

COMMITTEE**ON****GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)****(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)****SIXTIETH REPORT****REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF
ASSURANCES
(ACCEDED TO)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on.....23-03-2022

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI****March, 2022/ Chaitra , 1944 (Saka)**

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* Implementation Report of the Assurances has since been laid on the Table of the House on 01/12/2021

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2021 - 2022)**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL

- Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Nihal Chand
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 M.K. Raghavan
11. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
12. Dr. Bharatiben D. Shiyal
13. Shri Indra Hang Subba
14. Smt. Supriya Sule
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri J.M. Baisakh - Joint Secretary
2. Shri T.S. Rangarajan - Director
3. Shri S. L. Singh - Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Sanjeev Kumar Gulati - Committee Officer

* The Committee has been constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2021 *vide* Para No. 3202 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 18 October, 2021

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixtieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021) at their sitting held on 02 December, 2021 *inter-alia* considered Memorandum Nos. 02 to 11 containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 10 pending Assurances and decided to drop 08 Assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 08 March, 2022, the Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022) considered and adopted this Report.

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

NEW DELHI;

22 March, 2022

01 Chaitra , 1944 (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 to implement the Assurance 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 (2021-2022) considered Ten Memoranda (Appendix-I) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 10 pending Assurances at their sitting held on 02 December, 2021.

3. After having considered the grounds cited by the Ministries/Departments, the Committee are convinced and decided to drop the following 08 Assurances :-

S. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
1.	SQ No. 298 dated 14.12.2011	Coal	Hospitals and Dispensaries in CIL (Appendix – II)
2.	USQ No. 2248 dated 08.03.2021	Finance (Department of Revenue)	E-Way Bill for Intra-State Gold Transportation (Appendix – III)
3.*	USQ No. 2396 dated 28.03.2012	Communications (Department of Telecommunications)	National Broadband Plan (Appendix – IV)
4.*	USQ No. 402 dated 19.07.2016	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare)	Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines (Appendix – V)
5.	USQ No. 5681 dated 10.05.2012	Railways	Rail Coach Factory (Appendix – VI)
6.	SQ No. 133 dated 27.11.2019 (Supplementary by Shri Dharambir Singh, M.P.)	Railways	Upgradation of Signalling System (Appendix – VII)

* Implementation Report of the Assurances has since been laid on the Table of the House on 01/12/2021

S. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
7.	USQ No. 2170 dated 08.03.2021	Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)	Innovation in Currency Format (Appendix – VIII)
8.	USQ No. 2222 dated 08.03.2021	Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)	Ban on Bitcoin Trading (Appendix – IX)

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 08 Assurances are given in Appendices -II to IX.

5. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee dated 02 December, 2021, whereunder the requests for dropping of the Assurances were considered, are given in Appendix-X.

NEW DELHI;

22 March, 2022

○ | Chaitra , 1944 (Saka)

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

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2021-2022)

Statement showing summary of requests received from various Ministries/Departments regarding dropping of Assurances and considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 02 December, 2021.

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/ Discussion References	Ministry	Department	Brief Subject
1	2	SQ No. 298 dated 14.12.2011	Coal	-	Hospitals and Dispensaries in CIL
2	3	USQ No. 2248 dated 08.03.2021	Finance	Department of Revenue	E-Way Bill for Intra-State Gold Transportation
3*	4	USQ No. 2396 dated 28.03.2012	Communications	Department of Telecommunications	National Broadband Plan
4*	5	USQ No. 402 dated 19.07.2016	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines
5	6	USQ No. 5681 dated 10.05.2012	Railways	-	Rail Coach Factory
6	7	SQ No. 133 dated 27.11.2019 (Supplementary by Shri Dharambir Singh, M.P.)	Railways	-	Upgradation of Signalling System
7	8	USQ No. 3208 dated 14.03.2018	Defence	Department of Defence	Fighter Planes
8	9	USQ No. 2170 dated 08.03.2021	Finance	Department of Economic Affairs	Innovation in Currency Format
9	10	USQ No. 1042 dated 22.11.2019	Environment, Forest and Climate Change	-	Great Indian Bustard
10	11	USQ No. 2222 dated 08.03.2021	Finance	Department of Economic Affairs	Ban on Bitcoin Trading

* Implementation Report of the Assurances has since been laid on the Table of the House on 01/12/2021.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 02

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 298 dated 14.12.2011 regarding "Hospitals and Dispensaries in CIL".

On 14 December 2011, Shri Nityananda Pradhan and Shri Tathagata Satpathy, M.Ps., addressed a Starred Question No. 298 to the Minister of Coal. 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 Coal within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Coal *vide* O.M. No. 54016/26/2011-CSR&W dated 6th December 2019 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"the matter of establishing five medical colleges in the area of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries is under process, which is a time consuming procedure and time limit for its conclusion cannot be ascertained. The matter is being follow up regularly with CIL, however the complete information is still awaited from CIL. CIL may take some more time to send the complete information."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their Sitting held on 21 July, 2020 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their 18th Report (17th Lok Sabha) on 13 February 2021 and *inter-alia* urged upon the Ministry to pursue the matter vigorously with Coal India Limited (CIL) for its proper and expeditious implementation.

5. However, the Ministry of Coal *vide* O.M. No. 54016/26/2011-CSR&W dated 27th May, 2021 has *inter-alia* stated as under:

"The matter has been re-examined in consultation with Coal India Limited (CIL). Chairman, CIL had *vide* letter dated 17.08.2020 informed that the Assurance has been monitored, reviewed and discussed on several occasions and updated status note has periodically been submitted by CIL for fulfillment of the Assurance. However, the same was treated as partly implemented. The matter has been further taken up with CIL for specific reply and status on the subject Assurance. CIL *vide* its latest letter dated 12.05.2021 has stated that it appears that the request for dropping the Assurance has not been acceded to by the Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021) at their sitting held on 21st July, 2020 even prior to CIL's request for consideration. CIL has stated that operationalisation of medical college cum hospital is a specialized job requiring domain experience along with compliance of norms of National Medical Commission for permission and subsequent recognition both at teaching and treating fronts. CIL and its

subsidiaries do not have core-competence or expertise to administer and operate a medical college on their own. Only MCL has been able to establish a medical college cum hospital at Talcher under its CSR initiative consisting of a Trust named 'Mahanadi Medical Education Trust' which would select an operator for operationalisation, administration, supervision and management of institute. The latest development is that construction work is over and tender has been floated on behalf of Trust with the aim to start operations from 2022-23 academic year. In Jharkhand, CCL's concerted efforts to acquire around 20 acres of land on payment basis for constructing a medical college to be run by the State Government has not received any response so far.

CIL has pointed out that state-wise medical seats in medical colleges both in Government and Private sectors between 2010 and 2021 where CIL subsidiaries propose to put up medical colleges indicate healthy increase of 146% (as shown in the table in its letter dated 12.05.2021 sourced from website of Medical Council of India) which perhaps could be a major reason for lukewarm response from State Government in creation of additional medical education infrastructure.

Chairman, CIL, has further stated that since there has already been considerable delay in fulfilling the Assurance and subsidiaries like ECL, BCCL and CCL do not have encouraging financial condition. In the backdrop of above, Chairman of CIL has requested for favorable recommendation to drop the Assurance be considered in response to the above referred Lok Sabha Starred question.

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs, has again requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

NEW DELHI:
DATED: 24/11/2021

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *298
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2011

Hospitals and Dispensaries in CIL

*298. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN AND SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies are running medical colleges, hospitals, dispensaries and teaching institutions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their locations, state-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has acquired the land for the medical colleges which are to be established in near future by CIL and its subsidiaries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which these colleges are likely to be made functional/operational alongwith the funds likely to be spent in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL
(SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATHI)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN ANSWER TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *298 FOR 14.12.2011 RAISED BY SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN, MP AND SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATIY, MP

(a&b): Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are not running any medical colleges or teaching institutions. They are extending medical facilities to the employees and their families through various medical establishments starting from the dispensary level to the Central and Apex hospitals in different parts of the coalfields. There are 85 Hospitals and 424 dispensaries in the areas of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries.

The details of hospitals and dispensaries run by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are as under:

States	Company	Dispensary	Hospital
West Bengal & Jharkhand	Eastern Coalfields Limited	128	12
Jharkhand & West Bengal	Bharat Coking Coal Limited	96	14
Jharkhand	Central Coalfields Limited	63	19
Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh	Western Coalfields Limited	54	11
Madhya Pradesh & Chhatisgarh	South Eastern Coalfields Limited	47	17
Odisha	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	14	07
Madhya Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh	Northern Coalfields Limited	10	03
Assam	Coal India Limited	07	02
West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhatisgarh, Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh	Coal Mines Planning and Design Institute Limited	02	-
West Bengal	Coal India Limited	01	-
West Bengal	Dunkani Coal Complex-SECL	02	-
	Total	424	85

(c to c): The proposal to establish five medical colleges in the areas of Coal India Limited and its Subsidiaries is at preliminary stage. There is no need of acquiring land by the Government for the establishment of medical colleges as the land is already available with the coal companies. As the proposal is at preliminary stage, it is not possible to indicate time frame and the funds likely to be spent in this regard.

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 03

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2248 dated 08.03.2021 regarding "E-Way Bill for Intra-State Gold Transportation".

On 08 March, 2021, Shri Hibi Eden, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2248 to the Minister of Finance. 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 Finance (Department of Revenue) within three months from the date of reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) *vide* O.M. F. No. CBEC-20/14/04/2021-GST/1215 dated 26 August, 2021 has stated as under:-

"The Group of Ministers (GoM) on movement of gold and precious stones was constituted by the GST Council on 22.11.2019. The GST Council is a constitutional body constituted under Article 279A of the Constitution of India and is a federal forum of Centre and State Governments for making recommendations to the Union and State Governments on issues related to Goods & Services Tax. It is a constitutional body, independent of the Central Government. The fulfilment of instant Assurance is solely based on the submission of final report by the said Group of Ministers to the GST Council. Accordingly, this Ministry has no authority to direct the GST Council or the Group of Ministers constituted by the GST Council to submit its report. Therefore, this office is not in a position to undertake any action for fulfilment of the said Assurance."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated:- 24/11/2021

New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2248

TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021/PHALGUNA 17, 1942 (SAKA)

E-WAY BILL FOR INTRA-STATE GOLD TRANSPORTATION

2248. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a sub-committee which deals with the issues related to GST Council has decided to make e-way bill mandatory for intra-state transportation of gold;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the names of States which have opposed this proposal;
- (c) the details of data showing the statistics of gold smuggling cases in Kerala for the last three financial years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20;
- (d) whether the informers of gold smuggling and tax evasion are rewarded; and
- (e) if so, whether there exists any proposal for an increased reward for the informers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) A Group of Ministers (GoM) on movement of gold and precious stones was constituted by the GST Council on 22.11.2019 to examine the feasibility of implementation of e-way bill requirement for movement of gold and precious stones or otherwise and to suggest alternative ways and mechanisms for controlling tax evasion. The GoM has not yet submitted its final report to the GST Council.

(c)

Financial Year	Number of cases of gold smuggling booked under the Customs Act	Quantum of gold seized (in kg)
2017-18	489	251.4
2018-19	1136	507.58
2019-20	1000	579.91

(d) Yes. Those who inform about gold smuggling and tax evasion are considered for reward as per existing Reward Guidelines of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs.

(e) No such proposal for increased reward to informers is presently under consideration.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 04

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2396 dated 28.03.2012 regarding "National Broadband Plan".

On 28 March, 2012, Shri Rao Saheb Danve Patil, Shri M.K. Raghavan, Shri Hansraj G. Ahir, Shri Radhe Mohan Singh, Shri Varun Gandhi, Shri Harishchandra Chavan, Shri Ram Singh Kaswan, Shri R. Thamaraiselvan, Shri Suresh Kumar Shetkar and Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2396 to the Minister of Communication (Department of Telecommunications). 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 Communications (Department of Telecommunications) within three months from the date of reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications) vide O.M. No. 8/09/2012-Policy-I dated 1st December, 2015 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project was planned, in 2011, to connect all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 Lakh) in the Country through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) utilizing existing fibers of PSUs viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and RailTel to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Blocks for providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. The project was approved by Government on 25.10.2011. The project is being funded by USOF and is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), which has been incorporated on 25.02.2012. NOFN was targeted to be implemented by December, 2016.

Given the pace of implementation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), Government of India constituted an Expert Committee on 14th January, 2015 to review the strategy and approach towards speedy implementation of NOFN project. One of the mandates of this Committee was to come up with solutions that could ensure project completion by December, 2016. The Committee gave considerable thought to this issue and was of the opinion that adherence to the timeline of December, 2016 either in the existing framework or the revised framework suggested by the Committee, may not be feasible. The Committee submitted its report on 31st March, 2015 wherein a revised timeline upto December, 2017 has, inter alia, been indicated.

Based on the report of the Committee on NOFN, the implementation strategy, approach, technology etc. of the project are under examination in consultation with stakeholders. It is, therefore, expected that the completion of the project to cover all Gram Panchayats will take considerable time.

In view of the above, it is requested that the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha Secretariat may consider dropping of the Parliament Assurances given in respect of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2396 answered on 28.03.2012."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their Sitting held on 17 June, 2016 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their Forty-Sixth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 15.12.2016 and urged upon the Ministry to shed this approach and pursue the matter vigorously by making concerted and coordinated efforts and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

5. However, the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) vide O.M. No. 8-9/2012-Policy-I dated 31st August, 2021 has stated as under:-

"BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to create network to connect all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) with broadband in the country. The scope of BharatNet has been recently extended to cover all inhabited villages. On 30.06.2021, the Union Cabinet accorded approval for a revised strategy for implementation of BharatNet through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model in 16 States of the country covering about 3.61 lakh villages including GPs for extending Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connectivity. The Union Cabinet has also accorded in-principle approval for extending broadband to all inhabited villages of the remaining States and Union Territories (UTs). The project is targeted to be completed by August, 2023."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State for Communications, has once again requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 24/11/2021

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2396
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH MARCH, 2012

NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN

†2396. SHRI RAO SAHEB DANVE PATIL:

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI RADHE MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared and finalized the National Broadband Plan;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard so far;
- (c) whether the Government has provided/proposes to provide high speed broadband facilities in rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the number of villages/panchayats covered under the scheme so far. State-wise;
- (e) whether the slow pace of internet broadband coverage has adversely affected the economic and social development and thereby Gross Domestic Production (GDP) of the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to increase broadband penetration in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA)

(a) to (d) Department of Telecommunication had received the recommendation made by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) dated 8th December 2010 on 'National Broadband Plan'. The Government has already approved the scheme for creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) on 25th October 2011, for providing Broadband connectivity to 2.5 lakh village Panchayats. The objective of this scheme is to extend the existing optical fibre network to Panchayats by utilizing the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF). The project is proposed to be completed in 2 years.

In addition, USOF has launched a Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme to increase broadband penetration in rural and remote areas. Under this scheme BSNL will provide 8,88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions over a period of 5-years in this scheme. As on February 2012, a total of 3, 54,595 broadband connections have been provided. The telecom circle wise detail is given in Annexure I

Further, Govt. under Bharat Nirman-II has a target of covering 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayat in 2012. State wise broadband coverage of village Panchayats is given in Annexure-II

The Govt. in draft revised National Telecom Policy 2011, has inter-alia proposed to revise the existing Broadband download speed of 256 Kbps to 512 Kbps and subsequently to 2 Mbps by 2015 and higher speeds of at least 100 Mbps thereafter. However, no final decision has been taken in the matter so far.

(e) & (f) Studies have shown that increase in the penetration of Internet / Broadband has a positive impact on the growth of Gross Domestic Product.

In addition to this following initiatives have been taken by the Government to increase the broadband penetration:

- i) Allotment of Spectrum for 3G and BWA services will facilitate proliferation of broadband through mobile handsets and wireless technologies.
- ii) Permitting Sharing of infrastructure amongst the Service providers.
- iii) The Indian Telegraph Rules have been amended, and stream IV has been added under the title "Provision of broadband connectivity to villages in a phased manner" to bring provisioning of broadband connectivity to the rural areas under the purview of the USOF.
- iv) USOF schemes for supporting shared infrastructure for mobile services in rural and remote areas are under implementation. These towers will also be used to provide Broadband connectivity in the newly covered Block/Taluka headquarters.
- v) A Rural Wire-line Broadband Scheme has been launched under USOF to increase broadband penetration in rural and remote areas. Under this scheme BSNL will provide 8, 88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions over a period of 5-years in this scheme.

Broadband connections provided by BSNL under USOF
plans up to February' 2012.

Telecom Circle	Total USOF Connections
Andaman and Nicobar	325
Andhra Pradesh	48,707
ASSAM	1,750
Bihar	3,024
Chhattisgarh	1,669
Chennai Telecom Dist	5,418
Gujarat	21,480
Haryana	11,395
Himachal Pradesh	7,379
Jammu and Kashmir	1,291
Jharkhand	1,647
Karnataka	23,377
Kerala	78,532
Madhya Pradesh	4,231
Maharashtra	28,387
NORTH EAST-I	835
NORTH EAST-II	365
Orissa	6,165
Punjab	40,098
Rajasthan	16,410
Tamilnadu	25,602
Uttar Pradesh (East)	7,730
Uttar Pradesh (West)	4,135
Uttaranchal	1,707
WB	12,936
TOTAL	3,54,595

Annexure-II

state of Broadband Coverage of Village Panchayats under Bharat Nirman-II Upto 31-12-2012			
Sl.No	State /UTs	Total number of VPs	Cumulative Achievement
1	Andaman & Nicobar	67	56
2	Andhra Pradesh	21862	14034
3	Assam	3943	2062
4	Bihar	8460	7788
5	Chhattisgarh	9837	2150
6	Gujarat (including Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu)	14439	7599
7	Haryana	6234	5651
8	Himachal Pradesh	3241	1862
9	Jammu & Kashmir	4146	1308
10	Jharkhand	4559	4460
11	Karnataka	5657	3779
12	Kerala	999	997
13	Lakshadweep	10	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	23022	4171
15	Maharashtra (including Goa)	28078	10294
16	Tripura	1040	1190
17	Mizoram**	768	
18	Meghalaya**	1463	
19	Arunachal Pradesh	1756	1410
20	Manipur	3011	
21	Nagaland**	1110	
22	Orissa	6233	2372
23	Punjab	12809	11100
24	Chandigarh	17	16
25	Rajasthan	9200	2946
26	Tamil Nadu	12617	9308
27	Pondicherry	98	98
28	Uttar Pradesh	52125	43003
29	Uttarakhand	7546	2474
30	West Bengal	3354	2475
31	Sikkim	163	66
	Total	247864	142674

** Equivalent Rural Local Bodies

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 05

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 402 dated 19.07.2016 regarding "Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines".

On 19th July 2016, Shri Om Birla, M.P., addressed an USQ No. 402 to the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. 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 Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.
3. In this regard, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) *vide* O.M. No. 4-156/2016-SD.IV dated 06.09.2021 has stated as under:-

'Department received comments from the farmers, Seed Associations, CII, Corporate Houses, Industrial Associations etc. and majority of seed Associations, corporate house and DPIIT etc. are not in favour of the guidelines. They are of the opinion that this will discourage research and innovation in the field of Agriculture in the country which is a lengthy, complex and very costly process. In this way guideline would hamper the welfare of farmers in the long run and also against the ease of doing business. Moreover, the guideline has already been rescinded *vide* Gazette Notification dated 24.05.2016.'

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 24/11/2021

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.402
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH JULY, 2016

LICENSING AND FORMATS FOR GM TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT GUIDELINES

402. SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has withdrawn the notification calling GM developers to compulsorily license their proprietary traits on demand, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has also rolled back the decision not to charge any royalty exceeding 10 per cent of the maximum sale price of seeds, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the key features of the Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines and the time by which the Government proposes to put out a formal confirmation on compulsory license and royalty on sale price of seeds?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has withdrawn on 24th May, 2016 the Notification of Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines issued vide S.O. No.1813(E) dated 18th May, 2016. These licensing guidelines & format for GM Technology Agreement have been uploaded on the website of the Department for seeking comments/suggestions from all stakeholders within 90 days from the date of uploading on the website before its finalization.

(c): Key features of the Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines include Fair, Reasonable and Non-Discriminatory (FRAND) allocation, a cap on maximum trait value, no right to refuse grant of license to any eligible seed company fulfilling eligibility criteria, in case of loss of efficacy trait value to be zero, no restrictive condition in the agreement for alternative GM technology, etc.

Decision on these draft Licensing guidelines will be taken after receiving comments/suggestions from all stakeholders on completion of 90 days.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 06

Appendix - VI

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5681 dated 10.05.2012 regarding "Rail Coach Factory."

On 10 May, 2012 Shri Prabodh Panda, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5681 to the Minister of Railways. 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 Railways within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Railways vide O.M. No. 2012/Elect/Dev/LSQ/Assurance(1) dated 25.03.2015, had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the various works pertaining to rail Coach Factory/Kanchrapara are in progress. The work of transmission and new sub-station building has been completed.

For selection of JV partner, bidders have already been shortlisted for participation in financial bid stage. As per the decision of the Cabinet, Bid Documents approved by the Cabinet for Marhowra and Madhepura locomotive factories would be generally followed for Rail Coach Factory/Kanchrapara, except for project specific changes. Proposal can be sent to the Cabinet after getting Board's clearance. The Ministry has nominated a Committee to assess the requirement of rolling stock including EMU/MEMU coaches. Report of the Committee is awaited. Decision to take the bid process forward can be taken after receipt of report of the Committee. It is therefore not possible to give any timeframe for fulfilling of the Assurance."

4. The above request for dropping of the Assurance was not acceded to by the Committee at their sitting held on 19 November 2015. The Committee accordingly presented their 26th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 21 December, 2015 and recommended the Ministry to expedite the work pertaining to Rail Coach Factory/Kanchrapara with proper planning and coordination and to take appropriate measures to ensure fulfillment of the Assurance at the earliest.

5. However, the Ministry of Railways vide O.M. No. 2018/M(W)/443/9 dated 02 September, 2021 has stated as under:-

"The work of setting up of Coach factory at Kanchrapara was planned/sanctioned in the year 2010-11 for manufacturing of coaches. However, a pre-requisite to setting up such projects, is a sustained demand of coaches in the future. The requirement of coaches vis-a-vis available manufacturing capacity has been reviewed and requirement of coaches in near future does not justify immediately initiating construction of a new coach factory. This may be taken as the final stand of this Ministry."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, has once again requested the Committee to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated:- 24/11/2021
New Delhi

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5681

TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.05.2012

RAIL COACH FACTORY

5681. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (**श्री मंत्री**) be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of progress made in setting up of Rail Coach Factories (RCFs) at Raibareilly, Kanchrapara and Palakkad;
- (b) the details of funds allocated/spent thereon so far, separately;
- (c) the reasons for delay in setting up of the said RCFs;
- (d) the time by which the said RCFs will be made functional; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to expedite the work in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(**श्री कृष्णमूर्ति शर्मा**)

(SHRI K.L. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5681 BY SHRI PRABODH PANDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10-05-2012 REGARDING RAIL COACH FACTORY

(a) The present status of Rail Coach Factories at Raebareli, Kanchrapara and Palakkad is as under:

Rail Coach Factory, Raebareli

The construction work for the Phase-I of Rail Coach factory has been completed and the work of painting, furnishing, assembly and testing of LHB design coaches has commenced during 2011-12. The construction work and procurement of Machinery and Plant for Phase-II (Shell manufacturing shop, Bogie shop, Wheel shop, Administration block, staff & officers colony) has already started.

Rail Coach Factory, Kanchrapara

The works relating to land development, electric supply arrangements, road and rail connectivity are in progress. Bidders have been shortlisted through International Competition Bidding (ICB) after finalization of Request for Qualification (RFQ). Bid documents are under finalization.

Rail Coach Factory, Palakkad

The work of setting up of Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad in Kerala has been included in Railway Budget 2012-13 to seek Parliamentary approval.

(b) The funds spent on these factories are as under:

(Rupees in crores)

	Cost	Spent (upto March'12)
Raebareli -	1685	449.81
Kanchrapara -	860.16	8.46
Palakkad -	550	Nil

(c) & (e) Progress of these projects is being monitored on regular basis for timely completion.

(d) Rail Coach factory, Raebareli is already functional. The Rail coach factories at Kanchrapara and Palakkad shall be functional after three years of award of contract for setting of these factories.

Appendix - VII

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH

MEMORANDUM No. 67

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 133 dated 27 November, 2019 (Supplementary by Shri Dharambir Singh, MP,) regarding "Upgradation of Signalling System".

On 27 November, 2019, Shri Dharambir Singh, M.P., addressed a Starred Question No. 133 to the Minister of Railways. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. During the discussion, Shri Dharambir Singh, M.P., raised the following Supplementary Question to the Minister of Railways:-

"Hon'ble Speaker, there is no doubt that the Railways did a commendable job in the last years and we are even satisfied with the reply of the Minister. But apart from all the work, earlier one train, Haryana Express train use to run from Delhi-Rewari, Hisar to Bithanda used to run. I want to ask when will it start again? Apart from this when will the work of railway line start from Bhiwani?"

3. In reply, the then Minister of Railways (Shri Suresh Channabasappa Angadi) stated as follows:-

"Whatever railway line the hon. Member wants to start in his place, after taking this information I will give it to you and to take the work forward, land availability and other facilities from the State Government are required, after that we will start the work."

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

5. In this regard, the Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M.No 2021/JV Cell/Assurance/HRIDC dated 11 August, 2021 has stated as under:-

"Feasibility study for Bhiwani-Loharu New Rail line (58.83 Km) has been done by Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (HRIDC), a joint Venture Company of Government of Haryana (51%) and Ministry of Railways (49%), in March 2019. The feasibility report has been submitted to Government of Haryana. Cost of the project is ₹519.69 Cr and the project is non remunerative as its Initial Rate of Return (IRR) is very low (1.01%). Under these circumstances, Ministry of Railways is not in a position to take any further action."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, has requested the Committee to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

DATED: 24/11/2021
NEW DELHI

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.133
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2019**

UPGRADATION OF SIGNALLING SYSTEM

†*133.SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to upgrade the signalling system to cope up with the pressure of traffic on Delhi-Rewari railway line and to run more trains on this section and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any proposal has been received to divide the lengthy block from Khellipur to Rewari into two parts for signalling purposes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed;
- (d) whether the work to increase the height of Bhojawas halt platform is pending for more than one year as tender was cancelled due to paucity of funds; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the time limit for completion of the said work?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.133 BY SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.11.2019 REGARDING UPGRADATION OF SIGNALLING SYSTEM

(a) Yes, Sir. Signalling improvement works completed and/sanctioned for Delhi-Rewari Section to enhance line capacity on Delhi-Rewari Section include:

- (i) State of the art Electronic Interlocking (EI) installed at 10 stations and Route Relay Interlocking (RRI) at one station.**
- (ii) Replacement of signalling gears by Electronic Interlocking (EI) sanctioned at two Stations.**
- (iii) Train Management System (TMS) at Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Patel Nagar & Delhi Cantt. Stations as part of Delhi area sanctioned to efficient manage train operations.**

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The work of 'Provision of Intermediate Block Signalling (IBS) in Khalilpur-Rewari section' has been sanctioned and is targeted to be completed by 28.02.2020.

(d) and (e) The work to increase the height of Bhojawas halt platform was sanctioned in the financial year 2017-18 under the Lumpsum work (Umbrella work) of "Provision of foot over bridges and/or high level platforms at stations as per requirement". The tender was discharged as available funds were fully tied up with requirements of stations with higher level of traffic.

(Q. 133)

✓ श्री धर्मवीर सिंह : अध्यक्ष जी, इसमें दो राय नहीं है कि रेलवे ने पिछले वर्षों में बहुत अच्छा काम किया है और मंत्री जी के उत्तर से हम संतुष्ट भी हैं। लेकिन सारा काम होते हुए भी पहले एक हरियाणा एक्सप्रेस ट्रेन दिल्ली-रेवाड़ी, हिसार से बठिंडा चलती थी। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह ट्रेन दोबारा कब शुरू होगी? इसके अलावा भिवानी से रेल लाइन का काम कब शुरू होगा ?

SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI: Sir, the hon. Member has stated that the Railways is doing a good job. I thank him for his appreciation. Whatever railway line the hon. Member wants to start in his place, यह जानकारी लेकर मैं आपको दे दूंगा और काम आगे बढ़ाने के लिए land availability and other facilities from the State Government are required, वह होने के बाद काम भी शुरू करेंगे।

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 09

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2170 dated 08.03.2021 regarding "Innovation in Currency Format".

On 08 March, 2021, Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2170 to the Minister of Finance. 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 Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) within three months from the date of reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) vide O.M. F. No. 2/17/2021-Cy dated 27 September, 2021 has stated as under:-

"The question was replied on 08.03.2021. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (MoPA) vide their O.M. dated 06.08.2021 has communicated about the Assurance. In this regard it is stated the response that Government would take a decision on the recommendation of the IMC and the legislative proposal if any, would be introduced in the Parliament following due process, was not intended to be an Assurance. In this respect due process on the decision for introducing legislative proposal includes actions beyond the scope of this Ministry. Therefore the Assurance may kindly be treated as inadvertent and dropped."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated:- 24/11/2021

New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2170
ANSWERED ON 8.3.2021

Innovation in Currency Format

†2170. SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for innovation in the prevailing currency form;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce any new policy for bitcoin and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to promote all other types of innovative currency transactions including digital transactions; and
- (e) the details of digital transactions during the last two years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): It was announced in the Budget Speech for 2018-19 that "The Government does not consider crypto-currencies legal tender or coin and will take all measures to eliminate use of these crypto-assets in financing illegitimate activities or as part of the payment system. The Government will explore use of block chain technology proactively for ushering in digital economy." A high level Inter-Ministerial (IMC) constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Economics Affairs) to study the issues related to virtual currencies (VCs) and propose specific actions to be taken in this matter recommended in its report that all private crypto currencies, except any cryptocurrency issued by the State, be prohibited in India. The Government would take a decision on the recommendation of the IMC and the legislative proposal, if any, would be introduced in the Parliament following the due process.

(d) In order to expand the digital transaction network, through Finance (No. 2) Act, 2019, amendment in sections 13A, 35AD, 40A, 43, 43CA, 50C, 56, 80JJAA, 269SS, 269ST and 269T of the Income-tax Act, 1961 was carried out to provide for carrying out transactions through other prescribed electronic modes apart from account payee cheque or account payee bank draft. Accordingly, vide notification no. 8/2020 dated 29th January, 2020, Rule 6ABBA has been inserted in the Income-tax Rules, 1962 to prescribe other electronic modes which include credit cards, debit cards, net banking, UPI, RTGS, NEFT, IMPS and BHIM Aadhar pay.

In order to ensure a transition towards cash less economy, to promote online transactions, including card transactions and to check and control frauds, Reserve Bank of India has taken various steps.

(e) As per the information furnished by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), digital payment transactions have registered tremendous growth in India over the past few years. Digital Payment volumes have grown from 3,134 crore in FY 2018-19 to 4,572 crore in FY 2019-20.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 11

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2222 dated 08.03.2021 regarding "Ban on Bitcoin Trading",

On 08 March, 2021, Smt. Sumalatha Ambareesh, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2222 to the Minister of Finance, 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 Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) within three months from the date of reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) vide F. No. 2/18/2021-Cy dated 06 October, 2021 has stated as under:-

"The question was replied on 08.03.2021. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (MoPA) vide their O.M. dated 06.08.2021 has communicated about the Assurance. In this regard it is stated 'the response that Government would take a decision on the recommendation of IMC and the legislative proposal if any, would be introduced in the Parliament following due process, was not intended to be an Assurance. In this respect due process on the decision for introducing legislative proposal includes actions beyond the scope of this Ministry. Therefore the Assurance may kindly be treated as inadvertent and dropped'."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated:- 24/11/2021
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2222
ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021

BAN ON BITCOIN TRADING

2222. SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBARESHI

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that a ban was imposed on bitcoin trading in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether other cryptocurrencies are still under the ban and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that despite the ban, illegal trading of cryptocurrency is still going on in the country;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to issue strict guidelines in this regard keeping in view the risk involved therein; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): In view of the risks associated with Virtual Currencies (VCs), including Bitcoins, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), vide circular dated April 6, 2018, had advised all the entities regulated by it not to deal in VCs or provide services for facilitating any person or entity in dealing with or settling VCs.

However, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide judgement dated March 4, 2020 in WP (C) No. 528 of 2018 and WP (C) No. 373 of 2018, had set aside the above circular dated April 6, 2018.

(d) and (e): It was announced in Budget Speech for 2018-19 that "The Government does not consider crypto-currencies legal tender or coin and will take all measures to eliminate use of these crypto-assets in financing illegitimate activities or as part of the payment system. The Government will explore use of block chain technology proactively for ushering in digital economy." A High Level Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) Constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Economic Affairs) to study the issues related to VCs and propose specific actions to be taken in this matter recommended in its report that all private

cryptocurrencies, except any cryptocurrencies issued by the State, be prohibited in India. The Government would take a decision on the recommendations of the IMC and the legislative proposal, if any, would be introduced in the Parliament following due process.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
FOURTH SITTING
(02.12.2021)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1530 hours in Committee Room No. 139, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
5. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu

Secretariat

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri S.L. Singh - Deputy Secretary

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting has been convened to (i) consider and adopt 2 draft Reports and (ii) to consider 10 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 10 pending Assurances.

2. XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX
3. XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

4. Thereafter, the Committee took up the said 10 Memoranda (Memorandum Nos. 02 to 11) containing 10 Assurances for consideration for dropping or otherwise of the relevant Assurances. After considering a few Memoranda, the Committee authorised the Hon'ble Chairperson to decide the Memoranda. The Chairperson subsequently decided to drop 08 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-I and to pursue the remaining 02 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-II* for implementation by the Ministries/Departments concerned.

The Committee then adjourned.

*** Not related to this Report.**

Statement showing Assurances dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022) at their sitting held on 02.12.2021.

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/Discussion References	Ministry	Department	Brief Subject
1	2	SQ No. 298 dated 14.12.2011	Coal	-	Hospitals and Dispensaries in CIL
2	3	USQ No. 2248 dated 08.03.2021	Finance	Department of Revenue	E-Way Bill for Intra-State Gold Transportation
3*	4	USQ No. 2396 dated 28.03.2012	Communications	Department of Telecommunications	National Broadband Plan
4*	5	USQ No. 402 dated 19.07.2016	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Licensing and Formats for GM Technology Agreement Guidelines
5	6	USQ No. 5681 dated 10.05.2012	Railways	-	Rail Coach Factory
6	7	SQ No. 133 dated 27.11.2019 (Supplementary by Shri Dharambir Singh, M.P.)	Railways	-	Upgradation of Signalling System
7	9	USQ No. 2170 dated 08.03.2021	Finance	Department of Economic Affairs	Innovation in Currency Format
8	11	USQ No. 2222 dated 08.03.2021	Finance	Department of Economic Affairs	Ban on Bitcoin Trading

* Implementation Report of the Assurances has since been laid on the Table of the House on 01/12/2021.

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SEVENTH SITTING
(08.03.2022)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours in Committee Room No. 3, Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
3. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
4. Shri M.K. Raghavan
5. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri J. M. Baisakh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri T.S. Rangarajan | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri S.L. Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Smt. Vineeta Sachdeva | - | Under Secretary |

XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX

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 three (03) draft Reports without any amendments:-

- (i). Draft Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding "Review of Pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers)";
- (ii). Draft Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding "Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)"; and
- (iii). Draft Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding "Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)".

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

XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX
XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

The Committee then adjourned.