryana, Punjab and Delhi under Northern Region are in great demand in the international market.

(b) In the EXIM Policy (2004-09), Panipat has been declared as "Town of Export Excellence" for Woollen Blanket. In the said EXIM Policy, the threshold limit of Rs. 1000 Crore has been reduced to Rs. 250 Crore for Towns

of Export Excellence and new Towns of Export Excellence have been notified at Karur & Madurai in Tamil nadu, Kannur in Kerala and Khekhra in Uttar Pradesh. This will help promotion of export of handlooms from these towns.

The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of handicrafts in the country including the above mentioned States. The schemes include Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana for cluster development, Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme, Market Support Scheme, Special Handicrafts Training projects etc. Apart from the above, steps taken for promotion of exports include participation in International fairs, organising Buyer Seller Meets in India and abroad, organising theme specific fairs, overseas publicity and setting up of Indian Exposition Mart at Greater Noida.

#### **Purchase of Cotton**

1804. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) recommended that Cotton Corporation of India should purchase about 25% to 30% of total cotton production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the percentage share of CCI in procurement/purchase of cotton of total cotton production has been much less than the CACP recommended during the last six years;

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

(e) whether during the above period CCI paid several crores of rupees as commission to agents/traders for purchase of cotton in regulated market thereby increasing the cost of procurement;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard; and

(g) the measures taken by the CCI to increase its share in the purchase of indigenous cotton to help the growers to get remunerative price as well as quality supply at reasonable prices to the user mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA) : (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise. However, Cotton

Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) purchases of kapas (seed cotton) from the farmers both under MSP operations as well as under commercial operations. As and when the prices are ruling at MSP level the CCI purchases entire quantity of kapas offered to it by the cotton farmers without any quantitative limits. The CCI buys FAQ kapas as also kapas three stages below the FAQ grade to help the cotton farmers. When the prevailing prices are above MSP, the CCI makes purchases under its commercial operations at its own risk and cost to help the farmers.

(e) and (f) CCI has been purchasing the kapas at notified market yards in various cotton growing States under the aegis of APMC in the presence of APMC officials. Wherever the rules of APMCs of the respective State Government provide for purchase of kapas through commission agents, purchases by the CCI have been made accordingly and the commission to the agents have been paid as per the rates fixed by APMCs. The rate of commission to be paid varies from State to State. Such commissions are payable by all buyers including CCI, mills, ginneries etc. These commissions are paid in Northern States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan followed by in Gujarat and Karnataka States. In rest of the States, the CCI has been purchasing kapas directly from the cotton growers or the commission is payable by the sellers i.e. farmers. Details of commission paid to commission agents operating under APMC Acts of various State Governments is as under :-

Rs. in lakhs			
Financial year	Commercial purchases	MSP purchases	Total
2000-01	510.37	--	510.37
2001-02	94.95	267.76	362.71
2002-03	207.46	69.05	276.51
2003-04	473.05	--	473.05
2004-05	66.89	1551.14	1618.03
2005-06	76.66	642.27	718.93

- (1) No commission has been paid to any traders  
 (2) Commission agents operating under the provisions and Bye-laws of AMPC Act and not traders

(g) In order to ensure remunerative prices to the cotton growers and avoid distress sales, the CCI, in the wake of prevailing kapas prices touching the MSP level, has been purchasing the entire quantity of FAQ grade kapas offered to it at APMC market yards without any

quantitative limit. Further, to help the cotton farmers, the CCI has also been purchasing the kapas three stages below FAQ grade. In view of the modernisation of G&P factories with the assistance of TMC, the quality of processing has improved significantly and the CCI has been able to supply least contaminated bales to the domestic mills at affordable prices.

[Translation]

#### Protection of Domestic Retailers

1805. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
 SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

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

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has given some suggestions to deal with the competition generated by foreign retailers and to protect the interest of domestic retailers;
- (b) if so, the details of the said suggestions; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Although Planning Commission has indicated that competition generated by foreign retailers may not adversely impact domestic retailers, Government has permitted FDI upto 51% with prior Government approval only in the retail trade of "Single Brand" products notified vide Press note no. 3 (2006 ) on February 10, 2006. Government is committed to protecting the interests of domestic retailers.

[English]

#### Joint Committee Meet on Indo-French Trade

1806. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether India and France have expanded and diversified bilateral trade and investment;
- (b) if so, the details of the Indo-French Joint Committee meetings held during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the details of the discussions held and agreements signed between both the countries; and
- (d) the extent to which trade between these countries is likely to be increased?

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

(b) Two meetings of Indo-French Joint Committee were held during the period 2002-2005. The 12th Session was held in Paris on 4 November 2003 and the 13th Session was held in New Delhi on 9th December, 2004. During the current year, the 14th Session was held in Paris on 31 May, 2006.

(c) In these meetings, the two sides discussed ways and means for promoting bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation in various sectors. The two countries signed the Agreement on cooperation in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, rural development, forestry and food industries on 4 November 2003.

(d) The two countries have targeted to double bilateral trade within 5 years.

#### **Khadi Karigar Janashree Bima Yojana**

1807. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has launched "Khadi Karigar Janashree Bima Yojana" for providing Social Security benefits to the artisan of Khadi Sector;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) the total amount of premium paid per annum per artisan under the Scheme;

(d) the total number of artisan covered under the scheme as on date, State-wise; and

(e) the total amount sanctioned and spend under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) On 15th August 2003, Government launched the Khadi Karigar Janashree

Bima Yojana (JBY) to provide social security benefits to khadi artisans/workers. The annual premium of Rs. 200 artisan under JBY is shared as under.

(i) Artisan	-	Rs. 25
(ii) Government Social Security Fund	-	Rs. 100
(iii) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)	-	Rs. 25
(iv) Khadi Institution concerned	-	Rs. 50

This scheme provides each artisan cover of upto (i) Rs. 20000 for natural death and Rs. 50000 for death due to accident, (ii) Rs. 50000 for permanent disability (loss of two eyes/limbs of use) due to accident, and (iii) Rs. 25000 for partial disability.

The Shiksha Sahayog Yojana is add-on coverage under JBY, without additional premium. The wards of the khadi artisans (benefits restricted to two children per member/family) covered under the JBY are entitled to receive upto Rs. 300 per quarter per ward towards tuition fee under the Shiksha Sahayog Yojana. This benefit is only for wards studying in classes IX to XII, including those studying in Industrial Training Institutes.

(d) The State-wise numbers of artisans covered under the JBY, as on 31.03.2006, are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) The details of the amount sanctioned and spent (premium paid by KVIC to Life Insurance Corporation of India) under the JBY are given in the table below:

Period	Amount sanctioned and spent (Rs. crore)
During 15.08.2003 to 14.08.2004	1.17
During 15.08.2004 to 14.08.2005	1.77
During 15.08.2005 to 14.08.2006	1.07*

\*Less amount paid due to subsequent lowering of premium by LIC of India.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise number of artisans covered under the "Khadi Karigar Janashree Bima Yojana" during 15.08.2003 to 14.08.2006*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	15.08.2003 to 14.08.2004	15.08.2004 to 14.08.2005	15.08.2005 to 14.08.2006
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5119	9781	11684

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	13	15
3.	Assam	529	541	1446
4.	Bihar	3375	3690	4236
5.	Chhattisgarh	311	1189	1189
6.	Delhi	1138	1646	2062
7.	Gujarat	0	3217	5823
8.	Haryana	7383	9414	12204
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	266	662
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	508	833	833
11.	Jharkhand	1060	1154	2329
12.	Karnataka	4862	9650	12658
13.	Kerala	3663	7557	7557
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	446	795
15.	Maharashtra	776	1047	1149
16.	Manipur	49	74	238
17.	Meghalaya	0	14	14
18.	Nagaland	18	18	18
19.	Orissa	410	941	941
20.	Punjab	6678	10405	10405
21.	Rajasthan	5923	11944	13741
22.	Tamil Nadu	8339	9798	13309
23.	Tripura	0	7	7
24.	Uttar Pradesh	61290	85282	101192
25.	Uttaranchal	937	958	2555
26.	West Bengal	4956	7066	7066
Total		117337	176951	214128

**Pension Scheme for Plantation Sector**

1808. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :  
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY :

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

(a) whether the Government proposed to bring a  
new pension scheme for plantation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be  
implemented; and



(d) the number of workers engaged in plantation sector likely to be benefited from the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Geological Survey by GSI**

1809. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India has conducted any study to ensure safety of life and property of people living in coastal areas in the wake of Tsunami in the Indian Ocean on December 26, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds provided for geological survey in this regard;

(d) whether GSI has taken assistance of experts in the field from world over; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY) : (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) is not directly involved in the safety aspects of the people living in the coastal areas. However, GSI is one of the members in the committee constituted by Department of Science and Technology (DST) on resettlement issues as a sequel to the Tsunami in Andaman and Nicobar region.

(b) GSI has taken immediate action for carrying out multifarious geoscientific studies in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake and Tsunami of 26th December 2004 as detailed below :-

(i) A team of scientists led by the Director General, GSI visited South Andaman and Baratang Islands to study the effects of earthquake and Tsunami.

(ii) Several teams from GSI have carried out detailed scientific studies in the Andaman group of islands after the earthquake. These include Macro-seismic (post earthquake damage survey to constrain earthquake intensity) survey, Global Positioning System (GPS) survey for constraining ground deformation, study of aftershocks with five digital seismographs deployed in the islands at Port Blair, Caric (Car Nicobar), Hut Bay (Little Andaman), Rangat (Middle Andaman) and Diglipur (North Andaman). Nearly 6500 aftershocks have been recorded by GSI, which show a trend of continuous release of stress energy.

(iii) Teams of Geoscientists from GSI have carried out studies on the effects of Tsunami (post-tsunami survey) in the worst affected coastal tract of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

(iv) To study the changes in the offshore domain. GSI has undertaken Bathymetry and magnetic surveys in the sea around Andaman and Nicobar Islands to study the submarine geomorphological changes.

(v) GSI has posted all relevant information and data on its Website i.e. [www.gsi.gov.in](http://www.gsi.gov.in). A special publication of GSI (No. 89 in press) is being brought out incorporating the result of this study.

(vi) During 25th to 27th January, 2005. GSI members alongwith other DST Committee Members visited Port Blair in connection with collection of data on submergence/re-settlement issues in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) No specific amount is made available to Geological Survey of India for this purpose and GSI utilized its budgetary allocations for the said studies.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India has consulted the specialists in this field. GSI is lead agency in collaborative research with Geological Survey of Japan. GSI also conducted joint field studies in Tsunami affected area alongwith the researchers of IIT, Kanpur, University of Tokyo and Geological Survey of Japan. GSI scientists participated in the conferences on the Earthquake of Sumatra and Indo-Australia subduction held at Paris. The Earth Science Sector, Natural Resources, Canada has proposed a collaborative programme between India and Canada on an overall disaster mitigation efforts which include Tsunamis.

#### **Export of Coffee**

1810. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coffee exported during each of the last two years alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise;

(b) whether there has been decline in the export of coffee during the current year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to boost the export of coffee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT

OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) A statement giving details of coffee during the last two years alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise given is in the enclosed statement.

(b) There has been an increase of 35% in coffee exports during the current year (1st April, 2006 to 31st July, 2006) as export permits for 98,180 MT during this period in the current year compared to 72,541 MT for the corresponding period during the last year i.e. 2005-06 have been issued by the Coffee Board.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) To boost the export of coffee the Govt. of India through the Coffee Board is taking various steps like carrying major communication initiatives in key overseas markets to enhance the image of Indian coffee as well as to improve market share, participation in important overseas trade fairs involving exporters and grower exporters, and organizing buyer-seller meets and cupping sessions involving Indian exporters and Overseas buyers in key markets.

#### *Statement*

##### *Coffee Export*

*(Both Indian & Re-Exported Coffee)*

*Report from : 01/04/2004 to 31/03/2005*

Sl. No.	Country	Quantity in Tonnes	Indian Rs. (Crores)	US Dollar (Milln)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Italy	49,232.0	254.81	56.68
2.	Russian Federation	34,459.0	235.74	54.67
3.	Germany	16,518.0	106.16	23.54
4.	Spain	11,499.0	48.16	10.74
5.	Belgium	9,204.0	47.34	10.78
6.	Slovenia	8,441.0	30.54	6.89
7.	Ukraine	6,131.0	49.61	11.08
8.	Japan	5,918.0	40.49	9.07
9.	U.S.A.	5,646.0	27.80	6.18
10.	Greece	5,642.0	22.44	5.02
11.	France	4,283.0	22.41	5.01

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Malaysia	3,680.0	18.54	4.20
13.	Finland	3,667.0	26.76	23.14
14.	Netherlands	3,604.0	26.10	5.94
15.	Portugal	3,253.0	13.50	2.96
16.	Switzerland	3,244.0	22.79	5.20
17.	Jordan	2,727.0	15.85	3.54
18.	Kuwait	2,657.0	21.71	4.68
19.	Hungary	2,607.0	12.22	2.71
20.	Latvia	2,504.0	24.14	5.30
21.	Australia	2,393.0	13.52	3.00
22.	United Arab Emirates	1,781.0	15.25	3.44
23.	Singapore	1,767.0	9.71	4.23
24.	Taiwan	1,755.0	9.18	2.04
25.	Israel	1,529.0	8.33	1.86
26.	Libya	1,481.0	7.76	1.71
27.	Croatia	1,459.0	5.45	1.21
28.	Poland	1,302.0	8.83	1.96
29.	Canada	1,263.0	5.66	1.20
30.	United Kingdom	1,222.0	8.36	1.86
31.	Saudi Arabia	1,181.0	8.33	1.85
32.	Egypt	966.0	4.21	1.13
33.	Norway	934.0	5.19	1.01
34.	Sultanate of Oman	691.0	3.62	0.81
35.	Algeria	614.0	2.21	0.50
36.	Bulgaria	576.0	2.57	0.57
37.	Korea Republic of	541.0	5.15	1.18
38.	Romania	450.0	2.39	0.53
39.	Tunisia	440.0	1.61	0.36
40.	Dubai	318.0	2.41	0.53
41.	Turkey	316.0	1.55	0.34

1	2	3	4	5
42.	New Zealand	310.0	1.67	0.37
43.	Lithuania	303.0	2.38	0.53
44.	Yugoslavia	269.0	0.90	0.20
45.	Morocco	250.0	0.81	0.18
46.	Austria	230.0	1.78	0.41
47.	Estonia	221.0	1.59	0.36
48.	Sez-Cochin	218.0	0.86	0.19
49.	Syria	212.0	1.08	0.24
50.	Turkmenistan	204.0	1.62	0.36
51.	Abu Dhabi	184.0	1.48	0.33
52.	Vietnam	182.0	1.28	0.28
53.	Sweden	170.0	1.16	0.26
54.	Kazakhstan	159.0	1.25	0.28
55.	Georgia	157.0	0.99	0.22
56.	Nepal	155.0	3.21	0.76
57.	Denmark	80.0	0.87	0.20
58.	Lebanon	77.0	0.29	0.07
59.	Kenya	70.0	0.19	0.09
60.	Iran, Islamic R/O	69.0	0.49	0.14
61.	Bahrain	58.0	0.49	0.11
62.	West Indies	51.0	0.24	0.05
63.	Hong Kong	48.0	0.21	0.05
64.	Albania	38.0	0.17	0.04
65.	New Caledonia	38.0	0.23	0.05
66.	Bangladesh	22.0	0.33	0.07
67.	China, People's R/o	18.0	0.16	0.04
68.	Qatar	18.0	0.15	0.03
69.	Belarus	16.0	0.08	0.02
70.	Moldova	12.0	0.11	0.02
71.	Peru	6.0	0.04	0.01

1	2	3	4	5
72.	South Africa	6.0	0.06	0.01
73.	Sharjah	6.0	0.06	0.01
74.	Sri Lanka	3.0	0.04	0.01
75.	Fiji	-	-	-
76.	Tahiti	-	-	-
Total		2,11,765.0	1,224.67	294.64

\*---stands for less than a tonne.

*Coffee Export*  
(Both Indian & Re-Exported Coffee)  
Report from : 01/04/2005 to 31/03/2006

Sl. No.	Country	Quantity in Tonnes	Indian Rs. (Crores)	US Dollar (Milln)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Italy	53,413.0	365.86	90.24
2.	Russian Federation	29,432.0	228.25	52.34
3.	Germany	16,742.0	147.41	34.66
4.	Belgium	11,190.0	84.72	19.30
5.	Spain	10,292.0	63.33	14.39
6.	Slovenia	7,458.0	41.46	9.40
7.	Ukraine	6,920.0	60.91	13.83
8.	Greece	4,392.0	26.17	6.00
9.	Finland	4,245.0	33.48	7.72
10.	Japan	4,147.0	37.27	8.56
11.	France	3,811.0	26.75	5.84
12.	Portugal	3,504.0	20.44	4.66
13.	Hungary	2,976.0	17.96	4.06
14.	Netherlands	2,949.0	26.03	6.00
15.	Kuwait	2,877.0	28.56	7.00
16.	Australia	2,615.0	21.00	4.78
17.	Malaysia	2,490.0	13.80	3.15
18.	U.S.A.	2,448.0	20.86	4.47
19.	Switzerland	2,440.0	23.83	5.33

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Latvia	2,006.0	20.14	4.81
21.	Singapore	1,961.0	14.65	3.32
22.	Jordan	1,784.0	15.76	3.60
23.	Israel	1,581.0	13.02	2.97
24.	United Arab Emirates	1,530.0	16.53	3.78
25.	Croatia	1,517.0	8.65	1.97
26.	Taiwan	1,462.0	9.17	2.07
27.	Algeria	1,306.0	8.38	1.91
28.	Libya	1,230.0	7.92	1.81
29.	Canada	1,169.0	8.19	1.84
30.	United Kingdom	1,104.0	10.48	2.34
31.	Poland	1,021.0	6.63	2.40
32.	Saudi Arabia	1,012.0	10.93	2.27
33.	Norway	983.0	7.23	1.68
34.	Kenya	851.0	5.48	1.25
35.	Turkey	621.0	5.12	1.15
36.	Egypt	593.0	4.18	0.95
37.	Romania	543.0	3.25	0.72
38.	Syria	489.0	5.42	1.24
39.	Bulgaria	461.0	4.05	0.65
40.	Sultanate of Oman	460.0	3.10	0.71
41.	Korea, Republic of	437.0	3.08	0.70
42.	New Zealand	341.0	3.28	0.75
43.	Lithuania	325.0	3.13	0.71
44.	Kazakhstan	304.0	2.52	0.58
45.	Turkmenistan	282.0	2.73	0.62
46.	Abu Dhabi	215.0	2.26	0.52
47.	Nepal	177.0	2.90	0.67
48.	Denmark	160.0	1.81	0.41
49.	Estonia	158.0	1.24	0.28
50.	Sweden	137.0	1.42	0.32

1	2	3	4	5
51.	Belarus	136.0	1.24	0.28
52.	Qatar	93.0	0.99	0.23
53.	West Indies	84.0	0.49	0.11
54.	Vietnam	72.0	0.69	0.16
55.	Austria	69.0	0.71	0.16
56.	Bahrain	58.0	0.68	0.15
57.	New Caledonia	58.0	0.39	0.09
58.	Georgia	55.0	0.58	0.13
59.	Korea, People's R/o	41.0	0.34	0.08
60.	Slovakia	39.0	0.20	0.04
61.	South Africa	33.0	0.34	0.08
62.	Dubai	32.0	0.39	0.09
63.	Ivory Coast	32.0	0.30	0.07
64.	Nigeria	23.0	0.34	0.09
65.	Lebanon	20.0	0.14	0.03
66.	DJI Bouti	20.0	0.14	0.03
67.	Cyprus	19.0	0.11	0.02
68.	Morocco	19.0	0.12	0.03
69.	Czech Republic	17.0	0.23	0.05
70.	Mayotte	12.0	0.16	0.04
71.	Maldives	10.0	0.10	0.02
72.	Moldova	10.0	0.10	0.02
73.	Cuba	9.0	0.09	0.02
74.	Uganda	9.0	0.09	0.02
75.	Ghana	9.0	0.12	0.03
76.	Hong Kong	8.0	0.09	0.02
77.	Bangladesh	4.0	0.07	0.02
78.	Sri Lanka	2.0	0.04	0.01
79.	Thailand	1.0	----	
80.	Pakistan	----		
Total		2,01,555.0	1,510.04	352.86

\*Less than a Tonne/Lakh

Note : Total Export of 201555 in Respect of 2005-06 is inclusive of 38 Tonnes confirmed upto 3rd August, 2006.

**Rate of Scholarship to Students**

1811. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the existing rate of scholarship offered to the Scheduled Tribe students for various courses;

(b) whether there is any proposal to enhance the scholarship rates; and

(c) if so, the extent to which and the time by which the rates are likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : (a) This Ministry provides financial assistance to tribal students through the following schemes;

1. Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) for ST students. Under the scheme of PMS value of scholarship includes maintenance allowance, reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fees, study tour charges, thesis typing/

printing charges and book allowance for students pursuing correspondence courses. The courses of studies have been categorized in four groups i.e. I, II, III & IV. The rate of maintenance allowance as per group of studies and other allowances is given in the enclosed statement-I.

2. The National Overseas Scholarship Scheme aims to provide financial assistance to the ST students selected for pursuing higher studies abroad in specified fields of Master level courses, Ph. D. and Post Doctoral research programmes in the field of Engineering, Technology and Science. The awardees are provided various allowances as detailed given in the enclosed statement-II.

3. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme aims to provide fellowships in form of financial assistance to pursue higher studies i.e. M. Phil or Ph.D. The existing rates of fellowship are given in the enclosed statement-III.

(b) At present, there is no proposal for enhancement of rates of scholarship under these schemes.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

Group I	Hostellers	Day Scholars
Degree and Post Graduate Level Courses (Including M. Phil, Ph.D. and Post Doctoral research) in Medicines (Allopathic, Indian and other recognized System of medicines), Engineering, Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary and Allied Science, Management, Business Finance, Business Administration and Computer Applications/Science. Commercial Pilot Licence (including helicopter Pilot & Multi Engine Rating) Course.	Rs. 740/- per month per student	Rs. 330/- per month per student
Group II	Hostellers	Day Scholars
Other professional and technical graduate and Post Graduate (including M.Phil, Ph.D. and Post Doctoral research) level courses not covered in Group I. C.A./ICWA/CS etc. courses. All Post Graduate, Graduate level Diploma Courses, all certificate level Courses.	Rs. 510/- per month per student	Rs. 330/- per month per student
Group III	Hostellers	Day Scholars
All other courses leading to a graduate or above degree (not covered in group I & II)	Rs. 355/- per month per student	Rs. 185/- per month per student
Group IV	Hostellers	Day Scholars
All post matriculation level courses before taking up graduation like classes XI and XII in 10+2 system and intermediate like examination etc. not covered in Group 'II' or 'III'. ITI courses, other vocational courses (if minimum required qualification to pursue the course is at least matriculation).	Rs. 235/- per month per student	Rs. 140/- per month per student

**Fees :-**

Scholars are paid compulsory non-refundable fees.

**Study Tour charges :-**

Study tour charges up to maximum of Rs. 1000/- per annum limited to the actual expenditure incurred by the students on transportation charges is paid to the scholars studying professional and technical courses.

**Thesis typing/Printing charges :-**

Thesis typing/printing charges upto a maximum of Rs. 1000/- is paid to research scholars on the recommendation of the Head of the Institution.

**Correspondence courses including distance and continuing education :-**

The students pursuing such courses are paid an allowance of Rs. 750/- per annum for essential/prescribed books besides reimbursement of course fees.

**Statement-II****Allowance under the scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for ST students**

S.No.	Item	Amount
1.	Maintenance Allowance	US Dollars 8200/- per annum
2.	Contingency Allowance	US Dollars 550/- per annum
3.	Poll Tax	Actual where applicable
4.	Visa Fees	Actual visa fees in Indian Rupees
5.	Equipment Allowances and Incidental Journey Expenses	Equipment allowances of Rs. 1100/- and incidental journey charges upto US Dollars 15/- or its equivalent in Indian Rupees
6.	Fees and Medical Insurance Premium	Actuals as charged
7.	Air Passage	Air passage from India to the nearest place to the educational institution and back to India, by economy class and shortest route in arrangements with the national carrier
8.	Local Travel	Second or Coach class railway fare from the port of disembarkation to the place of study and back.

**Statement-III****Allowances under the scheme of Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF)**

Fellowship	@Rs. 8,000/- p.m. for initial two years (JRF) @ Rs. 9000/- p.m. for remaining tenure (SRF)
Contingency for Humanities and Social Sciences	@Rs. 10,000/- p.a. initial two years @ Rs. 20,500/- p.a. for remaining tenure
Contingency for Sciences	@Rs. 12,000/- p.a. for initial two years @Rs. 25,000/- p.a. for remaining tenure
Department assistance	@ Rs. 3,000/- p.a. per student to the host institution for providing infrastructure
Escorts/Reader Assistance	@Rs. 1,000/- p.m. in cases of physically and visually handicapped candidates.
HRA	As per rules University/ Institution

**Schemes Related to Development of Women and Children**

1812. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR :

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

(a) whether the people living in tribal, remote and hilly areas are not well aware of schemes existing for the development of women and children in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any corrective steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the States where Swayamsiddha Scheme exists, State-wise; and

(e) the salient features of Swayamsiddha Scheme and number of persons benefited under this Scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The schemes for Women & Child Development being implemented by this Ministry across the country including the tribal, remote and hilly areas which are publicised through electronic media, print media and outdoor publicity etc. for generating about them amongst the public.

(d) and (e) The salient features of Swayamsiddha Scheme and State-wise number of persons benefited under the scheme are provided in Annual Report of the Ministry of Women and Child Development which are available in the library of Lok Sabha.

**Intake of Students**

1813. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of number of students admitted by AICTE during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the AICTE has reduced the intake of students during the year 2006-2007;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) its impact on the students who are aspiring for higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) The details of number of students intake approved by AICTE during the last three years, State-wise is given in the enclosed statements.

(b) to (d) Certain institutions which were found to be not fulfilling norms and guidelines of the Council, were put under "Reduced Intake" or "No Admission Category" As per the policy of the Council. 27699 seats in 441 institutions were reduced. The policy of seat reduction shall help in

improving of quality and maintenance of norms & standards.

In the interest of the students, intake of 16461 in 268 institutions was restored till 26.06.2006 on rectification of deficiencies. Simultaneously, seats were added to the new/existing colleges by June 26, 2006. Therefore, there is no effect on the students who are applying for higher education.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of Students Intake in AICTE approved Institutions*

States/Union Territory	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	23955	29380	34780
Chhattisgarh	4605	5330	6338
Gujarat	14911	18723	21468
Mizoram	120	150	150
Sikkim	525	630	525
Orissa	15624	18337	15191
West Bengal	17333	19994	17876
Tripura	220	240	340
Meghalaya	135	240	240
Arunachal Pradesh	210	210	303
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
Assam	1197	1287	1428
Manipur	145	145	150
Nagaland	0	0	0
Jharkhand	3005	4450	5133
Bihar	2807	3197	4495
Uttar Pradesh	42625	47683	55575
Uttaranchal	4220	3767	4911
Chandigarh	942	992	1853
Haryana	13954	17154	19512
Jammu and Kashmir	1555	1855	2291
New Delhi	11108	11880	13581
Punjab	15276	20935	21908
Rajasthan	14665	19625	22346
Himachal Pradesh	1090	1290	1492
Andhra Pradesh	92397	111537	132942
Pondicherry	2340	2790	3036
Tamil Nadu	101821	103217	126060
Karnataka	53891	59062	60837

1	2	3	4
Kerala	23071	28928	30958
Maharashtra	66029	70049	70442
Goa	1010	1034	1070
Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
Total	530786	604111	677231

#### **Expenditure of Coffee Board**

1814. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Administrative expenditure of the Coffee Board has been increasing alarmingly during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any specific plan to curb the unnecessary expenditure of the Board; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The administrative expenditure incurred by the Board during the last five years is furnished below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Total Expenditure	Administrative Expenditure	Administrative expenditure as % of total
2001-02	3967.18	1033.50	26
2002-03	4668.09	1187.03	25
2003-04	5804.01	1239.87	21
2004-05	5001.30	1373.24	27
2005-06 (Provisional)	5648.95	1511.93	27

As may be seen, the administrative expenditure to the total expenditure during the last 5 years (Plan and Non-plan) expenditure has been in the range of 21 to 27% and there has been no alarming increase in administrative expenditure over the last 5 years.

(c) and (d) Does not arise as the administrative expenditure of the Board is within reasonable bounds.

[Translation]

#### **Illegal Immigration**

1815. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA :

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether illegal immigration having links with the underworld in the country is still continuing;

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of States wherein such network is operating;

(c) the names of countries whose citizens are involved in such illegal activities;

(d) whether the Government has taken steps to check activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) As per available information, there is no input indicating nexus between illegal immigrants and the underworld.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A number of steps have been taken to check illegal immigration. The power under Section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals staying in India illegally has been delegated to the State Governments & Union Territory Administrations. Besides, instructions are issued to them from time to time to launch special drives to detect and deport foreigners staying illegally in the country. Other measures include construction of border fencing, raising of additional battalions of border guarding forces, reduction of gap between the border outposts by increasing the number of outposts, intensification of patrolling, both on the land and riverine border, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, provision of modern surveillance equipment etc.

[English]

#### Migration of Professional Under WTO

1816. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has submitted proposals to the World Trade Organisation (W.T.O.) to ensure that regulations for migration of professionals among member countries are not unduly cumbersome and burdensome;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the issues raised by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the W.T.O. thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the WTO covers

only temporary movement of natural persons. Migration of professionals does not fall under the purview of GATS. However, in the area of temporary movement of natural persons, India has submitted negotiating proposals at the WTO for reduction of impediments in visa and immigration procedures etc., Economic Needs Tests, Work Permit Norms, non-recognition of qualifications etc. to facilitate the free movement of independent professionals and contractual service suppliers for the supply of services. India has also been negotiating for putting in place multilateral disciplines in domestic regulations, which are expected to facilitate the temporary movement of our service providers.

(c) The services negotiations under GATS at the WTO have not been concluded.

#### Deemed Universities

1817. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for granting Deemed University status to an institute;

(b) whether University Grants Commission (UGC) recommended some institutions for the "Deemed University" status during April, 2006;

(c) if so, the details of such institutions alongwith the status thereof;

(d) whether the approval of AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) is sought by UGC before recommending the Deemed University status; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) The institutions of higher learning are declared by Central Government by notification, as 'deemed to be university' on the recommendations of the UGC, which has laid down Guidelines for recommending the cases of the institutions to the Central Government for declaring as 'deemed to be universities'. These guidelines inter alia provide that the institution should be engaged in programmes of teaching and research in fields of specialization, which are innovative, and, of very high academic standards. The institution should be capable of further enriching the university system and, component to undertake application-oriented programmes in the emerging areas, which are relevant and useful to the various development sectors and, to the society in general. Except those applications, which are under the "de novo" category, the other applicant institutions should have been in existence for 10 years, with a management capable of



contributing to the institution's objectives. It should possess infrastructure as prescribed by the relevant statutory bodies.

(b) and (c) According to the information provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Commission recommended the proposals of the following five institutions for granting the status of 'Deemed to be University', in its meeting held on 7th April, 2006;

1. St. Peters Institute of Higher Education and Research, Avadi, Chennai,
2. Vel's Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), Chennai.
3. Kalasilingam Academy of Research and Education, Anandanagar, Krishnakoil, Virudhunagar; Tamilnadu;
4. MGM Institute of Health Sciences, Navi Mumbai (with inclusion of MGM Medical College, Navi Mumbai and MGM Medical College, Aurangabad),
5. NIIT Institute of Information Technology, Nimrana (Rajasthan) with off-campus in South Delhi.

(d) and (e) The approval of the AICTE is not mandatory under the UGC Guidelines. However, only such institutes of Engineering and Technology are considered by the Commission, where the courses are approved by the AICTE. The Central Government has issued notification under Section 20 (1) of the UGC Act and section 20(1) of the AICTE Act directing the UGC to seek the advice of the AICTE or other relevant Statutory Authorities, as the case may be, while making its recommendation to the Central Government for granting the status of 'deemed to be university' on any institution.

#### **Victim of Trafficking**

1818. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes new scheme to rescue and rehabilitate the victims of trafficking;

(b) if so, whether the NGOs and State Governments are also involved in working out the said scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Working Group on "Development of Children" and Empowerment of Women" for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) have

been constituted by the Planning Commission in April, 2006. These Working Groups under the chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development and consisting NGOs. States Government representatives and other experts will review the existing approach and programmes for sex workers who are victims of trafficking and suggest suitable initiatives and programmes for their survival, protection, welfare and rehabilitation. The deliberations of these Working Groups will serve as an input into the Steering Committee Report of the Planning Commission. The recommendations of the Steering Committee would form the basis for the programmes and schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development in Eleventh Plan.

#### **Exploitation of Students**

1819. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is severe exploitation of students by the management of the self financing educational institutions especially professional management;

(b) if so, the details of the remedial measures taken by the Government to protect the interests of the students; -

(c) whether the Government is planning to make any laws to regulate the functioning of the self financing educational institutions in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) Although there might be a possibility of the managements of the self financing educational institutions attempting to exploit the students, nevertheless the AICTE issues Public Notices in the Newspapers to alert and caution the students for not taking the admission in unapproved institutions. The Council also takes legal action against the defaulting institutions/societies/trusts/companies/associated individuals who are running non-approved courses or programmes. The Council has also asked for mandatory disclosure of information by the institutes on annual basis. Surprise and random visits to AICTE approved institutions are also organized to ensure maintenance of norms and standards. There are already AICTE guidelines to regulate the functioning of self-financing technical educational institutions in the country.

#### **Setting up of IIT Research Park**

1820. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up IIT research parks in the country;

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

(c) whether a number of State Governments have requested the Central Government for setting up of such parks;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (e) The Government does not propose to set up IIT research parks in the Country. However, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras has submitted a proposal to set up a research park adjacent to its campus.

[Translation]

**Social Security Scheme for  
Unorganised Sector**

1821. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY :  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA :  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :  
SHRI L. RAJGOPAL :  
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY :

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

(a) whether the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector has suggested a national minimum social security scheme for workers in the unorganized sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has examined the suggestions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS) has submitted its report on 'Social Security for Unorganised Workers'. In its report, the NCEUS has, inter-alia, recommended that any worker registered with the "National Minimum Social Security Scheme" for the

Unorganised Workers shall, on payment of prescribed contribution, be entitled to National Minimum Social Security benefits, including health insurance, maternity benefit, life insurance old age pension for below poverty line workers and provident fund for above poverty line workers.

(c) and (d) The matter of social security of workers in the unorganized sector, including recommendations of the NCEUS in this regard, is under examination of the Government in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

[English]

**Poor Quality Food Under ICDS**

1822. MS. INGRID MCLEOD : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the food items supplied as part of the Central Government sponsored supplementary nutrition programme under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) were of poor quality;

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

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

(d) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of food being supplied under ICDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) No Sir, no such complaint has been received in the Ministry.

(d) ICDS is a centrally sponsored Schemes implemented through State Governments/UT Administrations. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the States/UTs to ensure supply of good quality Supplementary Nutrition to the ICDS beneficiaries as per the financial and nutritional norms laid down by the Government of India. In so far as Government of India is concerned, financial norms for supplementary nutrition under ICDS have been doubled in 2004 and 50% of the cost of supplementary nutrition is also now being borne by the Centre from the year 2005-06. Besides the functionaries of the ICDS at State, District and Block level, the Ministry, through the field infrastructure of Food and Nutrition Board, also monitors the quality of supplementary feeding component of ICDS. Any deficiencies/observations/suggestions of the field officers are also conveyed to the State Secretaries incharge of WCD to improve the quality to supplementary feeding under ICDS.

### Private Participation in Higher Education

1823. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to overhaul the higher education and encourage private participation in the sector in the 11th Plan;

(b) if so, whether India has become the Central market for the global education providers like University of Cambridge International Examinations to provide international education to the teenagers; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposed plan undertaken to tap the educational market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) The Planning Commission has constituted a Working Group on higher education for the formulation of schemes and strategies for the 11th Plan period.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### Setting up of Central Institute of Technology

1824. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any fresh proposals to set up some Central Institute of Technology in the country particularly Assam;

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

(c) the amount allocated for the same purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) There is no fresh proposal of Setting up of a Central Institute of Technology in Assam or other parts of the country. However, under Memorandum of Settlement (MoS) signed between Central Government, Government of Assam & Bodoland Liberation Tigers (BLT), a Central Institute of Technology (CIT) in Kokrajhar, Assam has already been approved by the Government.

(c) The total project cost of CIT, Kokrajhar is Rs. 3365.00 lakh comprising of Rs. 715.00 lakh Recurring and Rs. 2650.00 lakh for Non-recurring expenditure. The Budget allocated for 2006-07 is Rs. 500.00 lakh.

(d) The CIT, Kokrajhar shall be set up during 2006-07 itself.

### Construction of New Hostels

1825. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of students studying in Delhi University;

(b) whether the quantum of hostel accommodation available for them is sufficient;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether due to non-availability of hostel accommodation girl students are forced to stay in private hostels; and

(e) the details of arrangements made for the safety of girl students living in private hostels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, a total of 1,15,000 undergraduate regular students and 17,200 post graduate regular students are presently studying in the University of Delhi.

(b) to (e) It is a fact that limited hostel facilities for the students enrolled, including girl students, resulting in a number of students being forced to stay in private hostels. Steps have been initiated recently for providing a 500-Bed hostel accommodation.

### Violation of Rules by Technical Institutions

1826. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schools who have violated the rules fixed for private institutes, by the All India Council for Technical Education during the last three years, till date;

(b) whether All India Council for Technical Education has cancelled the recognition of management courses - both full time and part time post graduate diploma courses alongwith other courses in these institutes for violating the rules fixed for private institutes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid out in the Table of the House.

### Engineering Colleges

1827. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Engineering colleges for which AICTE proposes to grant permission/recognition during the current academic year, i.e. 2006-2007, State-wise;

(b) whether there is an inordinate delay in granting permission by AICTE to new colleges in different States particularly in Andhra Pradesh as a result of which admission process for Engineering Courses has been seriously affected; and

(c) if so, the steps AICTE propose to take to speed up the process of granting permission/recognition to new colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (c) AICTE grants approval to new engineering institutions based on compliance of its prescribed norms and standards. The details of new engineering institutions approved for the year 2006-2007 are given in the enclosed statement.

AICTE has a well-defined approved process for grant of approval to new technical institutions throughout the country, details of which are available on AICTE website [www.aicte.ernet.in](http://www.aicte.ernet.in).

#### **Statement**

*No. of New Engineering Institutions approved during 2006-07 (as on 28/07/06)*

States/Union Territory	No. of Institutions
1	2
Madhya Pradesh	1
Chhattisgarh	1
Orissa	2
West Bengal	1
Uttar Pradesh	11
Uttaranchal	2
Haryana	3
Jammu and Kashmir	1
Punjab	1
Himachal Pradesh	1
Andhra Pradesh	7

1	2
Tamil Nadu	13
Karnataka	1
Maharashtra	9
Total	54

#### **Arms used by Terrorists**

1828. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI KRISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA"

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether terrorists in the country are using Chinese grenades and has made Nepal their new transit point of smuggling of arms and ammunitions as reported in the Times of India dated July 12, 2006 and July 16, 2006 respectively;

(b) if so, whether Government has raised the issue with the countries helping terrorists;

(c) if so, the reaction of these countries thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of arms of and ammunitions and cross-border terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) As per available information, grenades reportedly of Chinese origin/with Chinese markings have been recovered on some occasions. However, it is difficult to pinpoint the source from which these have been procured. In the recent past, no specific case of weapons from a third country landing in Nepal for onward transit to India has been noticed. Smuggling of arms across Indo Nepal border has, however, come to notice.

(b) and (c) India's security concerns are discussed with various countries in the respective bilateral mechanisms established with these countries for this purpose.

(d) The government pursues a multi dimensional approach to deal with terrorist activities and extends support to the States in neutralizing such terrorist activities. The Government has taken measures which include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment, of security forces both at the Centre and in the State, undertaking well coordinated intelligence based operations etc. Besides, mechanisms have been established to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation to deal with global dimensions of terrorism.

12.00 hrs.

# PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : Sir, I lay on the Table a copy of Memorandum of understanding (Hindi and English Versions) between the National small Industries Corporation limited and the Minister of small scale Industries for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4601/64]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2004-2005.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4602/06]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4603/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the

working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4604/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region), Kanpur, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region), Kanpur, for the year 2004-2005.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4605/06]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2003-2004.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed In Library, See no. LT 4606/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4607/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Himachal Pradesh Primary Education Society-cum-Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State Mission authority, Shimla, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Himachal Pradesh Primary Education, Society-cum-Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State Mission Authority, Shimla, for the year 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4608/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Haryana Prathamik Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad, Chandigarh, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Haryana Prathamik Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad, Chandigarh, for the year 2004-2005.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4609/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the UEE Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Delhi, for the year 2004-05, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the UEE Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay is laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4610/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Sarve Shiksha Abhiyan, Bangalore, for the year 2004-2005.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4611/06]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Paschim Banga Rajya Prarambhik Shiksha Unnayan Sans-tha (District Primary Education Programme and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan West Bengal), Kolkata for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Paschim Banga Rajya Prarambhik Shiksha Unnayan Sanstha (District Primary Education Programme and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan West Bengal), Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4612/06]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kerala Mahila Samakhya Society, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kerala Mahila Samakhya

Society, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2004-2005.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4613/06]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4614/06]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 2004-2005.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4615/06]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahila Samakhya Gujarat, Ahmedabad, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mahila Samakhya Gujarat, Ahmedabad, for the year 2003-2004.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 4616/06]

**12.01 hrs.**

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA  
AND  
BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA**

[English]

**SECRETARY-GENERAL :** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd August, 2006."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 2006.

**12.02 hrs.**

**OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER**

**Re : Business transacted during previous week**

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER :** Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week.

Out of the 100 Starred questions admitted, only 14 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 782 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

The House took up one Calling Attention regarding "situation arising out of reported violation of different awards given by the Water Dispute Tribunals" raised by Shri Arjun Charan Sethi.

The House discussed for about two hours and 37 minutes one Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 on the "Report of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry regarding alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and memorandum of Action Taken by the Government on the Report laid on the Table of the House on the 17th May, 2006" raised by Shri Prabodh Panda.

During the period, as many as 69 matters of urgent

public importance were raised after the Question Hour and before the adjournment of the House for the delay. Also 51 matters were raised under Rule 377 during the period.

As regards the Legislative Business, the House discussed the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006 as again passed by Rajya Sabha, for about five hours and 45 minutes before it was passed.

The House also discussed the Actuaries Bill, 2005 for about one hour and 37 minutes before it was passed. The House also passed the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2005 after discussing it for about two hours and 44 minutes.

The House passed the Assam Rifles Bill, 2006, as passed by Rajya Sabha, after discussing it for about one hour and 49 minutes, the Produce Cess Laws (Abolition) Bill, 2006 after discussing it for about one hour and 29 minutes. The House also discussed the Spirituous Preparation (Inter-State Trade and Commerce) Control (Repeal) Bill, 2006 as passed by Rajya Sabha, for about 47 minutes before it was passed.

During this period, 19 Reports of the Departmentally-Related Standing Committees were presented.

During the week, we lost 11 hours and 16 minutes of valuable time due to interruptions and adjournments.

The House, however, sat late and worked extra for as many as eight hours and 42 minutes to transact essential items of business.

Our of the eight hours and 42 minutes for which the House sat late, one hour and 40 minutes were devoted to raising matters of urgent public importance after the normal business of the House was over.

I wish to convey my thanks to the hon. Members for their cooperation in the conduct of the proceedings.

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12.04 hrs.

## ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

### Rubber Board

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up Item No. 6.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Sub-section (3) (e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947, read with rule 4(1) of the Rubber Rules, 1955, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of Rubber Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder".

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to make a request

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is it on this matter?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : No, let it finish first.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Sub-section (3) (e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947, read with rule 4(1) of the Rubber Rules, 1955, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of Rubber Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder".

*The motion was adopted.*

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[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall talk up Calling Attention sometime next week.

12.04½ hrs.

## DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (RAILWAYS) 2006-07

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demand for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2006-07.



12.05 hrs.

RE : NOTICE OF MOTION FOR PRIVILEGE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Mohan Singh. Since you are a senior Member, I am allowing you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the way in which information regarding the report of Justice Pathak Commission was spread all over the country and there the matter has taken the overtones of prestige of the House and who is responsible for its leakage? The Minister of parliamentary Affairs has given the assurance that the Government will conduct an inquiry about the matter and the facts will be produced before the House and the Government will take the action against the persons found responsible in the matter. I am feeling sad because aspersions were cast on the Prime Minister's office (PMO) assuming that it might have been behind the leak. Prime Minister's office today gave this clarifications in newspapers saying that Mr. Pathak had just come and sit with the Prime Minister. Suddenly some media broadcast the news...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What do you want?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter is very serious and it was the need of Parliamentary decorum that the hon'ble Prime Minister should have come before the House and gave his clarifications and should have regretted such happenings.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Prime Minister's office is not responsible for the offence. As a mark of courtesy, he should have expressed regret before the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Sorry, I cannot allow. This is not a matter to debate. He is a senior Member and so, I have allowed him. I am considering the notices of privilege which were given.

Now, let us come to matters of 'urgent public importance'

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have said that I am considering them.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal) : If he is not in the House, he should have come and spoken in the House. It's a matter of courtesy. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : After all, I have indicated that only 2-3 days ago, they have come, I have to decide.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV : It's a serious indifference of the House by the Government. I protest against this, I along with my colleagues boycott the House.

12.07 hrs.

(At this stage Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav and some other Hon'ble Members left the House)

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Sir, we are also walking out protesting against this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is entirely for you. I cannot prevent you.

...(Interruptions)

12.07¼ hrs.

(At this stage, Dr. M. Jagannath and some other hon. Members left the House.)

[English]

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura) : Sir, through you, I am requesting this House to grant A-1 status to Bangalore city. Everyone knew that Bangalore was founded by Nada Prabhu Kempe Gowda with its

planned lakes and with its planned streets to each one of the artisan communities. Bangalore has a glorious history; it is known as economic hub today; it is also the IT hub of India which attracts very famous dignitaries from the world. With its 70 lakh-population, today Bangalore is having world class infrastructure and industries and it is also having world famous public sector companies like HAL, HMT, ISRO, etc. It brought dignity to the country.

Bangalore is also known as the garden city which attracts many people from all over the country. Many elderly citizens want to settle down in Bangalore because of its pleasant weather. With its international airport and with its very good roads, Bangalore deserves to have the A-I city status.

I do not know why the Government of India – while granting A-I city status to cities like Chennai, Kolkata, etc.—left out Bangalore city from granting that status. It is the Capital of Karnataka now, which was in Mysore State earlier. With all humility, I request the Government to grant A-I city status to the Capital City of Bangalore.

MR. SPEAKER : Once you make it A-I city, It will be spoiled!

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi) : I am speaking on behalf of Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, headed by the beloved leader of Tamils, Thiru Vaiko.

The present Sir Lankan Government is continuing its blatant fight against the Tamilians in Sri Lanka by using all its three wings of forces. It is a genocidal attack, as it has been doing all along, over the past 50 years. Now, it is violating the Norway-intervened cease-fire agreement of 2002.

Shri Vaiko, Leader MDMK met the hon. Prime Minister of India on 19th July 2006 and elaborated the present situation by which innocent civilians living in the Tamil areas are being attacked by Sir Lankan Army and the way by which the innocent Tamil men, women and children are being killed by Indiscriminate aerial bombing.

All the MDMK Members of Parliament met and briefed the hon. Prime Minister of India on 3rd August 2006 and also presented a memorandum to save Tamilians living in Sri Lanka.

Moreover, I want to make a note on the very shocking news that appeared in the *Deccan Chronicle* on 1st August 2006 which stated that Sri Lanka Police Force of 44 personnel have been accommodated to get training at Central Reserve Police Force facility in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. Sir, this news has terribly hurt the sentiments of Tamilians living in Tamil Nadu. This has caused much worry to our Leader Shri Vaiko who made a strong

representation to the hon. Prime Minister of India  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you. Both of you cannot speak at the same time. Go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

DR. C. KRISHNAN : Due to spontaneous MDMK and AIADMK led agitation at Coimbatore, the Police Force, which came from Sri Lanka for training, have been shifted to either Bangalore or Indore as far as it is known. This sort of training, for them should not be allowed anywhere in India.

Further Sir, It is said that Sri Lankan President has reportedly appealed to the hon. Prime Minister of India to provide Indian Naval escort for the Sri Lankan war ship...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please wait. Have a little patience.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : The Sri Lankan war ship is carrying 854 armed soldiers to intensify their operations in Tamil areas in Sri Lanka...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Krishnan, it is enough.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : Sir, I feel, if it is permitted, this will mean that the Indian Naval force is to assist indirectly to the Sri Lankan Army in the genocidal attack on Tamilians...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are going beyond your notice. I am sorry. Do not go beyond your notice.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Krishnan, please cooperate.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur) : Sir, on behalf of the DMK Party, I express our deep concern over the killings of Tamilians in Sri Lanka. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister of India to take care and to prevent the killings of Tamilians in Sri Lanka.

I would also like to say that whatever Dr. Krishnan has said is not correct...(Interruptions) No such training has been given in Coimbatore...\*

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\*Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : That word will go off the record.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : On behalf of the DMK Party, I request the hon. Prime Minister to prevent the killings of Tamilians in Sri Lanka.

12.14 hrs.

### SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS

#### (I) Drought situation in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI SITA RAM SINGH (Sheohar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been drought in several districts of Bihar due to failure of rains. Particularly, the districts of Sheohar, Mohihari and Sitamarhi have received no rains at all. The districts of west Champaran is also one among these special districts. The farmers are unable to receive water through canals and all the tubewells in the state have run dry. The farmers are not getting even a single drop of water. There is a famine like situation.

Sir, even the cattle are unable to get fodder. I would like to urge upon the Government of India to declare the whole of Bihar a famine affected state and also seek Central assistance.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is very important. I would like to associate myself with it...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you, Please speak one-by-one.

[Translation]

Your leader is speaking. The issue under consideration is very important.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You speak one-by-one.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If everyone speaks nothing will go on record. So speak one-by-one.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, this is a very serious matter and therefore, I would like to urge you to declare a famine affected state to the whole of Bihar. There is an outcry for water everywhere. The crops could not be sown due to failure of rains. Today, it is 8th August, and the paddy seeds are still lying spread there, but these

could not be sown. There is going to occur a devastating famine like situation in Bihar. The shadow of famine has already begun to hover around therefore, the Union Government should intervene in the matter. It is a human problem and problem of life and death of a total of 10 crores of people. I would like to urge to declare the whole of Bihar a famine affected state.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is a matter in which the Government should look into.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Sitaram Singh ji has raised a pertinent question in the House. We would like to associate ourselves with it. Earlier, Bihar used to be ruined with the continuous floods, but after a long period and for the first time, the whole of southern and northern Bihar is under the grip of drought. There is a serious problem of fodder in the area thereby leading to migration of the people. Given the situation, I would like to urge upon the hon'ble Home Minister, who is in charge of disaster management, to sympathetically consider the situation of Bihar and assist in getting rid of the famine problem.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is ready to respond.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will give opportunity to every hon. Member. I know these are serious problems faced by the people.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would also like to say something about the things which have been mentioned by the Hon'ble Sita Ram Ji. A drought like situation has occurred in Bihar which has resulted in a horrible situation. God will so prevail that sometimes there is drought and sometimes there is a flood in the region. We always have a discussion on this issue. Unfortunately, the rain has not fallen properly in the whole of Bihar. Just as Devendraji has rightly pointed out, the seeds could not be sown which may lead to miserable condition in the near future. We would particularly like to urge upon the Home Minister to depute a team there as soon as possible and assess the situation. Keeping in view the present situation of the people and the cattle in Bihar, a large amount of money should be provided at the earliest.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is very important. The order came from your self and the hon'ble Members have also talked about it. We will make an in-depth analysis of the situation and provide as much assistance as required.

12.18 hrs.

**(II) Flood situation in Various parts of the Country**

[English]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Mandi) : Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. As you know, weather conditions in the monsoon season continue to wreak havoc in the far-flung areas of Kinnaur and Spiti valley in the Himachal Pradesh creating panic among the tribal people. Most of the areas of Kinnaur and almost the whole of Spiti Valley are still cut off by road, by electricity and even by mobile connectivity for the past many days.

A 30 feet concrete bridge constructed recently on the Hindustan-Tibet road over Radlang nallah was also badly affected in the flash floods. Another Bailey bridge constructed in the Valley over this nallah has also been damaged. This flash flood was triggered off by a cloudburst in this area. This road on the Himalayas which is also vital from the Defence point of view, is once again cut off for the traffic to go beyond this point. Last month due to a cloud burst, Spillow village was cut off, which was then repaired and the traffic was restored but it is still restricting the heavy traffic to go beyond this point.

While the work was going on, the General Reserve Engineering Force set up wooden logs on the nallah, so that hundreds of people stranded on both sides could pass through the damaged portion. A total of 60 metre of the road stretch including the concrete bridge was completely damaged in these floods. Efforts are being done by the GREF to fill up the damaged road huge boulders so that the traffic could be restored at the earliest.

It would take a few months to construct this road. Widespread damage has been done to private and public property. As many as eight houses in the villages of Hikim, Komic and Lagcha have been partially damaged due to heavy rains. There has also been loss to standing crops like Peas and other vegetables grown in these areas. Around 100 foreign tourists, who had come to visit this area have been stranded because of roads having been cut off. I would like to earnestly request the Central Government to take this matter seriously so that these

tourists who have been stranded there could be brought back from there. In the Miar area of Lahaul Valley a bridge over Challing nallah was washed away by these floods and about 50 people who were stranded because of this took refuge in another village. The link road in this area has been disrupted. The water level of Sutlej river, as you have been reading in the newspaper, has increased alarmingly and this has created panic amongst the people of the area. A lot of damage to this area had taken place last year due to floods.

A bridge situated on the main road linking Kinnaur and Spiti Valley near Tabo was also washed away. Even the Udaipur-Killar road, the only link to the Pangi Valley in Chamba district has been blocked due to landslides. Even in Mandi district, landslides on the Kamand link road from Katola in Drang block have blocked the roads disrupting the traffic.

So, I would like to urge the Central Government to assess the loss owing to floods and take a serious view of the situation as prevailing there and should extend full support to the State to bring back normalcy at the earliest in these remote and far-flung areas of my Parliamentary constituency.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry) : Sir, I have already drawn the attention of the hon. Home Minister to the serious flood situation in the one of the enclaves of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Yanam, a small pocket surrounded by the East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh, has been almost completely washed away by the incessant rains and flood water that are coming from the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat. A lot of damage has been done to the social assets as well as to private assets of the people. Although there has been no loss of life reported, yet there has been extensive damage to crops, cattle, roads, bridges and to various other infrastructure. We would have to rebuild the whole thing. According to tentative estimates available a sum of Rs. 50 crore would be required to meet up this loss to crops and various other things. The Government of Pondicherry has been doing its best to take up relief measures on war footing.

Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister to rush relief to the Union Territory of Pondicherry. I feel that most of the people who have been affected are fishermen, landless labourers and sea community people. They have been deprived of any income and employment for the last ten days. Therefore, a sum of Rs. 3000/- to each family to such 12,000 affected families should be rushed immediately and then when the final estimates would be made, the Government.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Sir, due to heavy rains in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka all the rivers in the Andhra Pradesh are in spate causing floods in many districts of Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the Telengana and Coastal Andhra Pradesh. More than one thousand villages are still under water. More than 100 people have died and many more are missing; lakhs of people have become shelterless. Thousands of cattle have been lost due to floods. Lakhs of acres of crops have been submerged due to this. Flash flood waters had gushed into many towns and entered into the houses. At many places old houses have collapsed causing death of many people and also has resulted in loss of property. Not only the transport system, but also electricity and other means of communication have been very badly affected.

In fact, there is nobody to help the affected people. As usual, the response of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is lukewarm and no proper steps have been taken to evacuate and rehabilitate the flood-affected people. There is no drinking water even for the affected people, leave alone food and other civic facilities.

There is likelihood of contagious diseases spreading very rapidly due to lack of civil amenities at the camps. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is casual in paying attention to the flood affected victims and in providing rehabilitation to them.

MR. SPEAKER : This are only a more points for me to make.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : There is not the time to make a two-pages speech.

Even the Chief Minister was very casual when he visited North Andhra Pradesh to review the flood situation. Our Parliamentary Leader, Shri Yerrannaidu was not given any chance to bring the matter to the notice of the Chief Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You are lucky that the hon. Minister is ready to respond to you.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : Sir, through you, I request the Government of India to intervene immediately and take steps on a war-footing to help the victims in the flood affected areas, arrange for help in cash and kind and send medical teams to look after the people in those areas.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (Serampore) : Sir, while associating with Dr. Jagannath, I wish to add a few points.

Hon. Members have already expressed their views about the flood situation. They have informed the House the terrible situation caused due to incessant rains in different parts of the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and other States. Rains have caused havoc resulting in loss of a large number of lives and the normal life of people is in jeopardy. The hon. Home Minister and the Finance Minister are present in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : You are very lucky that you have a responsive hon. Minister who is trying to help you.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE : The hon. Finance Minister who is releasing funds is here as also the Home Minister. I appeal to them to rise to the occasion and stand by the people of the marooned States in this hour of crisis.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. You always cooperate with us and I also cooperate with you too. The situation of flood in Maharashtra is getting worse and the waterlogging has taken place in Nanded, Wardha, Chandrapur, Gathjoli and Pandharpur areas also. More than hundred persons have died in Maharashtra. The situation in Satara, Sangli and Kurlapur districts is also alarming. Therefore, I would like to make an appeal to the Government of India to release more packages to Maharashtra. The flood situation in Mumbai is worsening. Through you, I would like to demand from the Government of India to provide assistance for drainage in Mumbai. In order the situation which occurred in Mumbai on 26 July, 2005 does not repeat itself, the Government of India need to pay attention in this regard as we are also looking towards the Government of India for assistance...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Speaking much is of no use. Speaking a lot is not going to fetch more money.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : Sir, States like Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka and other areas are affected by heavy rains. We are constantly in touch with the concerned Chief Secretaries and Chief Ministers as also with the Forces. We have given them Army columns, helicopters and other things to help them. The first instalment of the Calamity Relief Fund has already been released and we have asked to release the second instalment of the Calamity Relief Fund of these States. These funds can be utilized for giving immediate relief to the people who are suffering.

Our country is big. In some places, we have drought conditions and in some in other places, we have heavy rains. We will look into the difficulties faced by the people in the drought conditions as well as the difficulties faced by the people suffering due to heavy rains. If there is anything more to be done, we will be asking the State Governments to prepare their plans and send them to the Government of India which will be carefully examined for giving them assistance to rehabilitate the people permanently...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. I will not allow you.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : I am requesting the hon. Minister on only one point. Still, many of the villages are under water for the past five or six days.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not record what Shri Jagannath says. Now, I am calling hon. Minister, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Jagannath, I have given the fullest opportunity. You are lucky that the hon. Minister has responded *suo motu*.

...*(Interruptions)*

12.31 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE ...*CONTD.*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. 78/2006-Cus. (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt specified manufactured goods from whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon when imported from Nepal, under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4617/06]

- (2) A copy of Notification No. 79/2006-Cus. (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2006, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt

light weight coated (LWC) paper, weighing upto 70 g/m<sup>2</sup>, imported by actual users for printing of magazines, from the additional duty of customs of four per cent leviable thereon, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4617/06]

*[English]*

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA (Guna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. The country today is facing one of its worst power crises ever. An ASSOCHAM survey has recently revealed that States like Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Gujarat have power deficits of close to 8 to 27 per cent. The power availability in a State like Madhya Pradesh is a 2,300 million - unit against a requirement of 3,050 millions units, a deficit of close to 27 per cent. Maharashtra, one of the most industrialised States in the country today, has one of the worst power crises with a deficit touching 20 per cent, with almost six to seven hours of load shedding a day. The Northern region of our country comprising of nine States today have a deficit of close to 3,765 megawatts as opposed to 1,600 megawatts in April 2004. This shortage is unprecedented and needs urgent steps to resolve the crisis. The private sector should be given incentives to invest not only in generation but also in transmission and distribution.

Our hydro power resources need to be harnessed. There is a talk just now of an agreement with the Bhutanese Government. The Tata project can provide close to 1050 megawatts of India of which 150 megawatts is being commissioned. Today we have a requirement of 200,000 megawatts in our country. Our generation is only 100,000 megawatts. It is going to cost an additional amount of eight lakh crores of rupees. We need to harness capability and find out where our comparative advantage lies. If Bhutan and Nepal can produce hydro power cheaper, we need to allow them to produce and supply to India while we concentrate our resources on transmission and distribution.

The World Bank has characterised India as a "Build, Neglect and Rebuild Model". We build public assets, then we do not spend on replacement of those investments and then we have to rebuild those public assets. This is indeed a very stark criticism of our country's public utilities, whether it is power or water. That is why I raised the issue of water last week. Thanks to you Mr. Speaker.

I think our country needs to concentrate on debates of these issues of power and water. Therefore, I would urge that the Private Public Partnership system needs to be revived. I would also urge that to increase revenue mobilisation in schemes like Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana, where a franchise is developed in every village so that the money that has to be harnessed from that sub-station and that transformer is earned by the person in that very village, thereby raising accountability and transparency. This needs to be furthered.

I would like the Minister of Power to shed light on this issue. The Governments not only the State Governments but also the Central Government, need to take steps to urgently look at the power conservation. It is very important to create awareness in civil society about conserving power to make sure that these precious resources, about which we debate very little in the Parliament, are conserved. We need to look at the situations.

Finally, we need to talk not only about conservation but also about the prudent and judicious use of these resources. One aspect is conservation, but the other aspect, and the more important aspect is, the prudent and judicious use of these resources. For that awareness needs to be created.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a matter to be mentioned only after the Question Hour. I would welcome notices on this. I have been trying to encourage Members on this issue. If I am not misunderstood I want more young Members to take part and take more interest on these issues.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Half-an-hour discussion may be allowed on this issue.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to an important issue relating to freedom fighters. They are in the last days of their lives.

Sir, it was after a very long and relentless struggle that the Government of India had decided to recognise in 1998 some of the struggles in Kerala such as Punnappra Vayalar, Karivellor, Kayyur and other struggles. The Government has sanctioned SSS pension to them also. Many of them are getting the pension. But, unfortunately, many of the persons, who had participated in the struggle, are not getting the pensions because of some technical objections.

There are the District-wise Advisory Committees as

well as the State-wise Advisory Committees to scrutinize all these applications. It is only after the scrutiny that these pensions are sanctioned. There are High Court verdicts that if the persons are getting the State pensions, that should be the criteria to sanction for the Central pension also. But that is admitted only if these applicants have gone to the court. It is not possible for all the persons to go to the court. They are all old people and they are on the sick bed.

We are also going to celebrate our Independence Day within a short period of time. Actually, their number is very less and it is not possible to have more numbers in the future. So, it is the duty of the Government to help them and, I think, the Government can utilise this important occasion to help them....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The struggle for freedom is over. We are benefiting because of their struggle.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Yes, we are benefiting because of their struggle, but they are not getting the benefit. So, the Government should take an immediate action, especially on the occasion of Independence Day, to give them pensions because the State Government has given. That is the decision of the Central Government also. The persons who have participated in the struggle and it is admitted by the State also, have to be taken into consideration.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA (Trichur) : Sir, please allow me to associate with him.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara) : Sir, please allow me to associate with him.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki) : Sir, please allow me also to associate with him.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. You all can associate with Shri P. Karunakaran.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, University of Patna is considered to be one among the most ancient universities of the country. This University has acquired high ranking in a number of subjects with the times. To accord it the status of a Central University has been a long standing demand. Hon'ble Minister of HRD had also given assurance to this effect in this very House, but no concrete action has been taken thereon by the Union Government which has resulted in a

great deal of resentment among the public of Bihar. The aforesaid move of according in the status of a central university will add to its pride and honour and its emergence would be reflective of the public expectations of entire Bihar including Patna. Bihar is a vast state yet the absence of a Central University is quite unfortunate.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to demand the hon'ble Minister that concrete action be taken to accord the status of Central University to Patna University to meet the long pending demand of the public these as early as possible.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Sir, the outbreak of dengue and malaria has become a perennial phenomenon in our country and this year also large parts of our country have been affected by the outbreak of malaria and dengue. A number of cases have been reported in the State of West Bengal also and already a number of people have died due to the impact of dengue and malaria. It is disconcerting to note that while the Central Government is sincere to deal with the situation. However, in the grass root level due to lack of knowledge and inefficiency of implementing agencies, the desired result is not being yielded.

So, I would request through you, Sir to the concerned hon. Minister that in cooperation with all the concerned State Governments, a comprehensive measure should be adopted. The people should get relief from being infected by Dengue and Malaria. The metropolitan cities are also not being left unscathed. It is reported that Delhi has been infected by Dengue and Malaria. Therefore, urgent steps are required to be taken to deal with unbecoming situation.

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, last Sunday, the entrance test for admission to the Ayurvedic colleges of Gujarat was conducted. I'd like to quote here some of the questions out of those asked therein. The first one is —

[English]

"Who said Christians have the right to convert?" — Sonia Gandhi, Sister Nirmala, Pope Benedict, Father Prakash". This is the first question. The second question is: 'After whom has Narendra Modi named India's biggest gas project on the Krishna Godavari Basin?' There are four names. The Third question is : "Which day is observed as 'Black Day' by minorities and 'Victory Day' by RSS?"

These are the questions which were asked in the Ayurvedic Medical Officers entrance examination in Gujarat on last Sunday...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a State Government matter.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : This affair concerns the state Government.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this act on part of the Government of Gujarat is condemnable ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, nobody has the right to ask such questions...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask one by one. I've asked many times to ask the question one by one. This is the affair of the state government.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are the questions asked in a question paper prepared by General Public Service Commission, Gujarat. You rightly say that it's an affair of the Government of Gujarat but it is our request that nobody has the right to ask such unconstitutional questions. No state government could be given such type of rights ...(Interruptions). The R.S.S. celebrates the 11th September as the Victory Day ...(Interruptions). It's not fair ...(Interruptions).

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA : Sir, let me complete my point. I would like to say that Lalu Prasad Yadav ji and ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You've raised this issue here, but it is a state matter, therefore, I'd not allow it. Centre can not tamper with it.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA : Sir, let me complete it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, I cannot allow the State matters to be raised. Please do not raise the State matters here. There is a State matter. I cannot do this.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing more is allowed. You have made your point.

\* Not Recorded.



[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, these people are trying to bring a bad name to Shri Lalu Prasad and the U.P.A. Govt. This is not fair...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey) : Sir, thank you for allowing me to raise this matter.

Kerosene oil is one among the selected essential commodities which is an item of daily use particularly by the poorer sections of the society in the rural areas. In Kerala, kerosene is supplied through the Public Distribution System. But the quantity of kerosene distributed through the Public Distribution System, which is supplied by the Central Government, is reduced year after year. The Government of India has reduced the allocation of kerosene to the State considerably from the year 2001-02. There is a substantial reduction of about 7,750 metric tonnes in the allotment of kerosene to the State during the period of five years from 2001 to 2006. Therefore, from the year 2003 onwards, the distribution of kerosene to the domestic permit holders has been reduced to 50 per cent. The State Government has represented this matter before the Central Government but no action has been taken from the Central Government side.

Further, the traditional fisher-folk are also using kerosene for their outboard engines used for fishing. As a result of the reduction in the quantity of kerosene supplied to the State, they are not getting kerosene and they find it difficult to go to the sea and engage in their occupation.

So, I would urge the Government to restore the quantity of kerosene supplied to the State as it was in the year 2001.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Francis George, this is a sensitive matter. I am sure you would raise it in a manner consistent with such a sensitive issue.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am only drawing the attention of the Central Government to the peculiar situation that has arisen with regard to the raising of the water level in the Mullaperiyar Reservoir. This has been a contentious issue between the two States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu...*(Interruptions)* Sir, let them listen to me. Let them listen to what I am saying.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mohan, I will give you a chance after he finishes.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, Kerala is not

against giving water to Tamil Nadu. In fact, Tamil Nadu has been drawing water from this reservoir for the last 110 years. It has never been or never will be the stand of Kerala and the people of Kerala that this water cannot be given to Tamil Nadu. That is not our issue at all.

This dam is 110 years old. It is unsafe. This has been said time and again by experts. So, we need a new dam. Also much water has flowed through the outlets of this dam to Tamil Nadu for the last 110 years. Now, the contract has to be reviewed and Tamil Nadu has to give adequate compensation. That can be decided. What I am suggesting is this. We have a democratic federal set up. When there is a dispute between two States, let us not leave it to litigation alone because there have been several cases. The Supreme Court has given a verdict and the Kerala Government has filed a review petition against it. On that also the Supreme Court has given its opinion. Now, the Legislative Assembly of Kerala has passed the Dam Safety Authority Act. The Government of Tamil Nadu has gone to the Supreme Court against that Act. So, this litigation should not continue and this division should not be there between the people of two States.

So, what I am suggesting and requesting the Central Government is that the Central Government should mediate in the matter, play the role of an umpire, call the two States, sit across the table with them and decide on this matter once and for all, taking into consideration the security aspects related with this particular dam. This is a concern of five districts belonging to the Central part of Kerala and the people belonging to that part. The life and property of the people belonging to the Central part of Kerala are affected. Therefore, I earnestly request the Central Government to urgently intervene in this matter, call the two States, discuss with them and settle the matter once and for all.

ADV. SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Francis George.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the matter raised by him...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The names of Shri Suresh Kurup, Shrimati Sujatha, Shri Chandrappan, Dr. Manoj and Shri Karunakaran will be associated with this matter.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a submission...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes Mr. Kupusami, do you want to say something?

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Sir, I am on a different point.

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak on this matter. I will speak in Tamil.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

\*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the fact that Mullai Periyar Dam was constructed during the British regime. It was constructed to benefit the people of the then Madras Presidency which consisted of both Tamilnadu and parts of Kerala then. This was intended to benefit the then Madurai district and major part of my Lok Sabha Constituency which consisted of Theni, Ramnad, Dindigul, Sivagonga, which forms part of Hon'ble Finance Minister's Constituency. Of course, the dam is more than 100 years old, but it is still going strong. Originally, it was intended to hold water upto a height of 152 ft. When apprehensions were raised by the Govt. of Kerala, the height of water stored the Mullai Periyar Dam was reduced to 136 ft. and civil work pertaining to strengthening of the dam was carried out by PWD department of Tamilnadu Government. Experts have thoroughly studied the structure of the dam and have certified that it is still going strong and can store water upto its maximum capacity, i.e. 152 ft.

In the meantime, when Supreme Court was approached to intervene on this dispute, the Supreme Court have also accepted the views of the experts in the field of architecture and have issued a favourable order that the height of the dam can be increased upto 142 ft. But, still this baseless apprehension and the opposition continues and it is still sought to be amicably settled. Recently, the Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri V.S.

Achutanandan visited Tamilnadu and called on the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu, Shri M. Karunanidhi and it has been decided that both Tamilnadu and Kerala will sit and deliberate and sort out the issue amicably taking care to benefit both the States. When the States involved have themselves decided to settle in amicably through bilateral talks, it is needless to raise it on the floor of this House giving rise to further misunderstanding and delaying a settlement that could come about through the bilateral talks....(Interruptions)

Hence, I would like to draw the attention of this august House that we must not unnecessarily rake up the issue here. It would be better as decided by the Chief Ministers of Kerala and Tamilnadu to settle it among themselves amicably to benefit the people of both the

States. The just demand from the people of Tamilnadu is not a new one, it has always been there and even Supreme Court has given its verdict that the height can be increased from 136 ft. to 142 ft. So, let there not be any opposition to this on any ground other than the benefit of the people and meeting of the irrigational needs.

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with you that it should be amicably resolved. This is a matter of the country. Do not treat it as only your State matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Even friends are divided on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not right.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All right, Dr. C. Krishnan, Shrimati Bhavani Rajenthiran, Shri Kuppusami have associated with Shri Mohan and Shri Kurup has associated with Shri George.

ADV. SURESH KURUP : Sir, all we demand is that there should be an amicable solution for this. That is our consistent position.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Although, you have different perceptions, different demands, let us resolve it in a manner consistent with our national interest.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.51 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at one  
minute past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we will take up Item 9, Matters Under Rule 377.

Shri Kishanbhai V. Patel — not present.

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

**(i) Need to reduce pendency of cases in higher and subordinate judiciaries**

**SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani) :** Sir, in our country the backlog of pending cases and vacancies in the higher judiciary and subordinate judiciaries are alarming. Nearly 33,635 cases are pending in the Supreme Court. In various High Courts 33,41,040 cases are pending and in subordinate courts nearly 2,53,06,458 cases are pending. Even though the Union of India has ordered to set up Fast Track Courts in district level, the pendency is still alarming.

There are number of vacancies in High Courts, Supreme Court and in subordinate courts. Unless the vacancies are filled up, the pendency cannot be reduced. Moreover, large number of courts are not having proper infrastructural facilities particularly in taluk level courts. Union of India has to earmark certain funds for the development of courts. The strength of the judges in various High Courts should be raised. The present system of selecting judges for High Courts causes inordinate delay for the speedy disposal of cases, and also meritorious candidates from SC/ST and OBC can not be considered. Hence the present system is to be changed.

Hence, I urge upon the Union of India to take effective steps for reducing pendency by creating courts in taluk level and appoint more judges to fill the vacancies. Also necessary funds may be allocated for the development of infrastructural facilities in various courts throughout the country.

**(ii) Need to provide funds for EDUSAT project under SSA Programme in Gulbarga district, Karnataka**

**SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga) :** Satellite Communication Department of Space had requested the Government of Karnataka to send the requirement of funds for EDUSAT project under the SSA programme so as to enable it to include in the revised budget 2005-06. The Government of Karnataka had forwarded a letter to the Chairman, ISRO on 24.6.2006 wherein it had been mentioned that the project report has been prepared to cover 2477 Government and private aided primary schools in Gulbarga District under EDUSAT project at the cost of Rs. 2234 lakh. Although ISRO has in principle agreed to extend the project to 800 schools in Gulbarga District but the funds has not been provided so far.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to kindly expedite the project at an early date so that 800 schools in Gulbarga district will be able to implement the scheme.

**(iii) Need for judicial reforms in the country**

**SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal) :** Human Rights have been given due importance in the context of all concerned areas of our society, but I have observed that little attention is being paid to the inmates of jails which is not baptized as correctional homes in Euphemism. Hundreds of convicts have been languishing in various correctional homes in the country. Human beings are not born criminals. It is also a fact that hundreds of convicted life time prisoners have surpassed more than 20 years in jails. Some are rendered blind, immobile and too old to get care upon themselves during detention. Family members of those prisoners have lost communication with them. Government should ponder over the reform in this area by introducing a legislation as to how many years they are to be subjected to punishment. Many prisoners have also died during detention. Reforms have become an order of the day while the fate of the prisoners are left untouched. Therefore, a timeframe should be considered by reforming the system in order to determine the number of years for those life time prisoners so that those prisoners may survive in our society after being punished.

**(iv) Need to provide more funds for beautification of 'Khajjjar Lake' in district Chamba, Himachal Pradesh**

**PROF. CHANDER KUMAR (Kangra) :** The Khajjjar Lake in District Chamba of Himachal Pradesh is not getting the treatment it deserves. The lake suffers from the perennial problem of weeds and slush formation and efforts should be made to keep the place litter free. Steps should be taken for its beautification. Many years ago, water of the lake was even used for drinking but now, the depth of the Lake has also started decreasing, since silt and cow dung flows into it from the slopes. The Tourism Minister of the Central Government had inaugurated Chamba Millennium on the 13th April this year and I urge upon her to sanction enough money for the beautification of this lake, which attracts lakhs of people every year.

**(v) Need to accord the status of a classical language to Telugu**

**SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY (Narasaraopet) :** Telugu script has more than 1,500 years long history, which is evident from the manuscripts on copper plates, palm leaves and stone inscriptions.

Telugu language is more than 2,000 years old.

Renowned Kind Krishna Devaraya, who ruled the South in the 15th century, characterised Telugu as the "best among Indian languages".

Telugu, given its unique script, distinctive character and antiquity, meets all the parameters set out by the Government of India to accord "Classical Language" status.

I would, therefore, request the Government to take necessary steps for according the status of classical language to Telugu as that of Sanskrit and Tamil.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ganesh Singh — not present.

Shri Chandra Mani Tripathi — not present.

Shri Shripad Yasso Naik — not present.

Dr. Vallabhbai Kathiria — not present.

Shri Ashok Argal — not present.

**(vi) Need to stop violation of labour laws in the country**

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : The violation of labour laws is being promoted by most of the Governments in the States and at the Centre, by forces of capitalism, both domestic and foreign. In the unorganised and organised sectors, even multinationals are vigorously thwarting attempt by the workers to form unions. There are instances where the Labour department is refusing to register the Unions. Even when the Union is registered, the management does not sit with the Unions to settle the disputes. When disputes are raised, the Labour Commissioner, in many cases, does not take any initiative to convene a meeting and settle the dispute. There are also instances, where some agreement was arrived at with their intervention, but even then, the management did not implement the agreement. As for example, the latest episode of police torture has taken place at Karnal. The workers of the production units of Liberty Foot Wear have been pursuing the management for implementation of the tripartite agreement signed in October 2005, in constitutional manner. The management has first committed illegality by not implementing the tripartite agreement which has a legal force. On 25th June, 2006 midnight, the employees were beaten up in police custody and locked under 307 IPC. More than 50 workers have been jailed and others are in hospitals. This is happening in Haryana.

In Himachal Pradesh Chamara Hydro Power Project Stage-III, construction work started by NGPC six months back. NHPC is the principal employer and the owner of the project; HCC is the main contractor. In this project, there are gross violations of labour laws. No appointment letter, no minimum wages are paid to the workers. No wages for the Sundays or other holidays are paid to the workers. Contractors are not giving the payments to the employees since last four months. Twenty-five per cent tribal area allowance is also not being paid, and the

workers are bound to work 12 hours a day. When they formed a Union on 10th June, the three leaders, namely, Babu Ram, CITU District President, Vijoy Tamoor and Dhang Singh were killed on the spot. In Punjab, for the last three years or so, the cycle factory workers of Ludhiana have been trying to register their Union. The Owners Association wrote to the Government of Punjab urging upon them not to register CITU Union, and the Government obliged them by not registering the Union. This is a general phenomenon.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Labour Minister to direct the NHPC and the States to stop the violation of labour laws and due compensation should be given to the bereaved families.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Harikewal Prasad - Not present.

**(vii) Need to check alleged irregularities prevailing in the Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Rajendra Agriculture University Pusa in Distt. Samastipur of Bihar is not only known for various sorts of researches in the field of agriculture across the country but it has gained the frontrunner position all over the world. But a number of research activities in it such as artificial animal insemination, high-yielding seeds etc. have come to a halt over the last few years. The academic atmosphere of the University is getting affected as the Research activities have stopped there. Besides, the established image of the university is suffering a set back. Many more irregularities have also been reported from the university. Academic works have also been adversely affected.

So, through you, I'd like to demand from the Govt. to get it properly investigated and run the Research activities regularly in order to maintain the dignity and honour of the university.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it is my request to you to kindly read the text, which is approved by the Table Office, for matters Under Rule 377. Only the approved text will go on record.

Now, Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat — Not present;  
Shrimati Archana Nayak — Not present.

**(viii) Need to exempt Purulia Express and Steel Express Trains from Superfast category in South-Eastern Railways and earmark some compartments in Superfast Express Trains for daily/monthly/season ticket holders**

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Sir, recently, the Railway Administration upgraded a lot of express trains into Superfast category. In the South-Eastern Railways, the Express trains like Purulia Express, Aranyak Express, Rupasi Express, Bangla Express, Steel Express, and Ispat Express have been upgraded. But no extra amenities for the passengers have been provided. Rather, fare of the tickets have got increased. This has caused a great hardship to the passengers, especially the daily passengers. Therefore, it is desirable that at least two trains, Purulia Express and Steel Express should be remained as Express trains and they should be exempted from the Superfast category; and in other Superfast express trains, certain number of compartments should be earmarked for daily/monthly and season ticket holders.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Railway Ministry to reconsider their stand in this context and do justice to the passengers, particularly, the daily passengers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri S.D. Mandlik – Not present

Shri M. Shivanna – Not present

**(ix) Need to resume the flight between Dimapur-Guwahati and Kolkata-Dimapur on Saturdays and Sundays**

SHRI W. WANGYUH KONYAK (Nagaland) : The Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation is fully aware that only Indian Airlines is operating in Nagaland from Kolkata, that also, Boeing twice in a week and ATR for five days. For the past many years, ill treatment has been meted out to the people of Nagaland in many ways. Cancellation of flights and taking the flights *via* Shillong is a frequent feature. Once, the flight was introduced between Dimapur and Guwahati but it has been cancelled since 2005 without giving any reason. Surprisingly, Guwahati-Dimapur flight is shown as an existing flight. Latest is that the flight from Kolkata to Dimapur on Saturday and Sunday has been withdrawn. Scheduled flights to Dimapur are cancelled at the last moment. This sudden cancellation causes great inconvenience to the passengers. Now, the condition is that all the VVIPs have to travel by road or by train to catch the flight from Guwahati. Many urgent official meetings called by the Government of India are being

missed due to the mismanagement of Indian Airlines. Though Dimapur Airport has been built up over the years at high cost, it is now not being fully utilised, thus belying the hopes and aspirations of our people. This kind of treatment should not be meted out of the people of Nagaland any more.

Therefore, I urge upon the Ministry of Civil Aviation to resume the flight between Dimapur and Guwahati and Kolkata to Dimapur on Saturday and Sundays without further delay.

**(x) Need to construct a bridge over Khairgaon crossing on Mumbai-Ahmedabad National Highway**

*[Translation]*

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL (Bulsar) : Sir, I'd like to draw the attention of the Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways to the difficulties being faced by the citizens of my parliamentary constituency, Bulsar on the cross-roads leading to Khairgaon and Dang from the constituency.

Sir, it has become the order of the day for the people of my constituency to witness accidents on the Bulsar-Khairgaon cross-roads on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad national highway because of no bridge on this highway.

Thousands of people visiting Dang and the Gundalav Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation from Bulsar have to cross this national highway. There is heavy traffic on this cross-road and a bridge is very much needed there. Here, I'd also like to tell the hon'ble Minister that the Government have got a bridge constructed over the Wadhaldhara-wari cross-roads where the traffic happens to be less than that on Bulsar-Khairgaon cross-roads.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I request the Govt. to please issue an order to the concerned officials for constructing a bridge over the Khairgaon cross-roads on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad national highway without any delay.

**(xi) Need to implement the Mahajan Commission Report on inclusion of certain regions in Karnataka**

*[English]*

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamarajanagar) : Basco Mission started a Kannada school in Belgaum in the year 1838. If the language of Belgaum was Marathi, then they would have started a Marathi school. Long ago Rajaji was addressing a public meeting at Belgaum and his speech

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

was translated into Kannada. Mr. Chikkodi, who translated his speech, was very much appreciated by Rajaji. He also said that Marathi people should learn Kannada and live with Kannada people in that area.

Dhar Committee, Vanchoo Committee and Congress J.V.P. (Jawahar Lal, Vallabhai Patel and Pathabhi) Committee declared that Belgaum is an integral part of Karnataka.

Then, in the year 1995 Shri Fazal Alis Commission was constituted by the Centre. Hridayanath Kunjoor and Sardar K.M. Panicker were in the Commission. This Commission conducted a thorough study and examined thousands of evidences. They also gave the same opinion that Belgaum is an integral part of Karnataka.

Finally, Mahajan Commission gave its verdict. "Belgaum and Kasargod of Kerala should be in Karnataka", the Commission declared. The then Home Minister, Shri Guljarilal Nanda had given a firm assurance that Mahajan Commission's report would be implemented. I, therefore, request the Centre to implement the Mahajan Commission's Report in toto.

14.21 hrs.

### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS- (GENERAL) - 2006-2007

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we will take up Item No. 10 – Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 2006-2007.

Motion moved :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Accounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President in India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2007, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 3, 5 to 8, 11, 17 to 19, 30, 31, 33, 35, 41, 44 to 48, 52 to 54, 56, 61, 64, 69, 70, 78, 84, 85, 91, 94, 99, 100 and 102 to 105."

#### *Demands for Supplementary Grants : (General) for 2006-2007 to vote of Lok Sabha*

No.	Title of Demand	Amount of Demand for submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
1	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	1,00,000	1,00,000
2	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	50,00,00,000	---
3	Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	110,00,00,000	---
5	Atomic Energy	9,68,00,000	---
6	Nuclear Power Schemes	---	1313,33,00,000
7	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	84,00,00,000	339,69,00,000
8	Department of Fertilisers	2770,37,00,000	---
11	Department of Commerce	1,00,000	---
17	Department of Consumer Affairs	6,77,00,000	---
18	Department of Food and Public Distribution	1,12,00,000	---
19	Ministry of Culture	25,05,00,000	---
30	Ministry of External Affairs	101,03,00,000	---

No.	Title of Demand	Amount of Demand for submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
31	Department of Economic Affairs	1,00,000	1,00,000
33	Payments to Financial Institutions	4208,61,00,000	42,45,00,000
35	Transfers to State and Union territory Governments	4500,00,00,000	---
41	Department of Revenue	1000,00,00,000	---
44	Department of Disinvestment	---	1,00,000
45	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	1,00,000	16,50,00,000
46	Department of Health and Family Welfare	1,00,000	4,50,00,000
47	Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)	1,00,000	---
48	Department of Heavy Industry	1992,30,00,000	2,00,000
52	Police	1,00,000	1,00,000
53	Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	337,11,00,000	---
54	Transfers to Union territory Governments	22,12,00,000	---
56	Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education	2,00,000	---
61	Law and Justice	1,00,000	---
64	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	1,00,000	---
69	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	---	1,00,00,000
70	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	14150,01,00,000	---
78	Department of Rural Development	16205,00,00,000	---
84	Department of Shipping	---	2,00,000
85	Department of Road Transport and Highways	---	1,00,000
91	Ministry of Textiles	305,02,00,000	---
94	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1,00,000	---
99	Department of Urban Development	30,00,00,000	1,00,000
100	Public Works	21,86,00,000	23,50,00,000
102	Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (Previously - Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation)	14,00,00,000	---
103	Ministry of Water Resources	1,00,000	---
104	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	2,00,000	---
105	Ministry of Minority Affairs	123,23,00,000	18,29,00,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>48067,43,00,000</b>	<b>1759,36,00,000</b>

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I seek authorisation for gross additional expenditure of Rs. 47,868.97 crore of which the cash outgo will only be Rs. 8,667.95 crore. The technical supplementaries are being requested for Rs. 39,200.66 crore. Sir, of the total cash outgo of Rs. 8,667.95 crore, an amount of Rs. 5,859 crore, that is 68 per cent of the total cash outgo is for transfers to State and Union Territory Governments mainly for assistance to their Plans and for compensation for revenue loss due to the introduction of VAT, for earthquake relief to Jammu and Kashmir and for compensation to victims of the 1984 riots. I am sure, hon. Members will welcome the additional funds that are being provided to the State Governments. The other single major item of additionality is Rs. 1,500 crore for subsidy on fertilisers, mainly on account of increase in prices of imported fertilisers.

Sir, the cash outgo being sought in the first batch of Supplementary Demands will, to my view, not impact the fiscal deficit targeted in the Budget Estimates as the additionality is likely to be offset by savings arising during the course of Financial Year as has been the case in the previous years. Government is committed to take all possible steps to ensure that the total expenditure for the year remains within the Budget Estimates approved by Parliament. Government is also committed to adhere to a fiscal deficit and revenue deficit.

Sir, I would request the House to take up the Supplementary Demands for consideration and pass the same.

**SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru) :** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am happy that when the hon. Minister has come for Supplementary Demands for Grants, he is assuring that everything that he is asking today will be within the Budget Estimates only. He said today that out of Rs. 57,868 crore, only Rs. 8,667 crore is going as cash outgo and all the rest is within the extra recovery or the Budget provision. The most important thing is that he categorically assured that even that would be recovered in the course of time before the end of this Financial Year. That means there will not be anything extra, the fiscal deficit will remain as what he has promised during the Budget Session. This is an important thing and I am happy on this and I congratulate him.

Sir, when I went through how he is directing his cash flow, I felt very happy to see that much of it is for helping the farming community and the rural people. He said that out of Rs. 5,800 crore, an amount of Rs. 4,500 crore is going only to support the State plans.

That is acceptable to everybody irrespective of their party alliances. He is giving a subsidy to the fertiliser industry. We all agree, in whichever Government it is, that it is the farmer who is suffering all the time. We have discussed, time and again, about suicides committed by the farmers. Unless we go to their rescue to help them against inflation leading to increase in prices of the fertilisers, they will not be able to cope up with this. Naturally, it is necessity and I am happy that he is going to the rescue of the farmers by supplying fertilisers to them at the same price or at a marginally higher price by giving subsidy against increased prices of fertilisers which have been imported from outside.

Above all, we all know that no marginal farmer with 2, 3 or 5 acres can ever live on that income. He has to have some supplementary income either from poultry, dairy or something else. Many of the families, for that matter, including the BPL families are living on the supplementary income which is coming not out of farming but out of other operations. Here, we all know that in the recent past, the entire poultry industry has come to a standstill. Many of them are on the stage of closing their farms because the sudden outbreak of Avian Flu has led to total closure as there are no sales at all. A chicken used to be sold at Rs. 40 to 50 per kilogram. Now, they are forced to give it free or at a marginal price of Rs. 5. So, we can understand the pathetic conditions the poultry farming community in this country is.

In fact, we made a representation to the Finance Minister as well as the Prime Minister to go to their rescue because they are doing a service in a way; they are not making any money. Sir, if you go into details, you will come to know that an egg weights about 60 grams and 15 or 16 eggs make about a kilogram. He is selling it between Rs. 16 and Rs. 20. That means, at Rs. 20 per kilogram, solid food rich in protein is coming to the poor man also whereas mutton is being sold at Rs. 180 per kilogram. Even vegetables are being sold at Rs. 30 per kilogram. When one purchases vegetables, 30 to 50 per cent of them go waste. It means that today the best available food in the country is egg which is rich in protein. So, it is the duty of the Government to encourage poultry farming. Lot of people who are living on that are only in villages, depending on this single activity. They are the poor families. So, I really congratulate him for going to the rescue of the poultry farming community.

My humble request to him is that apart from waiving interest of the poultry farming community, there is one more thing which needs to be done. They are also short of maize today. We are not asking for thousands of crores of



[Shri K.S. Rao]

rupees; we are asking for Rs. 100 crore only for the entire poultry farming community. If he provides Rs. 100 crore to the poultry farming community in subsidising the supply of maize to them, that activity will be revived and lakhs of families in the rural areas will also be able to survive.

Similarly, there is a provision of Rs. 1,500 crore which he has made for VAT compensation and Rs. 100 crore for Maulana Azad Education Foundation. Definitely, all these things are acceptable and will be appreciated by everybody.

He is giving Rs. 300 crore for making additional expenditure on technology upgradation. That is the most important thing today. The country is suffering because the entire R & D is done in Western countries and they are charging exorbitant amounts from us for transferring the technology. If they had to spend Rs. 100 crore, they are charging Rs. 1,000 crore or Rs. 2,000 crore for that. They are utilising our own people. Our NRIs are doing these jobs in the Western countries. Today, there is thinking on the part of the multinationals to start the same research in this country, employing our technological manpower and intelligentsia to make that R & D at a lesser cost to them, and reap the benefits by selling it to the third world.

In this connection, I just want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that NRIs have got \$3 trillion, that is, \$3,000 billion with them. If he can find a way to attract the NRIs to invest in this country, we can grow by leaps and bounds. The total investment in this country by NRIs till today might be about \$ 8 billion whereas in China, it is more than \$ 80 billion.

The Non-Resident Chinese are running to invest in China, but the Non-Resident Indians are not that enthusiastic about the same. Therefore, it is our duty to find out ways to come out with schemes to encourage the same. We do not lose anything by doing this. Tomorrow, they will come and invest not only their money, but they will also attract technology from there. They will utilise their brain here for this country, and they will also borrow money from international organisations at a lesser rate of interest and invest here. All these measures are going to help us in several ways. Therefore, I want the hon. Minister to think about this too.

Thirdly, we have got foreign exchange worth about US \$ 150 billion, which we are not using for any useful purpose. Today, they are being put in the American treasury or somewhere. Further, the interest that we are paying on the deposits kept by NRIs or others in the country is more than what we are getting on the same by depositing it in the US treasury. It means that though we are saying to the

entire world that we have got US \$ 150 billion of foreign exchange reserves, but we are losing on that account also.

Earlier, a suggestion was made to utilise this foreign exchange reserve for building infrastructure in this country. Someone might say that we might not get that back in dollar form in case of any need. All right, do not use it for that purpose. But our corporate sector or public sector undertakings -- like ONGC Videsh or other oil companies or some other industry or sector -- can go and invest in Africa, Asia, Gulf, etc., and reap lots of benefits. Our corporate sector can earn more than 30 per cent there. They can pay money, and they can get dividends not only for this country, but also get dividends for themselves. They could also secure employment for the people of our country.

Actually, if you were to lend about US \$ 30 billion to the public sector undertakings or the Indian corporate sector to invest outside, then it is not necessary that all of US \$ 30 billion need to go outside. I am saying this because we are going to send our own material. It would mean that we are creating a market for our products; we are creating employment for our own people; and we are creating awareness or exposure for our corporate sector to work outside. If ONGC Videsh were to be given US \$ 10 billion, then they could participate in the bidding of blocks outside the country, and they could get oil at a lesser price towards their share. In this way, we can reduce the imports, and we can reduce the foreign exchange required for import of oil. There are several benefits of doing it, and I want the hon. Minister to give a thought to it.

Finally, I would like to state that we have to take care of the poorer sections of the society. He has been providing so many things to so many people. The education, which is being provided, is excellent to minimise the dropout ratio among school children, particularly, from the poorer sections of the society. I am saying this because the children were not getting employment even after completing their schooling. Therefore, they used to stop sending their children because they felt that it was a waste of time and energy to send their children to the schools, as they do not get employment even after completing BA, MA, etc. Hence, they stop sending them to schools. They only think of getting another wage earner for their family. Anyway, the Government has provided a lot of money for the same and as a result of that are getting encouraged.

What would happen after 10 years? Nearly, 90 per cent of the poor boys and girls will go upto 8th class or 10th class, but after doing 10th class also they will not get

employment and all these schemes would become a waste. Therefore, my humble request to the hon. Minister is that we must encourage skill development-- though this subject also comes under the Ministry of HRD and other Ministries-- as it is the most important issue facing this country. I am saying this because there is a shortage of skilled people all over the world and they are thinking of ways to get skilled people. For example, if we want a translator in the Parliament, we are not getting; if we want stenographers in the Parliament, we are not getting them; and if we want good mechanics for our cars or scooters, we are not getting them.

Today, the civil aviation sector is suffering because we do not have repair facilities for aircraft, as we do not have good mechanics for the same. If the Ministry were to provide some allocation exclusively for skill development in this country, particularly, for the poorer sections of the society, then we could impart all these skills in them right from 8th class. As a result, by the time they come to 12th class, they will feel confident that they can live on their own without being a parasite or being dependant on their parents or the society.

I have been asking the hon. Prime Minister as well as the hon. Finance Minister to provide healthcare to the poor people who are living below the poverty line. He has already provided for the same. As per the scheme provided for in the Budget, poor people who are living below the poverty line have to pay Rs. 50 in a year towards this scheme. It is being dubbed that we have brought in an excellent scheme, but the total number of people who are insured is only 9,000 in the entire country. There is no point in dubbing this as an excellent scheme. It is my humble opinion that Rs. 50 is not a big amount. Please give that money to provide universal health insurance to all the people who are living below the poverty line. Then, in two to three years, they will understand the benefits. Today, they cannot go to the corporate sector. If they go to a Government hospital, they are not getting proper treatment. They have become orphans. We have to provide this healthcare insurance to all the people who are living below the poverty line. The Minister might say that he wants to involve them by making them pay Rs. 10 per person. Today, they may not do it, but after seeing the benefits they all come forward and be willing to pay even Rs. 100 or Rs. 200.

As far as the Government is concerned, it does not cost much; it costs only Rs. 3,000 crore to Rs. 4,000 crore for providing insurance to these people in the entire country. The Minister can ask the State Governments to share 50 per cent of the cost. I want him to think it over

and provide this healthcare insurance which is a basic requirement of these poor families.

While congratulating the Minister for the allocation that he has made and for the assurance that he gave that this does not affect the fiscal deficit, I support these Supplementary Demands for Grants, and I wish the other Members will do the same thing.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Raghunath Jha, whatever you want to say today, you say with open heart.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by the honourable Minister of Finance before this House. While supporting the supplementary grants I would also like to draw attention of honourable Minister of Finance to the Problems of Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The people of Bihar go to Punjab to earn their living therefore you must include it in your speech.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : When Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was Prime Minister of the Country, he went to Bihar and often observing the situation there he had assured Bihar to provide special package to the tune of crores of rupees to infrastructure sector. Unfortunately Rajiv Gandhi died. Minimum Common Programme was declared when the present UPA Government came in power and it was declared therein that special package announced by Late Rajiv Gandhi will be implemented in Bihar but I am sorry to say that around two and half years have been lapsed since Government came in power but not a single step has been taken in this direction for Bihar. I think that there is breach of promise and discrimination with the people of Bihar.

Sir, we people in this House had strongly opposed the division of Bihar and the Parliament was adjourned for three days. The then Minister of Home Affairs who is today leader of Opposition, had said that he was no in a favour of a situation which may help one state to prosper and another to reel in poverty. Bihar has produced a number of great leaders. Dr. Shri Krishna Singh reminded Chief Minister of Bihar for sixteen years. If any thing would have been in his mind ever then big industries would have been set up in Bihar and Jharkhand areas.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is not present in this House at this time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : He was not having such intention. He would have set up industries, factories in the Jharkhand border areas. But we lost an resources. Our coal, minerals, resources, factories shifted to Jharkhand. Our technical education schools and sainik school left in Jharkhand. I am quoting this example because six years have lapsed since Jharkhand separated from Bihar. Neither Jharkhand is not going to merge with us nor we are demanding any such things. But the then Government had said that whether scarcity is there, Bihar will get its right and share as special package. But that Government have not taken any step in that direction. Honourable Minister of Finance is a learned economist and able Finance Minister. You can not strengthen the country if Bihar having a population of eight or ten crore remains undeveloped, does not have road links, shelter to reside and food for people. We are passing through a bad phase. I would like the honourable Minister of Finance to fulfil his promise.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, the Planning commission was constituted when country got independence. The first Prime Minister of the country, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had addressed while inaugurating first meeting as a Chairman of Planning commission that on the one hand Planning Commission would work out planning in a structured manner for rapid development of the country and on the other would try to bridge the gap of regional imbalance in this country. Sir, you come from Punjab and at that time Haryana and Himachal Pradesh were parts of Punjab and Punjab was number one state. At that time Bihar position was third-fourth but today we are in the last position. We could also not proceed ten steps after the country became independent, unlike other states we are unable to make any noticeable progress. In addition to it we could not get the help which Central Government was supposed to provide us to make up our loss. We used to demand for value based royalty when Bihar was united and when Bihar was having right on its resources. At that time we could not get that. We used to say that there are big industries on Bihar land and they get raw materials labourers and power supply from Bihar and Bihar police maintains law and order and those were having their headquarters in Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata. Due to this, the revenue on account of State's income tax, sales tax and consignment tax goes to another states and Bihar or Jharkhand do not get anything. If this revenue goes to Bihar then it would certainly make progress like other states.

Honourable Minister of Finance had announced in this House that the districts of different states of the country

would be covered as backward districts. Thirty six districts of Bihar were included in those districts and rest of the districts were left. I am happy that this time some districts have been covered. Champaran has also been included therein from where father of nation, Mahatma Gandhi had started the freedom movement of the country. This time eastern and western Champaran districts have also been included in the list. But you have not included eastern and western Champaran districts under National Employment Guarantee Scheme made by you when the number of tribals, dalit, poor and dhangers is quite high. Mahatma Gandhi stayed there for years feeling the pulse of that area worked for independence of the country, I want to put a demand that west Champaran and East Champaran should be covered under the National Employment Guarantee Programme.

Hon'ble Minister of Finance had visited Bihar. We have been told about his visit during the last session but it is very sad to say that not a single MP of UPA was informed about this visit. He would have listened what we have to say. Many programmes of banks launched by Prime Minister are not contributing in Bihar upto the level. Our money is going to Delhi, Madras and Kolkata but people of Bihar are running from pillar to post and not getting cooperation from Banks for employment and building houses. Today the Minister of Finance will tell use what our deposit is? The amount of money deposited in banks of Bihar and percentage of amount disbursed out of it? What are you doing as per those guidelines? Please tell us about it in detail.

Sir, every year in this House, even today besides me, my friends Sita Ram Singhji, Ram Kripal Yadavji and our deputy leader Devendra Prasad Yadavji, everybody has participated in a discussion on drought in present day Bihar. We are reeling under drought. Earlier only eight districts were drought hit. Every year we had to face flood situation. Rivers originating from Nepal bring devastation in Bihar. The kind of devastation is caused by tsunami, the same kind of devastation is unleashed upon Bihar by the rivers flowing from the Nepal. Two years back houses of 9 lakh poor people were washed away. Houses of the poors were destroyed. Everything is there in your records. We had demanded from the then Chief Minister of Bihar, Rabri Deviji. Prime Minister extended his help for construction of only two lakh houses. But what is the fault of seven lakh poors who are landless? Bihar is not in a position to give built houses. We want to request you to engage the Government of Nepal so that it should formulate some concrete programme. Bihar is at a receiving end every year from the rivers originating from Nepal. Some parts of Uttar Pradesh and Bengal also face damage. You can assist the Government of Nepal in

generation of Hydro-Electricity and the Government of Nepal will provide you Hydro-power, which, if you wish, can provide to people at cheaper rates...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, ten lakh hectare of our land is not in use due to water logging. We have Badhiya Taal and Mukama Taal. Every year thousand acres of land along both sides of Ganges from Buxar to Farakka in Bengal is submerged in Ganga. Hundreds of villages are submerged in it and the Government does not help out in the way it should. Government of India and we have extended our help to Gujarat in aftermath of earthquake, to Tamilnadu and other places after cyclone and tsunami. We appreciate that. It never came to our mind that why they are being given assistance?

Kosi, Gandak, Bagmati and Kamla-Adhwarwa groups of river originate from Nepal. These rivers bring on devastation in North Bihar. Whichever Government is there in Bihar whether it is Government of Smt. Rabri Devi or Nitish Kumar, do not they have power to hold talks with the government of Nepal? I want to ask this from the Minister of Finance. If we do not have the powers to hold talks then you in the capacity of a Union Minister of finance or the Prime Minister should hold talks with the Government of Nepal and bail us out from this problem. If you do not want to get rid of this problem then on the lines of other states we should also be compensated cent percent for our damages. The Union Government should take this responsibility, this is our demand.

Sir, there was a question on electricity which could not be taken up. We were also ready with supplementary questions. Production and consumption of electricity is lowest in Bihar. The approved expansion of 500 MW in Kahalgaon is pending. Minister of Power had gone there to start work during flood. Some work has been started there. Expansion of 500 MW each in Kanti and Barauni was proposed. That still has not been completed. There is acute loss occurs in transmission of power in Bihar. The performance of Bihar is not satisfactory in Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme.

Sir, when Lenin took over from George in Russia then journalists asked him that you had been crusader for socialism, how will you bring socialism? Then Lenin replied by saying, you provide me electricity, I will give you socialism. Today, electricity is not simply a means of light, it has become a lifeline. We ask the Minister of Finance to make our special package and provide it to us by taking into account everything then Bihar will also come into the league of other states.

Sir, an hon'ble Member was talking about the suicides being committed by the farmers in the country. We have discussed this matter several times in the House as to why farmers are committing suicide. A simple thing is that if a farmer grows 25 quintal paddy in one acre piece of land it costs 20 thousand rupees and if he gets 18 thousand rupees for the same then he will have no other option and hence as to why he will continue with this profession? According to a survey, 60 per cent farmers are giving up cultivation. You have announced forward trading and one can know as to what will be the prices for the next year but you have not prepared any infrastructure for the same. You are giving less amount to your farmers. You are importing wheat from Australia at the rate of Rs. 900 per quintal while you are giving Rs. 600 for a quintal to our farmers. What type of justice is this? Whether farmers will even be able to forgive you? Who will not oppose to it? We want that farmers should get remunerative price and proper marketing and storage infrastructure facilities should be provided to them. We are growing Mango, Leechi, Makhana, fish, fruits and green vegetables in large quantity. Parmal is sold Rs. 5 per kg. in Motihari and Bettiah whereas it is being sold between Rs. 25-30 per kg. in Delhi even today.

The Minister of Railways is also from Bihar and also the leader of our party. I request him that if he provides A.C., refrigerator or container in all main trains, then farmers can easily bring their vegetables and fruits to the markets of Delhi. We have airports at Gaya, Patna, Muazfarpur and Raxual. Can't you run a cargo from there?

You can send Mango, Leechi and other fruits abroad by introducing a cargo facility but you lack will power, you do not respect Bihar. If you have will power then nothing is impossible. Therefore, it needs to be done. Now the Pakistan border from Punjab and Rajasthan side has been closed. We all know how our relations with China are? Terrorists, Naxalites and Maoists activities are going on in entire Bihar and India, smuggling is taking place and fake currency is coming in the country. You can buy AK-46, and AK-47 from Nepali market. The 600-700 kms. border areas of Bihar and Nepal is lying unattended. There is no border roads there. Their 5 SPs are posted everywhere and about a dozen large and small rivers emanating from Nepal entering in our country. The roads always remain in dilapidated condition and as a result of this nobody can go from this to that side and things are being smuggled easily. Whether the Government is unaware of it? All activities in India are being done by Pakistan and ISI through Nepal. You are running the Government but you can't build road there. When China gave you a cursing defeat then your all wits come to your mind and you may

[Shri Raghunath Jha]

have to suffer again in the same manner. After the Second World War, three Air force airports have been built in Raxual, Hathua from where Lalu ji has a house, and the third in Purnia. Out of them one airport is in operation whereas two airports having 500-acre land are being encroached upon and Government is not paying any attention towards this. The Government is taking Nepal very lightly. If China wishes, it can sneak into India in 24 hours alongwith its tanks, weapons and its army near Veerganj through Lahasa which is on India-Nepal border but the Government of India has to face a lot of difficulties in reaching there because neither any road nor any airport is there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Nalanda Taxila and Vaishali are three main centres of education. We used to impart education to the whole world but after the bifurcation of Bihar, all such big educational institutions have gone to Jharkhand. We do not have any engineering college, technical education centre and military school in Bihar, as all of these have gone to Jharkhand. Bihar, which has a population of about 8 crores, do not have resources to open such centers. Are we in the Government for this, or people do not expect from us and do not ask questions from us? They can't approach to the Finance Minister. We visit our constituency every week, we meet people there and listen to their problems. We, therefore, want that Patna University, which is in the capital city of Bihar, should be given the status of Central University. Some hospitals, on the lines of AIIMS are being opened in our country but northern Bihar is divided into two parts. An AIIMS has been opened there but medical colleges are already there. This should be opened in northern Bihar, be it at Darbhanga or Muzaffarpur. The roads are not fit to walk there. Work under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sarak Yojana is going there but with a tardy pace. We have discussed the matter with the Ministry of Rural Development of expedite the work. Bihar has 2400 kms of National Highways but its condition is very bad. The 940 km of roads has to be converted into four lanes for which the Union Government has previously said that it will provide 60 percent funds and the remaining 40 per cent will have to be borne by Bihar Government.

15.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how the Government of Bihar can give these funds? The entire funds should be given by the Union Governments because the Government has declared to provide special package to Bihar. The Union Government should provide funds to Bihar from the amount of special package. The Union Government had announced thrice to provide special package to Bihar. If the Government refuses that they had not announced to

provide special package to Bihar then we will never ask the Union Government to give a special package to Bihar.

Sir, I would like to mention that the announcement to provide special package to Bihar was made first by Late Rajiv Gandhi, then by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji and lastly by this U.P.A. government, but Bihar has not got the special package till now. I, therefore, urge upon the Finance Minister to pay attention towards this, in order to assist Bihar so as to stand parallel to other states of the country.

Sir, with these words, I conclude. Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod) : I rise to support the Supplementary Demands placed before the House by hon. Finance Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram.

This Government had come to power some two-and-a-half year's back. I do understand the limitations of this discussion on Supplementary Demands. It is pointed out that there is 8 per cent growth rate in our country. Of course, it is the better economic position. It is also pointed out that the inflation rate is also under control, that is about 4 per cent. Of course, it is a better economic parameter that we can claim. We have also implemented the National Employment Guarantee Bill. The Government has already taken up some social measures. But when we see the experience of the people, this economic parameter is reflected in the actual life of the rural people of our country. This House itself is witness to some of the discussions, the facts and figures with regard to the price rise that we are facing nowadays. When we say that the inflation rate is under control, that is only 4 per cent, can the Finance Minister claim that the prices of the essential goods have gone down? In most of the prices of the essential goods, that is vegetable, sugar, cement, wheat and such other commodities, there is a rise in prices as compared to last year or two years back. We cannot translate the economic figures or the economic parameters saying that our economy has gone up or it is in a better position, especially on the side of the experience of the people.

I would like to confine myself to two or three points only, especially with regard to the agriculture sector. Swaminathan Commission Report is before the Government. I do not think that the Government has come forward with the suggestion that Swaminathan Commission Report be implemented. The Commission has pointed out that 4 per cent of the interest to the farmers is not being implemented. Also, with regard to insurance...*(Interruptions)*

As far as food security is concerned, for the first time, in the last many years, we are forced to import wheat. Why have we come to such a situation? It is because in the field of procurement, in the open market private persons have come and they have given a better price than the Government. As a result not only the production of wheat has gone down but the procurement also has gone down. Hence, the Government is unable to give food products to the PDS, especially to the States. We can control the prices of essential goods through the PDS. In the last Budget speech the Finance Minister had claimed that he is going to strengthen the Public Distribution System.

But its only through the public distribution outlets that we give the necessary goods so that we can control the prices. In some States only two-three things are given through PDS but in Kerala, there are instances that we have been giving almost all the things. The quantity of wheat has gone down. At the same time, the prices have gone up. As a result, we are unable to control the prices. Why are the prices going up? I think the main reasons is that we are not able to give necessary goods to the people through the Public Distribution System. Unless and until, we have good buffer stock and food stock, we may not be able to give satisfactory answer this. Even through we have the inflation rate under control at four per cent or the growth rate at eight per cent.

Coming to the other sector of the State, of course, I really congratulate the Government as it has declared a special package for the Vidharbha. For the last two years, we have been discussing the issues of the farmers. In one State or the other, there is flood or famine or some other problem. In comparison to the last two years, we cannot claim that our situation has become better. It is deteriorating further. Therefore, we should have a comprehensive plan and some more deep thinking with regard to the farmer issues. The issues of the farmers may differ from State to State. It may be because of geographical position or climatic conditions or due to the investment that the Central Government is giving to the States. These may be the reasons for that. For the last three to four months, in almost all the States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, etc. the farmers are committing suicide. It is not because of their mental pressure. But they are forced to commit suicide.

In this connection, I would like to criticize the Government with regard to some of the policies that the Government has taken up at the national level especially in regard to import policy. These are all connected issues.

We cannot separate one issue from the other. Being a member of WTO, we were forced to sign the Sri Lanka Accord. It is true that as an international obligation, we have to permit export and import. But what is the actual situation in the agricultural sector. I can say that Kerala is the most hit by this Accord. Three years' back, the price of the pepper for one quintal was Rs. 21,000 and now it has declined to Rs. 6000 to Rs. 7000 per quintal. How is it possible to survive with this low price? Take for example arecanut. According to the report of the committee which was constituted by the Karnataka Government, the cost of producing one kilogram of arecanut was Rs. 60 and three years ago its price was Rs.160 which has now declined to Rs. 45 to Rs. 50 per kilogram. How is it possible for the arecanut farmers to survive? The farmers are committing suicide because of two reasons. One is the policy of the Government of India, especially the unrestricted import policy. We are not imposing any tax. An interesting answer that we have got in this House is that the export of Sri Lanka to India is three times higher than its actual production. How is it possible? It is because Sri Lanka has trade relations with other countries. They are exporting their pepper to Sri Lanka and Sri Lanka is exporting it to India. As a result of this, they are benefited but we are importing cheaper quality pepper. As far as Kerala is concerned, the Malabar pepper is known to all. According to the history, Vasco de Gama was attracted to Calicut because of Malabar pepper, the black asset. Now pepper farmers are really in a very bad position. They are unable to get any relief.

On the one hand when the prices of these agricultural products are declining, the service charges, on the other hand, are going up in the health, education and transport sector. The farmers are unable to survive this situation. It is high time that the Government comes out with a comprehensive policy in order to salvage the situation for the farmers. It has been the slogan of every party that India is the land of the farmers and farmers are the backbone of India. But, ironically, it is the farmers today are being compelled to commit suicide. The reason for this is the policy of the Government and therefore, the Government has to re-think and re-consider their policies with respect to the farming community.

Sir, in this connection I would like to also congratulate the hon. Minister for having announced the Vidarbha package. The Government also is declaring many other packages. But all these are temporal measures. The disease has now been diagnosed and just providing a temporal relief would not be the solution or cure to the

[Shri P. Karunakaran]

disease that has been diagnosed. If we really wish to save the farmers then the policies pursued in respect of farm sector would require a complete change.

Another point that I would like to mention here is that for the last four to five years the State of Kerala has been experiencing flood and also is suffering owing to certain natural calamities. As a result of this the farmers are suffering. On the one side the prices are declining and on the other the farmers are losing their crops. They need considerable support from the Government to overcome such a situation. The situation in Kerala has been deteriorating every year. Years ago we used to find many farmers engaged in paddy cultivation in our State, but over a period of time they have shifted to the cultivation of plantation crops like rubber, pepper and such other things. But even then economic conditions have not found any improvement and are faced with the same type of difficulties as they faced while cultivation of paddy. This has greatly hit the economy of the State.

Sir, the Government of Kerala has already submitted a package to the Central Government. I am glad that three districts, namely, Waynad, Kasargod and Palakkad have been chosen by the Central Government for providing assistance. But I would like to mention here that condition of the districts of Alleppy and Idukki are also in a very bad shape. In my district, in the recent monsoon, 18 people have lost their lives and farmers also have lost their crops, vegetables, paddy fields have suffered damages and roads also have been damaged. The people in the area are facing a lot of difficulty. The hon. Finance Minister is the final authority for sanctioning the package. He may be knowing well as to the situation prevailing in the State.

The other issue that I would like to raise is that the Central investment in our State is decreasing year by year. It is true that in matter of education, health and housing the State of Kerala is doing better than other States. We have not been included in the list meant for providing more investment and more assistance to States. But now with changing situation, the Government has to re-consider its decision of excluding our State from that list. Take for example education. In higher education and in primary education, our State is doing better than most of the States. But at the same time our State does not have better opportunities for pursuing a career in law and in technical education. There are no such institutes meant for pursuing those courses. That is what we really need. It is also true that in the health sector our State is doing better than most of the States. But in the recent past we have found an alarming increase in the incidence of cancer in our States. As Members of Parliament we find that most of the requests that we get from people seeking relief from

the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for treatment are mostly cancer patients and AIDS patients. AIDS is a new disease. Therefore, what we need is more assistance from the Centre to fight such diseases. Therefore, I would like to request the Government for making more Central investment in the State of Kerala.

Sir, with these words, I support the Supplementary Demands.

**SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda):**

Sir, I stand to support the proposals for 42 Demands for Grants considering several Ministries. It touches almost all Ministries in the Government of India.

Sir, I would like to bring a few important points to your notice on this occasion. There is a special grant of Rs. 50 crore which has been put here as compensation for the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy and Rs. 22 crore for compensation for the victims of Delhi riots. Bhopal gas tragedy is a very long pending issue. It has occurred almost 15 years back and compensation was paid but it was inadequate. In some cases, it is still going up. I would request the Government that this should be settled once for all.

As regards the amount of Rs. 22 crore of compensation of victims of Delhi riots, after last year's discussion in Parliament and taking into consideration the sense of the House, it was decided that there should be more liberal compensation to the victims who were unfortunately killed and to those families who are on the roads today. I would request the hon. Finance Minister that it should be settled as early as possible.

On this occasion, I would like to appeal to the Government of India on one important issue. It is also necessary to be more liberal on the question of Telengana and Ponnapura Vylar freedom fighters. This morning also, hon. Members belonging to Kerala raised the matter in the 'Zero Hour'. Several years have passed since the Government decided to form a Committee in 1998. It was formed when Shri V.P. Singh was the Prime Minister of the country. Hyderabad State Special Screening Committee was formed and 13,500 freedom fighters out of 1,20,000 applications were selected and they were supposed to get the grant. The NDA Government unfortunately decided not to sanction it. When the UPA Government came to power, it decided that 4500 freedom fighters should be given pension. But unfortunately, because of the bureaucratic interference, it has been stopped. There were repeated requests made to Govt. by Union Ministers belonging to the Telengana area of Andhra Pradesh and all the hon. Members from Andhra Pradesh on this issue. On a small flimsy ground that some inquiry is going on as regards some Telengana freedom fighters, the whole process has been stopped. The freedom struggle was over 60 years

back and many freedom fighters are dying every week. It is almost an insult to them I would request the Government that this should be taken up seriously.

I support the idea of reinvestment of Hindustan Antibiotics and about Rs. 250 crore is being asked for this. For the import of fertilisers, Rs. 1500 crore is also proposed. But here, I would like to say that while we need imports of fertilizers for the necessity of the country, we should also take the issue of reinvestment of Ramagundam Fertiliser Factory very seriously. It has been closed for the past several years. By this time, it would have been economically viable. While we need more and more fertilisers and fertiliser demand is increasing year after year, why should we close this Fertiliser Factory in Telengana?

The IDPL was supposed to be reopened, but there is no proposal for reinvestment and reopening of the IDPL factory.

There is a proposal to give Rs. 40 crore to the Ministry of Heavy Industries, for the Cement Corporation of India. In Telengana, which is one of the backward areas of the country, Adilabad cement factory has been closed. Now, the price of 50 kg cement bag is between Rs. 190 and Rs. 225. It is possible to manufacture it at Rs. 140. There is no possibility of loss for the factory. It is only a question of investment of Rs. 40 crore for the Adilabad cement factory. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had agreed to adjust Rs. 24 crore by way of electricity and other types of taxes which are to be waived. This should be taken into consideration. Adilabad cement factory, which is in a backward area Telengana, should be re-opened. That would help the people.

I submit that the aspirations of Telengana people cannot be fulfilled by simply making promises, but by bringing in new factories in that area. They should be given industrial and irrigation facilities. That is the most important thing. This should be taken into consideration.

Regarding agriculture economic relief, about Rs. 126 crore have been proposed for relief to the suicide-prone districts. I think, only Rs. 26 crore is supposed to be the additional grant, which has been asked for. It is a good thing that on behalf of the Government of India, hon. Prime Minister when on a visit to Nagpur, has announced a special package for Vidarbha. Along with Vidarbha, several other districts have been included in this. I think, it is going to be announced phase-wise.

Suicides are only one part of the agricultural crisis. Agricultural crisis is so serious now. We should provide them fertilizer, quality seeds, pesticides; and remunerative price for agricultural products. All these should be taken into consideration.

Crop loan should be much more than what it was last year. I think that there is a need for a comprehensive agricultural policy. This type of small packages is definitely not going to help. Members of Parliament have raised this issue several times Between 1991 and 2001, seventy-one lakh agriculturists have gone out of this profession. This number is much bigger than the population of several countries of the world. Agriculture is in such a serious crisis now. It is very necessary that more amount of money should be spent on agricultural relief.

The Swaminathan Committee's recommendation to provide credit at four per cent to the farmers should be one of the immediate tasks of the Government. Credit should be much more than what is being given now. I would request the Finance Minister to bring the National Rural Indebtedness Relief Act so that agriculture sector can get some help.

There is a request for a special grant to the Department of Atomic Energy. Here I would like to submit about a problem being faced by the people in my constituency, Nalgonda. Recently, five uranium processing plants have been proposed including one in Nalgonda district. It was opposed by everybody, including the village, mandal, the local MLA, the MP, and the Zilla Parishad. Earlier it was to be put up within the 5 km. area, near the Nagarjuna Sagar, which is one of the biggest water reservoirs in Andhra Pradesh. About twelve districts will get affected if there is going to be any contamination because of the uranium. When it was brought to the notice of the Supreme Court, it was shifted to another place, which is 20 kms. away. This is also a very dangerous thing. We are opposed to these uranium plants being set up here. They should be set up not in places where human beings live in large number. These types of atomic plants, which are having very serious pollution and other dangerous types of effects, should be taken to far off places where human beings do not generally live.

The Jadiguda experiment in Jharkhand State is a very bad experience. It is very unfortunate that in spite of all these things being brought to the notice of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and to the Ministry of Atomic Energy, again and again, these plants are being forced on the people. I would like to say that there is going to be a very big resistance, if this plant is going to be put up there in Nalgonda District. Even the State Government did not agree and even the hon. Chief Minister openly announced that the people do not want this uranium plant there. I hope that the State Government is also not going to give the permission.



[Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy]

Sir, I would like to ask one information from the hon. Minister of Finance. There is something called the Department of Disinvestment. As I understand after the UPA Government has come, the Department of Disinvestment is not there. According to the CMP, the Department of Disinvestment will not be there. But under Grant No. 44, page number (ix) it is mentioned : Department of Disinvestment; for allocation of funds estimated to be received in National Investment Fund to the three selected managers (i) Life Insurance Corporation Mutual Fund (Rs. 419 crore), (ii) State Bank of India Mutual Fund (Rs. 1,056 crore), and (iii) Unit Trust of India Mutual Fund (Rs. 2,365 crore). Altogether it comes to Rs. 3,840. I would like to know what exactly is the purpose for which the Department of Disinvestment has been proposed this amount.

We from the Left Parties, again and again, requested that disinvestment should not be allowed, particularly in the profit-making public sector units. But due to pressure from the DMK and other friends also, including the Left friends, the Government has decided to postpone the disinvestment in NALCO and in Neyvelli Lignite Corporation (NLC)...(*Interruptions*) It is postponed. That is what I am saying...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There should not be any running commentary in the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : I do not understand why the Government of India is, again and again, insisting for disinvestment in profit-making units. There can be some logic, though politically there should not be any disinvestment. But in profit-making units, I understand it is out of philosophy that public sector units should be reduced. This is not a proper thing. The Government should take into consideration not only the sentiments but also the necessities of the country. There should not be any Grant for this.

Lastly, for the modernisation of the police, a sum of Rs. 176 crore is requested. Modernisation is necessary, but I would like to say that several issues, which are to be settled in a democratic manner, cannot be settled by policing alone. Recently there were some incidents that have taken place in Chhattisgarh, and in Andhra Pradesh. The problem of naxalism cannot be solved only by killing the naxalities. The Salwa, Judum is a very unfortunate thing. On both sides, the tribals are becoming the victims. Instead of police taking up the responsibility for restoring peace and law and order, the tribals are being made to take up the responsibility. The tribals have been victims of

the naxalites. When the budget is kept for the policing, it is also necessary that the backward areas should be given better relief and there should be more development in these areas. Only that can solve the problems of naxalism. It should be seen from the socio-economic and political angles and it should be settled by going in for several reforms, including the lands reforms. Only these types of things will settle the issue and not policing alone.

Sir, with these few words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri S.K. Kharventhan. You can speak for five or six minutes.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani) : Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General).

First of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Finance for bringing in important proposals in the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General). There is the main thrust upon the farmers.

At this juncture, I want to mention that the supplementary Grants for Appropriation are required for meeting the expenditure in connection with the organic farming, which is also considered based on the judgement of the Central Government Industrial Tribunal. I want to mention furthermore that for agricultural research, Supplementary Grant is sought for meeting the additional expenditure of nearly Rs. 200 crore. It is for strengthening and development of agricultural education, vermiculture and for the coffee growers. These aspects were all sufficiently discussed in the Budget. It is considered here additionally.

15.30 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD *in the Chair*]

In this connection, I want to mention about the problems of the farmers. Our friends previously discussed the subject elaborately. More particularly, I want to mention that the farmers in Tamil Nadu are facing so many problems. They are not able to get any good seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. Even a few days back, I mentioned in this House with respect to the onion growers. When our hon. Finance Minister Shri Chidambaram, our hon. Minister Shri EVKS Elangovan and ourselves visited Oddanchattiram, the agriculturists raised an important issue. The point is that they are not able to get good price for the onions. What happened in Tamil Nadu is that farmers borrowed huge money from the cooperative banks, nationalised banks as also from the private moneylenders.

They purchased seeds from the seed companies. It turned out that all the seeds were spurious. After a great deal of agitation, all the seed companies paid Rs. 2000 to all the farmers as compensation.

So is the case in respect of pesticides. They are not able to get genuine pesticides. This is the situation not only in respect of onion growers but also in respect of all the farmers. The agriculturists are not able to get any help from even the nationalised banks, the cooperative banks. I would, therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister to direct the nationalised banks to help the poor farmers by giving timely loans.

Recently, our Government in Tamil Nadu announced the withdrawal of cooperative loans running into nearly Rs. 6782 crore. The total cooperative loans were wiped out. Even if the nationalised banks are not coming forward to wipe out the entire loans, at least they can wipe out the interest part of it to help the poor farmers. It is one way of helping the farmers.

Another area in Tamil Nadu is the textiles sector, particularly it is pertaining to the handloom weavers. Our Government and the hon. Finance Minister announced so many schemes for the welfare of the textile industry. That is why, the textile industry people are very happy in Tamil Nadu. They developed the infrastructure facilities. They are getting very good income. They are giving very good salaries and all the benefits to the employees. But the handloom industry is getting spoiled. Particularly, in my constituency, a large number of handloom weavers are residing and doing handloom profession. Health-wise, economy-wise, they are suffering a lot. They are not able to get good yarn and good income. Even though our Government announced the Insurance Scheme for the weavers, those projects and programmes have not reached the needy people. So, this is another area which is to be concentrated on and helped. We have to help the weavers in this country.

Today, previously also, I mentioned about the infrastructure facilities for the subordinate judiciary. A few minutes back, I raised it under Rule 377. Our hon. Finance Minister is one of the senior advocates in this country. He better knows the position of the legal profession and the position of the lawyers in this country. I humbly request the hon. Finance Minister to consider the pathetic situation of ten lakh lawyers in this country. Most of the persons are residing in the villages. They are suffering a lot even to get five rupees or ten rupees per day by way of earning in the court. So, the Government of India has to come forward to help the lawyers particularly in the mofussil areas by

introducing an Advocates' Welfare Fund Scheme by providing finance. The Union Government has to provide this for the entire country. This is the first point.

Secondly, those advocates who are practising in the mofussil areas are not having even a court building; they are not having any library and any infrastructural facilities.

They are not having bar rooms. Our Government proposed a 10-year perspective plan for them and sought opinion from various High Courts, Law Ministers and Chief Ministers. The Government convened a Conference also in this regard a few months back and the only State that was not represented in that Conference was Tamil Nadu and this happened when the previous Government was there in power in Tamil Nadu. At that time, neither the Chief Minister nor the Law Minister from the previous Government of Tamil Nadu attended that Conference. So, the perspective plan drafted by our Government was not supported by the then State Government of Tamil Nadu. The present Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Kalamannur Karunanidhi will fully cooperate with the Government of India in this matter. So, I request the hon. Finance Minister to specially earmark some fund for the improvement of the subordinate judiciary. Then only we will be able to help the poor lawyers in this country.

These are my views. With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamrajanagar) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. On behalf of my party JD (S), I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2006-2007.

The garden city of India, Bangalore may lose its status as the Silicon city of India. Software companies are leaving the city one after another. 'Apple' company left the city few months ago. Very recently one more software company left the city and went back U.S.A. This trend has to be checked immediately. The only way to do so is to improve the infrastructure facilities in Bangalore immediately. Government of India should provide more funds for the construction of overbridges, subways, expansion of roads, and expediting the work of metro railway etc.

Secondly Sir, the farmers should get proper encouragement from the Government of India. The support price for sugarcane was recently increased by about Rs. 70 per quintal. This is a very meagre increase. Further enhancement of the support price for sugarcane is very essential.

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

[Shri M. Shivanna]

Good quality seeds are not being provided to the farmers. I would like to cite an example here. The farmers in Chamarajanagar, Mysore, Kolar, Bangalore and Tumkur purchased tomato seeds and produced a substantial quantity to tomatoes. Shockingly, later they realised that the seeds were affected by CHIKUN GUNYA disease. Tomatoes are being thrown on the streets. There are no takers. If this is the situation, what can the farmers do other than committing suicide?

As far as bank interest is concerned we have to follow Tamil Nadu pattern. The Hon. Chief Minister Shri M. Karunanidhi is planning to waive all the interest on agricultural loan.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, the interest rate on agricultural loans remains at 7% in Tamil Nadu.

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Sir, now, in Karnataka the State Government has announced that the rates of agricultural loans will be brought down to 4 per cent. What I say is that there must uniformity all over the country. Otherwise all the areas cannot develop and progress as we expect. Infact, Mahatama Gandhi preached and practiced equality among all people. That is why it is very essential that we have to provide more funds to backward districts like my constituency Chamarajanagar.

Sir, India is at the top in the world as far as borrowings from the World Bank are concerned. I would like to know the response of the Hon. Minister in this regard. I hope he would respond to this point while giving reply to this discussion.

Chamarajanagar is one of the most backward districts in the country. It became a new district seven years ago. But unfortunately no special funds were allocated to develop infrastructure facilities in my district. The number of schools remains the same where as the number of students has increased manifold. Particularly for the SC and ST students some more hostels should be there in Chamrajanagar district. Scholarships, library facilities should also be provided to them in a big-way.

The funds for these purposes are not reaching the state of Karnataka in time. The Centre should make it a point that the Central Assistance to the State should reach in time with out any delay. There is an urgent need to construct a sports stadium in Chamarajanagar which is a long pending demand. The farmers are also demanding

for FCI godowns, cold storages, and food processing industries.

I hope, the Centre will come to the rescue of the people of Chamarajanagar and provide all the above facilities such that the farmers can lead a happy and peaceful life. I thank you Sir, and with these words I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SITA RAM SINGH (Sheohar) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I fully support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. The first among these demands is the demand from agriculture. Sir, it is obvious that this country is the country of farmers and the majority of population consists of farmers and the economic policy of the country depends mostly on farmers. Until and unless the farmers of the country become prosperous, the whole economic policy of the country may fail.

All Honourable Members have expressed their views on the economic provisions to be made for the farmers in the Supplementary Grants. I would like to say that fertilizers are provided to farmers; here Hon'ble Minister of Finance is sitting, whether subsidiy on fertilizers has been increased. Regarding the loan amount fixed for the farmers, the Government of India operates the banks, state governments have no control over them.

Does the Government of India take notice that whether loan under the agriculture budget is being provided to the farmers in proportion to their percentage of population or not? Loan to farmers are not being provided in proportion to their percentage of population. This is different question that what will be the percentage of interest on the loan to be given to the farmers by the Government of India. Hon'ble Minister of Finance had said in his budget speech that we would increase the percentage of agriculture loan and decrease the percentage of interest thereof, but no action has been taken in this regard. Presnetly an Hon'ble Member from Karnataka was saying that the State Government is considering on it, but the Government of India is still not decreasing the percentage of the interest on loan to be given to the farmers. I would like to draw attention of the Government towards the point that the interest charged on the loan amount given to the farmers should be decreased and the timely release of loan amount should be ensured for the crop for which it has been asked for, which is not being done presently.

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

Today in the prevalent scenario of inflation, the farmer produces food grains despite costly diesel and non-availability of irrigation facility. I think that farmers are not getting remunerative prices. Should the Government of India not think in this regard? Regarding the agriculture policy, I simply want to say that the agriculture policy framed by the Government of India has totally failed. One sentence is sufficient to prove this fact that the Government is improving wheat. More prices have been paid for the imported wheat in comparison to the prices being paid to the farmers for their wheat. The Government of India should think over it also. Hon'ble Minister of Finance should think over it, as he is involved in making this policy.

Third point, which is against the farmers, is that the farmers are getting the least power. Our State, Bihar is the most backward State in terms of electricity and the electricity produced here is not available to the farmers at all. The farmers of Bihar get zero percent electricity and electricity does not remain available even for one hour during whole day. The policy of the government is not clear in this regard and farmers carry out cultivation work without electricity. Electricity is necessary for all works but electricity is not available for agriculture on which the major part of our population depend. The Government should consider this issue and should take appropriate and concrete steps in this regard. The Government of India had made an announcement in regard to electricity. This Government is in power since last two years. The Government of India had clarified that every village will be provided electricity facility under Rajiv Gandhi Electrification Scheme. More than one and half year has passed since this declaration was made but even a single 'Tola' or village in Bihar has not been electrified so far. Even any process of electrification has not been started. The Government allotted works to many agencies. Despite the fact that the money has already been given to NHPC for electrification of our areas, Motihari, Bettiah, Sheohar and Sitamarhi. I would like that Hon'ble Minister of Finance may listen me so that he can answer properly. Why the electrification works of the concerned villages are not taking place? We are not able to know its answer. Survey of the villages are conducted on paper and it is not certain that electric wire or electric pole would be installed even in a single village or not. We made long speeches that the Government of India is carrying on electrification work under Rajiv Gandhi Electrification Scheme whereas even one village is not being electrified. If attention is not paid towards it in time then major difficulties may arise. People are losing confidence in the Government. Our leader, Shri Raghunath Jha was speaking in regard to Bihar. He

mentioned many things but I want to mention those points left by him. A long discussion in regard to Bihar took place in this House but it is the misfortune of Bihar that I rose to speak on drought situation prevalent in Bihar, in the forenoon. It was the first time; I rose to speak regarding drought. Before this I used to rise to speak on floods. A question regarding floods was there that the Government may bring permanent solution to it and after having talks with the Government of Nepal may make major dams so that river water may be channelised. The Government may make High Dams and produce electricity. Our 5-6 areas are suffers and we suffer due to floods every year. He had declared in this House to set up 6 offices after consultation with the Government of Nepal, but only three offices were set up. Hon'ble Finance Minister Sir, we want that you may heed us so that we can get the answer. Mr. Chairman Sir, whether the Finance Minister will pay heed to us?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The same is being noted.

SHRI SITA RAM SINGH : Where it is being noted?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, this is not fair. He must assume that I am listening and I will reply. I have got my headphone. What is the point of criticizing like that? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SITA RAM SINGH : Sir, Government had announced in this House that 6 offices will be opened but after a period of one and half year, only three offices have been opened. Government has announced in the House that it will make Detailed Project Report. Whether it has been prepared? If Detailed project Report has been prepared then whether provision of expenses has been made in the Supplementary Demands presented today?? It is a huge project. This project will not succeed if a provision is not be made in the Budget every year. By mere giving speeches and assurances by the Government, work is not going to advance. Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and particularly Bihar have been included in these five states. We would like that provision should be made for it and action should be taken for the permanent solution of floods through this project.

You have prepared Rural Employment Scheme. Bihar is a poor State and only 23 districts have been selected from this State and remaining districts have been left out. They have not been included yet. In the selected districts, work is not being executed. It has not been implemented

[Shri Sita Ram Singh]

in the villages in such a way in which it was presented. Work has not been started. Law has been made for the poor people and skilled labourers in the democracy but work is not being done in the villages on the basis of that. Such districts should be included for the total implementation in every district. I would like to thank you for including the 26 districts below poverty line.

It would be pertinent to say one thing about the banks. Money is disbursed from the banks as loans. There is a plan to disburse the loan by the banks by constituting self-help groups to alleviate poverty and unemployment. This project is not ticking properly in Bihar. People are making efforts and people here are aware. Self-help groups have been formed but they are not getting a single penny from banks. I would like to urge to the Finance Minister that he should take action, make review on his own level and use the loan to be provided by banks for giving employment.

Bihar is the poorest State and poor people migrate from there in search of employment. Today funds are available under the employment policy of the Government of India. I would like to request you that you should consider this matter with special interest at your own level and help the poor.

At last, I would like to say that N.H. has been mentioned in the package announced for the Bihar. In the matter of N.H., we would unanimously like to say that this work should not be done in the ratio of 60:40 and 70:30. If this practice is continued not a single inch of road is going to complete in Bihar. So, this system should be done away with and whatever kilometers of roads you want to construct, you please do this at your own level. You have announced about the villages having population of more than thousand people for rural development under Bharat Nirman Yojna. But this work cannot be completed merely by making announcement. Earlier, you have announced Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojna which you have taken-up but under this scheme you take the priority of ten roads whereas funds are provided for only two roads in the districts. Mr. Finance Minister, Sir, only you have to decide in regard to release of funds and if you are not going to provide funds, then be it Bharat Nirman Yojna or Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojna or any other project, it is not going to tick. So, I would like to request that be it Bharat Nirman Yojana or Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana or any other project you should provide funds for rural development so that villages of Bihar may be developed. With these words I would like to conclude my statement. Thank you.

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to join the discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General), 2006-07.

At the very outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for his General Budget proposals and the Supplementary Demands put forward. We have a lot of confidence in him.

While supporting these Demands, I would like to put on record that this discussion would have been very fruitful if we had our hon. Members from the Opposition benches also with us. Since the gathering here is very less today, I would rather concentrate on the helps extended by this Government, particularly, to the States of North-Eastern India and more particularly for my State, Manipur.

As you know, we have got certain missions of this UPA Government, like *Bharat Nirman*, and our flagship programmes; and under these heads, the Government of India is diverting a good amount of money, to be more precise, at the rate of 10 per cent of the Budget allocation from every Department of the Union Government, for the development of the North-Eastern Region. In spite of all these helps so far extended, this area, that is, the North-Eastern Region of the country is now asking for more. Why? It is because, the people there are very, very sensitive. I would rather put it in a very mild language, that the people there are emotional. It is because we come from a very far away distance, and at the same time, whenever we come here, our look, and our way of movement attract the attention of the rest of the people.

16.00 hrs.

This way, whatever has been done is not enough. Much is yet to be done. I would put an example. We have developed recently in the State of Manipur a very good infrastructure for sports when we had the Fifth National Games. But this good infrastructure is crying for proper maintenance. You know, this could have happened only when we have more number of national tournaments in that area. Otherwise, it is very difficult. For reasons known to all of us, the roads leading to those areas are yet to be developed, and for that we require money.

I am very proud of being a Member of this House, particularly of the UPA that with the coming of this Government in power, these States are given a lot of money. What we have to see is, how the money is being utilised. Here, I draw your kind attention to the fact that the hon. Finance Minister will come up with the Outcome Budget as was done last year. With that, we know how the things are being performed.

We have certain problems while implementing many of the Centrally-sponsored schemes under which the monies are flowing into these areas. There are certain difficulties. I will take the privilege of mentioning these difficulties in the discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General). The first difficulty is regarding law and order situation. Unfortunately, in that part of the State and the State of Jammu and Kashmir, we have certain laws which are area-specific. I will cite the exact example. Area-specific in the sense, we have Armed Forces Special Power Act, 1958 being applied there. I fully agree with the fact that the State Government declare some areas as disturbed areas. Only after that, this Act comes into the picture. But even then the Government of India, having seen the difficulties faced by these people in that area, has ordered a Review Committee headed by Justice Reddy.

We are all aware of the fact that the Reddy Committee Report has already come to the Government. All the people in that part of the country, particularly North-Eastern India as well as Jammu and Kashmir, are waiting for the repeal of this infamous Act. But so far it has not happened. This will help a lot in improving the psyche of the people there.

We require certain environments for development, and peaceful atmosphere is very, very essential for the proper development of everything. Taking into consideration all these things. I would like to remind this august House that we are taking much that this country is the country of agriculturists, the country of farmers. Everyday in this House we listen to this. We have heard the problems of the farmers being discussed here.

It may be that I am not perfectly correct. But one reason for this is that our planners have to see that at least the farmers are given the Minimum Support Price for their farm produce. Once this is achieved, perhaps, they would come up and participate in the nation-building activities. Today we are very much proud of our hon. Minister of Finance. I am not praising him in his presence. Recently there was a discussion on price rise. Everyday there is a hue and cry on this. Price rise is there. No doubt, we agree. But why is this price-rise? We have to look into it. The Government is trying very hard, rather the hon. Minister of Finance is trying very hard in this regard. He has increased the subsidy rate. He has cut down the excise duty. He has done so many things. But still there is price rise. Why is it so? It is because of the increasing population. The demand is more. If the demand is more than the supply, naturally the prices have to rise. For that we are all here to find a solution. We have to sit together and understand it and tell to the people that these are the

circumstances under which we had to do like this. It cannot be solved simply by chiding one another. Fully understanding all these difficulties, what we have to remember is that we have to work very hard. This is one thing which is very important. I still remember one thing which I learnt in my young age. What we have learnt is that God helps those who help themselves. It is very very important.

Recently, I was called upon to join a discussion on our Lok Sabha TV at 9 pm. The discussion was very interesting about the proceedings in the Parliament where our Opposition brothers are boycotting or disturbing the proceedings. That discussion was open for public to put questions and seek answers. At that time no question was asked during the discussion. The moderator was asking me as to why no question comes on this issue. I said – 'Sir, it is 9 pm; in Manipur or in North-Eastern India or in that part, they shut all doors at 6 pm and go to sleep because of the law and order problem. Nobody will be there to listen to our programme. Only here in the Capital somebody might be listening to us.'

I am very sorry to say this. There are certain things to be done. At Government of India level, we move to look towards that socio-economic development of that area. Our region is a very peaceful area. But how has it become like this? Everybody knows this. We require to give a thrust to the socio-economic development in that area. It is very very important. Whatever money that is given, is quite a big amount. Still these areas require more. I think the hon. Minister of Finance will take into account all these aspects and in the next Budget I hope that there would be more allocation of funds. I am very proud to say that the Government of Manipur is given this time Rs. 1,160 crore for the Plan expenditure. That means every month we can spend Rs. 100 crore. But even then, the law and order problem is still there. For that we have to consider so many ways. I draw the attention of this august House to this aspect.

The Supplementary Demands come as a routine matter. Even then we have to go with this. I congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance once again and I support the Demands.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Thank you, Sir. I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. On behalf of our Party, hon. Member Shri Sudhakar Reddy spoke on many things. I want to supplement him. Several hon. Members of this august House raised many important points. This is not a General Budget. This is a Supple-

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

mentary Demands for Grants. It is sought to authorise a gross additional expenditure of Rs. 47,868.97 crore. The scope of discussion is very limited.

While supporting these Demands, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance to some important aspects. It is correctly said and I do support that subsidy on imported urea is given at Rs. 1,500 crore and subsidy on imported de-controlled fertiliser is Rs. 600 crore. The hon. Minister is aware of the fact that in our country a lot of fertiliser plants are closed.

In the Eastern zone, almost all the fertiliser plants are closed. If the money had been provided to revitalise the plants in our own country, I think, it would have been more beneficial for the peasants as well as for the country. There is no scope in these Demands for Supplementary Grants, but in the long run, in the coming days, our Government should think over how to revitalise our own fertiliser plants in our own country so that we do not have to depend on imported fertilisers and imported urea. We have enough plants to produce urea. That is my first point.

At the time of initiating this discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants, hon. Finance Minister told that the subsidy would go to the farmers in the form of fertilisers. I would request him to explain whether the subsidy will go directly to the farmers or to the plants. They should think how to provide this subsidy to the farmers direct.

I am coming to another point in relation to farmers. Several Members have touched the point. Though this is not the occasion for discussion on plight of the farmers, yet several points have been raised. The first point to address the plight of farmers is building adequate infrastructure. For that, irrigation and rural electrification are needed. In the General Budget, the concerned Department claimed Rs. 12,000 for irrigation, but the Planning Commission sanctioned Rs. 8,000 crore only. My point is whether the Planning Commission is supreme or the Parliament is supreme in the parliamentary system. First, the Planning Commission should be tutored, Planning Commission should be oriented. What is the use of having a Common Minimum Programme if the Planning Commission does not think on that line? Departments are claiming certain amounts of money, but the Planning Commission curtails those amounts. In such a case, how will our nation progress? Much more money should be provided for irrigation as well as rural electrification.

Capital formation in agriculture is declining day by day. Hon. Minister is aware of this fact. Even the credit

flow to agriculture is not up to the mark. It is increasing, but it is not up to the mark. The commercial banks of our country are not in a position to achieve the stipulated target, even 18 per cent of the net credit flow. Though it is required that at least 20 per cent of the total credit flow should go to agriculture, the stipulation is that of 18 per cent. It is made by the RBI. But most of the commercial banks of our country do not even meet the stipulated target. Not only that, out of our Budget outlay, I think not even two per cent are provided in agriculture. Around one per cent of our GDP is provided to agriculture. This is the situation. What is the position with regard to this issue at this stage?

It is a fact that the income of the peasants, and the farmers has increased. Different agencies have observed that it has increased by 1.5 per cent, but their expenditure has also risen by more than five per cent. Therefore, there is a gap of more than 3.5 per cent in it. How would we eliminate this gap in it? The farmers have no other way, but to go the moneylenders or other non-institutional agencies to borrow money. I want to know this from the hon. Minister. Is he contemplating to tap all the non-institutional agencies? I am asking this because if you do not tap them in your institutional credit network, then you would not be able to address these problems.

A number of hon. Members have mentioned about Dr. Swaminathan Committee. We used to refer about China's situation on different occasions, but as far as I know, credit for agriculture in China is given at zero per cent interest. I am not saying that our country should provide credit to the farmers at zero per cent interest, but at least, Dr. Swaminathan Committee's views should be followed. I feel that our Government should follow the view of the Committee of giving credit in agriculture at four per cent interest.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention about the Vaidyanathan Committee. We have different layers in the cooperative sector, and the Government should come out with necessary steps, so that at least one or two layers could be removed. This provision of giving money at four per cent interest would mean lesser burden on the peasants or the members of the primary agriculture society. It is not only important that credit is availability to them, but it is equally important that cheap credit is made available for agriculture.

As regard technology upgradation, we are providing some money for research and development work, but I feel that market for the same is also required. How will there be market if we do not allocate more money to FCI

for procurement of food grains or allocate more money to JCI for procurement of jute from the workers? Therefore, I would request the Government to ensure that more money is allocated to the FCI, JCI and such other agencies.

I would also like to mention about the cases of suicides. Names of some of the districts have already been announced where some sort of a package would be given to the peasants. But, at present, these cases of suicides are not confined to some districts only. Therefore, there should be a national outlook for the peasants, especially the farmers who are facing such a critical crisis in different districts of the States in our country. The Government has to take a view to address this problem.

I would not like to take much time of the august House. I do support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General), but while supporting the same I would appeal to the hon. Minister to think and ponder over all the problems that have been raised in this august House. I would conclude with these words.

\*SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI (Sivakasi) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, the House has now taken up Supplementary Demands for Grants (Budget-General) for the year 2006-07 for 43 items, and I rise to support the same on behalf of my party, Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. I also thank the Chair for giving me an opportunity to speak on this occasion. Rs. 47,868 crore are sought to be released through this Demands for Grants.

I find the steps contemplated by the Government to help mitigate the sufferings of farmers in areas where agriculturists are driven to their wits end and commit suicide. Rs. 27 crore have been earmarked to attend to the needs of the farmers and ease their credit burden in districts all over India where suicide deaths have become rampant of late.

When there is crop loss or damage to the crop, instead of waiting till the last moment till everything is lost, right in the very beginning when the damage is noticed, adequate compensation should be paid to the farmers. Under Crop Insurance Scheme, this must be aimed at to benefit the farmers. Not only the farmers who have been covered under crop insurance scheme, but also small and marginal farmers must get helping hand from the Government. Such farmers who are not in a position to go for insurance cover, also must get compensation from the Government when there is monsoon failure or crop loss or when they have to face the wrath of nature all of a sudden. This is all the more necessary to save the poor farmers.

As far as my home State Tamil Nadu is concerned, the second biggest activity in the agricultural sector is poultry. Last year there was a heavy loss due to bird flu. In order to compensate the small farmers who resort to poultry farming during off season period, Rs. 80 crore have been earmarked in this.

Supplementary Demands for Grants. I welcome this kind gesture of the UPA Government. Rs. 5 crore has been earmarked for weavers in the handloom sector which is the second largest occupation in Tamil Nadu. I feel this amount is inadequate because lakhs of weaves are solely dependent on this traditional occupation. This sum may not help to meet their aspirations to develop this sector and to improve their looms and productivity.

In order to ensure growth and development of Textile sector on a continuous basis, a scheme called 'TUS' has been evolved and an additional fund of Rs. 300 crore have been earmarked. The Government must aim at providing a much desired competitive edge to our Textile sector so that we can compete with the Chinese Textile industry. Under clustered development, many schemes were announced in the Budget and many of them are yet to be implemented fully. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to implement them to give a pep to the weaving industry.

As far as the process of urbanisation was concerned, in the whole of India, about 44 per cent of them live in urban areas and in the suburbs. There is a projection that in 2025 the urban population in Tamil Nadu would rise to 70 to 75 per cent. And such increased population can be provided with job opportunities only in the industrial sector. In order to provide job opportunities to such emerging population, we need to evolve ways and means to develop various industries in the industrial sector. If we take up Sivakasi, the industrial town for printing industry, that is situated in my constituency, we find many setbacks now. This industry is under threat. For instance, a cellophane paper needed for this industry along with firecrackers units costs more now. I urge upon the Union Government to ease the burden of this industry by way of lifting the import duty on this variety of paper. Under Cluster Approach Development Scheme, a way out must be evolved to Siva Kasi's Printing and Rajapalayam's Textile industry which was booming till recently.

I find an allocation of Rs. 5 crore to promote arts connected with the language Sanskrit and its culture. I gratefully recall the measure of this Government to have Declared Tamil as a classical language. Hence, there is a need to promote various forms of arts found in Tamil and

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



[Shri Ravichandran Sippiparai]

Tamil culture. So, I urge upon the Union Government to set art funds to promote Tamil culture and its art forms to the world. Ancient art forms are still there in Tamil Nadu and there is a national mission waiting before us to conserve and preserve them. Both in Bhakti literatures and other literature our art forms have been referred to.

Fertilizers and quality seeds are the basic ingredients to give a pep to the agricultural sector. I urge upon the Union Government to take effective steps to see that fertilizers are available without quantitative restrictions. In Cauveri Delta, after many years about 12 lakh acres of land have come under cultivation because of availability of irrigation water this year. Paddy cultivation is being taken up there when there is such a conducive atmosphere there is a need and necessity to supply in an adequate measure the needed fertilizers and quality seeds. An additional subsidy of Rs. 1,500 crore have been earmarked for fertilizers this year. At this juncture, I would like to impress upon the Government that adequate care is taken to increase production and distribution of fertilizers. While congratulating the Government for various progressive and measures to obviate the hardships faced by the farmers, I request the Government to continue with the pace. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Salem) : Sir, I rise to support Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Finance.

Sir, first of all, I thank the hon. Finance Minister for his eloquent and very efficient way of functioning. After he took over as the Minister of Finance, his first approach was to give a great impetus to agriculture by providing Rs. 1,05,000 crore to the agrarian community in the country, which was the need of the hour. Subsequently, this year, he has earmarked a sum of Rs. 1,77,000 crore for the laon proposals. This will help a lot in the development of agriculture sector. People talk about suicides by agriculturists now and then. But the efforts being made by the Government will certainly create a new awareness, a new thinking and a new spurt of development in the agrarian sector by infusing more funds.

The recent announcement made by hon. Finance Minister reducing the interest rate of loans to agriculture sector to seven per cent is a very important announcement. I congratulate the hon. Minister for that. It is a welcome step. As mentioned by other hon. Members also, agricultural community in the country is the most vulnerable section of our population. Majority of the agriculturists are facing problems due to famines, droughts and floods year after year. I would like to emphasise that there is a requirement of reducing this interest rate further to four

per cent. That will help enhance the agricultural production of the marginal and sub-marginal farmers in the country. They should be given a special benefit of this lower interest rate on loans.

The most important community after agricultural community in the country is the weavers' community. Weavers' community at large is yearning for very good measures. Due to the policy followed by the NDA Government, textile workers, jute industries and handloom sector were facing great problems. It is only after the UPA Government came into power in 2004 that the problem was revisited and finally the Government accepted a more viable and concrete proposal to meet their needs and aspirations removal of CENVAT Tax. As a result of that, today the entire textile industry is booming. There was a dire need of a rehabilitation programme. The Ministry of Finance of Government of India has been implementing the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme. There was a fear in the minds of the people that this would be discontinued. When the hon. Finance Minister visited Salem, he declared that the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme would be continued. As a result of that a majority of the people involved in handloom, power loom and other industries in the sector are now breathing easy. They are now confident that the Government of India would always come to the help of this sector.

This sector is only next to agriculture in employment generation. A lot of potential is there to give more employment opportunities for the workers, weavers, and youths, in particular. The hon. Minister has earmarked Rs. 300 crore in the Supplementary Demands as additional fund. I would request you, as other hon. friends in this august House have requested, that you should continue with this programme up to 2010. If required, you can extend it even further for another 10 or 15 years so that the majority would get employment in the handloom sector, jute industry and all other related activities.

I would like to thank the hon. Minister for providing Rs. 80 crore for the poultry industry. Poultry industry is one of the biggest industries in the rural areas where a lot of entrepreneurs are taking up the job and a lot of people are getting employed, particularly, women. Hence, we should give more money to help this poultry industry in this country.

A subsidy of Rs. 1,500 crore was meant for imported urea and de-controlled fertilizers. The total additional expenditure was Rs. 2,100 crore, of which the cash outgo was to the tune of Rs. 1,500 crore and the balance amount is met by the enhanced recovery. Fertilizer is an essential commodity for agrarian development. Whatever subsidy is given to the fertilizer companies, I would request the

Government to ensure that it should directly go to the farmers. It is a known fact that the subsidy goes to the fertilizers companies and not to the farmers. I express my dismay in this regard. Only farmers are at the receiving end. Whatever subsidy is given to the fertilizer companies, the same should be given to the farmers directly so that the farming community at large would be benefited.

In Tamil Nadu, the newly elected Government headed by Dr. Kalaignar waived off the agricultural cooperative loans to the tune of Rs. 6,800 crore. This is one of the very important programmes. This is one of the unique programmes in the whole country which has saved the farming community from indebtedness. Likewise, there has been a demand concerning the public sector banks. People get loans from the public sector banks. I am afraid as to whether we would be able to help those people or not. But a demand exists in our country and in my State concerning public sector banks. One set of people are benefited through this programme enunciated by the State Government led by Dr. Kalaignar. And the other set of farmers who got loans from the public sector banks are not in a position to get the same benefit. Hence, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly ponder over this issue and see as to how best we can come to the rescue of the farmers who have received loans from the public sector banks. At least, the interest waiver can be given or else, some form of help should be extended to the farming community at large.

Another thing I would like to mention here is that the hon. Minister has taken a very good initiative after he assumed the office of Finance Minister. Thousands of youths in our country were not able to go abroad for higher studies for want of funds. Poor families, workers, peasants were not able to give higher education to their children. In your wisdom, when I raised this issue in the Consultative Committee on Finance, you have readily agreed, not only readily agreed, but you have also sanctioned and ordered that all the public sector banks should give educational loans to the qualified people belonging to the weaker sections.

Today thousands and thousands of youths all over the country are benefited from that scheme. Thanks to the hon. Minister not only from me, but also from the lakhs and lakhs of people for his greatness or generosity. So, the working class people, the poor peasants and people from the weaker sections in our country are paying for his good health.

Due to this scheme, today people are going abroad, studying higher education, be it engineering, be it

medicine, etc. Here, I have some demand. The hon. Minister ordered distribution of loans for technical education. He had advised the banks to give loans for the purpose of technical education only. At the same time, people are not able to study B.Com, B.Sc., B.Sc. (Hon.), M.C.A., B.C.A., for even teachers' training and they want to get loans. If they are also given loans, it will be a very major help for the poor people in the country. I seek your indulgence and request the hon. Minister to kindly issue instructions to the banks to give loans to those people also.

I want to add one more thing. Whenever the Minister goes and addresses meetings, he is emphasizing that the banks should come forward and give loans to the needy people. At the same time, I would say that Madam Indira Gandhi, the great leader of our country, the former Prime Minister, nationalized the banks only for the purpose of reaching the weaker sections and poor people so that they get loans and other facilities. But still some authorities, some managers in the same very banks are not attuned to the existing position; they are not even obeying the orders of the Ministers; they talk rubbish and they talk non-sense; and they are not willing to cooperate. In some cases, they do say that they are not bound by these things and that they need collateral securities, whereas the hon. Minister has time and again told that there is no necessity of collateral security for loans up to Rs. 4 lakh. Even then their attitude has not changed. I request the hon. Minister to take some tough stand against them and he could even punish at least one or two persons so that they become all right. This is very important.

Recently, there was announcement by the Ministry of Minority Affairs that 15 per cent money is to be allocated for the welfare and development of the minorities. I welcome it wholeheartedly. There is already a 10-per cent allocation from each Ministry for the development of North Eastern States. That is also a very important factor. The North Eastern States as well as the minority communities in the country must be given this facility, and I wholeheartedly welcome and support this initiative.

We find that more than 60 per cent of our population is from backward classes in this country. There is a Ministry looking after the Backward Classes. But last year the budget allocation to this Department or Ministry is only Rs. 78 crore. When I was a Minister in the Department of Welfare, we created National backward Classes, finance and Development Corporation, National Finance and Development Corporation for the Minorities, National Finance and Development Corporation for the SC/STs. From 1996 till date, this Department in the Ministry has not

[Shri K.V. Thangkabalu]

given any additional fund to them. I seek your indulgence here. As we give 10 per cent of each Ministry's allocation for the development of North East, as we give 15 per cent allocation for the minorities, why should we not have allocation for the backward classes, based on the percentage of their population? More than 60 per cent of the people are backward and they are not getting anything; they get only a meagre amount of Rs. 78 crore. Then, what will happen to the development of these communities?

Socio-economic development is the need of the hour. They are deprived socially, educationally and economically. I seek your indulgence to help this community. Like North-Eastern States and like minorities and SCs/STs, the backward sections of the society should also be given impetus, assistance, by providing reasonably good amount of money. This is our long felt need and demand.

In the last Budget, the Minister had announced a very thoughtful and important programme, the National Water Conservation Programme. That is one of the very important things today because we face drought, cyclone and such other water-related problems. We are not able to store water when there is cyclone. There is no water during drought. To conserve water, we need to develop all the water bodies in the country on a war footing manner. That is the only way by which we can make use of water for agriculture as well as drinking purposes.

In my district Salem, we are getting water through Cauvery for drinking only. For the last six consecutive months, our Mettur dam has good storage of water. For the last 50 years we have been demanding an additional dam at Hogenakal. If an additional dam is built at Hogenakal, we can achieve four objectives - an integrated dam, electricity generation, drinking water and water for agricultural needs. The Members of Parliament belonging to Tamil Nadu have jointly submitted a proposal to the Government of India for creating an integrated Hogenakal Scheme but we have not so far got any reply. On behalf of the State Government and on behalf of all the Members of Parliament belonging to Tamil Nadu, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to consider this scheme so that the drought-affected Salem, Dharmapuri, and North Arcot districts get drinking water in addition to meeting the needs of electricity and agricultural development of the area.

We have recently submitted a proposal for Mettur-III Water Scheme covering Salem, my Parliamentary constituency. We are not getting enough drinking water. It is a very important programme for my constituency, my district and my State. The State Government has submitted a proposal with the required investment of Rs. 600 crore. I

would request the hon. Finance Minister to sanction this amount particularly to solve the water problem of Salem district. It is a very important programme. The State Government's initiative is to be supported by the Union Government.

Another important area, I would like to mention before this august House, is the self-help group scheme. It is a very important scheme whereby our women folks are given a lot of impetus. They are growing day-by-day in self-sufficiency.

This should be encouraged and in your tenure, you have done your best to allocate more funds for them. The Central Government share is 75 per cent and the State Government share is 25 per cent. The rolling funds should be given to the needy people. In Tamil Nadu, three months back we were not getting the due share for the needy people. But at least now the new Government has taken new initiatives to support the Self-Help Groups. These entrepreneurs and NGOs are to be given more facilities for training the Self-Help Groups. I would request that the Central Government share should be increased from 75 per cent to 100 per cent. This will help the Self-Help Group movement to a greater extent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. Your time is over.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : I would request the hon. Finance Minister and the Minister of State for Finance to extend all the help so that the Self-Help Group movement progresses. I would seek their committed support for this movement.

Sir, the SSA Programme is one of the very important schemes of the Government of India and a sum of Rs. 11,000 crore was announced this year for this programme. It is for the State Government's initiative for helping the education sector and particularly the primary education sector would get a boost. In this area, there is a problem. The NABARD is sanctioning the schemes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. I am calling the next speaker.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Sir, I am concluding. I would request that more money should be allocated under the SSA Programme to the States for revamping of the education system. Many schools are not having class rooms, toilets and drinking water facilities. This is a very important scheme. We want that this scheme should be implemented properly in the whole country. We should assess the requirement so that accordingly we could provide the facilities in the rural areas, villages, schools, etc. It would help the weaker sections, *dalits*, minorities, backward classes and every section of the country. The Central Government should come forward to help under this Scheme. Under various schemes like Bharat Nirman, Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and such other

schemes we are getting full support of the Government. With the result, the common people and the weaker sections are benefited. The elected Members of Parliament and the MLAs should be involved in this. Today, it is not being done. Even when we passed the Rural Employment Guarantee Bill, it was a mistake that we did not incorporate it in that. I would request that the Finance Minister should instruct the authorities to involve the elected representatives as monitors in this scheme. It is very important. With this, I support the Supplementary Demands of Finance Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jehanabad) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Sir, Hon'ble Finance Minister has presented Supplementary Demands of Grants for the year 2006-2007 for the approval of House. There are 42 departments in the list of departments and ministries included in the Demands for Grants. A provision of Rs. 47,807 crores has been made for the total expenses. Apart from this target of recovery of Rs. 39,200 crores has also been fixed and proposal of expenses of Rs. 8,667 crores has been also made. I rise to support these proposals of Finance Minister because the amount which has been spent and the amount which is to be spent, cannot be spent without the approval of the Parliament.

Every year we pass the General Budget and also Supplementary Demands for Grants in the Parliament. We pass it so that country may develop, poverty and unemployment may be alleviated. But in fact what happens that prices have been on the rise across the country. And, I am unable to understand that on the one hand our Finance Minister repeatedly says in his speeches that our growth rate has increased and on the other hand people are facing the wrath of inflation. Our growth rate has increased but we have not been able to control the price-rise, it is on the rise. This situation is very dangerous for the Government and the country. I would like to request Finance Minister that as an economist you know it and you have all the experiences since you have headed the Finance Ministry for many years. So, you should consult the economic advisors and other persons to check the inflation.

Sir, the second point I would like to make is that government is spending huge amount in the name of agricultural development. But we should also see that whether we are developing agriculture in real sense or not. Development of Agriculture is not possible until irrigation facilities are not made available. We have to see the percentage of land in the country, which we have brought under irrigation. Agricultural production is not going to increase until farmers are provided these facilities. I would like to submit to Hon'ble Finance Minister that whatever you provide, you should allot more funds by

making provision for irrigation, for agriculture, and only then we will be able to provide irrigation facilities across the country.

Condition of a number of States is poor in our country but Bihar stands at the top of the list. The condition of farmers in Bihar is more distressful and miserable as compared to the farmers in other States. The main reason behind this is that farmers of Bihar have always been neglected. Earlier also the Bihar has not got the package, which other States have got and hence the situation remains the same even now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir you are well aware that the soil of Bihar is fertile and quality of soil is good there. But production is low for want of irrigation. Farmers are not getting adequate means for agriculture. Hon. Minister of Finance has stated that loan on low rate of interest will be made available to the farmers. Sir, you too, are aware as to how many banks have disbursed loans among how many farmers. As far as my knowledge goes, the farmers in my constituency are not getting loans.

Sir, the third point I would like to make is that the people of Bihar are so poor that they work as labourers, porters, helpers etc in other States and they have to go to other States to earn their livelihood. The literacy rate in Bihar is low and reason behind this is that there is acute shortage of educational institutions, medical institutions and technical institutions where as the industry is almost non-existent there. When Jharkhand was carved out as a separate State from Bihar, all the industries were set up in Jharkhand and Bihar was neglected. Today nothing is with Bihar. There is nothing except agriculture in Bihar. North Bihar suffers from floods and South Bihar is suffering from drought. Hon. Shri Jha and Hon. Shri Sita Ram Singh have explained how the agreement signed with Nepal is not being implemented. If big dams, hydro-electric units will not be built on rivers, the floods will be there and Bihar can not develop. On the other hand there are a number of rivers in South Bihar like Sone, Punpun, Murhar, Bhutahi, Dardha and Kararua which pass through South Bihar. Out of these there is a dam on Sone River only even after so many years of independence. Had dams were constructed on these rivers, the farmers would certainly have been well off there, the farmers there would have employed in agriculture and would have become well off.

Sir, unless agriculture based industries are set up in Bihar, the farmers there would not become well off Bihar produces a substantial amount of mango, lichi, banana and every kind of vegetables, but due to lack of food processing industries, fruits and vegetables get rotten in large quantity. If Bihar has to brought at par with other well off States, these factors would have to be certainly taken care of.

At last, I would like to conclude with one more point.

[Shri Ganesh Prasad Singh]

Heart patients, Cancer patients, Kindney patients from Bihar come to AIIMS for treatment, but they do not get proper treatment. They are ill-treated, they are harassed. Government approval has been granted for a hospital in Patna on the lines of AIIMS, so this work should be expedited. Adequate funds should be made available for all the packages or announcements made by the Government. Be it Rajeev Gandhi Electrification Project or be it Rural Road Construction Scheme, how will these be completed if sufficient funds are not provided for the same. Funds have been provided for Power Grid in South Bihar, electrification work has been handed over but the progress of work is negligible.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, so far not even one percent work has been done there. Second point I would like to make is that there is planning under the Road Construction Scheme that all the villages will be connected with roads by the year 2011, but the work has been handed over to big people. They do not work themselves. They float tenders, they appoint petty contractors through tender, therefore, their work is not praiseworthy. I would like to make special request to the hon. Minister of Finance to pay special attention to it.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR (Aurangabad, Bihar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for the opportunity you have given to me to speak on this important subject.

Sir, there are a number of subjects, but due to paucity of time, I would like to draw the attention of the Government on limited topics. As first, I would like to state that National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is an ambitious scheme. We very much depend on it. This scheme was implemented in last February with the hope that this scheme will be very effective in reducing poverty in rural areas, if not eradicating it altogether. It was the hope that most backward State like Bihar would certainly get attention. I readily accept it that the administration there was a bit busy in Panchayat and District Council elections, but six months have passed since then but it has not made the development which it should have made. For example, I would like to talk about my constituency. There are 11 blocks in my constituency and it was expected that not less than one lakh job cards would have been distributed there. District Magistrate says that so far 30 thousand jobs cards have been distributed. But even this is not endorsed by the people in the blocks. The truth is that job cards have not been prepared, so there is no question of its distribution. The question arises why the job cards have not been prepared. The irony is that the funds earmarked for it have been withdrawn from banks by Mukhia, Sarpanch and other officials. After the elections, new Mukhia, Sarpanch and other officials have been elected. But the people who have withdrawn money are the ex-Mukhias, Sarpanch and other officials and they are keeping

money with them and these funds have been distributed so far. The disbursement of is not possible because job cards have not been distributed. Unless the job cards are distributed, the wages cannot be given, then how can they get money. I request the Union Government to devise a monitoring mechanism so that there remains a check on the State governments and the scheme is implemented successfully.

The people should get employment where job cards have been prepared. Somewhere there is timberwork, somewhere people have perhaps got soil work, but majority of the jobs card holders are not getting employment. If they have not got employment, they should get unemployment allowance. There is a provision in the scheme that if one does not get employment within 15 days, he or she will be paid wages from the administration to the tune of Rs. 60 per day as is being given to daily wagers. They are not getting even this. I appeal to the Union Government to ask for a report from the Government of Bihar about what is being done in the districts.

As far as implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is concerned, what progress have been made under the scheme? If the progress is not sufficient then some ways must be found out so that the poor people living in rural areas may get the benefits of it. It is a very important scheme and it is very necessary to pay attention by the Union Government towards it.

Second point is related to the construction of the roads. Hon. Members from Bihar have stressed that the progress should be made under the scheme, which is not taking place. I am specifically talking about National Highways. National Highways No. 98 is very important which connects Bihar to West Bengal and passes through Siiguri, the Ganges and the Sone River and connects to Jharkhand passing through my constituency. It is a very busy road where both commercial and passenger vehicles are plying. That is why it is a very important National Highway but even after the repeated requests from the Government of Bihar to the Union Government, it selects other National Highways for widening and improvement. In this way 9 or 11 National Highways have been selected. But I don't know why National Highway No. 98 is not selected? As a result of it the traffic could not pass from there and an extra stretch of 100 kms. has to be covered to reach to the other side. It is because of the poor condition of the road which needs repair. I would like to make a request to the Ministry of Surface Transport and National Highways to ask for the assessment made by the Government of Bihar and the construction work of the section may be started. I would like to assure that it will be in the public interest. The Government of India and the Government of Bihar should undertake this work. I have raised the issue of National Highway No. 98 under rule 377 but no progress has been made. That is why I request to the Government to give importance to it and do not let the matter get delayed.

The desired progress is also not witnessed in construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and Rastriya Sam Vikas Yojana. For example, there are 11 such roads in my constituency whose total length is 600 kms and crores of rupees have been spent on them. Out of these 4 roads have been sanctioned. Their construction work should have started in September, 2004 but it is September 2006 now. Two years have been passed but the construction work of the rest of the roads have not been started yet and as a result the people have to face a lot of inconvenience. These roads are important not only for us but also for the adjoining districts and for the southern Bihar. It is necessary to give importance to them and this work was given to IRCON by the Union Government keeping in view that if it is being done by any Central agency then the work will be disposed of in a planned manner. But it is proved on the part of IRCON that it was not correct to have faith upon that. Any way, nothing is wrong. However, as Mr. Ganesh Singh have said that wherever the construction work have been assigned to IRCON, we do not witness progress there. As a result of, the image of the Union Government is getting blemished. Whether the image is getting blemished or not but the government is not being able to provide certain facilities of the people which it wants. It must be paid attention.

Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme is another ambitious schemes. It was expected that not only each village of Bihar but the whole of the India will get electrified. And that is why with lot of expectation and confidence this scheme was handed over to a central organization namely Power Grid Corporation of India.

[English]

But I am very sorry to say that the Power Grid Corporation of India, which is otherwise an extremely efficient body, well-known, and reputed to do excellent work, has not been able to do as in Aurangabad. This is so as it has not procured supplies and stores to be able to complete the work on rural electrification. I do not know why it is so. This work of rural electrification comprises three things. It has to put up the electric poles; it has to put up electricity wiring and install transformers. Unfortunately, in my constituency, Aurangabad, the only kind of work that has been taken up with some amount of visible progress is the work on installation of transformers and the laying of lines. But this too is limited only, I think, to two-and-a-half blocks out of the total 11. Now, this is not a very satisfactory rate of progress. I would request the Government of India, which is the controlling authority of the Power Grid

Corporation of India, to see that this whole thing is expedited and speeded up. This is very important.

[Translation]

Now, it is rainy season there, so the work is not progressing. But the Store and supplies which were to be procured, have not been procured as yet. Wires are available everywhere and raw material for transformer is also available everywhere but even then hurdles are being faced in their procurement. If the hurdles are being faced then these must be solved by the Union Government so that it proves to be helpful in providing the facility to the rural people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am talking about power so I have to mention an important project. The then Government of Bihar in 1989 envisaged a Super Thermal Power Project. The capacity of this project was 2220 MW. This project was put in this shelves many year. Why was it done so? I think that it was done so, because from 1989 to 1999 four non-Congress members of parliament were elected from here and they did not take any interest in it and that is why no action was taken in this regard. The action was taken so quickly only after 1999 when the Chief Minister of Bihar who is the Minister for Railways at present took up this scheme and laid the foundation stone after dissolution of Lok Sabha in 2004. Whereas it was necessary for the Union Cabinet to take approval from the sub-committee of economic affairs.

[English]

The Cabinet Sub-Committee on Economic Affairs has not till date given its approval to that project. Still, the foundation stone was laid. I would appeal to the Government of India, to the hon. Power Minister and to the hon. Prime Minister to kindly pay attention to this project. This is a very important project. It has been pending for the past 17 years. If this is now approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, then some progress can be made towards installing this Super Thermal Power Project. It goes without saying that Bihar is woefully short of power that is required. Even though we are getting power from outside, we must have some indigenous sources of production of electricity. There has been some kind of progress by signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Thermal Power Corporation and others regarding Barauni and Kanti stations. But that is not enough. The Nabi Nagar Super Thermal Power Project has to be pushed through. It has to be put up before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. This is now taking a lot of time. My most earnest appeal is that

[Shri Nikhil Kumar]

the Government of India should kindly see to it that this is placed before the CCEA for this approval without further delay so that it can complete its work...*(Interruptions)*

Finally, I would just like to mention one thing. This is something that relates to public health and hygiene in our rural areas. The Health Ministry has floated a National Rural Health Mission. One important aspect of this Mission is providing public toilets in villages, in the rural areas. This is utterly important to protect and guard the dignity of our women-folk...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri C.K. Chandrappan to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record except the speech of Shri C.K. Chandrappan.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR : Sir, I am very much grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this subject. I hope that the points that I have raised today will be taken note of by Government and appropriate action will be taken.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I would like to raise a few points relating to these Grants.

First of all, a grant has been listed under the head of consumer affairs and public distribution. It is very important for this House to deliberate upon the failure of the Public Distribution System all over the country because it was expected that through the Public Distribution System the Government would be able to provide articles of necessities to the common people. In Kerala, for example, there was a Public Distribution System that was applauded by the Centre. When Shrimati Indira Gandhi was in power, she sent letters to all the State Chief Ministers to follow that system of public distribution. It is in a shambles today under your dispensation because in the name of people below the poverty line, the Centre imposed certain parameters under which people above the poverty line have come under it and poor people are outside it. So, a lot of people are kept out of the purview of the Public Distribution System and it has become almost a dead affairs.

Then, Kerala, as you know, is a food-deficit State and so, Kerala has been treated on a special footing because of that. Due to the new policies of this

Government, wheat and rice quotas have been reduced and as a result, people will not be benefited. So is the case of kerosene oil. So, if the Public Distribution System is to be useful to the people, then the Government has to revise the entire approach towards the State of Kerala considering its special problems as a food-deficit State. Another important thing about Kerala is that from one end to the other end, it is having sea-coast with a lot of fishermen. I am not talking of those fishermen who are using trawlers and big fishing boats, but of the ordinary fishermen who drive their boats with Yamaha machine, which run on kerosene oil. You have denied kerosene oil to them. In the past, Kerala was in an elitist position so far as PDS is concerned, but now the poor fishermen are denied the supply of kerosene oil through Public Distribution System. When the Government discusses this issue, I hope it will look into this problem.

Sir, I congratulate the Government for including under the head of the Department of Culture a grant of Rs. Five crore for the development of Koodiyattam, - though it is wrongly mentioned here as Kuttiyattam - which is one of the heritage arts of this country as was recognised by the UNESCO. I congratulate the Government for giving a reasonably good grant for its development. I hope the Government would take some more measures for the development of Koodiyattam.

Coming to Union Territories, the Minister, who is sitting here, comes from the area just adjoining Pondicherry. The Standing Committee on Home Affairs has recommended that full Statehood should be given both to Pondicherry as well as Andaman and Nicobar Islands. So, I hope that the Government would look into that recommendation favourably and take a decision quickly. This decision should have been taken much earlier because Pondicherry, as you know very well, is qualified for becoming a State. If Delhi can be a State, Pondicherry can also be a State and similarly Andaman & Nicobar Islands can also be.

So far as Delhi is concerned, whether some more power could be given to the State government, it should be looked into because at the moment, being the national capital so many things are denied to them. So, the case of these three Union Territories should be looked into. Delhi is not at the moment a Union Territory, but it should be looked into whether more powers could be given to Delhi State. But for the other two States, the Statehood should be restored.

As far as health is concerned, they have asked for grants. We have no grudge against it, but certain promises are to be fulfilled. The Government of India has decided that AIIMS type of institutes will be established in 12 States, including your State, Mr. Chairman. But the promise remains the promise given today. What they are trying to do is that they are trying to elevate the level of some of the

\*Not Recorded.

medical colleges. Actually, it is good and we will appreciate if they are providing some money to elevate the level of some of the medical institutes. But what is required is the fulfillment of the promise made, that is, AIIMS type of institute should be created in those 12 States identified earlier. It is not that we are enamoured with the name of the institutes, it is the facilities that we are providing to those States where such facilities are, at the moment, not available. If these institutes are developed to that level, it will be a good thing that the UPA Government would be doing. I hope you will consider this demand too.

Under the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Development Scheme, in Kerala, they have selected two important cities, that is, the capital city of Trivandrum and Cochin. But there is no reason when they have selected those two cities and not selected Trichur, Kozhikode and Quilon. All these are corporations more or less of similar types. So, the benefit of these should go to these three corporations in Kerala. Besides that, Guruvayoor, a Temple city, where, from all over the country, people are coming. Guruvayoor deserves a special treatment for having good drainage system and better water supply system. So, under the scheme, it should also be provided better facilities. These are some of my suggestions.

But while concluding, I would again mention that when they are giving compensation to Sikh victims of 1984 riots as it was mentioned here, they should not be very stringent in providing pension to Punnathu Vayalar Struggle participants, that is Freedom Struggle and also to the participants of Tebhaga Struggle in West Bengal. These are all struggles that took place some 50 to 60 years ago. There are not many people who are going to claim that they should be given the pension. But the Central Government is asking them to bring the original documents to claim. It is impossible because it was 60 years ago when this happened. These were all Princely States or they were under the British Rule. Those original documents are all destroyed. It would only mean that they are denying pension to those people, who legitimately deserve it. As somebody said in the morning, let us not forget those in whose sacrifice we are all sitting in Parliament, in Ministerial Benches and in the Opposition Benches. Let us be just to them. Let us take a decision, which will be more practical.

With these words, I support these Supplementary Grants.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I extend my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on supplementary Demands for Grants 2006-07. It is true that the UPA Government had done a lot of works as promised. We had promised the public to ensure

development of the poor, to provide employment to the unemployed, to make proper arrangement for electricity and water management and for the development of each and every class of society. I am of the view that under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Manmohan Singh, some works have truly been completed as per the expectations in accordance with the common minimum programme, for which I extend my thanks to him. Besides, we have also taken care of all other sectors including education and roads and other important areas of public utilities. We have definitely made efforts to remove there deficiencies. Despite all this, a large section of the population is in difficulties. There are several states which are not in good condition. I think the concrete action, which was to be taken on part of Central Government, has perhaps not been taken. Specially, price rise has put a heavy burden on the common people and has put them in a difficult situation.

Sir, I accept that notwithstanding many efforts made by the Government, we have not been able to control price rise which has created resentment among the public. I would like to draw your attention to the primary sector of the country which is agriculture. The primary reason for increase in price rise is reduction in production. The farming community is in distress because there has been some deterioration in their production capacity and this is the very reason for the dwindling production in the country. Today we are forced to import wheat and other goods on large scale from abroad but if we could be able to make arrangements, we have enough human resources and land which can change the prevailing situation if these are properly utilized and adequate means are made available. And thus we will not be dependent on foreign countries. The farmer is not able to earn profit against invested money and hard work. There are many reasons for this which have been discussed over on many occasions. Today also, several members have mentioned about the Swaminathan Report in which many suggestions were given. The Government have not taken the decision which was required to be taken in accordance with the report, though the UPA Government have reduced the rate of interest.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the Government have reduced the rate of interest to 7% for farmers but it is not adequate. Swaminathan Ji had suggested in his report to reduce it to 3 or 4 per cent but it has not been reduced to that level. The Government should consider it. This is the reason behind the suicides being committed by farmers. During the regime of the previous Government also, suicides were being committed by farmers on large scale and it is still being committed. In the last few days many farmers committed suicides in Vidarbha region. Therefore, I would



[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

like to request the Government, through you, to pay attention to this issue and devise a concrete policy in this regard.

Mr. Chairman Sir, farmers are unable to reap good harvest in their fields for want of proper irrigation facilities. Electricity is in short supply. We can not use diesel because it is costly. The present Government is connecting every village of the country with power supply and trying to give electricity to every poor household under Rajiv Gandhi Mission. You already know about it but its result is not seen and the electricity is not within the reach of every village. Prices of diesel are going up day by day. Due to high cost of diesel, agriculture is proving costly for the farmers who use underground water for irrigation and, moreover, farmers can not sell their produce in the market on profitable prices. Therefore, agriculture is turning to be a loss incurring work. All these things need to be taken care of. Unless the farmer of the country is prosperous the country can not prosper. If we have to strengthen the economy of the country, we will have to take care of the farmers.

Sir, there is no proper system of irrigation in Bihar. You can see, all canals of British era are in bad shape. How a farmer can give production if there is no proper arrangement of irrigation. I can claim that the land of Bihar is so fertile that if proper irrigation facilities are provided, it can supply food grains not only to Bihar but to the other states of the country also.

Sir, we have been producing sugar in our state but now there is negligible production of Sugar. Sugar mills of the state have been shut down. There used to be large scale production of jute and sugarcane in the state but now it is vanishing. A paper mill was there. There was a fertilizer factory in Barauni which produced large quantity of fertilizer but now the Government is paying no attention to it. I would like to request the Finance Minister, through you, to take concrete steps for the upliftment of the farmers of Bihar and for making the profession of agriculture profitable for them. Today sugar industry, paper industry and jute industry of the state are in mess. If sugar, jute and paper industry is developed there, that will alleviate poverty and unemployment of the region. But needs to be made self dependent.

Sir, we have repeatedly demanded a special package for Bihar. Late Sh. Rajiv Gandhi had, after visiting Bihar and taking stock of poverty and unemployment situation, declared a special package for Bihar but it has not been given till date and it turned out to be a mere assurance.

When Bihar was bifurcated in the year 2000, the then NDA Government had declared a special package for Bihar but it has not been given till date. Five year plans are framed and provisions are made for Bihar also but these provisions are made under Sumvikas and not under special package. Under Sumvikas every state is being provided with assistance, no special assistance is being provided to Bihar. After bifurcation of Bihar, power plants and minerals went to Jharkhand. We had then demanded a special package for the development of rest of Bihar. During the regime of NDA Government, hon. former Prime Minister Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee had himself given an assurance that a special package would be given to Bihar after its bifurcation.

It was said that a cell would be created under the Chairmanship of deputy chairman of Planning Commission, which would assess the financial loss incurred by Bihar and profit made by Jharkhand after bifurcation in the last two years and accordingly a package would be given to Bihar for bringing the state at par with Jharkhand and the other states of the country. But I don't know what happened and that cell got vanished. It was an assurance given by a Government not by any individual. Why the Government is not exercising over it. What is the reason behind neglecting Bihar in such a manner? Ours is a sick state. If any member of our home or family falls sick or becomes weak, we all support him. Our country has another states like Bihar and Orissa. But our state has no industry despite being rich in everything. Why don't you make us self dependent? Why are we forced to beg time and again? What is there in Bihar today? Our state is fully based on agriculture. Fruits like Lichi and banana etc. and vegetables are grown there. I think if fruit and vegetable based industries are set up here, not only we will be able to produce enough for other states but our economy will also get boosted.

Northern Bihar faces flood every year and Nepal is the reason behind it which we discuss every time. Why don't you find a permanent solution to it? You provide us relief every time as we are beggars. We don't want relief from you.

[English]

We do not want relief.

[Translation]

We want to become self dependent. Why don't you raise this issue at international level? This issue is being discussed since the time of late Sh. Bheeruji but it has not been implemented on the ground level. You have given

Rs. 29 crore but its roadmap is still awaited and now you have asked to make DPR.

Sir, I would like to know, through you, as to what happened to the DPR report in connection with the amount allotted through DPR? What action are you going to take on it? Have you provide more amount to us under eleventh five-year plan or you are simply alluring us?

Nineteen districts of south Bihar come under drought prone zone. This year there has been no rainfall in that region. Earlier this region used to get rain from Nepal side which helped in sowing crops but this year it didn't happen either. This time we are facing fodder problem also. Please arrange irrigation facilities in those areas about which I have discussed earlier also. Please provide enough relief amount to such areas. People say that I raise issues related to Bihar daily.

Sir, There are so many unmentioned rivers like Son and Triveni etc. Similarly there is the problem of soil erosion. The areas adjoining the river Ganges are witnessing large scale soil erosion. People's land is being consumed by the river. Triveni, Pradyuman and Son canals remain closed. How can development take place in such a situation? How the farmer would be able to become self dependent? These canals need to be revived. The Mokama Tal and Jalla area gets water logged and creates problem. There is a good Tal here where water gets accumulated. Pulses can be grown here keeping in view the soaring prices of pulses. Three to four crops can be harvested here. For this, a special package is needed. Then the farmers can prosper.

Sir, we are discussing Rashtriya Samvikas Yojana. What is going on under this plan. You have allotted money for Rashtriya Shram Vikas Yojana and the present Government of Bihar is working on these plans by renaming them as their own plans. The money is being given by the Government of India and the State Government is taking credit of it. This should be looked into, monitored and advertised. We MPs are not even consulted. We are providing thousands of crores of rupees of the state Government and the state Government is getting the publicity and the Centre Government is keeping mum. The Government is talking about increasing the number of schools under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The Government of India is providing money for this. There are many such plans. All state roads being built there have been funded by Central government which is allotted under Shram Vikas Yojana. The Government is selectively neglecting naxalite affected areas. There are no guidelines for this. There should be some control over it so that the people could get all round development and the poor

could make progress. We MPs are just neglected in the state because the opposition is in the power there. They are putting their own boards over every scheme. The Rashtriya Gramin Rojgar Yojana is being renamed as Bihar Rojgar Yojana.

I would request the hon. Minister, through you, that why has he ousted Siwan district while declaring many other districts backward. Siwan should also be included. I want to raise a very important matter as a last point before you.

Water management is the most important problem of the country. We get water from three sources but we have not been able to devise a right method of water management which is the reason behind the various problems being faced by us. We can manage the situation of scarcity and abundance of water but we have no means of management of ground water, rain water and river water. A project should be made to manage all the three types of waters so that all three types of water can be accumulated as one unit and could be supplied as needed to the areas where there is scarcity of water or where it is much needed. I always see members of other states disputing over the demand of water. If there is proper management of water it will not only facilitate irrigation but drinking water problem will also be solved but the Government has not formulated any concrete policy generally. I think that one policy should be formulated, a commission should be set up and water should be distributed in the whole country considering it as a single unit so that water crisis, which is becoming worse day by day, could be avoided and there could be proper utilisation of water in the country.

Now, I would like to conclude. I request the hon. Minister that there is a major contribution from Bihar in this Government. We will definitely give our contribution under the leadership of our leader Sh. Lalu Prasad Yadav but the public, which has given us the mandate, wants something from you also in return as we have always been demanding. We don't say that you are ignoring us. During the regime of NDA Government we were in power there and they ignored us. But we are not ignoring them and we want to provide our cooperation in the development stream leaving behind all these trivial things. Our Government is providing cooperation under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Sh. Manmohan Singh ji but when will you listen to our rights which myself and other hon. members have discussed about. We want a solid package for Bihar as your response so that we could get economic prosperity and self dependence and we could provide relief to the people by becoming self dependent. It hurts us to make a request before you always with folded hands

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

like beggars, to make us self dependent. We have the ability, we have the human resources, we have the land, we have everything, the only thing which is required is the proper arrangement of power. You make a proper arrangement of water for us and pay fair prices to the farmers. I think we can definitely become self sufficient. There is no industry in our state. All agriculture based industries like sugar and jute industries in our state are shutdown. You get them revived. We have demanded to restart the paper mill situated at Barauni. We face flood every year, let us get rid of this problem.

I conclude my speech with all these requests and belief that the hon. Minister will take some concrete steps in this supplementary budget for Bihar so that Bihar can develop.

[English]

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of course, this is always the sentiment of this House that whenever my colleagues were speaking for the farmers and poor people of this country. Though we are enjoying the fruitful results of 60 years of our Independence, even today the farmers, poor people and those in the lower middle class are suffering to afford the basic, minimum needs. In this background I would like to utilise my valuable time to shed some light on these issues.

Even though the UPA government is having renowned economist like Shri P. Chidambaram as our Minister of Finance, he is trying to meet his requirements through the additional revenues. In spite of his best efforts, natural calamities like tsunami, drought and floods were increasing the demands on the expenditure unexpectedly. I have gone through the Supplementary Demands presented by the hon. Minister. I am very happy to see that he is increasing the revenue, adjusting the allocations and meeting the additional demands. I think the actual extra cash requirement is Rs. 5,800 crore and he promises that he will cover this also by additional revenue in the coming months.

I am the daughter of a farmer and I am a farmer myself. I am representing Kanakapura rural constituency in Karnataka where more people are farmers. Naturally I am happy to hear from the hon. Minister of Finance that he is going to give Rs. 1,500 crore subsidy to fertilisers. It will be a great, great relief to the farmers. It will definitely strengthen the helpless farmers in this hour of crisis in the country.

The hon. Minister of Finance is providing Rs. 80 crore to the poultry farmers for interest rebate. All of us know how the poultry farmers suffered during the time of deadly disease called 'bird flu' affected the poultry industry in the country. Recently, in all Southern States including my State of Karnataka, an epidemic disease called 'chikungunya' was there which affected the human beings. But due to the false concept which is because of the name 'chikungunya' the innocent farmers misunderstood this as 'chicken gunya' and stopped eating chicken. The poultry industry also suffered. This help of Rs. 80 crore will really help the poultry farmers. I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Finance for this. Even the farmers who are below the poverty line, who were having 20 or 30 chickens also suffered. Really, it will be great help to the farmers. I would like to thank the Government and also the hon. Minister of Finance for this.

Suicides by the Indian farmers is the biggest tragedy in this civilisation. We are living in a civilised society. Our farmers is feeding our stomach but he is dying, he is opting for death. Why is it so? He is very desperate. His agricultural expenditure has gone up but his agricultural produce is not getting the same proportionate price. We should look into ourselves to find reason for this. We are unable to guarantee stable prices for the farmers. Naturally, the desperate farmer is opting for suicides. By providing him the financial assistance we must stop his menace.

My fourth point is this. As far as the empowerment of women is concerned, I would like to appraise the hon. Minister of Finance about the achievement of self-help groups in the entire country which also includes my State of Karnataka.

We should feel proud today that our women self-help groups are repaying their loans honestly not only in time but the rate of recovery of loans from them is also 98 per cent. So, we should appreciate the women folks. For that, I would like to request the Finance Minister to provide Rs. 50,000 crore worth of credit loans to empower these self-help groups at the interest rate of three per cent. Really, it is the need of the hour. We must provide them loan at the interest rate of three per cent. It would empower the rural women folks. This is a very important point and inter-related to the farmers' issue. This would enable them to purchase agricultural products like wheat, paddy, maize, vegetables, fruits and pulses directly from the farmers. Thereby, we can also reduce corruption which arises because of the middlemen. These women can purchase products from the farmers and supply them to the PDS. Thus, we can also strengthen the PDS. This process will reduce the problem of unemployment in rural areas. It will

empower the women in the rural areas. It will increase their income. It will bring respect to the women in the society. It will also reduce their dependence on the men folks. Not only will it reduce corruption, but it will also increase the GDP of our country. It will stop urban migration also. So, we should strengthen them.

I urge upon the Finance Minister to provide free health insurance schemes to all BPL people in this country. Health is our basic right. Just because they are poor, they cannot afford costly medicines. So, we must provide free health insurance schemes to the BPL people.

I also urge upon the Finance Minister to find ways to provide permanent housing to the needy poor on mass scale. Sir, I am myself a Member of the Standing Committee on Rural Development. We were discussing that by providing merely Rs. 25,000 what sort of house can we construct? House is the basic need and we must provide some more money for scale permanent house building.

Today morning, I heard from the Minister of Human Resource Development during Question Hour that during the NDA regime, the allocation to education had gone down. It is really an alarming thing. We all know that education is the only instrument which will bring transformation in the lives of the poor who cannot afford costly private education. That is why, I urge upon the Finance Minister to allocate more funds to the poor.

In my State of Karnataka, coastal farmers were affected by the problem of sea erosion. They have only little pieces of land for their livelihood, which is disappearing in front of their own eyes. Within a day and a night, they were becoming orphans. That is why, I would request him to send a committee to study the damage suffered by those farmers, to allocate alternate land to them, to give them the money as compensation and to find remedy to their problem of sea erosion. Due to floods and droughts, they are suffering. We must solve the problem of soil erosion also.

I would like to say in this august House that unless we empower the rural India, there will be no failure of this country. I would say that whether we belong to the Ruling Benches or the Opposition, as far as farmers of this country are concerned, we all must address this problem with one voice.

With great expectations from the Ministry, I would like to thank the Chair for giving me this opportunity.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN (Vellore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the

Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2006-07. On behalf of DMK party, I have risen to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

At the outset, I have to congratulate the Finance Minister, an able and efficient economist, who is very much supported and assisted by an abler and more efficient economist, Dr. Manmohan Singh, in guiding the country on the right lines.

Sir, I hope and trust that the policies pursued by the UPA Government, in the field of economic development, will take this country to our of making this country an economic superpower in a very short time. I am very happy that the policies pursued by the UPA Government in removing all these obstacles and hurdles that have been the reason for stagnating the economy of this country – is really very much appreciated, applauded and admired by fair-minded and candid people of this country.

I would not like to take much time of the august House. I only want to put certain viewpoints before this august House. First and foremost, the UPA Government has recognised Tamil, which is a classical language. I request the Finance Minister and the Government to open departments in all the universities in the country to develop Tamil, which is a classical language, and do its research. Tamil is the mother of all languages, and it is the most ancient language. It is a language that was born with the birth of humankind. Therefore, I would like the Government to open departments of research on Tamil language in all the universities of our country. The Government should also liberally and generously give funds for this purpose.

Our Government has given a new hope for this country by announcing the *Bharat Nirman* scheme. If it is implemented in its right earnest and implemented at the earliest, then *Bharat*, the great country of ours, will be a country of glory and greatness. I hope that the *Bharat Nirman* scheme will be put into practice, and implemented at the earliest. I feel that all the hurdles on the way to economic progress can be removed by implementing this great scheme of *Bharat Nirman*.

In Tamil Nadu, our great Chief Minister, Dr. Kalamangar M. Karunanidhi has announced the *Annamarumalachi Scheme* to improve every village economically. The village problems are sorted out, and the needs and necessities of the village are found out under this scheme. The Tamil Nadu Government extends help to remove all the difficulties in the field of sanitation; in the sphere of education; in the sphere of road transport; in the sphere of irrigation, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mohideen, please conclude your speech.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN : Therefore, the Government of India should frame a new scheme like the *Annamarumalachi Chittam Scheme* for each and every constituency in this country, and each and every constituency should be taken as a unit for its improvement economically. Therefore, our Government should come forward with a system on the same basis.

18.00 hrs.

In our country, people particularly from States like Tamil Nadu and Kerala get employment abroad and go outside the country for employment in large numbers. Whenever they return to India, they find themselves in a lot of difficulties. For the removal of difficulties being faced by the people who are employed abroad, there should be a scheme for the protection of their families. Recently, in Bahrain, some 16 people belonging to Tamil Nadu died in a fire. They were village farmers, who have been sons of the soil. They have gone abroad after selling their lands, mortgaging their property and their jewels.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN : I will conclude within two minutes, Sir.

All of a sudden, in an unexpected fire accident, they were burnt alive, their dead bodies were brought home, and their families are on the streets. The State Government has given Rs. 2.0 lakh for each family, and compensation from abroad may come after some time. My request is that Central Government should come forward with a suitable scheme to help such families, especially when they are facing unexpected difficulties. I would request the UPA Government to do that.

In my Constituency, Vellore, the road connecting Salem-Hosur-Tirupattur-Vaniambadi-Umrabad-Peranampet-Gudiyantham-Chittoor should be converted into a National Highway. At present, it is a State Highway, and it should be converted into a National Highway because it links three States. Therefore, I insist that it should be done.

Another thing is that in my Constituency, Vellore, there is a ridge known as "Aravattla", and it is in the neighbourhood of Andhra Pradesh. My request is that by laying a road from there, it should be linked with Andhra Pradesh. I am saying that it should be linked with Andhra Pradesh because the farmers, merchants and the village people are facing certain difficulties at present, and if the road is laid, they can get the necessary help from the neighbourhood. Therefore, that road should be laid.

In addition to that, "Aravattla" should be declared as a Sanctuary for Elephants. It is a hilly region and the elephants are present in good numbers. Recently, our Government has declared Mudhumalai place as a Sanctuary. Similarly, "Aravattla" should be declared as a

Sanctuary for Elephants. That is my humble demand.

In my Constituency, Vellore, there are more than 10,000 *beedi* workers and they should be provided with group housing facilities. The Government of India should allot funds for that purpose. Recently, about 2,500 children of the *beedi* workers were to get the scholarships from the Government of India. Last year, they have submitted their applications, but no scholarship was given to the children of these *beedi* workers and as a result, they have not been able to proceed ahead with their education.

Moreover, in my Constituency, Vellore, in certain areas, Urdu teachers are not available. They are not at all found and, therefore, the Government of India should come forward to establish Urdu Teacher Training Institute in Vellore Region. It will not only help Vellore, but also our entire country because trained teachers are not only available. It is not only in Tamil Nadu, but even in UP and in other places, trained Urdu teachers are in great demand. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to make arrangements for that also.

I wish to make one last point. Under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, the UPA Government is extending a lot of help to the minorities. I appreciate the Government and congratulate it. I admire the Government for extending all sorts of help and welfare schemes to the minorities.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL (Kurukshetra) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very important subject.

The UPA initiatives on rural employment, Health Mission, Urban Renewal Mission, Bharat Nirman, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme, are harbingers of social justice with rapid economic growth for the country. Rural credit has grown 42 per cent in a single year. That abodes well for the farmer, whose welfare our colleague Shrimati Tejaswini was speaking so much about.

Our economy is booming with our GDP growth rate between seven and eight per cent, and our Prime Minister and Finance Minister are talking about achieving double-digit GDP growth rate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member Shri Jindal, you will continue your speech day after tomorrow. You are on your legs.

The House now stands adjourned to meet again on Thursday, August 10, 2006.

18.07 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 10, 2006/Sravana 19, 1928 (Saka)*

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