

84

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2018-2019)

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

EIGHTY-FOURTH REPORT

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES
(NOT ACCEDED TO)

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 08 January, 2019)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

January, 2019/Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

EIGHTY-FOURTH REPORT

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

January, 2019/Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

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* Implementation Report laid on 07.08.2018.

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2018-2019)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal “Nishank” — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Anto Antony
4. Shri Tariq Anwar
5. Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer
6. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
7. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
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 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.

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

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal “Nishank” — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Anto Antony
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7. Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer**
8. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
9. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
10. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
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SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
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| 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.

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 Eighty-Fourth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2017-18) at their sitting held on 23 April, 2018 *inter alia* considered Memoranda Nos. 17 to 26 containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending Assurances and decided to pursue 05 Assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 04 January, 2019 the Committee considered and adopted their Eighty-Fourth Report.

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

NEW DELHI;
04 January, 2019

14 Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

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

REPORT

While replying to Question in the House or during discussions on Bills, resolutions, Motions, etc., Ministers sometimes give Assurances, undertakings or promises either to consider a matter, take action or furnish information to the House at some later date. An Assurance is required to be implemented by the Ministry concerned within a period of three months. In case, the Ministry find it difficult to implement the Assurance on one ground or the other, they are required to request the Committee on Government Assurances to drop the Assurance and such requests are considered by the Committee on merits and decisions taken to drop the Assurance or otherwise.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2017-2018) considered 10 Memoranda (Appendix-I) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of Assurances at their sitting held on 23 April, 2018.

3. After having considered the requests of the Ministries/Departments, the Committee are not convinced with the reasons furnished for dropping the following 05 Assurances:—

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry/Department	Subject
1.	USQ No. 4843 dated 16.12.2016	Defence (Department of Defence Production)	Plant of Bharat Electronics Limited (Appendix II)
2.	*USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.2016	External Affairs	Racist Attack on Indians in Britain (Appendix III)
3.	*SQ No. 184 (Supplementary by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, M.P.) dated 15.03.2017	External Affairs	Contribution to UN Budget (Appendix IV)
4.	USQ NO. 3917 dated 18.12.2012	Law and Justice (Legislative Department)	Revision of Assembly Seats (Appendix V)
5.	USQ No. 3017 dated 12.08.2010	Minority Affairs	Equal Opportunities Commission (Appendix VI)

*Implementation Report laid on 07.08.2018.

4. The details of the Assurances arising out of the replies and the reason(s) advanced by the Ministries/Departments for dropping of the above mentioned 05 Assurances are given in Appendices-II to VI.

5. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee, dated 23 April, 2018 are given in Appendix-VII.

6. The Committee desire that the Government should take note of the Observations of the Committee, as contained in *Appendix II to Appendix VII* and take appropriate action, for the implementation of the Assurances expeditiously.

NEW DELHI;
04 January, 2019
14 Pausha, 1940 (*Saka*)

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

APPENDIX I

Statement showing summary of requests received from various Ministries/ Departments regarding Dropping of Assurances

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/Discussion References	Ministry	Department	Brief Subject
1.	17	USQ No. 1576 dated 22.03.2012	Chemicals and Fertilizers	Department of Fertilizers	Revival of Closed Fertilizers Manufacturing Units
2.	18	USQ No. 4843 dated 16.12.2016	Defence	Department of Defence Production	Plant of Bharat Electronics Limited
3.	19	USQ No. 554 dated 20.07.2016	External Affairs		Rail/Road Connectivity with Nepal
4.	20	USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.2016	External Affairs		Racist Attack on Indians in Britain
5.	21	SQ No. 184 (Supp. by Dr. Kirit Somaia, M.P.) dated 15.03.2017	External Affairs		Contribution to UN Budget
6.	22	USQ No. 3861 dated 09.08.2017	External Affairs		Delayed Projects Abroad
7.	23	USQ No. 849 dated 01.03.2013	Finance	Department of Economic Affairs	Multi-Member Body
8.	24	USQ No. 3917 dated 18.12.2012	Law and Justice	Legislative Department	Revision of Assembly Seats
9.	25	USQ No. 3017 dated 12.08.2010	Minority Affairs		Equal Opportunities Commission
10.	26	USQ No. 2947 dated 26.11.2010	Women and Child Development		NCW Act
		USQ No. 4439 dated 08.08.2014			Empowerment of NCW

APPENDIX II

MEMORANDUM NO. 18

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4843 dated 16.12.2016 regarding "Plant of Bharat Electronics Limited".

On 16 December, 2016, Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4843 to the Minister of Defence. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence Production) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence Production) *vide* OM No. 23/8/2016-D(BEL) dated 18 January, 2018 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That since the construction of the BEL Plant is at preliminary stage, O/o Committee on Government Assurance is requested to drop it list of Assurances, since it cannot be expected to complete in near future."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State for Defence, have requested to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 20.04.2018

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4843
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2016

Plant of Bharat Electronics Limited

4843. SHRI KONAKALLA NARAYANARAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bharat Electronics Limited has proposed to set up a plant at Nimmakuru village in Andhra Pradesh to make IR seekers, night vision devices and thermal imaging cameras;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government to expedite the process of setting up of the said plant; and
- (c) the expected employment to be provided to the locals through the said project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) is in the process of setting up a new factory at Nimmakuru Village in Andhra Pradesh as part of the expansion of the existing unit of BEL Machilipatnam unit. The foundation stone for setting up the new factory was laid on 19th September, 2016. Construction work is under progress.

(c) It is expected that the new production facility in Nimmakuru village is likely to generate employment for around 500 local population directly and indirectly.

APPENDIX III

MEMORANDUM NO. 20

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 555 dated 20.07.2016 regarding "Racist attack on Indians in Britain".

On 20 July, 2016, Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 555 to the Minister of External Affairs. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of External Affairs *vide* OM No. WI(A)/125/03/2017 dated 18 December, 2017 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That this division had made detailed inquiries with High Commission of India in London, the following responses by the Indian High Commission for the queries raised by the division of this Ministry are placed below:

Europe West Division's query	High Commission of London reply
1	2
Did any racist attacks happen on Indians in UK since June 2016?	There have been no incidences of racist attacks communicated to the HCI by the UK Government.
As to whether any specific instance of racism/racist attack has been brought to the notice of HCI in writing by the Indian Community.	None reported in writing
If yes, how were they processed and at what level were they taken up with the UK Govt.?	Does not arise
Which agency in UK is responsible for attending to the above issue and ensuring action against such incidents, if any?	Home Office and the Police forces Across UK are responsible for investigating cases against racist attacks
Was there any official communication from the UK authorities in this regard? If yet, please share the communication received.	N/A

Europe West Division's query	High Commission of London reply
What measures were undertaken by the HCI in above? In addition, was any NV/Demarche issued on the same?	Does not arise
What official response has been received from concerned UK side?	Does not arise
What legal remedies are available for redressal of such grievances?	<p data-bbox="837 588 1252 779">UK laws do not permit race discrimination and authorities encourage people to report to the police crimes committed against someone because of that person's race, which are classified as hate crimes.</p> <p data-bbox="837 781 1252 1220">The Indian High Commission has further informed that that the UK has a system whereby crimes committed against someone because of their disability, gender-identity, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation are hate crimes can be reported to the police. A separate hotline-999, has also been set up to report on hate crime. The UK Government has also defined hate crimes as constituting threatening behaviour, assault, robbery, damage to property, inciting others to commit hate crimes and harassment.</p> <p data-bbox="837 1222 1252 1520">The UK Government does not allow/ tolerate any kind of discrimination because of age, being or becoming a trans sexual person, being married or in a civil partnership, being pregnant or on maternity leave, disability, race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion, belief or lack of religion/ belief, sex or sexual orientation.</p> <p data-bbox="837 1522 1252 1759">In the UK, the Equality Act of 2010 ensures legal protection from discrimination at work, in education, as a consumer, when using public services, when buying or renting property or as a member or guest of a private club or association.</p>

Europe West Division's query	High Commission of London reply
Any other info related to activities undertaken by HCI, London, to ensure welfare of Indians in UK since June 2016?	HCI and its Consulates in Edinburgh and Birmingham maintain contact with the Indian diaspora through community Programmes/National Day Celebrations/Baishaki Celebrations/350th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Celebrations, which are hosted in India House and other venues. The India UK year of culture also presented multiple opportunities for HCI officers to interact with NRIs and PIOs and enquire about their well-being.

It can be ascertained from the responses above as received from Indian High Commission, London, that there were NO Racist attacks on Indians in UK and Indian High Commission in London is vigilant on such issues, if any."

4. Given that there have been no reported racist attacks against Indians in the UK Post-referendum and that ensuing the well-being and safety of Indian nationals in the UK is one of the usual responsibilities of Indian Missions in the UK, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of External Affairs, have requested to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 20.04.2018

ANNEXURE

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 IV

MEMORANDUM NO. 21

Subject: Request for dropping of the Assurance given in reply to Supplementary to Starred Question No. 184 dated 15 March, 2017 by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, MP regarding "Contribution to UN Budget".

On 15 March, 2017, Shri Rahul Kaswan, M.P. addressed a Starred Question No. 184 to the Minister of External Affairs. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is given in the Annexure.

2. During the discussion, Dr. Kirit Somaiya, M.P. raised the following Supplementary to Starred Question No. 184 dated 15 March, 2017 to the Minister of External Affairs:—

"This means that the Gross National Income of the Government of India has got increased 80 per cent. United Nations Contribution has got doubled due to this reason. I would like to seek clarification in this regard from Hon'ble Minister."

3. In reply, the Minister for External Affairs (Shrimati Sushma Swaraj) stated as follows:—

"They could see in the matter that each year, some growth has been registered."

4. The above reply was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

5. The Ministry of External Affairs *vide* their ID No. U.II/125/06/2017 dated 27 September, 2017 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the extract stated in the supplementary reply merely constitutes as general observation made by the Minister."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of External Affairs have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 20.04.2018

ANNEXURE

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.

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	3.088	2.921
Contribution (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.

APPENDIX V

MEMORANDUM NO. 24

Subject: Request for dropping of the Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3917 dated 18.12.2012 regarding "Revision of Assembly Seats".

On 18 December, 2012, Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3917 to the Minister of Home Affairs. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs within three months from the date of the reply. Subsequently, in the February, 2014 Assurance was transferred to the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) *vide* O.M. No. H-11012/4/2016-Leg.II (Pt.) dated August, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That in pursuance of the Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Third) Ordinance, 2013, promulgated on 27.09.2013, the Election Commission issued Order No. 1 *vide* Notification No. 3(E) dated 13.01.2014 thereby revising the representation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh by amending the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 2008. This very notification is now under challenge before the Hon'ble Allahabad High Court in a writ matter impugning that Delimitation Order, 2008 was issued taking into account 2001 census and as per the constitutional provisions no change could be made before the census to be held after the year 2026. In addition, a writ has also been filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court praying for readjustment and appropriate reservation of seats in the Parliamentary and 'Assembly Constituencies for SCs/STs taking into account the 2011 Census. In the backdrop of these two court cases involving opposing and contrasting facts, the Ld. SG was approached for his considered opinion who, *inter alia*, stated that there is a constitutional bar for granting further/additional representation without amending the constitutional provisions along with the allied enactments and it is necessary to await the outcome of the pending Writ Petitions. Thus, the issue at hand is at present *sub-judice*. In view of the above, the Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested that the Committee on Government Assurances may be apprised of the position and requested to kindly consider to drop the Assurance given in Lok Sabha in respect of the Unstarred Question No. 3917 dated 18.12.2012."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Law and Justice, have requested to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 20.04.2018

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3917
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2012

Revision of Assembly Seats

3917. SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether eight Bills were passed for inclusion and exclusion of about 350 SCs/STs during 2002-2011;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to make reservation and relocation of Lok Sabha and Assembly Seats for them in view of the revised SC/ST lists and as per the revised Population Census, 2011; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) As per information provided by the Ministry of Law and Justice, ten (10) Bills to modify the lists of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes had been passed by the Parliament from 2002-2011.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 540 of 2011, Virendra Pratap & another vs. Union of India *vide* its judgment dated the 10th January, 2012 has directed the Election Commission of India to consider the case of the Scheduled Tribes which had been included in the list of the Scheduled Tribes by virtue of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002 and to take appropriate steps for their representation in the lower houses, both in Parliament as well as in the State Legislative Assembly.

The Election Commission has desired that a legislation may be enacted on the lines of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, specifically empowering the Election Commission to carry out readjustment of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the light of revised population figures of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, as may be ascertained and determined by the Census Commissioner with reference to 1st March, 2001 after taking into account the population figures of the castes and figures which have been declared as the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes after publication of the 2001 census. The matter is being examined by the Ministry of Law and Justice.

APPENDIX VI

MEMORANDUM NO. 25

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3017 dated 12.08.2010 regarding "Equal Opportunities Commission".

On 12 August, 2010, Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3017 to the Minister of Minority Affairs. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Minority Affairs *vide* O.M.No.3(91)/2010-PP-I dated 04th February 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the draft Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) Bill was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 20.02.2014. However, after General Elections, the new Government has been formed and as per the extant guidelines, the proposal for setting up of the EOC was required to be approved by the new Minister of Minority Affairs and re-circulated for inter-Ministerial consultation before referring the same to Cabinet for its reconsideration. The draft Cabinet Note for the purpose was re-circulated with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of Minority Affairs for inter-Ministerial consultation. The Ministry has received divergent views from various Ministries/Departments on the Note and the matter is under further examination in the Ministry with various stakeholders for deciding about the future course of action. This Assurance has further been examined and observed that although the reply of the Ministry has been treated as an Assurance, it may be seen that the Government has not taken any decision on setting up of EOC as yet. The matter is still under consideration in the Ministry and consultation with Ministry of Law and Justice is also needed. Thus, at this point of time, it is not decided whether the EOC will be constituted or not. Hence, the reply of the Ministry to the Parliament Question may not be treated as an Assurance in so far as the issue for setting up an EOC is concerned."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of State for Minority Affairs, have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 20.04.2018

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3017
ANSWERED ON 12.08.2010

Equal Opportunities Commission

3017. SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAMAHIR:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the requisite draft for constitution of equal opportunities commission has been prepared; and

(b) if so, the details of the main points of the said draft?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) An expert group set up to examine and determine the structure and functions of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) has submitted its report along with a draft EOC Bill. The proposal along with the draft Bill for setting up of EOC is under consideration of the Government.

APPENDIX VII
MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2017-18)
(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 | — | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri P.C. Tripathy | — | Director |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh | — | Deputy Secretary |

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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 took up 10 Memoranda (Memorandum Nos. 17 to 26) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending Assurances. After considering a few Memoranda, the Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to decide on the remaining Memoranda. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson decided to drop 05 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-I* and to pursue the remaining 05 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-II for implementation by the Ministries/Departments concerned.

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The Committee then adjourned.

*Not enclosed

ANNEXURE II

Statement showing Assurances not dropped by the Committee on Government Assurance (2017-18) at their sitting held on 23.04.2018

Sl.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	18	USQ No. 4843 dated 16.12.2016	Defence (Department of Defence Production)	Plant of Bharat Electronics Limited	The Ministry have requested to drop the Assurance on the grounds that since the constitution of the BEL Plant is at preliminary stage, it cannot be expected to complete in near future. The Committee feel that the setting up of BEL plant is of utmost importance and a matter of national significance as it primarily manufactures advanced electronic products for the armed forces of the country. The Committee are dismayed to note that apparently the Ministry are adopting a lackadaisical attitude in the matter when they ought to have expedited the setting up of the Plant with alacrity and determination in the larger interest of the country. Moreover, an Assurance cannot be dropped merely because its implementation would take considerable time. The Committee urge upon the Ministry to pursue the matter vigorously by making concerted and coordinated efforts and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and progress made in this regard.
2	20*	USQ No. 555 dated 20.07.2016	External Affairs	Racist Attack on Indians in Britain	The Committee have been informed that there were no racial attacks on Indians in the United Kingdom and the Indian High Commission is vigilant on such issues. The Committee appreciate that the Ministry have been ensuring the well being and safety of Indian nationals in the United Kingdom and feel that the Ministry of External Affairs

1	2	3	4	5	6
					should furnish an Implementation Report to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs stating therein the initiatives taken by them to make sure the protection and welfare of Indians in the United Kingdom so as to fulfill the assurance at the earliest.
3.	21*	SQ No. 184 (Supplementary. by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, M.P.) dated 15.03.2017	External Affairs	Contribution to UN Budget	The Committee cannot accede to the request of the Ministry for dropping of the Assurance made on the grounds that the reply given by the Minister merely constitutes a general observation. The Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee to treat which statement as Assurance or otherwise. The Committee feel that once on Assurance has been given, it is incumbent upon the Ministry to bring it to its logical conclusion. In the instant case, the Ministry are required to assure the Committee of the growth in India's contribution to the United National Budget. The Committee desire that the Ministry apprise the Committee of the latest status of the matter.
4.	24	USQ No. 3917 dated 18.12.2012	Law and Justice (Legislative Department)	Revision of Assembly	The Ministry have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance on the ground that the issue of Revision of Assembly Seats is <i>sub judice</i> . The Committee feel that the matter is of crucial importance and needs to be pursued vigorously to bring to its logical conclusion. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the case in the right earnest and apprise them of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.
5.	25	USQ No. 3017 dated 12.08.2010	Minority Affairs	Equal Opportunities Commission	The Committee feel that the Ministry cannot wash their hands of by stating that the Government has not taken any decision on setting up of Equal opportunities commission as yet. The Assurance is also of crucial importance for ensuring that there is no discrimination of minority communities in jobs and education. while not accepting the

contention of the Ministry that reply of Ministry to the Parliamentary question may not be treated as an Assurance, the Committee desire that the matter should be pursued vigorously and the Assurance implemented at the earliest.

*Implementation Report laid on 07/08/2018

APPENDIX VIII
MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2018-2019)
(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)
THIRD SITTING
(04.01.2019)

The Committee sat from 1030 hours to 1050 hours in Chairman's Chamber,
Room 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 Naran Bhai Kachhadia
6. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
7. Shri C.R. Patil
8. Shri K.C. Venugopal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri P.C. Tripathy — *Director*
2. 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 Eight (08) draft Reports without any amendments:

- (i) Draft Eighty -Third Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Acceded to).
- (ii) Draft Eighty-Fourth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to).
- (iii) Draft Eighty -Fifth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Acceded to).

- (iv) Draft Eighty-Sixth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to).
- (v) Draft Eighty-Seventh Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Mines.
- (vi) Draft Eighty-Eighth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- (vii) Draft Eighty-Ninth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence Production).
- (viii) Draft Ninetieth Report (16th Lok Sabha) regarding review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of School Education and Literacy).

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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