

COMMITTEE

14

ON

**GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2020-2021)**

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

FOURTEENTH REPORT

**REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF
ASSURANCES
(NOT ACCEDED TO)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on...09/02/2021



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

February, 2021/ Magha, 1942 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2020 - 2021)**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

- Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
4. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
7. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
8. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
9. Shri Santosh Pandey
10. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras
11. Shri M.K. Raghavan
12. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
13. Dr. Bharatiben Dhirubhai Shyal
14. Shri Indra Hang Subba
15. Smt. Supriya Sule

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - Director
3. Shri S. L. Singh - Deputy Secretary

* The Committee has been constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2020 *vide* Para No. 1773 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 16 October, 2020

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fourteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances regarding "Request for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)".

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2019-2020) at their sitting held on 24 February, 2020 *inter-alia* considered Memorandum Nos. 102 to 126 containing requests received from the various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 29 pending Assurances and decided to pursue 14 Assurances.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2019-2020) considered and adopted this Report at their sitting held on 8th October, 2020. The term of the Committee expired on 8th October, 2020 and the Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021) was constituted w.e.f. 9th October, 2020. The Report was again considered and adopted by the Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021) at their Sitting held on 08th February, 2021. The Committee were immensely benefited by the contribution made by the predecessor Committee.

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

NEW DELHI;
08 February, 2021

19 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

REPORT

While replying to Questions 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 finds it difficult in implementing the Assurances on one ground or the other, it is 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 an Assurance or otherwise.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2019-2020) considered Twenty-Five Memoranda (Appendix-I) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 29 pending Assurances at their sitting held on 24 February, 2020.
3. After having considered the requests of the Ministries/Departments, the Committee were not convinced with the reasons furnished for dropping of the following 14 Assurances:-

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
1.	USQ No. 2356 dated 23.08.2013	Tourism	Allocation of Land (Appendix-II)
2.	USQ No. 3310 dated 12.12.2014	Defence (Department of Defence Production)	Aerospace University (Appendix-III)
3.	USQ No. 443 dated 17.11.2016	Road Transport and Highways	Expressways in Andhra Pradesh (Appendix-IV)

Sr. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
4.	(i) USQ No. 1343 dated 02.08.2010 (ii) USQ No. 2636 dated 17.08.2011 (iii) USQ No. 3330 dated 14.12.2011	Communications (Department of Posts)	(i) Replacement of the Indian Post Office Act (ii) Private Courier Services (iii) Private Courier Services (Appendix-V)
5.	USQ No. 4954 dated 23.04.2015	Law and Justice (Legislative Department)	Women Reservation Bill (Appendix-VI)
6.	USQ No. 4277 dated 20.02.2014	Power	Amendment in Tariff Policy (Appendix-VII)
7.	USQ No. 589 dated 27.02.2013	Department of Atomic Energy	Delay in Commissioning of Jaitapur Reactors (Appendix-VIII)
8.	USQ No. 2997 dated 16.03.2016	Department of Atomic Energy	Shifting of NPP from Haripur (Appendix-IX)
9.	USQ No. 3510 dated 07.12.2016	Department of Atomic Energy	Multipurpose Fast Research Reactor (Appendix-X)
10.	USQ No. 3955 dated 17.12.2014	Department of Atomic Energy	EIA Report on Mithivirdi Nuclear Power Plant (Appendix-XI)
11.	USQ No. 339 dated 06.08.2013	Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers)	Complaints of Corruption against IFFCO Officers (Appendix-XII)
12.	USQ No. 1319 dated 03.03.2016	Civil Aviation	Land for Airports (Appendix-XIII)

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 14 Assurances are given in Appendices -II to XIII.

5. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee dated 24 February, 2020, whereunder the requests for dropping of the Assurances were considered, are given in Appendix-XIV.

5. The Committee desire that the Government should take note of the Observations of the Committee, as contained in Annexure-II to Appendix-XIV and take appropriate action, for the implementation of the Assurances expeditiously.

NEW DELHI;

08 February, 2021

19 Magha, 1942 (Saka)

**RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,
CHAIRPERSON,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2019-2020)

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

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/Discussion References	Ministry/Deptt.	Department	Brief Subject
1	102	USQ No 527 dated 27.04.2016	Housing and Urban Affairs		Progress of UD Schemes
2	103	USQ No 1014 dated 08.02.2017	Electronics and Information Technology		Digitisation Work at District Level
3	104	USQ No 2356 dated 23.08.2013	Tourism		Allocation of Land
4	105	(i) USQ No 3318 dated 16.03.2011 (ii) USQ No 1104 dated 02.03.2016 (iii) USQ No 600 dated 20.07.2016	Electronics and Information Technology		(i) Investment in IT Sector (ii) ITIR (iii) ITIR
5	106	USQ No 3310 dated 12.12.2014	Defence	Department of Defence Production	Aerospace University
6	107	USQ No 981 dated 11.12.2013	Law and Justice	Legislative Department	Political Parties Registered with ECI
7	108	USQ No 3006 dated 11.12.2014	Road Transport and Highways		Model Concession Agreement
8	109	USQ No 443 dated 17.11.2016	Road Transport and Highways		Expressways in Andhra Pradesh
9	110	USQ No 873 dated 20.07.2017	Road Transport and Highways		Highway Projects in Abroad
10	111	USQ No 5269 dated 24.04.2015	Defence	Department of Defence Production	Achievements of HAL

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/Discussion References	Ministry/Deptt.	Department	Brief Subject
11	112	(i) USQ No 1343 dated 02.08.2010 (ii) USQ No 2636 dated 17.08.2011 (iii) USQ No 3330 dated 14.12.2011	Communications	Department of Posts	(i) Replacement of the Indian Post Office Act. (ii) Private Courier Services (iii) Private Courier Services
12	113	USQ No 4954 dated 23.04.2015	Law and Justice	Legislative Department	Women Reservation Bill
13	114	USQ No 245 dated 14.03.2012	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Department of Personnel and Training	Setting up of Sanskriti Schools
14	115	USQ No 4277 dated 20.02.2014	Power		Amendment in Tariff Policy
15	116	SQ No 22 dated 25.02.2015	Communications	Department of Telecommunications	National Optical Fibre Network
16	117	USQ No 759 dated 20.12.2017	Communications	Department of Telecommunications	New Telecom Policy
17	118	USQ No 589 dated 27.02.2013	Department of Atomic Energy	Department of Atomic Energy	Delay in Commissioning of Jaitapur Reactors
18	119	USQ No 2815 dated 02.08.2017	Housing and Urban Affairs		Regularization of Unauthorised Colonies
19	120	USQ No 2997 dated 16.03.2016	Department of Atomic Energy	Department of Atomic Energy	Shifting of NPP from Haripur
20	121	USQ No 3510 dated 07.12.2016	Department of Atomic Energy	Department of Atomic Energy	Multipurpose Fast Research Reactor
21	122	USQ No 3955 dated 17.12.2014	Department of Atomic Energy	Department of Atomic Energy	EIA Report on Mithivirdi Nuclear Power Plant

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/Discussion References	Ministry/Deptt.	Department	Brief Subject
22	123	USQ No 339 dated 06.08.2013	Chemicals and Fertilizers	Department of Fertilizers	Complaints of Corruption against IFFCO Officers
23	124	USQ No 1878 dated 09.03.2015	Civil Aviation		Night Landing Facility at Kumbhirgram Airport
24	125	USQ No 1319 dated 03.03.2016	Civil Aviation		Land for Airports
25	126	USQ No 1536 dated 26.07.2016	Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Department of Food and Public Distribution	Shortage of Rakes

Appendix-II

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**

MEMORANDUM No. 104

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2356 dated 23.08.2013, regarding "Allocation of Land"

On 23 August, 2013, Dr. Baliram M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2356 to the Minister of Tourism. The text of the Question alongwith 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 Tourism within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.
3. The Ministry of Tourism *vide* O.M. No. D-12012(8)/2013-Admin.IV dated 17.07.2018, have stated as under:-

"The Ministry of Tourism will not be able to construct the tourism complex on the land in question i.e. near Birla Mandir for various reasons including that the land is Green Area. Accordingly, the Ministry of Tourism has requested the Ministry of Urban Development to provide alternative piece of land in lieu thereof on 26.03.2018 and 22.05.2018 and hence, the Assurance needs to be dropped"

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Tourism, have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

DATED :- 21/02/2020

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2356
ANSWERED ON 23.08.2013

ALLOCATION OF LAND

†2356. DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large tract of land between Udyan Marg New Delhi and Mandir Marg, in front of Birla Mandir was allotted to the Ministry of Tourism;
- (b) if so, the details and purpose thereof;
- (c) the funds provided by the Government for accomplishing the purpose for which the said land was allotted;
- (d) whether the said land is currently under some illegal/unauthorized possession;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government for removal of illegal possession and develop shopping complex, parking and other facilities for tourists on the said tract of land along with the present status thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENCE CHARGE)

(DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) & (b): A plot of land measuring 3.5749 hectares was allotted to the then Ministry of Tourism and Culture by the Land & Development Office (L&DO), Ministry of Urban Development on 7-10-2003 for developing complex for Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library, opposite Birla Mandir.

(c): An amount of Rs.1.94 crores was paid to the Ministry of Urban Development in 2003 towards the cost of land. An amount of Rs.91,543.00 was paid to NDMC for approval of lay out plan for Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library Complex. In 2004, an amount of Rs.2.47 crores was paid to CPWD for execution/development of Tourist Complex at the allotted land. In addition, the Ministry of Culture has also paid Rs.2.23 Crores to the CPWD for construction of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Memorial Library.

(d) & (e): No, Madam.

(f): The Ministry of Tourism is currently in the process of drawing up the road map for the development of the green area and construction of the parking lot, LNJP Memorial Library and office accommodation for the Ministry in consultation with other agencies.

Appendix - III

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 106

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3310 dated 12.12.2014 regarding "Aerospace University".

On 12 December 2014, Shri Shashi Tharoor, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3310 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 within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.
3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* O.M. No. 54014/8/2014-D(HAL-II) dated 11th March 2019 have stated as under:-

".....Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) had submitted a Detailed Project Report (DPR) on establishment of Aerospace University (re-named as HAL Aeronautical Institute) to this Ministry for review and approval. While considering the proposal, it was brought out that the DPR needs modification. In view of this, HAL was directed to submit revised proposal for setting up of HAL Aeronautical Institute.

The Committee on Government Assurances (2017-2018), Lok Sabha Secretariat had also reviewed the position regarding fulfillment of above Assurance on 27.12.2017. The Committee feels that the matter, being an important issue, establishment of the Aerospace University needs to be progressed.

Subsequently, the DPR was reviewed and it was suggested that for the formation of the Institute through an Act of Parliament, the Structure should be in line with relevant Rules, Regulations & Procedures in vogue in other Central Universities/ Institutes. HAL's role would be initial Secretarial help only. As regards managing the University/Institute, a separate well defined model would be worked out.

In the above background, the HAL Board in its 409th meeting held on 2.2.2018 has accorded approval for the following:

- (i) *HAL cannot consider setting up a Private University, even in collaboration with other Organisations like DRDO, Private Industries, etc.*
- (ii) *Agreeing with the Ministry's suggestion that HAL may provide initial support and Secretarial assistance for facilitating the establishment of the University, on the lines of a Central University. HAL will have no direct role in setting up/running of the proposed University/Institute.*

(iii) HAL will authorize the Society of HAL Aeronautics Research and Technologies Institute to modify the relevant aspects of the DPR.

In the light of the decision of HAL Board, the company has advised the Society of HAL Aeronautics Research and Technologies Institute to revise the DPR suitably, for submission to the Ministry for further consideration. The DPR has not yet been submitted to this Ministry.

In view of above, it is not feasible to fulfill the Assurance at present as the fulfillment of the Assurance involves forwarding of DPR to relevant Ministries which will be done after concurrence of MoD (Finance) and subsequent approval of MoD. This activity will also take substantial time"

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Raksha Rajya Mantri have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3310
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH DECEMBER, 2014

AEROSPACE UNIVERSITY

3310. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish an Aerospace University for meeting manpower shortfall in the Aerospace Industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the time by which the project is likely to commence and the location identified for the university;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to expand its collaboration with existing universities for research, programmes and industry focused post-graduate and doctoral degrees in aerospace technologies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(राव इंद्रजीत सिंह)

(a) The Board of Directors of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in its 377th Meeting held on 30.8.2014 has approved the establishment of a Registered Society as a not-for-profit category one, with the objective to establish a Meta University.

(b) The society will give shape to detailed requirements of establishing the University and submit Detailed Project Report (DPR) to the Board of HAL and subsequently to the relevant Ministries for consideration and approval.

(c) & (d): The HAL is expanding its collaboration with existing Universities for Research Programs.

Appendix - IV

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM No. 109

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance ~~given~~ in reply to Unstarred Question No. 443 dated 17 November, 2016 regarding "Expressways in Andhra Pradesh."

On 17 November, 2016, Shri Y.S. Avinash Reddy and Shri Jayadev Galla, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 443 to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways. The text of the Question alongwith 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 Road Transport and Highways within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide O.M. No. H-11016/44/2016-PPP dated 01 February, 2019 have stated as under:-

"The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has held 2 meetings with officers of the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 13.08.2018 and 23.10.2018 regarding development of an Access Controlled Green Field Expressway connecting the new capital city of Amaravati to Anantapuramu in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The alignment of the aforesaid road stretch has been finalized with a length of approximately 384 kms. It has been envisaged to develop the expressway initially as 4-lane expressway with a provision of upgradation/expansion to 8-Lane in future depending upon the traffic requirement. Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to transfer the Government land free of cost and bear 50% of the cost of the land to be acquired. Further, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has committed to obtain requisite statutory clearances (i.e environmental, forest, wildlife etc.) so that the approval/award of civil works/execution of work for the aforesaid expressway is taken up expeditiously."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, have requested the Committee to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

DATED :- 21/02/2020

NEW DELHI:

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 443
ANSWERED ON 17TH NOVEMBER, 2016

EXPRESSWAYS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

443. SHRI Y. S. AVINASH REDDY:
SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सडक परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has prepared an estimation for Expressway between Anantapur and the new capital of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati, and the same has been submitted to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that NHAI has also allotted National Highway numbers to Anantapur-Amaravati and Kurnool-Dorna highways; and
- (c) the time by which the work is likely to be started and completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

- (a) No Madam.
- (b) Anantapuram-Amaravathi Expressway is not a National Highway. Kurnool to Dornala stretch has been declared as National Highway No. 340C. Detailed Project Report (DPR) for this stretch is being prepared by NHAI.
- (c) It is too early to indicate the likely time by which the construction work will be started and completed.

Appendix II

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 112

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurances given in replies to:-

- (i). USQ No. 1343 dated 02.08.2010 regarding "Replacement of the Indian Post Office Act";
- (ii). USQ No. 2636 dated 17.08.2011 regarding "Private Courier Services"; and,
- (iii). USQ No. 3330 dated 14.12.2011 regarding "Private Courier Services".

The above mentioned Questions were asked by various M.Ps. to the Minister of Communications. The contents of the Questions along with the replies of the Ministers are as given in Annexures I to III.

2. The replies to the Questions were treated as Assurances by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurances are yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Communications *vide* O.M. Nos. 13-7/2010/PO, 13-14/2011-PO and 13-29/2011-PO all dated 8 December 2017 have stated as under:

"...a detailed review of the subject matter has been under taken and it is now submitted that Ministry of Communications, Department of Posts is no longer working on to bring any further amendment in India Post Office Act, 1898. The reasons are as under:-

- *A draft Post Office Bill 2011 alongwith draft Cabinet Note was approved by the MoSC(IT) and was circulated to various stakeholders and Ministries.*
- *After examining and incorporating changes, the draft IPO Bill 2013 and draft Note for the Cabinet was sent to the Ministry of Law & Justice for vetting.*
- *Observations conveyed by the Ministry of Law & Justice were incorporated. However, it was subsequently, decided that no further action was to be undertaken on this issue.*
- *A view was taken that the roll out of the IT Modernization Project [which aims at Modernization and computerization of all Post Offices in the country including Branch Post offices, and establishment of required IT Infrastructure including Data center, Wide Area Network (WAN) based networking of the departmental Post Offices], particularly CSI (Core System Integrator – it is a new software which will replace DoP's legacy Meghdoot modules completely.*

All software which are being used now in Post Office like Meghdoot Point of Sale, Treasury, Sub Accounts, Accounts* and Accountant module will be replaced by this) and RICT (Rural Information and Communication Technology, under which RICT infrastructure is being developed in approx. 1,30,000 Rural Post Offices], roll out will have a far reaching impact in the working and modalities of the various services and products offered by the Department. Hence, the view was taken that after implementation and stabilization of the IT Modernization Project, the exercise of the amendment of the IPO Act will be undertaken.

- In the meantime, under the directions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, a Task Force Committee on Leveraging the Post Office Network was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri T.S.R. Subramanian. The committee submitted its report during November 2014 wherein major organizational changes including the structure of the Department have been suggested. The recommendation is to make a holding company fully (100%) owned by the Department of Posts having five Strategic Business Units. As major organizational changes including the structure of the Department have been proposed in the report which if implemented will require major amendments in the Indian Post Office Act, 1898. One of the recommendations to create an Indian Post Bank has been fulfilled by the creation of the India Post Payment Bank which is a fully owned Government equity. Creation of other Strategic Business Units for e-commerce and insurance is being deliberated upon and are still at the nascent stage.

As these issues are still under consideration by various Divisions of the Department and hence a comprehensive view can be taken only after a final decision is taken on the Department's response to the Task Force committee Report as well as the stabilization of the IT Modernization Project.

Further, it is stated that an Amendment in Section 7 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 had been implemented vide which the powers of fixing the rates and tariff of the products/services contained in the first Schedule of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 has now been vested with the Department. This amendment has come into force w.e.f. 01.04.2017. This Amendment meets the requirements of the Department for the time being."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of States for Communications (I/C), have requested the Committee to drop the Assurances.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Annexure - I

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 1343

ANSWERED ON: 02.08.2010

REPLACEMENT OF THE INDIAN POST OFFICE ACT

MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to replace the existing Indian Post Office Act, 1898;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient feature of the proposed Bill; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) Yes, Madam. A new Post Office Act is being proposed.

(b) Details have not been finalized.

(c) No time schedule has been fixed.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2636
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH AUGUST, 2011

PRIVATE COURIER SERVICES

2636. DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to bring in a legislation to regulate the operations of the private courier services in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) A bill to replace the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 is being drafted.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3330
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2011

PRIVATE COURIER SERVICES

†3330. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL::
SHRI YASHBANT N.S. LAGURI:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is no Governmental control on private courier services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints against the private courier service providers during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government against the erring courier service providers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) No, Madam. The Department of Post, as Government of India has no control over private courier services in the country.
- (b) There is no provision in Indian Post Office Act, 1898 for exercising control over private courier services in the country. However, a draft Post Office Bill which proposes to address issues raised in (a) above is under consideration of Government.
- (c) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM No. 113

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4954 dated 23.04.2015 regarding "Women Reservation Bill."

On 23 April, 2015, Prof. Sandhu Singh and Shri C.N. Jayadevan, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4954 to the Minister of Law and Justice. The text of the Question alongwith 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 Law and Justice (Legislative Department) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) vide O.M. No. H-11012/1/2019-Leg-II dated 07 February, 2019 have stated as under:-

"The Ministry of Urban & Housing Affairs informed that they had submitted a proposal for providing fifty percent reservation of seats for women in the Municipalities to be the Cabinet Secretariat on 16.02.2016 for consideration of the Cabinet. However, no instruction had been received from the Cabinet It may, therefore, be observed that a policy decision on the issue is pending since February 2016. It is felt that a change in the said position is unlikely to occur in the near future. In view of this, it is requested that Lok Sabha Secretariat may kindly move the Committee on Government Assurance for dropping this Assurance on account of the uncertainty of a decision in the matter in the near future."

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

The Committee may consider.

DATED:- 21/02/2020

NEW DELHI:

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4954

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, 23rd APRIL, 2015

Women Reservation Bill

4954. PROF. SADHU SINGH:
SHRI C.N. JAYDEVAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to reintroduce the Bill which has lapsed on dissolution of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha for reservation of one third seats for women in the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the time frame set therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to provide 50% reservation for women in urban local bodies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)**

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLIES TO PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4954 FOR ANSWER ON 23RD APRIL, 2010

(a) to (b): During the years, a consistent demand has been made from various quarters for giving adequate representation to women in Parliament and State Legislatures and to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies including the Legislative Assemblies of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, for a period of 15 years. A Bill, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred and Eight Amendment) Bill, 2008 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 6th May, 2008. The Rajya Sabha passed the said Bill on 9th March, 2010; but it could not be passed by the Fifteenth Lok Sabha. The said Bill lapsed on dissolution of the fifteenth Lok Sabha.

It has been the endeavor of the Government to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies. The issue involved needs careful consideration on the basis of consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before Parliament.

(c) and (d): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**

MEMORANDUM No. 115

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4277 dated 20.02.2014 regarding "Amendment in Tariff Policy."

On 20 February, 2014, Shri P.Kumar, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4277 to the Minister of Power. The text of the Question alongwith 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 Power within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.
3. The Ministry of Power vide O.M. No. 28(L)/10/2012-R&R dated 15 July, 2015 and OM No.28(L)/10/2012-R&R dated 16 July, 2014 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the Tariff Policy was notified by the Central Government under section 3 of the Electricity Act, 2003 on 6th January, 2006 and was amended on 31st March, 2008 allowing Hydro Power Developers other than State controlled/owned companies the facility of tariff determination through appropriate commission up to 5th January, 2011 and exemption from tariff based competitive bidding. The tariff policy was further amended on 8th July, 2011 extending the above provision up to 31st December, 2015. To provide further exemption to Hydro Power Projects till the end of 13th Plan and in view of recommendation of the Working Group on 12th Five Year Plan, certain other amendments have also been proposed in the policy. A consolidated proposal for amendment to the Tariff Policy is being finalized. However, the process of the amendment in the Tariff Policy is expected to take further time."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 09 August 2016 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their Fifty-First Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 11 April, 2017 inter-alia recommending the Ministry to pursue the matter vigorously till its logical conclusion and they be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.

5. However the Ministry of Power vide OM No. 28(L)/10/2014-R&R dated 09 October, 2018 have stated as under:-

"The based on the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Energy and further consultations with States Government the provision related to separation of carriage and content needs to be reframed. Therefore, the official amendments to the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2014 are still under finalization. The process of amendment in the Electricity Act, 2003 may take more time as it involves not only approval of cabinet but a complete parliamentary procedure also required for its approval."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (I/C) for Power and New Renewable Energy, have again requested the Committee to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may re-consider.

DATED :- 21/02/2020

NEW DELHI:

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4277
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.02.2014**

AMENDMENT IN TARIFF POLICY

4277. SHRI P. KUMAR:

**Will the Minister of POWER
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make changes in the Tariff Policy and the Electricity Act, 2003;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the likely impact on the income expected to be earned by the power utilities after the implementation of the new Tariff Policy;**
- (c) whether the Government has discussed all the issues relating to the power sector in the advisory group meeting held during December 2013; and**
- (d) if so, the details of the deliberations made during the said meeting?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Based on the recommendations of the Working Group which was constituted by the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Power and proposals received from Power Grid Corporation of India Limited and Central Electricity Authority, the draft amendments in the Tariff Policy were uploaded on the website of Ministry of Power on 12th September, 2013 and also circulated to all stakeholders for comments. Based on comments received from stakeholders and further deliberations held in this regard, suitable amendments are under finalization. The proposed amendment in Tariff Policy would benefit the various categories of consumers, including the below poverty line consumers. Besides, these amendments would reduce the carbon footprint and lead to sustainable growth.

.....2.

Simultaneously, the aforesaid Working Group, inter-alia, also recommended certain changes in the Electricity Act, 2003. These recommendations were further discussed in the Ministry and a Committee was constituted for the examination and recommendation on the proposed amendments in the Electricity Act, 2003. Based on report of the Committee, the proposed amendments in the Act were uploaded on the website of Ministry of Power on 17th October, 2013 and also circulated to all stakeholders for comments. Based on comments received from stakeholders and further deliberations held in this regard, suitable amendments are under finalization. The proposed amendments in the Electricity Act, 2003 will promote competition, efficiency in operations and improvement in quality of supply of electricity in the country resulting in capacity addition and ultimate benefit to the consumers.

(c) & (d): The issue of proposed amendments in Tariff Policy and in the Electricity Act, 2003 have also been discussed in various meetings of the Advisory Group under the Minister of State for Power (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Power. The Advisory Group in the meeting held on 24.12.2013 discussed the issues relating to Transmission and Banking/Financial Institutions in the power sector. During the said meeting, Advisory Group was also informed about the status on proposed amendments in the Act.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 118

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 589 dated 27.02.2013 regarding "Delay in commissioning of Jaitapur Reactors".

On 27 February 2013, Shri Sivasami C. and Shri R. Thamaraiselvan, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 589 to the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office). 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 Department of Atomic Energy within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Department of Atomic Energy vide O.M. No. 13/2/2/2013-Power dated 10th February, 2017 have stated as under:-

".....the techno-commercial discussions being held between NPCIL and French Public utility EdF are still in progress. Incidentally, it is submitted that six assurances pertaining to Jaitapur project are pending in Rajya Sabha. Considering the progress of negotiations and the delay in implementation of these assurances, Committee on Government Assurance, Rajya Sabha has been requested, with the approval of MoS(PMO) to drop these assurances. The decision is awaited. The issues involved in the present Assurance are of similar nature. The process of negotiations may take considerable time to reach a conclusion, after which NPCIL can finalize the project proposal. Further, obtaining approval for administrative approval and financial sanction for the Project from the Government (AEC/CCS) may take considerable time."

4. In view of the above, the Department, with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office), have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.589
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.02.2013.

DELAY IN COMMISSIONING OF JAITAPUR REACTORS

589. SHRI SIVASAMI C.:
SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the work on the reactors at Jaitapur has been badly delayed and it is now expected to go on stream in 2016;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the initial estimated cost of Jaitapur reactors as against the current expected cost;
- (d) whether the Government expects further cost overruns; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS
AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) :**

- (a)&(b) The scheduled date of commencement of work on the project is in the year 2015.
- (c)to(e) The figures for the cost of the Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project will be arrived at upon the conclusion of the ongoing techno-commercial discussions between the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and the French side.

Appendix - IX

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 120

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2997 dated 16.03.2016 regarding "Shifting of NPP from Haripur".

On 16 March 2016, Shri Y. V. Subba Reddy, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2997 to the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office). 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 Department of Atomic Energy within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.
3. The Department of Atomic Energy vide O.M. No. 20/1(6)/2016-I&M (NFC) dated 1st August, 2018 have stated as under:-

".....out of the 903.35 acres offered by AP Government, NFC wanted to utilize 300 acres for LWR fuel fabrication (to take care of 12 reactors reload requirements) and for fabrication of SS tubes for 4 nos. of PFBRs. The balance was for HWB who have informed that they will not be able to use the land. The requirement was once again reviewed in the Department regarding the LWR facilities to be set up and it was opined that the existing facilities along with the augmentations being made over the time can cater to most of the requirements of the proposed LWR facility. With respect to the PFBR facility it was suggested to co-locate the fabrication facility in the location proposed for PFBRs in view of the logistics advantage, better control and safety. Based on the discussions, it is to inform that NFC would like to withdraw the requirement of land at Kurnool."

4. In view of the above, the Department, with the approval of the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office), have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2997
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2016

SHIFTING OF NPP FROM HARIPUR

2997. SHRI Y.V. SUBBA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any move to shift Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) from Haripur in West Bengal to a location between Prakasam and Nellore in Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government / Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) so far in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to set up a Nuclear Fuel Complex at Kurnool; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a) & (b) No, Sir. However, an additional coastal site in the state of Andhra Pradesh for setting up nuclear power reactors with Russian cooperation is being explored. In this regard, the Site Selection Committee of the Government of India has held discussions with the Government of Andhra Pradesh for identifying suitable coastal sites in the state and carrying out technical studies.
- (c) & (d) Yes, Sir. A proposal to setup 300 tons per year (tpy) Fuel Fabrication Facility at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh along with a Zircaloy Fabrication Facility of 75 tpy capacity and a Stainless Steel Tube Plant (SSTP) of 400 tpy capacity is under consideration in the Department.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. (2)

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3510 dated 07.12.2016 regarding "Multipurpose Fast Research Reactor".

On 7th December 2016, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3510 to the Prime Minister. 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 Department of Atomic Energy within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Department of Atomic Energy *vide* O.M. No. 25/17/2016/LS/R&D-I dated 25th August 2017 have stated as under:-

".....the Department has been informed that Russia intends building such reactor but there is no proposal from Russia inviting India to join their project."

4. In view of the above, the Department, with the approval of the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office), have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3510
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2016

MULTIPURPOSE FAST RESEARCH REACTOR

3510. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDAŞI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Russia has invited India to join in developing next-generation multipurpose fast research reactor known by the Russian acronym MBIR; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a)&(b) The Department has been informed that the Russia intends building such reactor. At present, more information on this subject is being collected.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 122

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3955 dated 17.12.2014 regarding "EIA Report on Mithivirdi Nuclear Power Plant".

On 17th December 2014, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3955 to the Prime Minister. The text of the Question along with the reply 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 Department of Atomic Energy within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Department of Atomic Energy vide O.M. No. 13/2/68/2014-Power/247 dated 20th November 2017 have stated as under:-

".....all the required submissions for obtaining environmental clearance as per the prescribed process have been made to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). However, MoEFCC have conveyed that the application has been delisted as the land acquisition has not yet commenced and details of the project are to be finalized. MoEFCC has also conveyed that a fresh application may be made once these issues are addressed. This exercise will require time."

4. In view of the above, the Department, with the approval of the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office), have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3955
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2014

EIA REPORT ON MITHIVIRDI NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

3955. DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the main findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposed Mithivirdi Nuclear Power Plant in Gujarat;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any measures to address the issues flagged in the report; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a) The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report in respect of the proposed nuclear power plant at Chhaya Mithi Viridi in Gujarat has found that the setting up of the nuclear power plant at the site would not adversely affect the environment around the site.
- (b)&(c) The application of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) for environmental clearance including the EIA report is being reviewed by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF). The EAC during its meeting held on May 06, 2014 had sought additional information / details, which have since been submitted to the EAC by NPCIL.

Appendix - XII

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 123

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 339 dated 06.08.2013 regarding "Complaints of Corruption against IFFCO Officers".

On 6 August 2013, Shri C.R. Patil, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 339 to the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers. 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 Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers) vide O.M. No. 16/10/2013-Vig dated 21st December, 2018 have stated as under:-

"As reports in the complaints were not received from CBI, the said Assurance could not be fulfilled and this Department sought extension to fulfill the Assurance from Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Meanwhile, an O.M. dated 12th October, 2018 (E-5) has been received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Rajya Sabha Secretariat informed that it has been decided not to treat the replies to the Question under reference assurance and consequently the said assurances stand deleted from the list of pending assurances.

Department of Fertilizer is yet to receive final reports in the matter from ED and CBI w.r.t. subject Lok Sabha Unstarred Question. However, as mentioned in above para a similar Assurance has been deleted by Rajya Sabha Secretariat from the list of pending assurances."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS

Annexure

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 339
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 06.08.2013

COMPLAINTS OF CORRUPTION AGAINST IFFCO OFFICERS

339. SHRI C.R. PATIL

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

- (a) Whether Government is aware/ has received complaints of corruption against top officers of Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) including gifting of IFFCO properties;
- (b) If so, the details thereof with names of such officers with corruption charges;
- (c) Whether Government would investigate all charges against officers of IFFCO through investigating agencies; and
- (d) If not, reasons there for.

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b) : Department of Fertilizers has received the following complaints against Shri U.S. Awasthi, MD, IFFCO and IFFCO Management including gifting of IFFCO properties:

1. A complaint dated 25.05.2010 of Shri Nishikant Dubey, MP, Lok Sabha against Shri U.S. Awasthi, MD, IFFCO was forwarded by CVC. A copy of the same complaint was also received directly. The allegations were regarding subsidy frauds by opening Kisan International Trading, a 100% subsidiary in Dubai, illegal contract for cornering a posh bungalow for himself from society's fund, buying political favours in violation of MSCS Act and earning huge illegal commission in imports of raw material and finished fertilizers, investment in Legend International Holdings, repatriation of Government Equity through illegal means, defrauding the Government by manipulating sales & claiming higher subsidy and manipulation of election of Board of IFFCO and prevailing lawlessness.
2. Another complaint of Nishikant Dubey, MP was forwarded by PMO vide its letter dated 09.06.2010. The same complaint was also received through the then PS to Hon'ble Minister of Finance vide his letter dated 30.08.2010. The allegations were with regard to wrong disclosure in violation of established

accounting practices by IFFCO and siphoning of money and money laundering activities of Shri U.S Awasthi, MD.

3. A complaint dated 20.06.2011 was received from Shri V. Aruna Kumar, MP, Lok Sabha forwarded by PMO vide its letter dated 06.07.2011. The allegations are regarding decision taken by IFFCO Management to benefit themselves rather than member farmers, decision of IFFCO Management to gift its MD a bungalow at Hauz Khas, New Delhi worth Rs 50 crore, purchase of luxurious flats for all the Board of Directors in the New Commonwealth Village which is a sheer wastage of poor farmers money, making fertilizer and fertilizer raw materials worth Rs 600 crore per annum to Kisan International Trading to bypass Govt. of India guidelines, appointment at senior level are not as per rules and regulations and are manipulated to give advantages to persons, companies are opened and closed to gain personal commissions and loss to organization, purchase of Paradeep Plant from Oswal private company without due diligence at inflated price of Rs 2200 crore investment of IFFCO in Legend International Holding in Australia.
4. A complaint was received in this department from CVC vide its letter no. 013/C&F/002 dated 07.03.2013 forwarding therewith a copy of complaint dated 22.02.2013 from Shri Nikhil Kumar, District Magistrate, District South West, Government of Delhi. The complaint is about dubious, imprudent, financially improper transaction by IFFCO transferring the title, ownership, possession of its prime property located at L-4, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi to its Managing Director Shri U.S Awasthi vide conveyance deed dated 30.01.2013.
5. A complaint was received from Shri Nishikant Dubey, MP, Lok Sabha vide letter dated 01.04.2013 which has been forwarded by PMO vide its letter dated 09.04.2013. The same letter has also been forwarded by the Cabinet Secretariat vide its I.D dated 12.04.2013. The allegations leveled in the complaint are regarding IFFCO is making huge operational losses year after year, IFFCO making wrong disclosures in violation of established accounting practices, the current cash flow position of IFFCO smacks some serious problem, there is no oversight over the affairs of IFFCO, (v) siphoning money and money laundering activities of Shri U.S. Awasthi, MD, IFFCO and IFFCO makes more than Rs 6000 crore worth of purchase of raw materials but there is no tender and no transparent system.

[(c) & (d) : The complaints are at various stages of examination/investigation.]

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
MEMORANDUM NO. 125

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1319 dated 03.03.2016 regarding "Land for Airports".

On 3rd March 2016, Shri Rajendra Agrawal, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1319 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. 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 Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be fully implemented.

3. In their Implementation Report furnished on 08.07.2016, the Ministry of Civil Aviation provided the information on (i) No. of land requirements taken up with the State Governments by AAI since 2003, (ii) No. of land requirements resolved and (iii) No. of land requirements pending in respect of 20 States and three Union Territories. No such information has been provided for some States including Uttar Pradesh. Moreover, no information/reply in respect of part (a) of USQ No. 1319 dated 03.03.2016 has been provided. The Committee had, therefore, treated the Assurance as partly implemented and urged upon the Ministry to fully implement it.

4. The Ministry of Civil Aviation vide O.M. No. H-11016/89/2016-AAI dated 17th April 2017 have stated as under:-

"...all available details, as sought in the question (i.e. number of issues resolved/pending) in respect of all State Governments with whom the land requirements were taken up by AAI since 2003 have already been furnished in fulfillment of the assurance. As such, it is not clear as to why the I.R. has been treated as part fulfillment of the assurance and what further details are required for complete fulfillment of the assurance.

It may be seen further that the matters relating to acquisition and handing over of land is a State subject and the role of AAI and MoCA/GoI is very much limited in the matter. Further, upgradation/modernization/development of airports is a continuous process and the requirement of land always fluctuates/rises whenever developmental work is taken up. Generally, at no point of time the land requirement can be taken as settled forever as land requirements keep on changing every time depending upon the type of aircraft operations required, traffic demand, willingness of the State Government to upgrade the airport keeping in view the future requirement, scope of work involved, etc.

In several cases, the State Governments finds it difficult to comply with requirements immediately as it involves environment clearances, relocation of affected families, payment of compensation to land owners etc. Land disputes and litigations and other legal formalities also comes in the way of timely allotment of land for airport projects.

Considering all the above aspects, it may be appreciated that the information/details furnished in the Implementation Report is complete in itself and no further input in the matter is possible at any given point of time."

5. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State for Civil Aviation have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 21/02/2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1319
(To be answered on the 3rd March 2016)

LAND FOR AIRPORTS

1319. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानतल मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the number of pending issues related to land for airport projects with the State Governments have come down; Not
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of issues resolved/pending as on date, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the extant policy regarding land allotment to airports; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to change/amend the current policy and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानतल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) & (b): Development / upgradation of airports is a continuous process and the land requirement always increases as and when further expansion of airport projects are taken up. At the same time, it may be difficult for the State Governments to comply with the requirements immediately as it involves environment clearances, relocation of affected families, payment of compensation to the land owners etc. The details relating to issues resolved, pending etc. are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) & (d) : Presently, there is no specific policy for allotment of land to airports. As the land is a State subject, it is for the concerned State Governments to consider the matter appropriately and to make available the required land to the airport operator on mutually agreed terms and conditions.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2019-2020)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SEVENTH SITTING
(24.02.2020)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1630 hours in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annex, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras
6. Shri M.K. Raghavan

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - 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 that the sitting has been convened to consider 25 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 29 pending Assurances and for taking oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways regarding review of pending Assurances. Some Members desired that the Committee should visit some of the places in the country in the month of April 2020 to examine the delay in implementation and/or status of certain important Assurances and requested the Chairperson to finalize the programme for the study visit. The Committee accordingly decided to undertake a

study visit to Visakhapatnam, Port Blair and Chennai in April 2020 for the purpose. The Committee then took up the abovementioned 25 Memoranda (Memorandum Nos. 102 to 126) for consideration for dropping or otherwise of the relevant Assurances. After considering a few Memoranda, the Committee authorized the Chairperson to decide the Memoranda. The Chairperson subsequently decided to drop 15 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-I* and to pursue the remaining 14 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-II for implementation by the Ministries/Departments concerned.

The Committee then adjourned.

* Not enclosed

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2019-2020)
Statement Showing Assurances not dropped by the Committee on Government Assurance (2019-2020) at their sitting held on 24.02.2020

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
1.	104	USQ No. 2356 dated 23.08.2013	Tourism	Allocation of Land	The Ministry has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance since it will not be able to construct the tourist complex on the land originally offered to it. The Committee note that the Assurance was regarding setting up of a building for developing Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Memorial Library irrespective of the location and as long as the building does not come into existence, the Assurance shall be treated as pending. The Committee desire that the Ministry should work in a timebound manner for expeditious implementation of the Assurance. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and progress made in the matter.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
2.	106	USQ No. 3310 dated 12.12.2014	Defence (Department of Defence Production)	Aerospace University	The Ministry has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance on the ground that it has not yet received the revised Detailed Project Report (DPR) from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and since the fulfilment of the Assurance involves forwarding of DPR to relevant Ministries after concurrence of Ministry of Defence (Finance), the activity will take substantial time. The Committee feel that the Ministry cannot wash its hands of by stating that the matter will take substantial time. The Assurance is of crucial importance as establishment of Aerospace University would be instrumental in meeting the country's manpower shortfall in the Aerospace Industry. The Committee understand that such matters take time but the Ministry needs to take action in the matter with alacrity and specific timeline and pursue the matter with HAL at the highest level and implement the Assurance.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ and date	No.	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
3.	109	USQ No. 443 dated 17.11.2016		Road Transport and Highways	Expressways in Andhra Pradesh	The Committee feel that once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House it is incumbent upon the Ministry to fulfil it. In the instant case, the Ministry was required to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Kurnool to Dornala stretch i.e. Highway No. 340C. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the matter vigorously and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken, progress made in the matter and the final outcome thereof.
4.	112	(i) USQ No. 1343 dated 02.08.2010 (ii) USQ No. 2636 Dated 17.08.2011 (iii) USQ No. 3330 dated 14.12.2011		Communications (Department of Posts)	(i) Replacement of the Indian Post Office Act (ii) Private Courier Services (iii) Private Courier Services	The Committee feel that the matter should be pursued vigorously till its logical end. The Committee understand that such matters may take considerable time but at the same time sustained efforts need to be made for achieving the desired results. The Committee would like to be apprised of the status of new Post Office Act and the reasons as to why it has not been finalized yet. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
5.	113	USQ No. 4954 dated 23.04.2015	Law and Justice (Legislative Department)	Women Reservation Bill	The Committee regret to note that the policy decision to provide 50% reservation for women in urban local bodies is still pending since February, 2016. The Ministry has contended that on account of uncertainty of a decision in the matter in the near future, the Assurance should be dropped. The Committee feel that the Ministry needs to apprise them about the final decision/outcome in the matter as to whether it will be implemented or not. The Committee also desire that the Ministry should pursue the matter till its logical end.
6.	115	USQ No. 4277 dated 20.02.2014	Power	Amendment in Tariff Policy	The Ministry has requested for dropping of the Assurance on the ground that the process of amendment in the Tariff Policy is expected to take further time. The Committee understand that such matters may take time but the Ministry needs to take sustained action in the matter with alacrity and specific timeline and bring the Assurance to its logical end.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
7.	118	USQ No. 589 dated 27.02.2013	Department of Atomic Energy	Delay in Commissioning of Jaitapur Reactors	The Committee are not convinced with the request of the Ministry for dropping of the Assurance made on the ground that the process of negotiations/obtaining approvals for the project may take considerable time to reach a conclusion. The Committee understand that such matters may take much time but it is untenable to drop the Assurance on this ground. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the matter vigorously and earnestly and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.
8.	120	USQ No. 2997 dated 16.03.2016	Department of Atomic Energy	Shifting of NPP from Haripur	The Committee feel that once an Assurance is given on the floor of the House, it is incumbent upon the Ministry to fulfil it. In the instant case, the Ministry is required to give a proper location for the Fuel Fabrication Facility at Kurnool for logistics advantage, better control and safety. The Committee feel that the matter needs to be pursued earnestly to bring to its logical conclusion. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and progress made in the matter.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
9.	121	USQ No. 3510 dated 07.12.2016	Department of Atomic Energy	Multipurpose Fast Research Reactor	The Committee feel that the Ministry cannot wash its hands of by stating that there is no proposal from Russia inviting India to join their project of development of the next generation multipurpose fast research reactor. The Committee feel that the country needs such newer and more powerful research reactors to meet the emerging challenges in nuclear sector. The Committee would like the Ministry to take concrete action in the matter at the highest level and also apprise them of the initiatives taken and progress made in the matter.
10.	122	USQ No. 3955 dated 17.12.2014	Department of Atomic Energy	EIA Report on Mithivirdi Nuclear Power Plant	The Ministry's request for dropping the Assurance on the ground that the exercise for obtaining environment clearance for the nuclear power plant will require time is untenable. The Committee are unhappy with such lackadaisical approach of the Ministry and the pace of progress of the project. The Committee would like the Ministry to pursue the matter with all the stakeholders and implement the Assurance without further delay.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ and date	No.	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
11.	123	USQ No. 339 dated 06.08.2013		Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers)	Complaints of Corruption against IFFCO Officers	The Ministry has requested to drop the Assurance on the ground that the Department is yet to receive final reports in the matter from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and that the similar Assurance has been dropped by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. The Committee feel that there is an imperative need to ensure accountability in the matter. Moreover, an Assurance cannot be dropped just because CBI investigation into the matter is taking considerable time or the Rajya Sabha Secretariat has dropped similar Assurances. The Committee desire that the Ministry should vigorously pursue the matter with the CBI for expediting the investigation. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken by the Ministry and the CBI as well as the progress made in the matter.

S.No.	Memo No.	SQ/USQ No. and date	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
12.	125	USQ No. 1319 dated 03.03.2016	Civil Aviation	Land for Airports	The Committee understand that land acquisition is done by the State Government and is a long drawn process as it involves multiple agencies. However, an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that its implementation would take a long time. The Ministry is required to give full information in respect of all the States including Uttar Pradesh in a complete manner. The Committee, therefore, direct the Ministry to vigorously pursue the matter with the State Governments concerned and the respective agencies and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

MINUTES

Appendix - XV.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2019-2020)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
EIGHTEENTH SITTING
(08.10.2020)

The Committee sat from 1100 hours to 1200 hours in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
3. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
4. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
5. Shri Santosh Pandey
6. Dr. Bharatiben Dhirubhai Shyal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - 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 that the sitting has been convened to consider and adopt 04 draft Reports and for taking oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources). Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following four (04) draft Reports without any amendments:-

- (i) Draft Thirteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (ii) Draft Fourteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (iii) Draft Fifteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications); and
- (iv) Draft Sixteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy)'.

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The Committee then adjourned.

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2020-2021)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
FOURTH SITTING
(08.02.2021)

The Committee sat from 1430 hours to 1500 hours in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 216, Block-B, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Santosh Pandey
6. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras

Secretariat

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - 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 Four (04) draft Reports without any amendments:-

- (i) Draft Thirteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';

- (ii) Draft Fourteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (iii) Draft Fifteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications)'; and
- (iv) Draft Sixteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy)'.

2. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the ongoing Session.

The Committee then adjourned.

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2019 - 2020)**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

- Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
4. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
7. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
8. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
9. Shri Santosh Pandey
10. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras
11. Shri Parbatbhai Savabhai Patel
12. Shri M.K. Raghavan
13. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
14. Dr. Bharatiben Dhirubhai Shyal
15. Smt. Supriya Sule

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Pawan Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri S. L. Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |

* The Committee was constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2019 *vide* Para No. 609 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 09 October, 2019