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**COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2018-2019)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

NINETY-FIFTH REPORT

**REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING
TO THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 12 February, 2019)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

February, 2019/Magha, 1940 (Saka)

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NEW DELHI

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2017-2018)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal “Nishank” — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Anto Antony
4. Shri Tariq Anwar
5. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
6. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
7. Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer**
8. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
9. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
10. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
11. Shri C. R. Patil
12. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
13. Shri K.C. Venugopal
14. Shri S.R. Vijayakumar
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Shri U.B.S. Negi | — | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |

* The Committee has been re-constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2017 *vide* Para No. 5800 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 18 September, 2017.

** Nominated to the Committee *vide* Para No. 6261 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 08 January, 2018 *vice* Shri P.K. Kunhalikutty resigned on 02 January, 2018.

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ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2018-2019)

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| 1. Shri N.C. Gupta | — | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |

* The Committee has been re-constituted w.e.f. 01 September, 2018 vide Para No. 7305 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 10 September, 2018.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2018-2019), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Ninety-fifth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2017-2018) at their sitting held on 23 April, 2018 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs regarding some of the pending Assurances from the 3rd Session of the 13th Lok Sabha to the 12th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha.

3. At their sitting held on 11 Feb., 2019, the Committee considered and adopted their Ninety-fifth Report.

4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of this Report.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;
11 *February*, 2019
22 *Magha*, 1940 (*Saka*)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

REPORT

I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the Assurances, promises, undertakings, etc., given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report the extent to which such Assurances, promises, undertakings have been implemented. Once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within a period of three months. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time required beyond the prescribed period for fulfillment of the Assurance. Where a Ministry/Department are unable to implement an Assurance, that Ministry/Department are bound to request the Committee for dropping it. The Committee consider such requests and approve dropping, in case, they are convinced that grounds cited are justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of Assurances has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose and the extent to which the Assurances have been implemented.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-10) took a policy decision to call the representatives of the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending Assurances, examine the reasons for pendency and analyze operation of the system prescribed in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with Assurances. The Committee also decided to consider the quality of Assurances implemented by the Government.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2014-2015) decided to follow the well established and time tested procedure of calling the representatives of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner and review the pending Assurances. The Committee took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the Assurances are implemented through them.

4. In pursuance of the *ibid* decision, the Committee on Government Assurances (2017-2018) called the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs and the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to render clarification with respect to delay in implementation of 15 Assurances given during the period from the 3rd Session of the 13th Lok Sabha to the 12th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha. The Committee examined the following 15 Assurances at their sitting held on 23rd April, 2018:—

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 5739 dated 03.05.2000	Abolition of Torture (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 814 dated 16.07.2014	Imphal and Mandalay Bus Service (Appendix-II)
3.	USQ No. 470 dated 27.04.2016	ROMA Conference (Appendix-III)
4.	USQ No. 554 dated 20.07.2016	Rail/Road Connectivity with Nepal (Appendix-IV)
5.	USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.2016	Racist Attack on Indians in Britain (Appendix-V)
6.	SQ No. 302 dated 07.12.2016 (Supplementary by Dr. Satya Pal Singh, M.P.)	Exchange of Prisoners (Appendix-VI)
7.	USQ No. 1118 dated 08.02.2017	Family Details on Passports (Appendix-VII)
8.	SQ No. 184 dated 15.03.2017 (Supplementary by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, M.P.)	Contribution to UN Budget (Appendix-VIII)
9.	SQ No. 443 dated 05.04.2017 (Supplementary by Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P.)	ASEAN (Appendix-IX)
10.	USQ No. 475 dated 19.07.2017	List of Indian Workers Abroad (Appendix-X)
11.	USQ No. 564 dated 19.07.2017	Diplomatic Missions in Small Countries (Appendix-XI)
12.	USQ No. 661 dated 19.07.2017	Opening of New Passport Seva Kendras (Appendix-XII)
13.	USQ No. 687 dated 19.07.2017	Passport through Post office (Appendix-XIII)
14.	USQ No. 1717 dated 26.07.2017	Soft Power Matrix (Appendix-XIV)
15.	USQ No. 3861 dated 09.08.2017	Delayed Projects Abroad (Appendix-XV)

5. The Extracts from Manual of Practice and Procedure in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laying guidelines on the definition of an Assurance, the time limit for its fulfillment, dropping/deletion and extension, the

procedure for fulfillment etc., besides maintenance of Register of Assurances and periodical reviews to minimize delays in implementation of the Assurances are reproduced at Appendix-XVI.

6. During oral evidence, the Committee drew the attention of the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs to the long pendency in the fulfillment of the Assurances and enquired about the periodical review of the pending Assurances in the Ministry to minimize delays in their implementation and the mechanism available for implementation of Assurances, details of meetings held in this regard. The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs in his deposition before the Committee stated during evidence as under:—

"Sir, we are constantly monitoring the Questions which have arisen in the Committee, and you will be happy to know that just two weeks before, our External Affairs Minister herself has seen all these Assurances in her own Chairmanship and had ordered us how to reply on these Assurances. Our Minister and all of us look at them very carefully. Apart from me, other than our Joint Secretaries, our Minister continues to scrutinize these Assurances."

7. In view of the explanations submitted by the representatives of the Ministry during the course of the oral evidence, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1 and 15.

8. Subsequently, nine Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13 have since been implemented on 07.08.2018 while the Assurance mentioned at Sl. No. 9 has been implemented on 18.12.2018.

II. Review of Pending Assurance

9. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with one of the important pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of External Affairs and critically examined by them.

A. Soft Power Matrix

10. In reply to USQ No. 1717 dated 26.07.2017 regarding 'Soft Power Matrix' (Appendix-XIV), it was *inter-alia* stated that the Government is putting in place a soft power matrix to measure the effectiveness of the country's policies and this process is presently at the research stage.

11. In their Status Note furnished in April, 2018, the Ministry of External Affairs explained the position regarding fulfillment of the Assurances as under:—

"The Assurance could not been fulfilled in stipulated time as expertise on this complex subject is not readily available in India. Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) which has been tasked with the responsibility of fulfilling this Assurance has requested the Lok Sabha to grant an extension of six months to fulfill this assurance."

12. In his deposition before the Committee during oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, however, submitted the following status of the fulfillment of the Assurance:—

"This topic was discussed before the Standing Committee of Parliament. When there was a wide-ranging discussion on soft power diplomacy, it was thought within the Committee that if we develop soft power matrix, how the implementation of soft power would be done, how it should be measured. It is a subject on which very few experts are available in India. There has been a lot of work done in foreign countries, some foreign Ministries have developed it. It will take some time to work on it. We have thought how to move on, we have talked to lot of people, talked to the think tank, talked to the university. We are asking for six months so that we can develop the matrix."

Observations/Recommendations

13. The Committee note that the Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 1717 dated 26.07.2017 regarding 'Soft Power Matrix' could not be fulfilled despite a lapse of more than one and a half years. The Assurance relates to putting in place a Soft Power Matrix to measure the effectiveness of the country's policies. The Committee were informed that the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was entrusted with the responsibility to develop Soft Power Matrix in order to measure the effectiveness of the country's soft power but the expertise on this complex subject is not readily available in the country. The Committee firmly believe that in today's scenario a country's economic success, ideological persuasiveness and cultural attractiveness as well as the policies relating thereto are often more powerful factors than its military power. The Committee are aware that ICCR has been strenuously promoting the country's soft power including its values, traditions, languages, practices like Yoga and meditation and also has been extending educational scholarships, vibrant culture, etc. through electronic and print media/publications, live performances, etc. The Committee, however, feel that the country still needs to achieve more in these directions in order to make a greater impact in the international arena and geo-politics. Moreover, the Soft Power Matrix would definitely help in shaping/transforming the country's policies and make them more effective. The Ministry of External Affairs and ICCR should, therefore, strive harder to achieve better results to develop the country's Soft Power Matrix at the earliest. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry of External Affairs to put in place an effective mechanism for implementing the Assurances in a time bound manner so that things do not get stuck up and there is no inordinate delay in fulfilling the Assurances. The Committee would also like the Ministry to lay the requisite Implementation Report without further delay.

III. Implementation Reports

14. As per the Statement of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Implementation Reports in respect of the Assurances have since been laid on the Table of the House on the dates as mentioned against each.

Sl. No.	Sl.No. in the Table (Para No. 4)	SQ/USQ No. dated	Date of Implementation
i.	Sl. No. 2	USQ No. 814 dated 16.07.2014 regarding 'Imphal and Mandalay Bus Service'	07.08.2018
ii.	Sl. No. 4	USQ No. 554 dated 20.07.2016 regarding 'Rail/Road Connectivity with Nepal'	07.08.2018
iii.	Sl. No. 5	USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.2016 regarding 'Racist Attack on Indians in Britain'	07.08.2018
iv.	Sl. No. 7	USQ No. 1118 dated 08.02.2017 regarding 'Family Details or Passports'	07.08.2018
v.	Sl. No. 8	SQ No. 184 dated 15.03.2017 regarding (Supplementary by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, M.P.) regarding 'Contribution to UN Budget'	07.08.2018
vi.	Sl. No. 9	SQ No. 443 dated 05.04.2017 Supplementary by Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P.) regarding 'ASEAN'	18.12.2018
vii.	Sl. No. 10	USQ No. 475 dated 19.07.2017 regarding 'List of Indian Workers Abroad'	07.08.2018
viii.	Sl. No. 11	USQ No. 564 dated 19.07.2017 regarding 'Diplomatic Missions in Small Countries'	07.08.2018
ix.	Sl. No. 12	USQ No. 661 dated 19.07.2017 regarding 'Opening of New Passport Seva Kendras'	07.08.2018
x.	Sl. No. 13	USQ No. 687 dated 19.07.2014 regarding 'Passport through Post Office'	07.08.2018

NEW DELHI;
11 February, 2019
 22 Magha 1940 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

APPENDIX I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5739
ANSWERED ON 03.05. 2000

Abolition of Torture

5739. SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to sign and ratify the UN Convention against torture;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a), (b) & (c) India signed the UN Convention Against Torture and other cruel, inhuman degrading treatment or punishment of October 14, 1997. India has, however, not yet ratified the Convention because the need to amend our legislation to bring it in conformity with the provisions of the Convention is under examination. As soon as this process is complete and the necessary amendment of legislation, if found necessary, enacted, the Government will be in a position to ratify the Convention.

APPENDIX II

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 814
ANSWERED ON 16.07.2014

Imphal and Mandalay Bus Service

814. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a weekly cross-border bus service between Imphal in Manipur and Mandalay in Central Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the modalities for finalizing the MoU in this regard have been completed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said bus service is likely to become fully operational?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (e) Government is engaged in discussions with the Government of Myanmar on starting a cross-border bus service between Imphal in Manipur and Mandalay in Myanmar. In this regard, provisions of the MOU on the bus service and a draft Protocol on operational modalities are being discussed with the Myanmar side.

APPENDIX III

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 470
ANSWERED ON 27.04.2016

ROMA Conference

470. SHRIBHOLA SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to organize fourth ROMA Conference in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the objectives thereof;
- (c) whether ROMA people constitute the Indian Diaspora and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any study has been proposed to discover the roots/origin of ROMA people; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]: (a) ICCR organized fifth International ROMA Conference at ICCR, New Delhi from February 12-14-2016.

(b) A total of 14 International speakers and 14 Indian scholars participated in the Conference. Objective of Conference was to re-establish cultural and linguistic links with ROMA community, review existing scholarly studies on ROMA community and encourage further studies.

(c) ROMA community has cultural and linguistic links with Indian culture and language and is believed to have migrated from Northern part of India during 5th century BC.

(d) & (e) One of the follow up action points identified during the deliberations of three days Conference was to establish a Research Centre by an NGO for the studies on ROMA community, to discover the roots and origins of ROMA people.

APPENDIX IV

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 554
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2016

Rail/Road connectivity with Nepal

554. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA *ALIAS* HARISH DWIVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched any projects to extend rail/road connectivity with Nepal;
- (b) if so, the broad details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR.) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]: (a) Yes, projects to extend rail/road connectivity with Nepal are being implemented with Government of India (GoI) assistance.

(b) Two Cross Border Rail Links namely, 18.6 kms long line from Jogbani (India) to Biratnagar (Nepal) and 68.72 kms long line from Jayanagar (India) to Bardibas (Nepal) are currently under execution. The GoI is also undertaking construction of roads in the Terai region of Nepal. Construction of two roads under Phase-1 with total length of 71.20 kms. has been completed in November 2015. In February 2016, it was agreed to undertake construction of remaining seventeen roads of total length of 515 kms. (approx.) under GoI-funded-GoN-implemented modality.

(c) As the Government of Nepal (GoN) has been handing over land in phases, the construction of Rail links is progressing on the available stretches of land and can be completed in two years from the date of handing over of all the stretches by GoN, subject to necessary local permits and conducive environment in Nepal. Construction of the remaining 17 roads under Terai Roads Phase-1 will commence after award of tender.

APPENDIX V

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 555
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2016

Racist attack on Indians in Britain

555. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain has witnessed a spate of racist incidents in the aftermath of vote for the country to withdraw from the European Union and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether in such racist incidents, Indians living in Britain were being targeted and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any steps to protect the lives and properties of Indians living in Britain; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR.) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]: (a) to (d) According to media reports, there was a rise in the number of racist incidents and hate crimes in the week following the referendum in the United Kingdom on 23 June, 2016. The then Prime Minister of the United Kingdom David Cameron condemned these incidents in the British Parliament on 27 June 2016. As per the information available with the High Commission of India in London, there has been no recorded incident of racist attack targeting Indians living in the United Kingdom. High Commission of India, London is in regular touch with the Indian community in the United Kingdom and should such an incident come to its notice, necessary steps will be taken to ensure the well-being and safety of Indian nationals in the United Kingdom.

APPENDIX VI
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 302
ANSWERED ON 07.12.2016

Exchange of Prisoners

*302. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:
DR. SATYAPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Indian civil/fishermen prisoners and Pakistani civil/fishermen prisoners released by Pakistan and India respectively during the last three-years;
- (b) the number of such Indian prisoners still in the Pakistani jails and *vice-versa*;
- (c) whether the cases of torture/death of such Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails have come to the notice of the Government during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government in such cases; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to release all the prisoners by both the countries?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):
(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) to (E) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 302 REGARDING "EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS" FOR ANSWER ON 07.12.2016

The number of Indian civil prisoners and fishermen released by Pakistan and Pakistani civil prisoners and fishermen released by India, in the last three years is as follows :

	2013	2014	2015
Indian civil prisoners released by Pakistan	38	6	5
Indian fishermen released by Pakistan	390	185	448
Pakistani civil prisoners released by India	38	26	44
Pakistani fishermen released by India	28	74	115

Further in the calendar year 2016, Government released 10 Pakistani Civil prisoners and 9 Pakistani Fishermen and Government of Pakistan released 190 Indian Fishermen and 2 Indian Civil prisoners, so far.

As per information available with the Government, 516 fishermen, who are Indian or believed to be Indian nationals are currently in the custody of Pakistani authorities. Out of these 516, formal confirmation of the presence of 55 fishermen apprehended in the past few months by Pakistani authorities, is yet to be received from the Government of Pakistan.

As per the information available there are 57 civil prisoners in Pakistani Jails who are Indian or believed to be Indian nationals. Out of these 57, formal confirmation of the presence of 3 civil prisoners is yet to be received from the Government of Pakistan.

Government of Pakistan does not acknowledge the presence of 74 Indian Missing Defence Personnel, including 54 Prisoners of War, in Pakistan.

Government of Pakistan does not acknowledge the presence of 74 Indian Missing Defence Personnel, including 54 Prisoners of War, in Pakistan.

As of 1 July 2016, there are 270 Pakistani civil prisoners and 37 Pakistani fishermen in Indian jails. During 2013, 2014 and 2015, three (3) Indian civil prisoners and eight (8) Indian fishermen have died in the custody of Pakistani authorities. In addition, 1 Indian civil prisoner and 2 Indian fishermen have died in the year 2016, so far. The details are as following :

Year	No.	Name	Date of death	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
2013	4	Chambail Singh (Civil Prisoner)	15/01/2013	Died in Central Jail, Lahore
		Sarabjit Singh (Civil Prisoner)	02/05/2013	Attacked by fellow inmates in Central Jail, Lahore on 26.04.2013
		Dadu Bhai (Fisherman)	03/07/2013	Died in District Jail, Malir Karachi
		Bhikha Bhai (Fisherman)	19/2/2013	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
2014	5	Kishore (Fisherman)	04/02/2014	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
		Arvind (Fisherman)	02/05/2014	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
		Bala (Fisherman)	25/07/2014	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
		Jania@Chania (Fisherman)	04/11/2014	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi

1	2	3	4	5
		Dooliya Devyat Bhai (Fisherman)	10/12/2014	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
2015	2	Vadha Chauhan (Fisherman)	22/12/2015	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
		Abu Bakar Nohri (Civil Prisoner)	30/11/2015	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
2016	3	Ratandas Makwana (Fisherman)	12/02/2016	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi
		Kirpal Singh (Civil Prisoner)	11/04/2016	Died in Central Jail, Lahore
		Mohan (Fisherman)	01/10/2016	Died in District Jail, Malir, Karachi

In case of the Civil prisoner Chambail Singh (died on 15 January 2013), there were media reports that the death was due to beating in Central Jail, Lahore. In case of civil prisoner Sarabjit Singh (died on 2 May, 2013) who was attacked by fellow inmates, the report of his autopsy conducted by Pakistani authorities mentioned "ante-mortem wounds". The viscera of both these Indian Nationals were sent for further forensic examination by authorities in Pakistan.

Government has consistently and strongly stressed on several occasions to the Government of Pakistan the latter's responsibility to ensure safety, security and well-being of all those prisoners and fishermen, who are in the custody of Pakistan and are Indian or believed to be Indian nationals.

Government regularly takes up with the Government of Pakistan the matter of early release & repatriation of all Indian civil prisoners and fishermen, who have completed their sentences. The High Commission of India in Islamabad, on a continuing basis, provides humanitarian and legal assistance to Indian nationals imprisoned in Pakistan and also regularly undertakes distribution of items of daily necessity to them through Pakistani jail authorities. In addition, an India-Pakistan Judicial Committee on Prisoners, consisting of retired judges from the higher judiciary of both countries, was constituted in 2008 to look into humanitarian aspects of the matter and recommend measures to ensure humane treatment and expeditious release of fishermen and prisoners, who have completed their prison term. The last visit of the Committee was to India in 2013. It is now Pakistan's turn to organise the next visit of the Committee and Government awaits further steps by Government of Pakistan in this regard.

श्री कृपाल बालाजी तुमाने (रामटेक): अध्यक्ष महोदया, भारत और पाकिस्तान की सीमा पर अरब सागर के किनारे रहने वाले करीब 70 लाख परिवार ऐसे हैं, जो मछली पकड़ कर अपना गुजारा करते हैं।... (व्यवधान) कई बार तूफान आता है, जिसके कारण उनकी नावें इधर-उधर हो जाती हैं।... (व्यवधान) उस समय उनको यह पता नहीं चल पाता है कि उनकी नाव किस दिशा में जा रही है और ऐसे में वे सीमा का उल्लंघन कर जाते हैं।... (व्यवधान) जब वे दूसरे देश की सीमा में प्रवेश कर जाते हैं तो वहां उनको पकड़ लिया जाता है वहां उनको लैंग्वेज की प्रोब्लम होती है और उनसे 'हां' कहलवा दिया जाता है।... (व्यवधान) इसके बाद उन पर देश विरोधी आदि के मुकदमें चलाए जाते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में भी कहा है कि कई कैदियों की वहां मृत्यु हो चुकी है, क्योंकि उनसे वहां मारपीट की जाती है।... (व्यवधान) उनकी मृत्यु की सूचना उनके परिवार को भी नहीं दी जाती है। मैं स्पैसिफिक क्वेश्चन पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या मानवाधिकारों को ध्यान में रखकर सरकार इस बारे में कोई साझा नीति बनाने पर विचार कर रही है?... (व्यवधान)

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): अध्यक्ष महोदया, इस बारे में बहुत विस्तार से स्टेटमेंट में बताया गया है। जहां तक हमारे पड़ोसी देश का सवाल है, वह इसको इनएडवर्टेंट क्रॉसिंग न मानते हुए सीमा का उल्लंघन और उनके देश के खिलाफ साजिश मानते हैं।... (व्यवधान) इसलिए जब तक हमें पता चलता है कि हमारे मछुआरे वहां कैद में हैं, काफी समय बीत जाता है।... (व्यवधान) हम अपनी तरफ से कोशिश करते हैं कि इस चीज को अपनी एम्बैसी के द्वारा काउंसलर एक्सेस लेकर ठीक करवाया जाए।... (व्यवधान) इसमें थोड़ा समय का विलम्ब होता है, क्योंकि हमारे पास यह खबर देर से आती है।... (व्यवधान) दूसरी चीज हमने यह की है कि हमारे कोस्ट गार्ड और पाकिस्तान की मैरीटाइम अथॉरिटी के बीच में संवाद बनाने के लिए इस साल एक बैठक हुई थी और उसमें दोनों तरफ से कुछ चीजों को रखा गया था।... (व्यवधान) हमें आशा है कि इस संवाद से जो तकलीफें माननीय सदस्य ने बतायी हैं, उन पर पूरा गौर किया जाएगा।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: मिनिस्टर ने अपना स्टेटमेंट तो ऑलरेडी टेबल पर रख दिया है।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री कृपाल बालाजी तुमाने (रामटेक): महोदया, मैं आपके द्वारा यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार यह जानने की कोशिश करेगी कि सिर्फ पाकिस्तान ही नहीं, बल्कि पूरी दुनिया में अन्य जेलों में सालों से सजा काट रहे भारतीय नागरिक और मछुआरों की क्या दशा है, इनको कब तक रिहा किया जाएगा और इसके लिए सरकार क्या पहल कर रही है?... (व्यवधान)

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): महोदय, यह सवाल सिर्फ पाकिस्तान तक सीमित था, लेकिन जिन देशों के बारे में माननीय सदस्य जानना चाहते हैं, वह हमें बता दें, हम उन्हें पूरे आंकड़े दे देंगे।... (व्यवधान)

श्री सत्यपाल सिंह (सम्भल): अध्यक्ष महोदया, सबसे पहले मैं आपका बहुत आभार व्यक्त करता हूं कि ढाई वर्ष के बाद मेरा प्रश्न पूछने का नम्बर आया है, वह भी नम्बर दो पर आया है।... (व्यवधान) मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करता हूं कि बिजनेस एजवाइजरी कमेटी यह तय करे कि यह हाउस लॉटरी से चला है या मैरिट से चलना है।... (व्यवधान)

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद और बधाई देता हूं कि उन्होंने बहुत विस्तार से जवाब दिया है। जिस प्रकार से वह पाकिस्तान की जेलों में सड़ने वाले हमारे देश के कैदियों की जान बचाकर

उन्हें भरत वापस लाये हैं, उसके लिए मैं आपको और भारत सरकार को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद और बधाई देता हूँ।...**(व्यवधान)** मेरा सवाल यह है कि आंकड़े यह बताते हैं कि लगभग दस गुणा भारतीय पाकिस्तान के द्वारा पकड़े जाते हैं और हमारे बंधु वहां की जेलों में सड़ते हैं, वहां इनका टाचर होता है, जिसके कारण कुछ कैदियों की मृत्यु भी हो जाती है।...**(व्यवधान)**

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या भारत सरकार विशेष रूप से फिशरमैन के शिविरों में कोई जनजागरण या कोई मुहिम चलाती है, ताकि वे अपनी सीमा पार न करें?...**(व्यवधान)** यदि भारत सरकार ने ऐसा कोई जनजागरण या अभियान चलाये हैं तो पिछले दो वर्षों में उन्होंने ऐसे कितने शिविर लगाये, कितने वर्कशॉपस चलाये, ताकि हमारे फिशरमैन पाकिस्तान में सफर न करें।...**(व्यवधान)**

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): महोदया, मैं माननीय सदस्य को धन्यवाद देता हूँ क्योंकि इस प्रश्न का जो उत्तर दिया गया, वह उन्हें अच्छा लगा। जहां तक सीमा का सवाल है, समुद्र के अंदर कोई सीमा दिखाई नहीं देती है।...**(व्यवधान)** इसके अलावा क्या होता है कि जब मछुआरे समुद्र में जाते हैं और अपने जाल डालते हैं तो उन्हें लगता है कि शायद दूसरी तरफ उन्हें अच्छी मछलियां मिल जायेंगी और इस लालच में कई बार वे दूसरी तरफ चले जाते हैं और पकड़े जाते हैं।...**(व्यवधान)** हम अपनी तरफ से कोशिश करते हैं कि उन्हें इस बारे में जागरूक किया जाए और बताया जाए। हालांकि कोस्ट गार्ड्स और डिस्ट्रिक्ट एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन की तरफ से उन्हें ये चीजें बताई जाती हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**

इसके अलावा माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है कि इस बारे में अब तक कितने शिविर चलाये गये हैं। इसके बारे में मैं उन्हें जानकारी भेज दूंगा, लेकिन हमारी पूरी कोशिश है कि हमारे मछुआरे समुद्री सीमा को क्रास न करें और दूसरी तरफ जाकर कैदी न बने।...**(व्यवधान)**

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): The hon. Minister has given a detailed reply but in that reply itself he has told how many people have died in Pakistan jails and also how they are ill-treated. In this context, as per the data of the Ministry, 260 fishermen are there in Pakistan jails and 44 boats have been seized out of which release of 22 boats is in the process. ...**(Interruptions)** My question is, in November 2016, 43 Indian fishermen were arrested by Pakistan for allegedly trespassing territorial waters. What are the steps taken for bringing them back? Has the Government evoked the provisions of bilateral agreement on Consular Access signed in May 2008 to bring the fishermen to justice? ...**(Interruptions)** As per the agreement, retired judges from both the countries can visit the jail and they can examine what kind of treatment is given to the jail mates. ...**(Interruptions)** All these things can be done as per the 2008 bilateral agreement. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether this agreement is being used by the Indian Government. ...**(Interruptions)**

GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD.): As far as our fishermen are concerned, the moment our consulate gets information through our sources and through Pakistan, an application is made with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Pakistan for consular access to these fishermen. ...**(Interruptions)** The first step is to find out who are Indians amongst them. With that process on, our consulate makes all the efforts to go and meet our people and find out what their problems are and what kind of assistance do they want. ...**(Interruptions)**

On the issue of judicial commission which the hon. Member has raised, there was an agreement on judicial commission in which the retired judges were nominated from both the countries to visit each other's country on an alternate basis and they were to see the conditions in the jails.

The last such visit was done in 2013 which was hosted by us. The next visit was to be hosted by Pakistan and Pakistan, despite repeated requests by us, has not been forthcoming in allowing this visit. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्रीमती नीलम सोनकर (लालगंज): अध्यक्ष महोदया, हम सब यह जानते हैं कि भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच कूटनीतिक संबंध ठीक नहीं होने के कारण और सीमा पर तनाव होने के कारण दोनों देशों के कैदियों पर बहुत ही बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है, जिसके कारण निर्दोष कैदी छूट नहीं पाते हैं। ..(*व्यवधान*) मैं माननीय विदेश मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहती हूँ कि दोनों देशों के तनाव के बावजूद भी कैदियों की रिहाई न प्रभावित हो, इसके लिए क्या कोई राजनयिक नीति बनाई है?...(*व्यवधान*)

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): अध्यक्ष महोदया, जहां तक आंकड़ों का सवाल है, वे यह दिखाते हैं कि हमारे रिश्तों में शिथिलता होने के बावजूद भी हमारे कैदियों के लिए जो बायलैटरल एग्रीमेंट्स हैं, वे पूरी तरह से चल रहे हैं।...(*व्यवधान*) उनके अंदर कोई रूकावट नहीं आई है। इस प्रक्रिया के अंदर कोई व्यवधान नहीं पैदा हुआ है हालांकि हमारे रिश्तों के अंदर शिथिलता आई है।... (*व्यवधान*)

APPENDIX VII

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1118
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2017

Family Details on Passports

1118. DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI:
SHRIDINESH TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to do away with the practice of printing details of a person's father, mother or spouse in the passport booklet in keeping with global practices and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the time by which the Government plans to implement this initiative; and
- (d) whether the Government has received complaints, especially from women of procedural harassment in passport offices and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR.) V.K. SINGH (RETD.)]: (a) to (c) As per the extant provisions, only one parent's name [either mother or father or legal guardian] is mandatory while submitting the application for issue of passport, it is not mandatory for the applicant to provide the names of both the mother and the father in the application form. In case of divorce/separation, the applicant is not required to provide the name of the spouse in the form while applying for the issue of passport. However, in case of married applicants, it is mandatory to provide the name of the spouse in the application form for issue of passport.

A three-member Committee comprising of the officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Women and Child Development was constituted to examine various issues pertaining to passport applications where mother/child had insisted that the name of the father should not be mentioned in the passport and also relating to passport issues to children with single parent and to adopted children. The Report of the Committee has been accepted by the Ministry. One of the recommendations of the Committee was that the Ministry of External Affairs should explore the possibility of doing away with the printing of some information contained in the Passport Booklet such as names of father/legal guardian, mother,

spouse and present address. It has been observed from the passport booklets of other countries available with this Ministry that the names of father, mother and spouse are generally not printed in them. *The Ministry is examining this recommendation of the Committee in consultation with the various stakeholders.*

(d) The attention of the Government has been drawn to some media reports regarding difficulties faced by women applicants, who are either divorced or separated, at the time of applying for issue of passports for their children.

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APPENDIX VIII
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 184
ANSWERED ON 15.03.2017
Contribution to UN Budget

*184. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India contributes to the United Nations budget;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with funds contributed by major countries;
- (c) the details of India's contribution to the UN agencies in India during the last six years (2010 to 2016); and
- (d) the details of income tax exemption extended by India for the UN staff working in India during the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):
(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 184 REGARDING "CONTRIBUTION TO
THE UN BUDGET" FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2017

Each member State of the United Nations is required to contribute to the United Nation's Regular and Peacekeeping budgets. These obligatory contributions are calculated based on a member's relative 'capacity to pay', defined through a scale of assessment that takes into account the member's Gross National Income relative to the Global Gross National Income, adjusted further for the level of its national external debt and low per capita income. While being applied to the UN's Peacekeeping budget, this Scale of Assessment is further modified to take into account the additional principle that since all Permanent Members of the Security Council bear special responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security they must contribute additional amounts to the UN's peacekeeping budget. From time to time India also makes voluntary contributions to UN agencies and programs from the budget of this Ministry.

For the period 2016-18, India's Scale of Assessment for the UN's Regular and Peacekeeping budget has been fixed at 0.737% and 0.1474% respectively. India's actual contribution to United Nations paid out of the budget of this Ministry in the

last 6 financial years are:—

Financial Year	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Contribution to United Nations Organization	143.77 Cr	153.13 Cr.	150.96 Cr	138 Cr	157 Cr	244 Cr

India's voluntary contributions to International organizations, including various UN agencies and programs, for the last 6 financial years are:—

Financial Year	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Voluntary contribution to International Organizations (In crores)	13.16	18.07	21.36	31.35	24.00	22.00

The list of top 10 contributing countries to the UN regular budget for 2017 are following:—

Country	USA	Japan	China	Germany	France	UK	Brazil	Italy	Russia	Canada
Scale of assessments (%)	22.000	9.680	7.921	6.389	4.859	4.463	3.823	3.748	3.048	2.921
Contributions (million US\$)	610	244	200	161	123	113	96	95	78	74

The list of top 10 contributing countries (in percentage terms) to the UN peacekeeping budget for 2017 are following:—

Country	USA	China	Japan	Germany	France	UK	Russia	Italy	Canada	Spain
Scale of assessments (%)	28.46	10.25	9.68	6.38	6.28	5.77	3.99	3.74	2.92	2.44

As per Section 18(b) of the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act 1947, Act No. 46 of 1947, officials of the UN shall be exempt from taxation on the salaries and emoluments to them by the United Nations. Since Income tax is not levied on the salaries of the UN officials in India, data of income tax exemption extended by India for the UN officials working in India does not exist.

SHRI RAHUL KASWAN (CHURU): Madam Speaker, as per the answer provided by the Minister, the fund contribution to the UN organisation in the last financial year was Rs. 244 crore and in the previous year it was Rs. 157 crore. I would like to know from the Minister as to what are the major fields where the UN utilizes most of the funds given by the Government of India and how much of this fund is spent on India itself.

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): महोदया, जो भी यू एन का बजट होता है, उसके अंदर हर मेंबर का कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन जाता है। उसके बाद यूएन उसको किस तरीके से इस्तेमाल करता है, अपने-अपने अलग प्रोजेक्ट्स में से कुछ हिस्सा जो उसका आता है, उसका विवरण हमारे पास नहीं है, लेकिन हम इस बात को मानकर चलते हैं कि यूएन का कोई भी प्रोजेक्ट, जो फंडेड होता है यू एन के द्वारा, उसके अंदर इसका कुछ न कुछ अंश जरूर होता है।

SHRI RAHUL KASWAN (CHURU): Madam, India's voluntary contribution to the international organisations and to UN agencies is also nearly Rs. 24 crore and Rs. 22 crore in the last two financial years. Does the Government of India have any monitoring system to monitor these funds given to UN and other international organisations and is there any spending mechanism through which the Government of India looks into that?

GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD.): Madam, it is like the nation where various people contribute and the budget of the nation is whole. Similarly, the budget of the United Nations is a whole. We do not have any mechanism to take a feedback on what is being spent on India. This is the overall budget and it is dependent on the capacity of a nation to contribute. It has got a formula by which the UN calculates and in our case it works out to be approximately 0.7 per cent of our GNP which goes to the UN as part of our contribution to the United Nations.

श्री राजीव सातव (हिंगोली): महोदया, मैं यहाँ से प्रश्न पूछने की अनुमति चाहूँगा।

महोदया, यह जो सवाल है, इसमें हम हर साल यू एन को कॉन्ट्रिब्यूट करते हैं। पिछली बार 244 करोड़ रुपए किया, उसके पिछली बार 157 करोड़ रुपए किया। पीस कीपिंग मिशन में हमारा कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन रहा। भारत सिक्योरिटी काउन्सिल का परमानेंट मेंबर बनने के दावेदार के रूप में कोशिश कर रहा है। जब हम परमानेंट मेंबर बनने की दिशा में जा रहे हैं तो जब भी हम परमानेंट मेंबर बनेंगे तो कितना फोल्ड इसमें इनक्रीज होगा, क्या इसके बारे में सरकार ने कुछ सोचा है?

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): महोदया, जैसा मैंने कहा कि एक देश का जो कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन होता है, वह उसकी कैपेसिटी पर निर्भर करता है और उसका एक फॉर्मूला है कि किस प्रकार से वह कैपेसिटी जज की जाती है। देश का जी० एन० पी० डिवाइडेड बाई दुनिया का जी० एन० पी० और उसके बाद उस देश का कितना कर्जा है, उसकी पर-कैपिटल इनकम क्या है, इन सब चीजों को लेकर यह निश्चित किया जाता है। इसका सिक्योरिटी काउन्सिल से कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। वह नेशन की कैपेसिटी पर डिपेंड करता है। क्या वे पे कर सकते हैं, यह डिसाइड होता है। अब जिस प्रकार से यू एन से अपनी कांग्रेस के अंदर एक फैसला किया कि हम 22 परसेंट से ज्यादा यू एन को नहीं देंगे तो जो यू एन की तरफ से यू एन का हिस्सा बनता था, उसके अंदर और इसके अंदर गैप है। वह गैप बाकी मेंबर्स के ऊपर आ जाता है। सिक्योरिटी काउन्सिल से इसका कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है।

डॉ० किरीट सोमैया (मुम्बई उत्तर पूर्व): महोदया, राहुल जी ने जो पहला प्रश्न किया, उसके बारे में ही मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से स्पष्टता करना चाहूँगा। इसमें लिखा है कि कैपेसिटी टू पे एंड ग्रॉस नेशनल इनकम।

इसके साथ में कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन छोड़ा गया है। मैं मंत्री जी से यह स्पष्टता चाहूँगा कि 2013-14, in which was the last year of the previous government, जिसमें 138 करोड़ रुपये का कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन दिया था और वर्ष 2015-16 में 244 करोड़ रुपये का कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन था। यह 80 पर्सेंट ज्यादा कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन हुआ, इसका रीजन यह है कि इंडिया की कैपेसिटी टू पे बढ़ गई। इसका अर्थ यह होता है कि भारत सरकार की ग्रोथ नेशनल इनकम 80 पर्सेंट बढ़ गई। इसके कारण यह कॉन्ट्रिब्यूशन डबल हुआ है। मैं इसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय से स्पष्टता चाहूँगा।

जनरल विजय कुमार सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त): मैडम, जब हम कैपेसिटी टू पे की बात करते हैं, तो मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि इसका इंडेक्स तीन साल के लिए बनता है। इसके अंदर जो मेम्बर स्टेट है उसकी जी०एन०आई० को वर्ल्ड एवरेज के जी०एन०आई० से डिवाइड करते हैं। जैसा कि मैंने बताया कि बाकी चीजों को शामिल करके एक फिगर निकाली जाती है, जो हमारे केस के अंदर 0.7 है। अगर हमारा फिगर बढ़ा है तो इसका मतलब है कि हमारी जी०एन०आई० बढ़ी है, हमारी कैपेसिटी टू पे ज्यादा हो गई है। माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा कि हमारी कैपेसिटी टू पे ज्यादा है, इसमें जिस तरीके से प्रत्येक साल बढ़ोतरी होती रही है, उसके हिसाब से हमने जो छह साल की फिगर दी है, इसके अंदर हम देखेंगे कि हर साल कुछ न कुछ बढ़ोतरी हुई है।

APPENDIX IX
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 443
ANSWERED ON 05.04.2017

ASEAN

***443. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India plans to host counter-radicalisation conference with the ASEAN;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of benefits accrued to India in the last three years due to ASEAN in terms of trade and commerce?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):
(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 443 REGARDING "ASEAN" FOR
ANSWER ON 05.04.2017

(a) & (b) Yes, India plans to host a conference on counter-radicalisation this year. ASEAN member states would be invited to participate in the Conference.

(c) ASEAN is one of our leading trading partners, accounting for over 10% of our trade. The ASEAN-India Agreement for Trade in Services and the ASEAN-India Agreement on Investment were both signed in 2014 and entered into force on 1 July 2015, supplementing the existing ASEAN-India Agreement on Trade in Goods. These have set the stage for further strengthening of economic and commercial relations between ASEAN and India. FDI equity inflows from ASEAN have increased in the last three years with inflows from April 2014 to December 2016 amounting to US \$ 28 billion (₹ 1,81,797 crores approximately), which is more than the cumulative inflows received from ASEAN between April 2000 and March 2014. For the period April 2016-December 2016, FDI inflows from ASEAN comprised over 20% of total FDI equity inflows into India.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (NARASARAOPET): Madam Speaker, I would like to know from the Minister of External Affairs whether the Association of Southeast Asian Nations has been helpful in the last 25 years in addressing issues concerning India, particularly those related to terrorism, and during its deliberations in the last few ASEAN summits. Also, is India planning something big to celebrate completion of 25 years of ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership this year? If yes, what are the details thereof, where would such an event take place and what would be the agenda for it?

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: अध्यक्ष जी, टेररिज्म की धमकी और टेररिज्म की श्रेत आज पूरे विश्व को घेर रही है। आसियान अपने आप में बड़े देशों का एक समूह है। यहां पर भी यह बात उठी है और खास तौर पर जब मलेशिया के प्रधान मंत्री से हमारे प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी से बात हुई, तो वहां पर जो डिरेडक्लाइजेशन का एक कार्यक्रम चलाया जा रहा है, इस मद्देनजर रख कर एक चर्चा हुई।

उसके बाद जनरल वी के सिंह जब ईस्ट एशिया समिट के लिए गए और बाद में प्राइम मिनिस्टर मोदी गए, तो उन्होंने कहा कि इस डिरेडक्लाइजेशन के लिए एक बड़ी कान्फ्रेंस की जानी चाहिए और अगर वह भारत में हो, तो अच्छा होगा। भारत ने इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार किया और कहा कि डिरेडक्लाइजेशन की एक कान्फ्रेंस करेंगे। वह कान्फ्रेंस हमने करने का तय किया है। उसमें सारे के सारे आसियान देश आमंत्रित होंगे। अभी जगह तय नहीं की गई है, जो सांसद जी ने पूछा है कि कहां, किस स्थान पर होगी, लेकिन यह डिरेडक्लाइजेशन के बारे में एक बड़ी कान्फ्रेंस होगी, जिसमें तमाम आसियान देशों के नेताओं को आमंत्रित किया जाएगा।

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (NARASARAOPET): What are the impending issues which would be taken up with ASEAN at various levels? Are we taking up issues like trade *via* South China Sea in ASEAN region or trade *via* international waters in the region? Would the Minister provide details of the major MoUs, agreements and deals made between ASEAN and India in the last three years? Has there been any change in the policy initiatives of the Government of India in the last three years concerning trade, commerce and bilateral relations between India and ASEAN? If yes, the details thereof and if no, the reasons thereof may be given.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: अध्यक्ष जी, जैसा कि मैंने पहले प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया कि यह कान्फ्रेंस के बारे में है। इसके दो ही थीम हैं। एक क्रॉस बार्डर टेररिज्म और दूसरा डिरेडक्लाइजेशन, जो आजकल खास तौर पर हमारे युवाओं को टारगेट करके रेडक्लाइज किया जा रहा है। साउथ चाइना सी उसकी परिधि में नहीं आता है। साउथ चाइना सी किसी रेडक्लाइजेशन की विचारधारा से प्रेरित नहीं है, इसलिए साउथ चाइना सी उसका विषय नहीं होगा, बल्कि क्रॉस बार्डर टेररिज्म यानि सीमा पार आतंकवाद और उसके साथ-साथ, रेडक्लाइजेशन की विचारधारा, इसी पर वह कान्फ्रेंस होगी।

डॉ० सत्यपाल सिंह (बागपत): आज कल के मानव समाज के लिए लोकतंत्र और अनेकता की जो विधायें हैं, वह समाज के लिए सुंदरता है और प्रगति का मूल है। लोकतंत्र अनेकता, व्यक्ति स्वातंत्र्य या व्यापारवर्धी, इन सबके मूल में यह जरूरी है और जो सबसे बड़ा खतरा है, वह कट्टरवाद या रेडक्लाइजेशन से है।

आज कश्मीर में जो अलगाववाद या आतंकवाद देखने को मिलता है, उस कट्टरवाद के बीज लगभग तीन-चार दशक पहले बोए गए। देश के अंदर कट्टरवाद के खिलाफ या एंटी काउंटर रेडिकलाइजेशन के जो कार्यक्रम थे, वे केवल कश्मीर के अंदर चलाए गए, वहां भी वे सक्सेसफुल नहीं हुए। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी प्रदेश की सभी सरकारों को ऐसे निर्देश जारी करेंगी या राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर भी क्या काउंटर रेडिकलाइजेशन कान्फ्रेंस आयोजित करने का कोई प्लान है?

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: अध्यक्ष जी, जहां तक रेडिकलाइजेशन पॉलिसी का सवाल है, केवल जम्मू-कश्मीर में ही नहीं, जैसे मैंने कहा कि यह श्रेष्ठ पूरे विश्व में है और हमारे हर प्रदेश में है, इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार पहले ही राज्य सरकारों के साथ मिलकर एक एंटी-रेडिकलाइजेशन कार्यक्रम कर रही है। इसके साथ-साथ मैं यह बताना चाहूंगी कि अगर आप तुलना करें तो भारत में अभी तक हम इस मामले में बचे हुए हैं, क्योंकि कुल मिलाकर अभी तक आंकड़ों के अनुसार 50 युवक रेडिकलाइज होकर उस तरफ गए हैं। इसका मेजर कारण है, इंडियन एर्थॉस, इसका मेजर कारण है कि हमारा संविधान धर्मनिरपेक्ष है। हमारे धर्माचार्य अपने अनुयायियों को अमन और चैन की शिक्षा देते हैं, हमारे यहां पारिवारिक प्रथा है, जहां मां-बाप, बड़े भाई-बहन निगाह रखते हैं, यह संस्कार कि हम लोग हिंसा के विरोधी हैं, इन तमाम चीजों को लेकर हम चल रहे हैं और साथ-साथ जो प्रशासनिक कार्रवाई राज्य सरकारों के साथ करनी है, वह केन्द्र सरकार पहले ही हर प्रदेश में कर रही है।

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD): Hon. Speaker Madam, the Government intends to hold ASEAN counter-radicalisation conference. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government will follow the successful four-point programme of the Malaysian Government. Will it not be much better if this Government calls a counter-radicalisation conference of all the Ulemas and the Islamic scholars of ASEAN countries? These are the countries where Muslims are in majority and they have been able to control radicalization very successfully. So, more than calling countries, will this Government call the scholars of all the ASEAN countries so that a joint message can be given by the Ulema? It is because the effect on the youth will not be as much from the people heading the Government as from the scholars, and a true perspective of religion can come out.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: अध्यक्ष जी, हम ओवैसी जी के सुझाव पर निश्चित रूप से सकारात्मक विचार करेंगे।

APPENDIX X
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 475
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017

List of Indian Workers Abroad

475. SHRI Y.V. SUBBAREDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether States are requesting the Ministry to maintain a list of Indians working in Gulf countries and distribute the same to States concerned so that the concerned State can take necessary steps whenever needed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons why Ministry cannot have bilateral agreement with each of the Gulf countries so that prisoners can be sent back to respective States to execute remaining term of punishment in Indian Jails; and

(d) the other suggestions received from other States in the conference conducted recently in Delhi by the Ministry and status of implementation of each of such suggestion?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M.J. AKBAR): (a) & (b) Some States have *inter-alia* requested for sharing of data of Indians working in Gulf countries from the concerned States during a recent conference held by Ministry of External Affairs with State Governments. This data is placed at Annexure. List of Indians working in Gulf countries from a specific State will be provided to the concerned State Government separately.

(c) India has bilateral agreements on 'Transfer of Sentenced Persons' with several countries including Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

(d) Several suggestions were received during the Conference with State Governments by the Ministry. Some of the key suggestions were:

- (i) Posting of language translators in Missions abroad;
- (ii) Early dispatch of mortal remains of Indian workers from overseas;
- (iii) Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) to be extended to Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) passport holders also;

- (iv) Taking stern action against illegal agents in different States;
- (v) Opening of more POE offices in U.P., Bihar, Dehradun and North East States;
- (vi) Synchronization of Skill Development initiatives with Overseas Employment etc.

Action on these suggestions is under process.

ANNEXURE

Emigration Clearance count for the year 2015—State-wise and country-wise

State	United Arab Emirates	Saudi Arabia	Kuwait	Qatar	Oman	Bahrain	Total
Andaman & Nicobar islands	10	8	4	3	2	1	28
Andhra Pradesh	12032	8875	15890	2611	4150	1017	44575
Arunachal Pradesh	5	4	1	2	1	1	14
Assam	493	2915	622	99	110	21	4260
Bihar	32538	42956	3955	10364	15300	1314	106427
Chandigarh	171	104	50	54	45	19	443
Chhattisgarh	63	102	17	17	28	0	227
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4	3	1	0	2	0	10
Daman & Diu	4	2	2	5	0	0	13
Delhi	635	1189	180	172	244	44	2464
Goa	279	195	544	47	87	30	1182
Gujarat	2000	1369	538	902	1861	106	6776
Haryana	852	678	236	244	168	48	2226
Himachal Pradesh	393	274	122	236	120	15	1160
Jammu & Kashmir	316	3267	800	186	84	36	4689
Jharkhand	2057	3427	421	608	764	98	7375
Karnataka	3334	4687	1011	956	1634	226	11848
Kerala	13798	12371	2858	4379	7707	1618	42731
Lakshadweep	3	0	0	1	0	0	4
Madhya Pradesh	318	1089	400	48	149	14	2018
Manipur	7	16	1	1	0	2	27
Maharashtra	4196	5481	1452	2297	1478	280	15184
Meghalaya	4	4	0	3	0	0	11
Mizoram	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Nagaland	1	11	1	0	0	0	13
Orissa	6740	2278	1381	1545	2816	300	15060
Pondicherry	137	82	98	23	45	12	397
Punjab	25485	4216	4207	5412	3476	1502	44298
Rajasthan	14984	16190	4450	4258	4718	1215	45815
Sikkim	9	0	0	2	1	0	12
Tamil Nadu	23280	14399	7572	4900	8703	1552	60406
Telangana	13276	10716	1658	1770	6577	2009	36006
Tripura	160	1138	759	23	28	4	2112
Uttarakhand	908	3064	171	155	358	75	4731
Uttar Pradesh	55249	128251	12377	13806	21101	3417	234201
West Bengal	11771	37279	4764	4211	3271	643	61939
Total	225512	306642	66543	59340	85028	15619	758684

Emigration Clearance count for the year 2016—State-wise and country-wise

State	United Arab Emirates	Saudi Arabia	Kuwait	Qatar	Oman	Bahrain	Total
Andaman & Nicobar	4	7	2	1	3	0	17
Andhra Pradesh	5771	3571	13232	612	2827	561	26574
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Assam	575	2284	853	61	76	6	3855
Bihar	25571	24005	7828	6371	10587	1117	75479
Chandigarh	57	38	62	18	27	12	214
Chhattisgarh	57	59	21	15	26	7	185
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	2	0	1	2	1	8
Daman & Diu	19	3	3	4	2	1	32
Delhi	413	862	199	83	155	32	1744
Goa	173	101	393	36	120	10	833
Gujarat	1161	710	597	523	1402	118	4511
Haryana	642	532	279	120	153	52	1778
Himachal Pradesh	277	153	133	101	84	19	767
Jammu & Kashmir	231	3032	890	113	48	18	4332
Jharkhand	1430	1703	556	297	595	51	4632
Karnataka	1738	1761	902	522	1384	117	6424
Kerala	6314	8561	2331	892	6309	555	24962
Lakshadweep	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Madhya Pradesh	222	587	371	27	107	7	1321
Manipur	2	10	2	0	1	1	16
Maharashtra	2990	2739	1530	1431	1447	228	10365
Meghalaya	4	4	0	0	0	1	9
Mizoram	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nagaland	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Orissa	5380	1761	2206	1053	1423	213	12036
Pondicherry	92	41	89	6	24	4	256
Punjab	17140	3003	4095	3255	2268	1002	30763
Rajasthan	14255	7457	5296	1742	4904	1380	35034
Sikkim	1	4	2	1	1	3	12
Tamil Nadu	16832	5700	5765	2190	6640	624	37751
Telangana	10776	4933	1828	768	4004	2343	24652
Tripura	450	1341	923	12	26	4	2756
Uttarakhand	545	1927	241	101	395	33	3242
Uttar Pradesh	41210	59799	15480	6603	15652	2734	141478
West Bengal	9393	28664	6293	3658	2531	710	51249
Total	163731	165356	72402	30619	63224	11964	507296

Emigration Clearance count for the year 2017 (till 30 June)—State-wise and country-wise

State	United Arab Emirates	Saudi Arabia	Kuwait	Qatar	Oman	Bahrain	Total
Andaman & Nicobar	2	1	3	1	0	0	7
Andhra Pradesh	1838	795	4847	376	902	212	8970
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	229	813	434	16	60	8	1560
Bihar	15392	8752	3050	2745	5296	572	35807
Chandigarh	34	8	19	6	2	5	74
Chhattisgarh	30	24	7	1	6	3	71
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4	0	0	0	2	0	6
Daman & Diu	8	1	0	3	1	0	13
Delhi	215	241	89	34	64	11	654
Goa	67	37	190	11	33	7	345
Gujarat	448	247	312	284	900	30	2221
Haryana	301	166	126	41	70	16	720
Himachal Pradesh	160	57	69	26	25	18	355
Jammu & Kashmir	138	571	322	31	42	3	1107
Jharkhand	609	518	269	172	300	35	1903
Karnataka	782	537	447	285	474	70	2595
Kerala	1893	2719	1002	366	2750	265	8995
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Madhya Pradesh	84	205	182	11	40	7	529
Maharashtra	1115	779	651	944	557	65	4111
Manipur	5	7	0	0	0	0	12
Meghalaya	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Mizoram	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nagaland	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Orissa	2275	438	878	642	920	140	5293
Pondicherry	57	14	40	2	17	3	133
Punjab	8230	938	1516	1101	1059	670	13514
Rajasthan	7158	2888	2252	874	3054	399	16625
Sikkim	2	0	0	1	0	1	4
Tamil Nadu	7583	1576	2544	580	3344	255	15882
Telangana	3897	1123	650	354	2153	642	8819
Tripura	156	239	320	7	17	2	741
Uttar Pradesh	16590	1179	5717	2295	6403	859	33043
Uttarakhand	210	562	126	46	190	13	1147
West Bengal	5264	7559	2245	1712	1731	225	18736
Total	74778	32995	28307	12967	30413	4537	183997

APPENDIX XI
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 564
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017

Diplomatic Missions in Small Countries

564. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite India's ambitious global plans, the Government has failed to set up diplomatic missions in a large number of small countries and Island nations;

(b) if so, the countries and island nations where India does not have its own diplomatic missions;

(c) whether in the last decade alone, at least 17 countries have opened new embassies in India but India has not reciprocated so far to most of those countries; and

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

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (Dr.) V.K. SINGH (RETD.)]: (a) The Government of India is expanding ties with small countries and Island nations based on its assessment of various relevant factors. The opening of more Missions in such States is under active consideration.

(b) The countries where India does not have resident Mission are: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Gabon, Gambia (Islamic Republic of the), Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated State of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Nicaragua, Palau, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Swaziland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, The Holy See, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uruguay and Vanuatu. All these countries are covered by concurrent accreditation.

(c) & (d): Yes, Since 2007, 23 countries have opened new Embassies in India. These are Equatorial Guinea, Honduras, Latvia, Lithuania, Guatemala, Bolivia,

Estonia, Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Niger, Togo, Costa Rica, Burundi, Macedonia, Benin, Guinea, Malawi, Malta, Iceland, Botswana, Papua & New Guinea, Bahrain and Georgia. Of these, India does not have resident Mission in Equatorial Guinea, Honduras, Latvia, Lithuania, Bolivia, Estonia, Republic of Congo, Togo, Costa Rica, Burundi, Benin, Macedonia and Georgia. Proposal to open new resident diplomatic Missions on reciprocal basis in countries which have resident diplomatic Missions in India is currently under contemplation.

APPENDIX XII
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 661
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017

Opening of New Passport Sava Kendras

661. SHRISUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRIBIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRIGAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRIASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRIT. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRIR. DHIRUVA NARAYANA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Passport Sava Kendras (PSKs) and Passport Offices working in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has prepared a plan to open at least one passport centre within a radius of 50 km and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has announced the launch of 149 new Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) in the second phase recently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which they are likely to be set up, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide quality service to the people in these PSKs?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M.J. AKBAR): (a) There are 91 Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) and 55 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) working as on 15 July, 2017. There are 38 Passport Offices functioning in the country. List of Passport Offices is at Annexure-I, list of Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) is at Annexure-II, list of POPSKs functional as on 25 July, 2017 is at Annexure-III and list of POPSKs announced in Phase-I and not yet functional is at Annexure-IV.

(b) There will be 93 PSKs and 235 POPSKs after the operationalisation of all the POPSKs announced in Phase I and II and the PSK at Siliguri (West Bengal) and Solapur (Maharashtra) following which there will be 328 Passport Seva Kendras in the country. The Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Posts (DoP) have decided to utilize the Head Post Offices (HPOs) in the various States as Post Office Passport Sava Kendra (POPSKs) for delivering passport related services to

the citizens of the country. The Government intends to open POPSK in the HPO in the country in such a manner that there is a Passport Seva Kendra available within a radius of 50 km of every HPO.

(c) & (d) Yes. The Government has announced on 17 June, 2017 the opening of 149 new Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) in Phase-II. The list is at Annexure-V. The Ministry intends to complete the requisite formalities like preparation of sites, procurement of IT and non-IT equipment for setting up of these POPSKs at the earliest.

(e) In the recent years, the Ministry has made many quantitative and qualitative improvements in the delivery of passport services in the country. With the implementation of the Passport Seva Project in partnership with its Service Provider M/s. TCS, the Ministry has been providing quality service to the people from the Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) established with best in class amenities across the country in PPP mode. Under this system, the applicants are required to apply for their passports online, upload relevant documents, make the payment online through debit/credit card or SBI net-banking/SBI Challan, schedule an appointment and then visit the designated Passport Seva Kendra (PSK). A user friendly portal has been made available. When an applicant visits the PSK, an Electronic Queue Management System (EQMS) working on the principle of First-in First-out is available at all PSKs to monitor the flow of applicants. The applicants can track the status of their applications themselves through portal and also SMS services. In the current system of passport issuance, there is no manual intervention at any stage, and the complete process is digitally flown with re-engineered process through a single visit clearance.

ANNEXURE I

State/UT-wise List of Passport Offices

Sl. No.	State/UT	Location of Passport Offices
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada
2.	Arunachal Pradesh*	
3.	Assam*	Guwahati*
4.	Bihar	Patna
5.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
6.	Goa	Panaji
7.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad*, Surat
8.	Haryana	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu, Srinagar
11.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
12.	Karnataka	Bangalore
13.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram, Cochin, Kozhikode, Malappuram
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
15.	Maharashtra	Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Thane
16.	Manipur*	-
17.	Meghalaya*	-
18.	Mizoram*	-
19.	Nagaland*	-
20.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
21.	Punjab	Amritsar, Jalandhar
22.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
23.	Sikkim@	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai, Trichy, Madurai, Coimbatore
25.	Telangana	Hyderabad
26.	Tripura@	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow, Bareilly, Ghaziabad
28.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
29.	West Bengal@	Kolkata
30.	Chandigarh UT**	Chandigarh
31.	Delhi NCT ***	Delhi
Total		38

* RPO Guwahati covers Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya & Nagaland.

** RPO Chandigarh covers parts of Punjab and Haryana.

*** RPO Delhi covers parts of Haryana.

@RPO Kolkata covers Sikkim and Tripura.

N.B.: RPO, Mumbai has jurisdiction over Daman, Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

+RPO Ahmedabad has jurisdiction over Diu.

RPO Chennai has jurisdiction over Puducherry.

RPO Cochin has jurisdiction over Lakshadweep Islands.

Andaman & Nicobar Administration also acts as Passport Issuing Authority and liaises with RPO Kolkata.

ANNEXURE II

List of Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Passport Office	Number of PSKs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam, Vijayawada	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati	1
3.	Assam	Guwahati	1
4.	Bihar	Patna	2
5.	Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh	2
6.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	1
7.	Delhi (NCT)	Delhi	4
8.	Goa	Panaji	1
9.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	4
		Surat	1
10.	Haryana	Chandigarh	1
11.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu	1
		Srinagar	1
13.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	1
14.	Karnataka	Bangalore	5
15.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	3
		Cochin	5
		Kozhikode	4
		Malappuram	1
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	2
17.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	3
		Pune	1
		Nagpur	1
		Thane	2
18.	Manipur	Guwahati	1
19.	Mizoram	Guwahati	1
20.	Meghalaya	Guwahati	1
21.	Nagaland	Guwahati	1
22.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar	1
23.	Punjab	Amritsar	1
		Jalandhar	3
24.	Puducherry	Chennai	1
25.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	4
26.	Sikkim	Kolkata	1
27.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	3
		Trichy	2
		Madurai	2
		Coimbatore	1
28.	Telangana	Hyderabad	6
29.	Tripura	Kolkata	1
30.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	4
		Bareilly	1
		Ghaziabad	1
31.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	1
32.	West Bengal	Kolkata	2
Total			91

ANNEXURE III

List of functional POPSKs

Sl. No.	State/UT	Locations	Sl. No.	State/UT	Locations
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kadappa	29.	Madhya Pradesh	Satna
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	30.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	31.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior
4.	Assam	Silchar	32.	Maharashtra	Kolhapur
5.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur	33.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad
6.	Bihar	Purnea	34.	Maharashtra	Pimpri Chinchwad
7.	Bihar	Bhagalpur	35.	Odisha	Rourkela
8.	Bihar	Siwan	36.	Odisha	Sambalpur
9.	Bihar	Bettiah	37.	Odisha	Koraput
10.	Chhattisgarh	Surguja	38.	Rajasthan	Kota
11.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvasa	39.	Rajasthan	Bikaner
12.	Daman	Daman	40.	Rajasthan	Jhunjhunu
13.	Gujarat	Dahod	41.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer
14.	Gujarat	Palanpur	42.	Rajasthan	Jhalawar
15.	Gujarat	Bhuj	43.	Tamil Nadu	Salem
16.	Haryana	Karnal	44.	Tamil Nadu	Vellore
17.	Haryana	Hisar	44.	Telangana	Mehbunagar
18.	Haryana	Faridabad	46.	Telangana	Warangal
19.	Himachal Pradesh	Palampur	47.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi
20.	Himachal Pradesh	Hamirpur	48.	Uttar Pradesh	Pilibhit
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	Udhampur	49.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghazipur
22.	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur	50.	Uttar Pradesh	Ayodhya/ Faizabad
23.	Jharkhand	Deoghar	51.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad
24.	Karnataka	Mysuru	52.	West Bengal	Asansol
25.	Kerala	Pathanamthitta	53.	West Bengal	Raiganj
26.	Kerala	Kasargod	54.	West Bengal	Beadon Street
27.	Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	55.	West Bengal	Krishnanagar
28.	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha			

List of POPSK of Phase-I not yet functional

Sl.No.	State/UT	Locations
1.	Bihar	Gopalganj
2.	Delhi	Janak Puri
3.	Delhi	Nehru Place
4.	Delhi	North West Delhi
5.	Delhi	Patparganj
6.	Delhi	Yamuna Vihar
7.	Goa	South Goa
8.	In place of Diu	Veraval
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Leh
10.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad
11.	Karnataka	Belagavi
12.	Karnataka	Devangere
13.	Karnataka	Hassan
14.	Maharashtra	Beed
15.	Maharashtra	Ghatkopar
16.	Maharashtra	Jalgaon
17.	Maharashtra	Mumbai North Central
18.	Maharashtra	Mumbai South Central
19.	Punjab	Bathinda
20.	Punjab	Gurdaspur
21.	Punjab	Patiala
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Bijnaur
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Gautam Budh Nagar
25.	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Deoria
29.	Uttarakhand	Almora
30.	Uttarakhand	Haldwani
31.	Uttarakhand	Nainital

ANNEXURE V

State-wise List of POPSK-Phase II

Sl.No.	State/UT	Place	Total number of POPSK to be opened - Phase II
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantpur, Chittoor, Guntur, Krishna, Ongole, Rajamundry, Srikakulam	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang, Tirap	2
3.	Assam	Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Mangaldoi, North Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Tinsukia	9
4.	Bihar	Begusarai, Buxar, East Champaran, Gaya, Madhubani, Samastipur, Supaul, Munger, Navada	9
5.	Chhattisgarh	Durg, Rajnandgaon	2
6.	Gujarat	Anand, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Navsari, Valsad	8
7.	Haryana	Bhiwani, Kaithal, Narnaul, Panipat, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Mandi, Una	3
9.	J & K	Anantnag, Baramula, Kathua	3
10.	Jharkhand	Bokaro, Hazaribagh, Medininagar	3
11.	Karnataka	Bellary, Bidar, Raichur, Shivamogga, Tumakuru, Udipi, Vijayapur	7
12.	Kerala	Chengannur, Idukki	2
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat, Chhindwara, Dewas, Hoshangabad, Sehore, Sidhi, Ujjain, Betul, Shivni	9
14.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Jalna, Latur, Pandharpur, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Wardha, Navi Mumbai, Dombivali, Panvel, Nanded.	11
15.	Meghalaya	Baghmara, Tura	2
16.	Odisha	Balasore, Berhampur (Ganjam), Bhawanipatna (Kalahandi)	3

1	2	3	4
17.	Punjab	Moga, Sangrur, Tarn Taran, SBS Nagar (Nawan Shahar), Phagwara	5
18.	Puducherry	Karaikal	1
19.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Churu, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Karauli-Dhauipur, Nagaur, Sriganganagar, Alwar, Chittorgarh, Banswara, Pali	11
20.	Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore, Dindigul, Namakkal, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga, Tiruppur, Viluppuram, Virudhunagar, Kanyakumari (N)	11
21.	Telangana	Adilabad, Medak, Khammam, Siddipet, Nalgonda	5
22.	Uttarakhand	Pauri, Roorkee, Rudrapur	3
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh, Amethi, Azamgarh, Bahraich, Ballia, Balrampur, Barabanki, Basti, Gonda, Jaunpur, Kushinagar, Mau, Sitapur, Muradabad, Pratapgarh, Rae Bareilly, Rampur, Saharanpur, Unnao	19
24.	West Bengal	Bardhaman, Barrackpore, Darjeeling, Malda	4
25.	Delhi	Krishna Nagar, Lodhi Road, Saket	3
Total			149

APPENDIX XIII
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 687
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017

Passport through Post-office

687. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:
SHRI NAGAR RODMAL:
SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of post-offices where passport service centres have been opened in the country till date, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up passport service centres in rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of passport service centres set up in post-offices in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. J. AKBAR): (a) 55 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) out of the 86 announced in Phase-I have been opened as on 15 July, 2017 as per Annexure-I. The list of POPSK announced in Phase-I and not yet functional is at Annexure-II.

(b) The Government has announced on 17 June, 2017 the opening of 149 new Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) in Phase-II. The list is at Annexure-III. The Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Posts (DOP) have decided to utilize the Head Post Offices (HPO) in the various States as Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK), for delivering passport related services to the citizens of the country. The Government intends to open POPSK in the HPO in the country in such a manner that there is a Passport Seva Kendra available within a radius of 50 km of every HPO.

(c) This is at Annexures-I, II and III.

List of Functional POPSKs

Sl. No.	State/UT	Locations
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kadappa
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore
4.	Assam	Silchar
5.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur
6.	Bihar	Purnea
7.	Bihar	Bhagalpur
8.	Bihar	Siwan
9.	Bihar	Bettiah
10.	Chhattisgarh	Surguja
11.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Silvasa
12.	Daman	Daman
13.	Gujarat	Dahod
14.	Gujarat	Palanpur
15.	Gujarat	Bhuj
16.	Haryana	Karnal
17.	Haryana	Hisar
18.	Haryana	Faridabad
19.	Himachal Pradesh	Palampur
20.	Himachal Pradesh	Hamirpur
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	Udhampur
22.	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur
23.	Jharkhand	Deoghar
24.	Karnataka	Mysuru
25.	Kerala	Pathanamthitta
26.	Kerala	Kasargod
27.	Lakshadweep	Kavaratti
28.	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha

1	2	3
29.	Madhya Pradesh	Satna
30.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur
31.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior
32.	Maharashtra	Kolhapur
33.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad
34.	Maharashtra	Pimpri Chinchwad
35.	Odisha	Rourkela
36.	Odisha	Sambalpur
37.	Odisha	Koraput
38.	Rajasthan	Kota
39.	Rajasthan	Bikaner
40.	Rajasthan	Jhunjhunu
41.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer
42.	Rajasthan	Jhalawar
43.	Tamil Nadu	Salem
44.	Tamil Nadu	Vellore
45.	Telangana	Mehbubnagar
46.	Telangana	Warangal
47.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi
48.	Uttar Pradesh	Pilibhit
49.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghazipur
50.	Uttar Pradesh	Ayodhya/Faizabad
51.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad
52.	West Bengal	Asansol
53.	West Bengal	Raiganj
54.	West Bengal	Beadon Street
55.	West Bengal	Krishnanagar

ANNEXURE-II

List of POPSK of Phase-I not yet functional

Sl. No.	State/UT	Locations
1.	Bihar	Gopalganj
2.	Delhi	Janak Puri
3.	Delhi	Nehru Place
4.	Delhi	North West Delhi
5.	Delhi	Patparganj
6.	Delhi	Yamuna Vihar
7.	Goa	South Goa
8.	In place of Diu	Veraval
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Leh
10.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad
11.	Karnataka	Belagavi
12.	Karnataka	Davangere
13.	Karnataka	Hassan
14.	Maharashtra	Beed
15.	Maharashtra	Ghatkopar
16.	Maharashtra	Jalgaon
17.	Maharashtra	Mumbai North Central
18.	Maharashtra	Mumbai South Central
19.	Punjab	Bathinda
20.	Punjab	Gurdaspur
21.	Punjab	Patiala
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Bijnaur
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Gautambudh Nagar
25.	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Deoria
29.	Uttarakhand	Almora
30.	Uttarakhand	Haldwani
31.	Uttarakhand	Nainital

ANNEXURE-III

State-wise List of POPSK- PHASE II

Sl. No.	State/UT	Place	Total number of POPSK to be opened— Phase II
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantpur, Chittoor, Guntur, Krishna, Ongole, Rajahmundry, Srikakulam,	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang, Tirap,	2
3.	Assam	Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Mangaldoi, North Lakhim Pur, Sonitpur, Tinsukia,	.
4.	Bihar	Begusarai, Buxar, East Champaran, Gaya, Madhubani, Samastipur, Supanl, Munger, Navada.	9
5.	Chhattisgarh	Durg, Rajnandgaon	2
6.	Gujarat	Anand, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Navsari, Valsad.	8
7.	Haryana	Bhiwani, Kaithal, Narnaul, Panipat, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar.	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra, Mandi, Una.	3.
9.	J & K	Anantnag, Baramula, Kathua.	3
10.	Jharkhand	Bokaro, Hazaribagh, Medininagar.	3
11.	Karnataka	Bellary, Bidar, Raichur, Shivamogla, Tumakuru, Udipi, Vijayapur.	7
12.	Kerala	Chengannur, Idukki.	2
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat, Chhindwara, Dewas, Hoshangabad, Sehore, Sidhi, Ujjain, Betul, Shivni.	9
14.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Jalna, Latur, Pandharpur, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Wardha, Navi Mumbai, Dombivali, Panvel, Nanded.	11

1	2	3	4
15.	Meghalaya	Baghmara, Tura.	2
16.	Odisha	Balasore, Berhampur (Ganjam), Bhawanipatna (Kalahandi).	3
17.	Punjab	Moga, Sangrur, Taran Taran, SBS Nagar (Nawan Shahar), Phagwara.	5
18.	Puducherry	Karaikal.	1
19.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Churu, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Karauli-Dhaulpur, Nagaur, Sriganganagar, Alwar, Chittorgarh, Banswara, Pali.	11
20.	Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore, Dindigul, Namakkal, . Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Sivaganga, Tiruppur, Viluppuram, Virudhunagar, Kanyakumari(N).	11
21.	Telangana	Adilabad, Medak, Khammam, Siddipet, Nalgonda.	5
22.	Uttarakhand	Pauri, Roorkee, Rudrapur.	3
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh, Amethi, Azamgarh, Bahraich, Ballia, Balrampur, Barabanki, Basti, Gonda, Jaunpur, Kushinagar, Mau, Sitapur, Muradabad, Pratapgarh, Rae Bareli, Rampur, Saharanpur, Unnao.	19
24.	West Bengal	Bardhaman, Barrackpore, Darjeeling, Malda.	4
25.	Deihi	Krishna Nagar, Lodhi Road, Saket.	3
Total			149

APPENDIX XIV
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1717
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017

Soft Power Matrix

1717. SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is working on any comprehensive and well-structured policy to delineate India's soft power resources and their articulation abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is also planning to come out with a 'soft power matrix' in order to measure the effectiveness of India's soft power; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]: (a) & (b) Yes. The Government has a comprehensive and well structured policy to delineate India's soft power resources and their articulation abroad. This is done mainly through the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), with its 36 cultural centers that support and promote India's rich artistic and cultural traditions through a range of activities, including Festivals of India abroad. Ministry of External Affairs also offers educational scholarships and promotes India's cultural heritage through a variety of programmes. We also provide technical assistance and capacity building inputs to partner countries through the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme. We have further expanded the range of our soft power policy by deploying our resources to extend Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to help mitigate the adverse impact of natural disasters.

(c) & (d) Yes. The Government is putting in place a soft power matrix to measure the effectiveness of our policies and this process is presently at the research stage.

APPENDIX XV
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3861
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2017

Delayed Projects Abroad

3861. DR. SWAMY SAKSHI MAHARAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has devised any mechanism to check the time and cost overrun in respect of projects being implemented in other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has achieved success in reducing time and cost overrun in respect of projects implemented during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (Dr.) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]: (a) & (b) Time and cost overruns in respect of projects implemented by Ministry have been addressed through mechanisms such as Project Management Consultants, review committees, bilateral working, monitoring & steering committees, task forces etc. and continuous supervision through concerned Indian Missions and Posts abroad. In addition, projects abroad are being reviewed at Pragati Sessions by Prime Minister and regularly monitored by the External Affairs Minister.

(c) & (d) By adopting effective project monitoring and review mechanism outlined above, Ministry has been able to reduce the cost and time overruns in respect of projects implemented in the last three years. A number of projects such as the Afghan Parliament Building, Afghan-India Friendship Dam, Power substations, Transmission Lines, Hospitals and Training Centres have been completed. The remaining projects are at different-stages of implementation.

APPENDIX XIV

(Vide para 5 of the Report)

Extracts from Manual of Practice & Procedure in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, New Delhi

Definition	<p>8.1 During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a Minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute Assurances and as approved by the Committees on Government Assurances of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, is given at Annex 3. As Assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to the questions to restrict the use of these expressions only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance in these terms.</p> <p>8.2 When an assurance is given by a Minister or when the Presiding Officer directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the department concerned normally within 10 working days of the date on which it is given.</p>
Deletion from the list of Assurances	<p>8.3.1 If the administrative department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfil it, it may write to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat direct with a copy to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs within a week of the receipt of such communication for getting it deleted from the list of Assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister.</p> <p>8.3.2 Departments should make request for dropping of Assurances immediately on receipt of statement of Assurances from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and only in rare cases where they are fully convinced that the Assurances could not be implemented under any circumstances and there is no option left with them but to make a request for dropping. Such requests should have the approval of their Minister and this fact should be indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of the stipulated period of three months, then it should invariably be accompanied with a</p>

	request for extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till a decision of the Committee on Government Assurances is received by them. Copy of the above communications should be simultaneously endorsed to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
Time limit for fulfilling an assurance	8.4.1 An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This time limit has to be strictly observed.
Extension of time for fulfilling an assurance	8.4.2 If the department finds that it is not possible to fulfil the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time direct from the respective Committee on Government Assurances under intimation to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required. Such a communication should be issued with the approval of the Minister.
Registers of Assurances	<p>8.5.1 The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the department concerned in a register as at Annex 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section.</p> <p>8.5.2 Even ahead of the receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfil such Assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at Annex 5.</p> <p>8.5.3 The registers referred to in paras 8.5.1 and 8.5.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Assurances, entries therein being made sessionwise.</p>
Role of Section Officer and Branch Officer	<p>8.6.1 The Section Officer incharge of the concerned section will:</p> <p>(a) scrutinise the registers once a week;</p> <p>(b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever;</p> <p>(c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise, drawing his special attention to Assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and</p> <p>(d) review of pending Assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimise the delay in implementing the Assurances.</p> <p>8.6.2 The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of Assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.</p>

Procedure for fulfilment of an assurance	<p>8.7.1 Every effort should be made to fulfil the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an implementation report containing the available information should be supplied to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in part scrutinize of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However, efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.</p> <p>8.7.2 Information to be supplied in partial or complete fulfilment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned and 15 copies thereof (bilingual) in the prescribed proforma as at <u>Annex 6</u>, together with its enclosures, along with one copy each in Hindi and English duly authenticated by the officer forwarding the implementation report, should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. If, however, the information being furnished is in response to an assurance given in reply to a question etc., asked for by more than one member, an additional copy of the completed proforma (both in Hindi and English) should be furnished in respect of each additional member. A Copy of this communication should be endorsed to the Parliament Unit for completing column 7 of its register.</p> <p>8.7.3 The implementation reports should be sent to the Ministry of the parliamentary Affairs and not to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat. No advance copies of the implementation reports are to be endorsed to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat either.</p>
Laying of the Implementation report on the Table of the House	<p>8.8 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after a scrutiny of the implementation report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the statement, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the member as well as the department concerned. The Parliament Unit of the department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of this statement, make a suitable entry in their registers.</p>
Obligation to lay a paper on the Table of the House <i>vis-a-vis</i> assurance on the same subject	<p>8.9 Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/notification, etc.) on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfilment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this is done, a report in formal implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in the prescribed proforma (Annex 6) in the manner already described in para 8.7.2.</p>

Committees on Government Assurances LSR 323, 324 RSR 211-A	8.10 Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government Assurances nominated by the Speaker/Chairman. It scrutinized the implementation reports and the time taken in the scrutinized of Government Assurances and focuses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from time to time are to be followed strictly.
Reports of the Committees on Government Assurances	8.11 The department will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinize the reports of these two committees for remedial action wherever called for.
Effect on Assurances on dissolution of the Lok Sabha	8.12 On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, all Assurances, promises or undertakings pending implementation are scrutinized by the new Committee on Government Assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with a specific recommendation regarding the Assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

ANNEXURE I

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2017-2018)
(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SIXTH SITTING
(23.04.2018)

The Committee sat from 1530 hours to 1815 hours in Committee Room "D", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
4. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
5. Shri C.R. Patil
6. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Shri U.B.S. Negi | — | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |

WITNESSES

Ministry of External Affairs

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Smt. Preeti Saran | — | Secretary (East) |
| 2. Smt. Riva Ganguly Das | — | Director General (ICCR) |
| 3. Shri M.C. Luther | — | Joint Secretary (OE) & PGE |
| 4. Shri Gaddam Dharmendra | — | Joint Secretary (PP&R) |
| 5. Shri Sudhakar Dalela | — | Joint Secretary (North) |
| 6. Shri Rudrendra Tandon | — | Joint Secretary (UNP) |
| 7. Shri Amit Kumar | — | Joint Secretary (AD) |
| 8. Smt. Nutan Kapoor Mahawar | — | Joint Secretary (Parl & Coord) |
| 9. Shri Manish Chauhan | — | Joint Secretary (UNES) |

10. Shri Prashant Agrawal	—	Joint Secretary (DPA-I)
11. Dr. Deepak Mittal	—	Joint Secretary (PAI)
12. Shri K. Nagaraj Naidu	—	Joint Secretary (EW)
13. Shri Vinoy Bhushan Dubey	—	Joint Secretary (Judicial)
14. Col. A.K. Singh	—	Director (PSP)

Ministry of Home Affairs

Shri Vinoy Bhushan Dubey	—	Joint Secretary (Judicial)
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Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

1. Shri P.K. Halder	—	Under Secretary
2. Shri Purushottam Kumar	—	Section Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda.

5. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs were ushered in. Welcoming them, the Chairperson drew their attention to the Direction 55(1) of the Directions by the Hon'ble Speaker regarding confidentiality of the proceedings. The Committee then took their oral evidence and reviewed 15 Assurances (Annexure-VI) pertaining to the 3rd Session of the 13th Lok Sabha to the 12th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha as mentioned below:—

I. USQ No. 5739 dated 03.05.2000 regarding 'Abolition of Torture' (SI. No. 1)

The representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs informed the Committee that the Law Commission has submitted its 273rd Report on the recommendations of the United Nations Convention against Torture and other Cruel Inhuman Degrading Treatment of Punishment with the recommendation for a standalone legislation and to make consequential amendments in the Cr PC 1973 and the Evidence Act, 1872. Also, the Law Commission has presented a Draft Bill entitled the Prevention of Torture Bill, 2017. The representatives further apprised the Committee that as the Criminal Laws are in the Concurrent List, the 273rd Report of the Law Commission along with the Draft Bill have been circulated to the State Governments and Union Territories for expediting their views and recommendations. The representatives of the Ministry requested the Committee to drop the Assurance on the ground that it requires internal legislation in consultation with States and Central Government and their obligation to ratify this particular convention is not entirely dependent on the Ministry of External Affairs but on several other Ministries like the Ministry of Home Affairs and other Departments of States. The Committee desired to know as to why the Ministry of Home Affairs did not accept the Question in 2015 to which the representatives stated that they do not have the information readily available with them and that they will collect and convey the same to the Committee later. The Committee then decided to drop the Assurance.

II. USQ No. 814 dated 16.07.2014 regarding 'Imphal and Mandalay Bus Service' (SI. No. 2)

The Committee were informed that the Government has been discussing this matter with the Government of Myanmar at all levels including that of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister and senior officials urging quick signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for launching the bus service. The representatives also informed that true to the statement made in the Parliament that the provisions of the MoU on the bus service and the protocol on operational modalities would be discussed, the text of the MoU and Protocol has been finalised, two trial runs of passenger vehicles have been conducted on the proposed route and the bus operating agency has also been identified. The representatives further stated that they have been discussing the matter with full faith, diligence and earnestness with the Government of Myanmar. However, since it is a matter in which implementation would require the consent of a foreign Government i.e. the Government of Myanmar, the representatives stated that they cannot give any categorical assurance as to when the Government of Myanmar would be able to complete its internal formalities to sign the agreement. The representatives requested the Committee to drop the Assurance from the list of pending Assurances on the ground that they have completed the Assurance from their side and the rest depends upon the Government of Myanmar over which they have no control. Agreeing to the fact that the Ministry have completed the Assurance from their side, the Committee directed them to furnish the reply in the form of Implementation Report to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs at the earliest so that it can be laid in the ensuing Session of Parliament.

III. USQ No.470 dated 27.04.2016 regarding Roma Conference' (SI. No. 3)

The Committee were informed that the Assurance has been completed since a study on Roma Community has already been commissioned and the Implementation Report has been sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Committee enquired as to whether the proposed research centre has been established. The representatives informed that setting up of research/educational centres does not come under the mandate of the Ministry of External Affairs and since the Assurance was particularly regarding the establishment of research centre by an NGO, the research work has been entrusted to the International Cooperative Council. The representatives further explained that it is a funded research by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and it has the requisite infrastructure and experience of doing research. The Committee were also informed that the Council has already started taking action after selecting the research scholars. The Committee then desired to know the time limit set by the Ministry to complete the study. The representatives informed that they have given 6 months time for the study. The Committee acknowledged the contention of the Ministry and directed the representatives to furnish an Implementation Report mentioning all the facts so that it can be laid on the Table of the House.

IV. USQ No. 554 dated 20.07.2016 regarding Rail/Road Connectivity with Nepal (SI. No. 4)

The Committee were informed that the road and rail connectivity projects are ongoing in nature and these are making steady progress under continuous monitoring of the Government of India including the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The representatives requested the Committee to drop the Assurance on the ground that the progress of road and rail link projects not only depends on the Government of India but also on the Government of Nepal for making land available for projects and providing necessary local permits. The representatives further stated that they have done everything on their part and to ensure that nothing is pending on their side. The Committee, while observing that the Ministry have carried out their work effectively and completely, directed them to send an Implementation Report to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs so that it can be laid in the House.

V. USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.16 regarding 'Racist Attack on Indians in Britain' (SI.No.5)

The representatives of the Ministry informed the Committee that they have requested for dropping of this Assurance on the ground that though there were reports of racial attacks at the time when the issue of Brexit was raised, there has been no report of racist violence against any Indian national nor was there any record of an Indian national having registered a complaint with the UK authorities that he/she has been a target of racial attack in the aftermath of 2016 riots in London. The representatives also stated that the Government as well as the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister herself is very much concerned about the well being of Indians abroad and she is the most accessible Minister who immediately attends to each and every Indian in distress in foreign countries. The representatives further apprised the Committee that they have various general provisions such as Indian Community Welfare Fund which is intended to assist Indians in distress. As far as the issue related to UK is concerned, the representatives informed that the High Commission of India in London is very much vigilant and aware of the prevalent situations and they conduct Open House at the High Commission on every Wednesday and the last Friday of every month and any Indian can visit and register his/her complaint there. In addition to this, the High Commission of London has a public response unit whose email address, telephone numbers and mobile numbers are all available for any Indian national.

The representatives further stated that the Government of UK itself is very sensitive on matters related to racial attacks and they have their own hotlines to report on hate crimes. Their domestic laws are very strong to address hate crimes and they do not allow or tolerate any kind of discrimination based on age, sex, marriage and so many other related issues including racial related issues. While acknowledging that no incidence of racial violence has been reported in the UK and noting the efforts made by the Ministry in ensuring the security and welfare of Indian nationals in foreign countries, especially Britain, the Committee directed the representatives of the Ministry to furnish an Implementation Report to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to be laid on the Table of the House.

VI. SQ No. 302 dated 07.12.16 regarding 'Exchange of Prisoners' (Supplementary by Dr. Satya Pal Singh, M.P.) (SI.No.6)

The Committee were informed that the Implementation Report (IR) of the Assurance was sent on 08.08.2017 along with a letter of the Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs addressed to the Hon'ble Member of Parliament stating therein the details of the camps organized for public awareness of fishermen so that they do not cross the border area. However, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs apprised the Committee that they are yet to receive a hard copy of the IR from the Ministry, though the email copy has just been received a week before the present meeting. The Committee were concerned to note that an IR which was sent in the year 2017 has not reached the desired destination even after a lapse of more than 8 months. The Committee considered it to be a very serious issue and a system in this regard be developed so that any lacuna or misunderstanding can be avoided. The Committee directed the Ministry of External Affairs to redeliver the IR so that it can be laid in the ensuing Session.

VII. USQ No. 1118 dated 08.02.2017 regarding 'Family Details on Passports' (SI. No. 7)

The Committee were informed that the Implementation Report in respect of the Assurance was sent on 19.04.2018 apprising the decision taken by the Ministry on the recommendations of a three-Member Committee comprising officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Women and Child Development not to print the last page of the passport booklet. The Ministry also took the decision to issue a passbook with orange colour jacket to passport holders with Emigration Check Required (ECR) Status in order to help and assist them on priority basis. The representatives apprised that subsequent to this they received several representations requesting to reconsider these two decisions. The Hon'ble Minister reviewed both these decisions in the light of these representations and after comprehensive discussions with the various stakeholders, the Ministry decided on 29.01.2018 to continue with the current practice of printing the last page of the passport with orange colour jacket to ECR passport holders. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs briefed the Committee that they will check for the IR and lay it before the House in the ensuing Session. The Committee further directed the Ministry to furnish a copy of the Implementation Report. The representatives assured the Committee that one of their Joint Secretaries will maintain a regular communication with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as well as Lok Sabha Secretariat so that there remains no lacunae in the matter of Assurances.

VIII. SQ No. 184 dated 15.03.2017 regarding 'Contribution to UN Budget' (Supplementary by Shri Kirit Somaiya, M.P.) (SI. No. 8)

The representatives of the Ministry informed the Committee that they have already sent the Implementation Report (IR) on 16.04.2018. However, since it has not been reflected in the records, they assured that they will again furnish the IR with a copy of it endorsed to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The representatives further apprised the Committee that India's contribution to United Nations was Rs. 170

crore in 2017-18 and in the subsequent year it rose to Rs. 239.47 crore. The representatives, therefore, claimed that the Assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister in reply to Supplementary Question raised by the Hon'ble Member stands fulfilled.

IX. SQ No. 443 dated 05.04.2017 regarding 'ASEAN' (Supplementary by Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P.) (SI. No. 9)

The Committee were informed that the Assurance pertained to a suggestion by the Hon'ble Member for inviting Ulemas and Islamic Scholars of ASEAN countries to a proposed Conference on De-radicalisation so as to give a joint message. In response, the External Affairs Minister had told the Hon'ble Member that careful consideration will be given to the matter. A Conference was organised in Delhi in collaboration with India Islamic Centre which was also attended by the King of Jordan. The Conference saw the participation of hundreds of Ulemas and religious scholars from across the country. Also, there were members of the diplomatic corps present at this Conference including from ASEAN countries. The representatives further stated that even though they had earlier requested for dropping of this Assurance, they have, in actuality, completed the Assurance. The Committee desired to know as to whether the scholars and ulemas were from India or abroad. The representatives apprised the Committee that the Ulemas and scholars were from across the country. The Committee felt that a positive thinking has been inculcated by the Conference and the Ministry have partly completed the Assurance. The Committee further recommended that it would be better if the Government organises a conference of all the Ulemas and the Islamic Scholars of ASEAN countries since these are the countries where Muslims are in majority. The Committee, While acknowledging the work done by the Ministry, asked them to furnish a Part Implementation Report stating therein the efforts made by the Ministry for expeditious implementation of the Assurance.

X. USQ No. 475 dated 19.07.17 regarding 'List of Indian Workers Abroad' (SI. No. 10).

The representatives of the Ministry apprised the Committee that Implementation Report has been sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 19.04.2018. The Committee were further informed that all the information called for has been provided. The Committee then enquired about the posting of translators in Indian Missions abroad. The representatives informed that Indian Missions abroad recruit local staff. The Committee further enquired as to whether Protector of Emigrants (POE) offices have been established in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Dehradun and North Eastern Region. The representatives informed that one POE office is operational in Lucknow, one POE office in Bengaluru has been approved in principle and no formal request has been received from Bihar, Uttarakhand or any North Eastern State. The Committee further stressed the need for expansion of Hindi Language and recruitment of Hindi translators at various Indian institutes across the world. Observing that a lot of work has been done in the direction of implementing the Assurance, the Committee urged upon the Ministry to furnish a Part Implementation Report.

XI. USQ No. 564 dated 19.07.17 regarding 'Diplomatic Missions in Small Countries' (Sl. No. 11)

The representatives of the Ministry informed that the Implementation Report has been sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 13.04.2018 after the Cabinet gave the approval for opening new Missions. The Committee enquired as to whether there is any policy for reciprocation of opening embassies in other countries. The representatives informed that there is no such policy but it is ideal to open Mission in countries which have established their Missions in our country. The Committee observed that 23 new nations have opened their Missions in India whereas the Cabinet has given the approval for opening new Missions in 18 countries only. The Committee urged upon the Ministry to furnish a Part Implementation Report explaining therein the fate of opening the remaining 5 Missions abroad.

XII. (i) USQ No. 661 dated 19.07.17 regarding 'Opening of New Passport Seva Kendras' (Sl. No. 12)

(ii) USQ No. 687 dated 19.07.17 regarding 'Passport through Post Offices' (Sl. No. 13)

The representatives of the Ministry informed that they have already sent the Implementation Report on 17.04.2018 conveying their intention of opening Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) in the country in such a manner that these as a Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) in the country available within a radius of 50 kms of every Head Post Office (HPO). However, no timeline has been drawn for this purpose. The Committee were further informed that the total number of POPSK planned to be opened across the country is 251 out of which 183 POPSKs have been made operational as on 16.04.2018 taking the total number of PSKs to 276 in the country. While stating that requisite formalities for setting up the remaining 68 POPSKs are nearing completion and these are expected to be made functional soon, the representatives requested the Committee to treat the Assurance as fulfilled. The Committee observed that although a lot of work has been done, a substantial quantum of work still remains to be finished. The Committee urged upon the Ministry to furnish a Part Implementation Report stating therein the steps taken by them in the direction of completion of the Assurance.

XIII. USQ No. 1717 dated 26.07.17 regarding 'Soft Power Matrix' (Sl. No. 14)

The representatives of the Ministry informed that the issue was discussed before the Standing Committee of Parliament when a comprehensive discussion was made on Soft Power Diplomacy. The representatives further informed that the Standing Committee desired that a Soft Power Matrix be developed so as to get familiarized with the concept and to know how it is measured and implemented. Apprising that the expertise on this complex subject is not readily available in the country although the foreign Ministries of some countries have developed it, the representatives informed that it will take some more time for them to work on this subject and requested for a further extension of 6 months to develop the Soft Matrix.

**XIV. USQ No. 3861 dated 09.08.2017 regarding 'Delayed Project Abroad'
(Sl. No. 15)**

The representatives of the Ministry informed that due to the involvement of authorities of the host Governments, local regulations and other domestic factors in a number of countries as well as differing scope of the projects, furnishing a specific timeframe for completion of all the projects may not be feasible. While emphasizing all these factors, the representatives also stressed that in all the projects undertaken by them, there has been a speedy implementation and no deficiency and hence the Assurance should be dropped from the list of pending Assurances.

6. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE VI

**STATEMENT OF PENDING ASSURANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS FROM 3RD SESSION OF 13TH LOK SABHA TO
12TH SESSION OF 16TH LOK SABHA**

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	USQ No. 5739 dated 03.05.2000	Abolition of Torture
2.	USQ No. 814 dated 16.07.2014	Imphal and Mandalay Bus Service
3.	USQ No. 470 dated 27.04.2016	ROMA Conference
4.	USQ No. 554 dated 20.07.2016	Rail/Road Connectivity with Nepal
5.	USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.2016	Racist Attack on Indians in Britain
6.	SQ No. 302 dated 07.12.2016 (Supplementary by Dr. Satya Pal Singh, M.P.)	Exchange of Prisoners
7.	USQ No. 1118 dated 08.02.2017	Family Details on Passports
8.	SQ No. 184 dated 15.03.2017 (Supplementary by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, M.P.)	Contribution to UN Budget
9.	SQ No. 443 dated 05.04.2017 (Supplementary by Dr. Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P.)	ASEAN
10.	USQ No. 475 dated 19.07.2017	List of Indian Workers Abroad
11.	USQ No. 564 dated 19.07.2017	Diplomatic Missions in Small Countries
12.	USQ No. 661 dated 19.07.2017	Opening of New Passport Seva Kendras
13.	USQ No. 687 dated 19.07.2017	Passport through Post Office
14.	USQ No. 1717 dated 26.07.2017	Soft Power Matrix
15.	USQ No. 3861 dated 09.08.2017	Delayed Projects Abroad

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2018-2019)
(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)
FOURTH SITTING
(11.02.2019)

The Committee sat from 1030 hours to 1050 hours in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 133, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Anto Antony
4. Shri E.T. Mohammad Basheer
5. Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia
6. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Shri N.C. Gupta | — | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | Director |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | Deputy Secretary |

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following Eleven (11) draft Reports without any amendments:

- (i) Draft Ninety-First Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of AYUSH.
- (ii) Draft Ninety-Second Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Tourism.
- (iii) Draft Ninety-Third Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Steel.

- (iv) Draft Ninety-Fourth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).
- (v) Draft Ninety-Fifth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of External Affairs.
- (vi) Draft Ninety-Sixth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Textiles.
- (vii) Draft Ninety-Seventh Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Heavy Industries).
- (viii) Draft Ninety-Eighth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare).
- (ix) Draft Ninety-Ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Acceded to).
- (x) Draft One Hundredth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to).
- (xi) Draft One Hundred-First Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

2. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the current session of the Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned.

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