

**COMMITTEE
ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)**

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

SEVENTIETH REPORT

**REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF
ASSURANCES
(ACCEDED TO)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on...05/08.../2022



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

, 2022/ , 1944 (Saka)

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

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Prof. Sougata Ray **
3. Shri Nihal Chand
4. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
7. Shri Kaushlendra 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. | Dr. Sagarika Dash | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Krishna C. Pandey | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri Sanjeev Kumar Gulati | - | Committee Officer |

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

** Nominated to the Committee *vide* Para No 4711 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 06 June, 2022 *vice* Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay resigned on 01 June, 2022

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 Seventieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022) at their sitting held on 06 June, 2022 *inter-alia* considered Memorandum Nos. 82 to 106 containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 34 pending Assurances and decided to drop 14 Assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 28 July 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;

04 August, 2022

13 Sravana, 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 Twenty-five Memoranda (Appendix-I) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 34 pending Assurances at their sitting held on 06 June, 2022.

3. After having considered the grounds cited by the Ministries/Departments, the Committee are convinced and decided to drop the following 14 Assurances :-

| S. No. | SQ/USQ No. & Date | Ministry | Subject |
|---------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | USQ No. 1713 dated 26.07.2017 | Railways | Anandnagar-Maharajganj Rail Line (Appendix-II) |
| 2. | USQ No. 3116 dated 03.08.2017 | Youth Affairs & Sports (Department of Sports) | Regulations for Betting in Sports (Appendix-III) |
| 3. | USQ No. 495 dated 20.07.2016 | Railways | Railway Line to Andhra Pradesh Capital (Appendix-IV) |

| S. No. | SQ/USQ No. & Date | Ministry | Subject |
|---------------|--|---|---|
| 4. | USQ No. 1337 dated 25.11.2019 | Culture | Excavation Works in Vadnagar and Keeladi (Appendix-V) |
| 5. | USQ No. 2675 dated 13.03.2013 | Atomic Energy | Protest against Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant (Appendix-VI) |
| 6. | SQ No. 270 dated 06.08.2021 | Earth Sciences | Extreme Weather Conditions (Appendix-VII) |
| 7. | USQ No. 3412 dated 09.08.2021 | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) | Cryptocurrency Transactions (Appendix-VIII) |
| 8. | USQ No. 3297 dated 13.03.2020 | Textiles | Tax for Cotton and Man- Made Fibres (Appendix-IX) |
| 9. | USQ No. 4954 dated 23.04.2015 | Housing and Urban Affairs | Women Reservation Bill (Appendix-X) |
| 10. | USQ No. 2379 dated 25.07.2014 | Finance (Department of Revenue) | Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) Amendment (Appendix-XI) |
| 11. | USQ No. 1534 dated 03.05.2016 | Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) | Rural Godowns (Appendix-XII) |
| 12. | SQ No. 125 dated 03.05.2016 (Supplementary by Dr. Boora Narsaiah Goud, M.P.) | Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) | E-NAM (Appendix-XIII) |
| 13. | USQ No. 250 dated 23.11.2011 | Atomic Energy | Civil Nuclear Cooperation (Appendix-XIV) |
| 14. | USQ No. 2619 dated 04.08.2021 | Coal | Coal Mining (Appendix-XV) |

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 XV.

5. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee dated 06 June, 2022, whereunder the requests for dropping of the Assurances were considered, are given in Appendix-XVI.

NEW DELHI;

04 August , 2022

13 Sravana, 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 on 06 June, 2022

| Sl. No. | Memo No. | Question/ Discussion References | Ministry | Department | Brief Subject |
|---------|----------|---|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1 | 82 | USQ No. 487 dated 19.07.2017 | Railways | | Construction of Tunnel |
| 2 | 83 | USQ No. 1713 dated 26.07.2017 | Railways | | Anandnagar- Maharajganj Rail Line |
| 3 | 84 | USQ No. 3116 dated 03.08.2017 | Youth Affairs & Sports | Department of Sports | Regulations for Betting in Sports |
| 4 | 85 | USQ No. 495 dated 20.07.2016 | Railways | | Railway Line to Andhra Pradesh Capital |
| 5 | 86 | (i) SQ No. 164 dated 04.12.2014 (Supplementary by Shri Anandrao Adsul, M.P.) (ii) SQ No. 164 dated 04.12.2014 (Supplementary by Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao, M.P.) (iii) USQ No. 567 dated 26.02.2015 (iv) SQ No. 261 dated 04.08.2016 (Supplementary by Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav, M.P.) (v) USQ No. 3642 dated 23.03.2017 | Power | | (i) Bidding Process in Power Sector (ii) Bidding Process in Power Sector (iii) Bidding Process for UMPPs (iv) Electrification of Villages (v) UMPP in Odisha |

| Sl. No. | Memo No. | Question/ Discussion References | Ministry | Department | Brief Subject |
|---------|----------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | (vi) USQ No. 2708 dated 03.01.2018 (vii) USQ No. 2705 dated 02.08.2018 (viii) SQ No. 143 dated 20.12.2018 | | | (vi) Price Fluctuation of Imported Coal (vii) UMPP Projects in Odisha (viii) Ultra Mega Power Project |
| 6 | 87 | USQ No. 1337 dated 25.11.2019 | Culture | | Excavation Works in Vadnagar and Keeladi |
| 7 | 88 | USQ No. 2675 dated 13.03.2013 | Atomic Energy | Department of Atomic Energy | Protest against Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant |
| 8 | 89 | USQ No. 3013 dated 06.08.2021 | Earth Sciences | | Active Fault Mapping Study |
| 9 | 90 | SQ No. 270 dated 06.08.2021 | Earth Sciences | | Extreme Weather Conditions |
| 10 | 91 | USQ No. 3412 dated 09.08.2021 | Finance | Department of Economic Affairs | Cryptocurrency Transactions |
| 11 | 92 | USQ No. 3297 dated 13.03.2020 | Textiles | | Tax for Cotton and Man-Made Fibres |
| 12 | 93 | USQ No. 1517 dated 10.02.2021 | Commerce and Industry | Department of Commerce | New Foreign Trade Policy |
| 13 | 94 | USQ No. 4954 dated 23.04.2015 | Housing and Urban Affairs | | Women Reservation Bill |
| 14 | 95 | (i) USQ No. 2567 dated 01.12.2016 (ii) USQ No. 3901 dated 08.12.2016 (iii) USQ No. 4704 dated 30.03.2017 | Ports, Shipping and Waterways | | (i) Development of Ports (ii) Upgradation of Major Ports (iii) Development of Ports |
| 15 | 96 | USQ No. 1023 dated 26.07.2021 | Finance | Department of Revenue | Early Release of GST Compensation |
| 16 | 97 | SQ No. 403 dated 04.05.2012 (Supplementary by | Finance | Department of Economic Affairs | Appointment and Removal of Regulators |

| Sl. No. | Memo No. | Question / Discussion References | Ministry | Department | Brief Subject |
|---------|----------|---|--|---|---|
| | | Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao, M.P.) | | | |
| 17 | 98 | SQ No. 262 dated 06.08.2021 (Supplementary by Shri Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, M.P.) | Environment, Forest and Climate Change | | Environmental Issues in Himalayan Region |
| 18 | 99 | USQ No. 2379 dated 25.07.2014 | Finance | Department of Revenue | Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) Amendment |
| 19 | 100 | USQ No. 1534 dated 03.05.2016 | Agriculture and Farmers Welfare | Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare | Rural Godowns |
| 20 | 101 | SQ No. 125 dated 03.05.2016 (Supplementary by Dr. Boora Narsaiah Goud, M.P.) | Agriculture and Farmers Welfare | Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare | E-NAM |
| 21 | 102 | USQ No. 3748 dated 11.12.2019 | Communications | Department of Posts | Postal Life Insurance |
| 22 | 103 | USQ No. 250 dated 23.11.2011 | Atomic Energy | | Civil Nuclear Cooperation |
| 23 | 104 | USQ No. 2619 dated 04.08.2021 | Coal | | Coal Mining |
| 24 | 105 | USQ No. 336 dated 20.07.2021 | Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution | Department of Consumer Affairs | Amendment of Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020 |
| 25 | 106 | USQ No. 2691 dated 10.03.2021 | NITI AAYOG | | Norms for Poverty Line |

Appendix - II

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH

MEMORANDUM No. 83

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1713 dated 26.07.2017 regarding "Anandnagar-Maharajganj Rail Line".

On 26 July, 2017, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1713 to the Minister of Railways. 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 Railways within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M. No. 2017/W-I/NER/PQL/5 dated 29.09.2021 has stated as under:-

"Anandnagar-Ghughuli via Maharajganj new line project was included in the Budget 2013-14 subject to requisite Government approvals.

The Detailed Project Report has been examined and the project has been found to be financially unviable. The project could not be approved by CCEA."

4. 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 :- 19/05/2022
NEW DELHI

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1713
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017**

ANANDNAGAR-MAHARAJGANJ RAIL LINE

†1713. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Anandnagar-Maharajganj -Ghughuli rail line project under the North-Eastern Railways, Gorakhpur;**
- (b) whether the last point survey of this rail line has been conducted;**
- (c) if so, the time by which DPR (Detailed Project Report) is likely to be prepared on the basis of last point survey; and**
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for early construction of this important rail route?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (d): Anandnagar-Ghughuli via Maharajganj (50.00 km.) new line project was included in the Budget 2013-14 with the provision that expenditure on this project will be made only after following all due processes/mandatory approvals and sanctions. Final Location Survey (FLS) of this project was sanctioned in 2016-17. Detailed Project Report is under preparation on the basis of Final Location Survey. Decision regarding sanction of this project will be taken once Detailed Project Report is received and examined.

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH

MEMORANDUM No. 24

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3116 dated 03.08.2017 regarding "Regulations for Betting in Sports".

On 03 August, 2017, Prof. Sadhu Singh and other various other M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3116 to the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports. 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 Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) *vide* O.M. F.No. H-11012/02/2021-SPII dated 23.06.2021 has stated as under:-

"The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on sports cooperation between Indian and United Kingdom for promotion and development in sports, which will *inter-alia* include sharing of experiences in various areas, including betting etc. is under active consideration.

Since no further requests have been received from the United Kingdom (UK) side for signing the aforesaid MoU, it may not be possible to firmly indicate as to when the MoU will be signed since it requires involvement of a foreign country and necessary cooperation with UK cannot be done without having an MoU. However, the Ministry of External Affairs has been requested to pursue the matter with UK to finalize said Draft MoU."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports, has requested the Committee to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

DATED :- 19/05/2022
NEW DELHI

Annexure

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3116

TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2017

Regulations for Betting in Sports

- 3116. PROF. SADHU SINGH:
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:**

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been demands from various quarters to allow online betting and introduce regulations/legislations for legalising betting in various sports including cricket in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;**
- (c) whether the All India Gaming Federation has submitted a white paper to the Law Commission in this regard and if so, the details and the present status thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to sign an agreement with United Kingdom in this regard and if so, the details and the present status thereof; and**
- e) whether the Government has made any assessment of possible social ramifications of legalising such betting and if so, the details and the outcome thereof?**

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (c): Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) launched the debate on regulating online sports betting and lottery in India.

Further, Law Commission of India has undertaken the study on the subject titled "Issue of Legalising Betting and Gambling" in view of the Order/Judgement dated 18.07.2016 in Civil Appeal No. 4235/2014, Board of Control for Cricket v. Cricket Association of Bihar & Ors by the Supreme Court.

In view of the said decision of Supreme Court, the Law Commission invited views and suggestions by way of an Appeal dated 30 May, 2017 from all concerned, with regard to the possibility of legalizing betting and gambling, so as to arrive at a judicious opinion and make suitable suggestions and recommendations to the Government. The Commission has received number of responses from various stakeholders including that of All India Gaming Federation. The same are being examined by the Law Commission.

(d): Government in the Department of Sports is in dialogue with its counterpart in the United Kingdom for entering into a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding for promotion and development in sports, which inter alia includes sharing of experiences in various areas, including issues relating to sports integrity and funding of sports activities through lottery, online betting, etc.

(e): Government is aware that legalizing online betting can have large social ramifications. No study has been commissioned on the subject matter yet.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH

MEMORANDUM No. 85

Appendix-IV

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 495 dated 20.07.2016 regarding "Railway Line to Andhra Pradesh Capital."

On 20 July, 2016, Shri Y.S.Avinash Reddy, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 495 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. F.No. 2016/W-2/SCR/PQL/29 dated 26.10.2016 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"The reply given is..... "that execution of this work has not been taken up as the project is yet to be sanctioned" is a statement of fact. Taking up of survey does not necessarily mean that the project will be sanctioned. Depending upon the outcome of the survey, decision whether to sanction a project is taken up on the basis of its remunerativeness, throwforward of ongoing projects, availability of funds, competing priorities. Therefore, the reply should not be treated as an Assurance. It is therefore, requested that the same may please be deleted from the list of pending Assurances."

4. The above request for dropping of the Assurance was not acceded to by the Committee at their sitting held on 04 December, 2019. The Committee accordingly presented their 6th Report (17th Lok Sabha) on 20 September, 2020 and recommended the Ministry to furnish the details of the progress made in conducting the survey for the new railway line between Vijaywada and Guntur via Amravati and its outcome and implement the Assurance at the earliest.

5. However, the Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M. No. 2016/W-2/SCR/PQL/29(FTS-3184702) dated 24 September, 2021 has stated as under:-

"Vijayawada-Guntur *via* Amaravathi New Railway Line Project was included in the budget 2017-18 subject to requisite Govt. clearances. Detailed Project Report (DPR) was made for Errupalem-Namburu *via* Amaravati single line (56.53 Km) with an assessed cost of ₹1732.56 crore. The project was sent to NITI Aayog for appraisal. NITI Aayog had suggested to approach State Govt. for cost sharing of new line. However, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has not agreed for cost sharing. In view of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh not agreeing to cost sharing, the project could not be processed further."

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

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated:- 19/05/2022
New Delhi

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

Annexure

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 495
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2016**

RAILWAY LINE TO ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL

495. SHRI Y.S.AVINASH REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has considered the request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to lay a new railway line to connect its new Capital Amaravati and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the quantum of funds earmarked and the status of the work execution done so far?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. On request of Government of Andhra Pradesh, a Reconnaissance Engineering Cum Traffic Survey (RETS) for new line between Vijayawada and Guntur via Amravati (67 km) has been included in Budget of Railway for the year 2016-17. This survey is being carried out by M/s Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. Budget outlay for the survey for the year 2016-17 is ₹. 7.00 lakhs. Execution of this work has not been taken up as the project is yet to be sanctioned.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 87

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1337 dated 25.11.2019 regarding "Excavation Works in Vadnagar and Keeladi".

On 25th November, 2019, Shri A. Ganeshamurthi and Dr. T.R. Paarivendhar, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1337 regarding "Excavation Works in Vadnagar and Keeladi" to the Minister of Culture. 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 Culture within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Culture (Archaeological Survey of India) *vide* O.M. F. No. T-17024/17/2019-EE dated 20.01.2022 has stated as under:-

"The Experiential Museum is being developed by the Government of Gujarat for which the DPR is being finalized. The design of the shed/canopy over the excavated remains also being prepared by the Government of Gujarat. Necessary technical support will be extended by Archaeological Survey of India as and when sought. Hence, the Hon'ble Minister of State for Culture has a view to drop the said Assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 19/05/2022

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1337
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019

EXCAVATION WORKS IN VADNAGAR AND KEELADI

1337. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:
DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that excavations works has been simultaneously started at the site of Vadnagar in Gujarat and Keeladi in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether it is true that the Union Government has announced that an experimental museum, a museum of international standards will be set up in Vadnagar in Gujarat; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM
(PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Gujarat Government has been asked to provide land and prepare Detailed & Project Report (DPR), and submit to the Government of India for further necessary action.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 28

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2675 dated 13.03.2013 regarding "Protest against Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant".

On 13th March 2013, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh *alias* Lalan Singh, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2675 regarding "Protest against Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant" to the Prime Minister. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office) 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. 13/2/13/2013-Power dated 06.02.2017 had requested the Committee to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:

"That the techno-commercial discussions between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and the French Public Utility, EDF are still in progress. Incidentally, it is stated 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 Assurances, 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 progress 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. Considering these aspects, it may not be possible to set any time-frame for fulfillment of the above Assurances."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their Sitting held on 15 May, 2017 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their 70th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 04 January, 2018 and desired that the Ministry should pursue the matter vigorously and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

5. However, the Department of Atomic Energy *vide* O.M. No. 13/2/13/2013-Power/15266 dated 20 December, 2021 has *inter-alia* stated as under:

"Presently negotiations are on with EDF, France covering different aspects of the project. The negotiations as such are a long drawn process. Being bilateral issue no specific time limit can be assigned. The final outcome in the negotiations will depend upon the agreement to be reached by both countries."

6. In view of the above, the Department, with the approval of the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office) for Atomic Energy, has again requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 19/05/2022

16

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2675
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2013

PROTEST AGAINST JAITAPUR NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

2675. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether strong protest is being registered by local farmers and fishermen against setting up of Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant;
- (b) if so, whether they are still adamant on protest even after being given enhanced compensation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the above project is costlier than the thermal and hydel power projects of the country; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There have been protests by a section of the local people against setting up of the Jaitapur nuclear power plant.
- (b)&(c) The preparation for disbursement of the enhanced compensation to the land title holders has been started. However, certain groups ideologically opposed to nuclear power are continuing their opposition to the project.
- (d)&(e) The cost of the Jaitapur Nuclear Power project will be arrived only after conclusion of the on-going techno-commercial discussions between the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and the French side. The effort is to arrive at a viable tariff regime comparable to that of contemporary thermal and hydel power projects in the region.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. १०

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 270 dated 06.08.2021 regarding "Extreme Weather Conditions".

On 06 August, 2021, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, M.P., addressed a Starred Question No. 270 regarding "Extreme Weather Conditions" to the Minister of Earth Sciences. 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 Earth Sciences within three months from the date of reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Earth Sciences *vide* O.M. No. पृविमं/43-संसद/119/2021 dated 24 January, 2022 has stated as under:-

"This Ministry is unable to fulfil the abovementioned Assurance due to the following reasons:-

- Further enhancement in accuracy of weather forecasts is a sustained continuous process that involves improvement in the observational network and numerical modelling capability.
- It is a continuously evolving process depending upon the new developments/findings in scientific understanding (not only from India but from all over the world) that help to further improvement, it is impractical to give a set time line."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated:- 19/05/2022

New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *270
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 6TH AUGUST, 2021

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

*270. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that incidence of extreme weather conditions has increased in India and also globally in the last decade;
- (b) if so, the details of extreme weather events recorded in the country during the last decade along with the number of casualties/fatalities and estimated property damage occurred therefrom, event-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to improve adaptation and mitigation in extreme weather events;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether India is considered more vulnerable to climate change and if so, the details of areas in the country most vulnerable to extreme weather events?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

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

**STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY TO (a) to (e) of
STARRED QUESTION NO. *270 REGARDING "EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS" TO
BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 2021**

(a)-(b) Yes Sir. Associated with the global warming, increase in various extreme weather conditions such as heavy rainfall, floods, droughts, cyclones, heat waves and cold wave conditions have been observed in the country in line with increase in the extreme events observed over various other parts of the globe in the last decade.

Details of extreme weather events recorded in the country during the last decade along with the number of casualties/fatalities are given in the **Annexure-I**. The statistics of State wise mortality due to extreme weather events are given in **Figs. 1 & 2**.

(c)-(d) To minimize the adverse effect of the hazardous weather events, India Meteorological Department (IMD) is effectively functioning in the country maintaining accurate weather forecasting services alongwith monitoring services for early detection of severe weather events such as, heavy rainfall, extreme temperature, thunderstorms, cyclones etc.

During the past few years, IMD has been continuously improving weather prediction services in terms of accuracy, lead time and associated impact. There have been significant improvements in forecasting accuracy with respect to severe weather events including tropical cyclones, heavy rainfall, fog, heat wave, cold wave, thunderstorm. In general, there has been 20 to 40 percent improvement in forecast accuracy of severe weather events in recent five years (2016-2020) as compared to previous five years (2011-15).

The forecasts and warnings are issued by IMD at the national, State and district levels. It has a network of State Meteorological Centres for better coordination with State and district level agencies. With the upgradation of observations and prediction system noticeable improvements have been made in the recent past in the skill of prediction, especially with respect to heavy-rainfall, heat-wave, thunderstorm and cyclones.

IMD issues forecast & warnings for the weather elements for five days with an outlook for another two days as per usual practice. From National Weather Forecasting Centre (NWFC), IMD forecasts are given in sub-divisional scale whereas the Regional Weather Forecasting Centre (RWFC) and State Weather Forecasting Centre (SWFC) issue forecast and warning in district level and station level.

The initiatives taken by IMD for the improvement of forecast of different disastrous weather phenomena follow:

- (i) Flood and drought warning are not the responsibilities of IMD. However, IMD supports flood warning services of Central Water Commission (CWC) by providing observed and forecasted rainfall. Heavy rainfall events lead to floods over different river basins of the country. River basin floods are dealt by CWC, Ministry of Water Resources. In order to meet specific requirements of flood forecasting, which is provided by CWC, IMD operates Flood Meteorological Offices (FMOs) at fourteen locations viz., Agra, Ahmedabad, Asansol, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jalpaiguri, Lucknow, New Delhi, Patna, Srinagar, Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram and Chennai. Apart from this, IMD also supports Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) by providing Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) for Damodar river basin areas for their flood forecasting activities. Flood Meteorological Offices (FMO) operated by IMD provide meteorological support to the CWC for issuing flood warnings well in advance in respect of 153 river basins. CWC issues flood forecasts 6 hrs. to 30 hrs. in advance using QPF received from FMOs of ESSO-IMD and in-situ hydrometeorological data.

In order to cater the services of hydro-meteorological events occurring in short duration of time, IMD is issuing Flash Flood Guidance (FFG) by which a diagnostic value within a watershed required to produce flooding at the outlet of the catchment is estimated, to support the flood warning services.

Similarly, IMD provides actual and forecast rainfall information in different spatial and temporal scale like districts, States & meteorological subdivisions level and daily, weekly & seasonal scale to the Ministry of Agriculture for drought monitoring.

- (ii) Heat wave is one of the severe weather phenomena for which IMD issues early warning. In the country, appreciable rise in maximum temperatures as well as heat waves are found to be more in the months of April, May & June. As an initiative IMD is issuing Seasonal Outlook for temperatures for the months of April, May & June in the last week of March for planning purpose. This outlook brings out the expected scenario of heat waves also during the period.

As an adaptive measure, IMD in collaboration with local health departments have started heat action plan in many parts of the country to forewarn about the heat waves and also advising action to be taken during such occasions. Heat action plan became operational since 2013.

The Heat Action Plan is a comprehensive early warning system and preparedness plan for extreme heat events. The Plan presents immediate as well as longer-term actions to increase preparedness, information-sharing, and response coordination to reduce the health impacts of extreme heat on vulnerable populations. NDMA and IMD are working with 23 states prone to high temperatures leading to heat-wave conditions to develop heat action plans.

IMD has started Forecast Demonstration Project (FDP) on heat waves for the hot weather season under which a detailed daily report including realized data of heat waves, weather systems leading to the occurrence of heat waves, diagnosis on the basis of Numerical Model outputs and forecast and warnings for five days is prepared. This bulletin is disseminated to all concerned including health departments.

- (iii) During the cold season, associated with the passage of Western Disturbances, the north & northwest India and adjoining central India are frequently affected by adverse weather elements like fog, Cold Wave to Severe Cold Wave and Cold Day to Severe Cold Day conditions.

By the end of November, IMD issues Press-Release regarding Seasonal Outlook for the Temperatures during December to February which brings out the temperature scenario with respect to mean temperature, mean minimum & maximum temperatures during the cold weather season. During the cold weather season, IMD also issues Press-Releases whenever any place or region is likely to experience cold/severe cold waves.

In addition to these, a Forecast Demonstration Project (FDP) for winter weather systems has been initiated from 2016 and it has brought together several institutes other than IMD also to enhance the monitoring and forecast of weather elements during cold weather season. Accordingly a FDP bulletin is prepared and issued during November to February on daily basis.

From November 2020 onwards, IMD started issuing a special bulletin related to winter weather systems (All India Multihazard Winter Warning Bulletin) which provide the details of colour coded warning for five days for the adverse weather elements, along with present weather scenario related to cold wave, cold day etc.

- (iv) To mitigate the casualties due to thunderstorm and associated severe weather phenomena, IMD issues three hourly nowcasts for severe weather including thunderstorm and associated weather phenomena for about 1084 stations and all districts in India on regular basis utilizing Radar and satellite data as well as ground based observations. These nowcasts are provided in real time to the users through the Website of India Meteorological Department. Additionally, in case of possibility of severe thunderstorms and associated severe weather phenomena, warnings are issued through SMS and e-mail to the Disaster Management authorities and mass media like All India Radio, TV and social media.
- (v) In order to cater to the needs of Cyclone Warning Services and Marine weather services, there are seven established Warning Centers covering the east & west coasts of our country. Among these, three are Area Cyclone Warning Centres (ACWCs) located at Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata and remaining four are Cyclone Warning Centres (CWCs) located at Ahmedabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Visakhapatnam and Bhubaneswar. Area of responsibility of ACWCs and CWCs is shown in the Table below.

| Centre | Coastal area* | Maritime State/UT |
|------------------------|---|---|
| ACWC Kolkata | State: West Bengal UT: Andaman & Nicobar Islands | State: West Bengal UT : Andaman & Nicobar Islands |
| ACWC Chennai | State: Tamil Nadu UT: Puducherry | State: Tamil Nadu UT: Puducherry |
| ACWC Mumbai | State: Maharashtra & Goa | State: Maharashtra & Goa |
| CWC Thiruvananthapuram | State: Kerala & Karnataka UT: Lakshadweep | State: Kerala & Karnataka UT: Lakshadweep |
| CWC Ahmedabad | State: Gujarat UT: Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu | State: Gujarat UT: Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu |
| CWC Visakhapatnam | State: Andhra Pradesh | State: Andhra Pradesh |
| CWC Bhubaneswar | State: Odisha | State: Odisha |

*Coastal strip of responsibility extends upto 75 km from the coast line.

In the present scenario, India is second to none, not only among the developing Nations, but across the world in early warning services as well as in managing the disasters associated with Cyclones. India Meteorological Department has demonstrated its capability to provide early warning for Cyclones with high precision. With the help of such early warnings, the Government is able to mobilise evacuation operations in a timely manner, thereby saving lives & livelihood. The cyclone forecast accuracy has significantly improved in recent years as has been demonstrated during cyclones Phailin (2013), Hudhud (2014), Vardah (2016), Titli (2018), Fani & Bulbul (2019), Amphan, Nisarga & Nivar (2020) and Tauktae & Yaas (2021). During recent years, the loss of life has been drastically reduced being limited to double digit figure in the recent years.

The annual average track forecast errors in 2020 have been 72 km, 85 km and 111 km, respectively for 24, 48 and 72hrs against the past five years average error of 80, 125 and 177 km based on data of 2016-2020. The errors have been significantly lower during last year (2020) as compared to long period average (2015-19) for all lead periods upto 120 hours.

Further, the Government of India has initiated the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) with a view to address cyclone risks in the country. The overall objective of the Project is to undertake suitable structural and non-structural measures to mitigate the effects of cyclones in the coastal states and UTs of India. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under the aegis of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) will implement the Project in coordination with participating State Governments and the National Institute for Disaster Management (NIDM). The Project has identified 13 cyclone prone States and Union Territories (UTs), with varying levels of vulnerability.

It is being planned to further enhance the accuracy of weather forecasts and their timely dissemination by improving the observational network and numerical modeling capability.

- (vi) Along with early detection of impending hazardous weathers, early and fast dissemination is also very necessary for taking mitigation action. Regarding well in advance broadcasting / dissemination of weather forecasts and warnings, IMD is always in a continuous process of improvement through implementation of latest tools and technology. At present the forecasts and warnings are broadcasted or disseminated to users including disaster managers by e-mail on regular basis. In addition to this, WhatsApp groups are created including disaster managers and IMD officials through which these forecasts & warnings are disseminated. The forecasts & warnings are uploaded in social media & website for reference by all concerned. The nowcasts related to Severe Weathers are also disseminated through SMS to the registered users.

In addition to this, as and when the situation arises, Press Releases are issued by IMD and the same is also disseminated by all the platforms mentioned above.

IMD has taken various initiatives in recent years for improvement in dissemination of weather forecast and warning services based on latest tools and technologies. In 2020, IMD has launched seven of its services (Current Weather, Nowcast, City Forecast, Rainfall Information, Tourism Forecast, Warnings and Cyclone) with 'UMANG' mobile App for use by public.

Moreover, in 2020, India Meteorological Department had developed mobile App 'MAUSAM' for weather forecasting, 'Meghdoot' for Agromet advisory dissemination and 'Damini' for lightning alert.

- (vii) IMD is issuing Impact Based Forecast (IBF) for all districts for past two years against all types of server weather events in the recent past. Impact Based Warning contains guidelines to the general public while getting exposed to the severe weather. These guidelines are finalized by NDMA (National Disaster Management Authority) in coordination with IMD and the same is being issued for the adverse weather elements during different seasons.

(viii) Moreover, various new initiatives, as mentioned below, have been undertaken by IMD, MoES for betterment of prediction and dissemination of warnings of extreme weather events that may cause natural disasters.

1. The observational network of the department is being enhanced with installation of more number of Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) and Automatic Rain gauges (ARGs) across the country.
2. 29 Doppler Weather Radars are operational across the country to provide adequate warning in the event of approach of Cyclonic Storms, Monsoon Depressions, Thunderstorms etc. DWR network also provides vital information for nowcasting purposes on mesoscale convective weather developments anywhere in the country.
3. Multi-Mission Meteorological Data Receiving & Processing System has been established and dedicated to the nation for augmentation of satellite derived products.
4. 203 new rain gauge stations have been added in the District-wise Rainfall Monitoring Scheme taking the total number of stations to 4940.
5. Location specific forecast for 7 days within the capital cities and nowcast for next 3 hours have been extended to 526 and 1084 stations respectively covering 739 districts in the country.
6. NWP Model based gridded rainfall data are provided to Central Water Commission for their flood forecasting model for all 153 river catchments and Extended Range model products for 10 river basins.
7. With operationalization of Flash Flood Guidance system, generation and issue of Flash Flood Guidance has commenced for all watersheds of the country.
8. Common Alert Protocol (CAP) has been implemented as per WMO standard for severe weather warning. It is being utilized for Global Multi-Hazard Alert System of WMO.

(e) Yes. India is also vulnerable to climate change. The latest report on climate change assessment published by Ministry of Earth Sciences describe the major changes happened in different climate variables over Indian region. It also discusses the areas vulnerable to different extreme weather events in the country. Summary of the report is given as Annexure-II.

| *Number of Deaths due to Extreme Weather Events (2010-2021) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| YEA R | SNO W FAL L | COLD WAV E | HEA T WAV E | SQUAL L | GAL E | DUST STOR M | LIGHTNIN G | THUNDE R STORM | HAIL STOR M | FLOODS AND HEAVY RAINS | CYCLONI C STORM | TOTAL (WHOL E YEAR) |
| 2021 | 6 | 5 | | | | 5 | 300 | 23 | 1 | 289 | 153 | 782 |
| 2020 | 22 | 162 | 11 | 6 | 12 | 14 | 270 | 594 | | 758 | 115 | 1964 |
| 2019 | 65 | 291 | 495 | 3 | 5 | 25 | 202 | 349 | 2 | 921 | 71 | 2429 |
| 2018 | 18 | 280 | 33 | | 8 | 237 | 342 | 572 | 8 | 1099 | 157 | 2754 |
| 2017 | 38 | 51 | 375 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 834 | 287 | 4 | 1075 | 46 | 2740 |
| 2016 | 22 | 42 | 510 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 670 | 216 | 28 | 714 | 34 | 2258 |
| 2015 | 12 | 18 | 2081 | 1 | 5 | 30 | 498 | 324 | 39 | 917 | 94 | 4019 |
| 2014 | 62 | 58 | 547 | 9 | 3 | 51 | 352 | 246 | 35 | 953 | 46 | 2362 |
| 2013 | 30 | 271 | 1433 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 326 | 327 | 54 | 5528 | 50 | 8024 |
| 2012 | 31 | 139 | 729 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 434 | 190 | | 395 | 61 | 1994 |
| 2011 | 14 | 722 | 12 | | 4 | 21 | 177 | 331 | | 654 | 46 | 1981 |
| 2010 | 25 | 450 | 269 | | 3 | 41 | 431 | 373 | 45 | 1058 | 22 | 2717 |

*Based on the media reports.

Summary regarding vulnerability to different extreme weather events

Highlights of the Climate Change Assessment report

The summary on the variability and change of the regional climate system based on the 12 chapters in this book is as follows.

Observed Changes in Global Climate

The global average temperature has risen by around 1°C since pre-industrial times. This magnitude and rate of warming cannot be explained by natural variations alone and must necessarily take into account changes due to human activities. Emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs), aerosols and changes in Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) during the industrial period have substantially altered the atmospheric composition, and consequently the planetary energy balance, and are thus primarily responsible for the present-day climate change. Warming since the 1950s has already contributed to a significant increase in weather and climate extremes globally (e.g., heat waves, droughts, heavy precipitation, and severe cyclones), changes in precipitation and wind patterns (including shifts in the global monsoon systems), warming and acidification of the global oceans, melting of sea ice and glaciers, rising sea levels, and changes in marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Projected Changes in Global Climate

Global climate models project a continuation of human-induced climate change during the twenty-first century and beyond. If the current GHG emission rates are sustained, the global average temperature is likely to rise by nearly 5°C, and possibly more, by the end of the twenty-first century. Even if all the commitments (called the “Nationally Determined Contributions”) made under the 2015 Paris agreement are met, it is projected that global warming will exceed 3°C by the end of the century. However, temperature rise will not be uniform across the planet; some parts of the world will experience greater warming than the global average. Such large changes in temperature will greatly accelerate other changes that are already underway in the climate system, such as the changing patterns of rainfall and increasing temperature extremes.

Climate Change in India: Observed and Projected Changes

Temperature Rise Over India

India's average temperature has risen by around 0.7°C during 1901–2018. This rise in temperature is largely on account of GHG-induced warming, partially offset by forcing due to anthropogenic aerosols and changes in LULC. By the end of the twenty-first century, average temperature over India is projected to rise by approximately 4.4°C relative to the recent past (1976–2005 average), under the RCP8.5 scenario. Projections by climate models of the Coupled Model Inter-comparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) are based on multiple standardized forcing scenarios called Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Each scenario is a time series of emissions and concentrations of the full suite of GHGs, aerosols, and chemically active gases, as well as LULC changes through the twenty-first century,

characterized by the resulting Radiative Forcing (A measure of an imbalance in the Earth's energy budget owing to natural (e.g., volcanic eruptions) or human-induced (e.g., GHG from fossil fuel combustion) changes) in the year 2100 (IPCC 2013). The two most commonly analyzed scenarios in this report are "RCP4.5" (an intermediate stabilization pathway that results in a Radiative Forcing of 4.5 W/m² in 2100) and "RCP8.5" (a high concentration pathway resulting in a Radiative Forcing of 8.5 W/m² in 2100).

In the recent 30-year period (1986–2015), temperatures of the warmest day and the coldest night of the year have risen by about 0.63°C and 0.4°C, respectively.

By the end of the twenty-first century, these temperatures are projected to rise by approximately 4.7°C and 5.5°C, respectively, relative to the corresponding temperatures in the recent past (1976–2005 average), under the RCP8.5 scenario.

By the end of the twenty-first century, the frequencies of occurrence of warm days and warm nights are projected to increase by 55% and 70%, respectively, relative to the reference period 1976–2005, under the RCP8.5 scenario.

The frequency of summer (April–June) heat waves over India is projected to be 3 to 4 times higher by the end of the twenty-first century under the RCP8.5 scenario, as compared to the 1976–2005 baseline period. The average duration of heat wave events is also projected to approximately double, but with a substantial spread among models.

In response to the combined rise in surface temperature and humidity, amplification of heat stress is expected across India, particularly over the Indo-Gangetic and Indus river basins.

Indian Ocean Warming

Sea surface temperature (SST) of the tropical Indian Ocean has risen by 1°C on average during 1951–2015, markedly higher than the global average SST warming of 0.7°C, over the same period. Ocean heat content in the upper 700 m (OHC700) of the tropical Indian Ocean has also exhibited an increasing trend over the past six decades (1955–2015), with the past two decades (1998–2015) having witnessed a notably abrupt rise.

During the twenty-first century, SST and ocean heat content in the tropical Indian Ocean are projected to continue to rise.

Changes in Rainfall

The summer monsoon precipitation (June to September) over India has declined by around 6% from 1951 to 2015, with notable decreases over the Indo-Gangetic Plains and the Western Ghats. There is an emerging consensus, based on multiple datasets and climate model simulations, that the radiative effects of anthropogenic aerosol forcing over the Northern Hemisphere have considerably offset the expected precipitation increase from GHG warming and contributed to the observed decline in summer monsoon precipitation.

There has been a shift in the recent period toward more frequent dry spells (27% higher during 1981–2011 relative to 1951–1980) and more intense wet spells during the summer monsoon season. The frequency of localized heavy precipitation occurrences has increased worldwide in response to increased atmospheric moisture content. Over central India, the

frequency of daily precipitation extremes with rainfall intensities exceeding 150 mm per day increased by about 75% during 1950–2015.

With continued global warming and anticipated reductions in anthropogenic aerosol emissions in the future, CMIP5 models project an increase in the mean and variability of monsoon precipitation by the end of the twenty-first century, together with substantial increases in daily precipitation extremes.

Droughts

The overall decrease of seasonal summer monsoon rainfall during the last 6–7 decades has led to an increased propensity for droughts over India. Both the frequency and spatial extent of droughts have increased significantly during 1951–2016. In particular, areas over central India, southwest coast, southern peninsula and north-eastern India have experienced more than 2 droughts per decade, on average, during this period. The area affected by drought has also increased by 1.3% per decade over the same period.

Climate model projections indicate a high likelihood of increase in the frequency (>2 events per decade), intensity and area under drought conditions in India by the end of the twenty-first century under the RCP8.5 scenario, resulting from the increased variability of monsoon precipitation and increased water vapour demand in a warmer atmosphere.

Sea Level Rise

Sea levels have risen globally because of the continental ice melt and thermal expansion of ocean water in response to global warming. Sea-level rise in the North Indian Ocean (NIO) occurred at a rate of 1.06–1.75 mm per year during 1874–2004 and has accelerated to 3.3 mm per year in the last two and a half decades (1993–2017), which is comparable to the current rate of global mean sea-level rise.

At the end of the twenty-first century, steric sea level in the NIO is projected to rise by approximately 300 mm relative to the average over 1986–2005 under the RCP4.5 scenario, with the corresponding projection for the global mean rise being approximately 180 mm.

Tropical Cyclones

There has been a significant reduction in the annual frequency of tropical cyclones over the NIO basin since the middle of the twentieth century (1951–2018). In contrast, the frequency of very severe cyclonic storms (VSCSs) during the post-monsoon season has increased significantly (+1 event per decade) during the last two decades (2000–2018). However, a clear signal of anthropogenic warming on these trends has not yet emerged.

Climate models project a rise in the intensity of tropical cyclones in the NIO basin during the twenty-first century.

Changes in the Himalayas

The Hindu Kush Himalayas (HKH) experienced a temperature rise of about 1.3°C during 1951–2014. Several areas of HKH have experienced a declining trend in snowfall and also retreat of glaciers in recent decades. In contrast, the high-elevation Karakoram Himalayas have experienced higher winter snowfall that has shielded the region from glacier shrinkage.

By the end of the twenty-first century, the annual mean surface temperature over HKH is projected to increase by about 5.2°C under the RCP8.5 scenario. The CMIP5 projections under the RCP8.5 scenario indicate an increase in annual precipitation, but decrease in snowfall over the HKH region by the end of the twenty-first century, with large spread across models.

Conclusions

Since the middle of the twentieth century, India has witnessed a rise in average temperature; a decrease in monsoon precipitation; a rise in extreme temperature and rainfall events, droughts, and sea levels; and an increase in the intensity of severe cyclones, alongside other changes in the monsoon system. There is compelling scientific evidence that human activities have influenced these changes in regional climate.

Human-induced climate change is expected to continue apace during the twenty-first century. To improve the accuracy of future climate projections, particularly in the context of regional forecasts, it is essential to develop strategic approaches for improving the knowledge of Earth system processes, and to continue enhancing observation systems and climate models.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 91

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3412 dated 09.08.2021 regarding "Cryptocurrency Transactions".

On 09 August, 2021, Shri Achyutananda Samanta, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3412 regarding "Cryptocurrency Transactions" 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. No. F. No. 3/36/2021-Cy dated 17 January, 2022 has stated as under:-

"The response that Government would take a decision on the recommendation of Inter-Ministerial Committee 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."

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:- 19/05/2022

New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3412
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2021

Cryptocurrency Transactions

3412. SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE

be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government is taking steps to regulate cryptocurrency transactions in India, or on platforms based out of India and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether the stance of the Government is one of a complete ban of private cryptocurrencies or one of regulation and licensing and if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether the Government views cryptocurrency as akin to money or legal tender, and hence regulations such as the Foreign Exchange Management Act will be applicable to cryptocurrency transactions or as an asset class like gold or stocks and if so, the details thereof;and
- d) whether the Government is aware of the enormous environmental impact mining cryptocurrency has and if so, the details of the steps if being taken to combat this issue and reduce cryptocurrency's impact on the environment and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(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 Committee (IMC) constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Economic 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 cryptocurrencies, except any cryptocurrency 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 the due process.

RBI, vide the circular on Customer Due Diligence for transactions in Virtual Currencies dated May 31, 2021, has, inter alia, advised that banks as well as other regulated entities may continue to carry out customer due diligence processes in line with regulations governing standards for Know Your Customer (KYC), Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Combating of Financing of Terrorism (CFT) and obligations of regulated entities under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, (PMLA), 2002 in addition to ensuring compliance with relevant provisions under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) for overseas remittances.

(d). No, Sir. The Government does not collect data on environmental impact due to mining of cryptocurrency.

Appendix - IX

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 92

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3297 dated 13.03.2020 regarding "Tax for Cotton and Man-Made Fibres".

On 13 March, 2020, Shri Mohammed Faizal P.P. M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3297 regarding "Tax for Cotton and Man-Made Fibres" to the Minister of Textiles. 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 Textiles within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. In this regard, the Ministry of Textiles *vide* O.M. F. No. 12015/02/2019-IT dated 21 June, 2021 has stated as under:-

"The matter regarding GST tax structure and tax neutrality falls under the purview of GST Council a constitutional body under Ministry of Finance. This Ministry has been pursuing the matter with Ministry of Finance to place the issue of correction of inverted duty structure in MMF value chain before the GST Council meeting.

(ii). In this regard, Finance Ministry has informed that the issue of inversion in GST rates on the textile value chain was discussed by the GST council in its 39th, 40th and 43rd meetings. The Council in principle agreed on the need to correct the inversion in GST rates but felt that the time is not opportune for doing the same, owing to the situation arising out of Covid-19.

(iii). Ministry of Finance has also informed that GST rates are fixed based on the recommendations of the GST council. Finance Ministry cannot notify the rates without the recommendation of the Council. As GST council is a constitutional body, any assurance relating to the correction of inversion in GST rates or any time frame for the same cannot be given."

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

The Committee may consider.

DATED:- 19/05/2022
NEW DELHI

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3297
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2020

TAX FOR COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBRES

3297. SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES वस्त्र मंत्री
be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a differential tax treatment for cotton and Man-made Fibres (MMF), if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to introduce the fibre tax neutrality, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the production of cotton clothing and increase the exports of such products?

उत्तर

ANSWER

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति ज़बिन इरानी)
MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): GST on cotton is uniform of 5% across the entire textiles value chain whereas GST rates on manmade fibres and textiles are 18%, 12%, and 5% on fibre, filament yarn/ spun yarn and fabrics respectively. The matter of implementation of a uniform tax structure for the MMF value chain (from feedstock to fabric) was already referred to Ministry of Finance to correct inversion in duty structures. Rationalisation of GST on MMF value chain will help to boost growth of the MMF sector.

(c): To boost exports in textile sector including cotton clothing, Government has introduced the new RoSCTL (Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies) scheme w.e.f 7th March 2019. Government has also notified a special one-time additional ad-hoc incentive of upto 1% of FoB value to be provided for exports of apparel and made-ups to offset the difference between RoSCTL and RoSL + MEIS@4%, from 7.3.2019 to 31.12.2019.

To boost exports in MMF sector, Government has removed anti-dumping duty on PTA, a key raw material for the manufacture of MMF fibre and yarn.

Exporters are also provided assistance under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme. Interest equalization rate for pre and post shipment credit for exports by MSMEs of textile sector has been enhanced from 3% to 5% w.e.f. 02.11.2018.

Benefits of Interest Equalization Scheme has been extended to merchant exporters from 02.01.2019 which was earlier limited to only manufacturer exporters.

Appendix - X

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM No. 94

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. Sadhu Singh and Shri C.N. Jayadevan, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4954 regarding "Women Reservation Bill" to the Minister of Law and Justice. 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 Law and Justice (Legislative Department) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented. The Assurance was subsequently transferred to Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) *vide* O.M.No. H-11012/1/2019-Leg-II dated 07 February, 2019 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"The Ministry of Urban and Housing Affairs informed that they had submitted a proposal for providing fifty percent reservation of seats for women in the Municipalities to 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. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 24 February, 2020 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their Fourteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) on 09 February, 2021 and desired that the Ministry needs to apprise them about the final decision/outcome in the matter as to whether the Assurance will be implemented or not. The Committee further desired that the Ministry should pursue the matter till its logical end.

5. However, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, LSG Section *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/1/2015-LSG-1 dated 17 September, 2021 has stated as under:-

"With regard to fifty percent reservation for women in the urban local bodies, a Cabinet Note dated February 15, 2016 on "Amendment of Article 243T of the Constitution to provide for 50% reservation for women in the Municipalities" was submitted to Cabinet Secretariat on February 16, 2016 for placing the proposal before the Cabinet.

The proposal did not come up before the Cabinet during the period of the 16th Lok Sabha and as such no decision could be taken. Cabinet Secretariat *vide* O.M. No. 731/3/2/2015-Cab dated 26.03.2019 returned the aforesaid Cabinet Note conveying that both Houses of the Parliament have been prorogued by the Hon'ble President of India on February 14, 2019.

As per information received from States/UTs, at present 18 States/UTs viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chattisgarh, DNH & DD, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Tripura are providing 50% reservation to women in their respective Urban Local Bodies."

6. In view of the above and citing that the data has been collected and provided, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State, Housing and Urban Affairs, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

DATED:- 19/05/2022
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. JAYADEVAN:

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.

Appendix - XI

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH**

MEMORANDUM No. 99

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2379 dated 25.07.2014 regarding "DTAA Amendment."

On 25 July, 2014, Shri Pashupati Nath Singh, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2379 regarding "DTAA Amendment" to the Minister of Finance. The text of the Question alongwith the reply of the Minister are 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 the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) vide O.M. No. F. No.439/27/2014-FT&TR-III(2) dated 05.11.2014 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"That in the reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Unstarred Q.No. 2379, a factual position has been stated, that negotiations are underway with various countries for signing the DTAA's, TIEs. The process of entering into new DTAA's and TIEs with various other countries are in the nature of bilateral negotiations. Such negotiations are a part of ongoing bilateral discussions with various countries for strengthening the relationship with those countries. Such a dialogue may or may not lead to any agreement which is required to be formalized. The time and manner in which the dialogue is carried out depends to a large extent also on the other party. It is submitted that negotiations do not imply that any specific action is required to be completed. In view of the above, it is requested that the Committee on Government Assurances may not treat the reply to part (a) and (b) Un-starred Q No. 2379 as an Assurance."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 21 July 2015 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their Twenty-First Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 30 November, 2015. Noting that negotiations for entering into new DTAA's with various countries are going on, the Committee, desired that vigorous efforts

may be made to bring the matter to its logical conclusion. The Committee also expressed their desire to be apprised of the progress made in the matter.

5. However, the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) vide O.M. F. No. 439/27/2014-FT & TR-III(2) dated 17 November, 2017 had again requested the Committee to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the negotiations of DTAA/TIEAs with other countries is an incessant and ongoing process. Since, they are in nature of bilateral negotiations, they, therefore, take sufficient time for materializing or reaching the final agreements. The time and manner in which dialogue is carried out depends to a large extent on the other party. Also, now many countries have signed Multilateral Convention for Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (MAC) and the decision whether to further the DTAA/TIEAs negotiations with such countries is a policy decision which may take time for its formulation/approval."

6. The above request was again not acceded to by the Committee at their sitting held on 17 December 2018 and the Committee accordingly presented their 100th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 12 February 2019. The Committee recommended that the matter needs to be pursued till its logical end.

7. However, the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) vide O.M. F. No. 439/27/2014-FT & TR-III(2) dated 24 January, 2022 has stated as under:-

"The current status of the Assurance with respect to the 35 countries/jurisdictions referred in the reply to Question Number 2379 dated 25.07.2014 is as under:

i. An exchange of information mechanism exists with Maldives, Seychelles, Hong Kong, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Iran and Brunei Darussalam on account of the existence of a DTAA/TIEA with India.

ii. It has been informed by the Denmark authorities that Faroe Islands do not find it necessary to enter into separate TIEA in addition to DTAA between India and Denmark. In this regard, after examining the DTAA and the protocols between India and Denmark, it is observed that the DTAA between India and Denmark applies in entirety to Faroe Islands as well and hence, there is no need to carry forward the negotiations for concluding TIEA with Faroe Islands.

iii. India is a signatory of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (MAAC) which came into force for India with effect from 1st June, 2012. This implies that India can exchange information under MAAC with countries/jurisdictions who are signatories of MAAC and where it

has been entered into force for them also. Accordingly, the following 25 jurisdictions have MAAC into force as on date: Azerbaijan, Anguilla, Aruba, Andorra, Antigua & Barbuda, Chile, Costa Rica, Barbados, Curacao, Cook Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Greenland, Jamaica, Montserrat, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Samoa, Sint Maarten, Nigeria, Turks & Cacaos, Vanuatu.

iv. Tax treaty in respect of the balance 3 countries mentioned below remain to be finalized as under:

| Sl. No. | Country/Jurisdiction | Status of Agreement |
|---------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Democratic Republic of Congo | Agreement for Exchange of Information and Assistance in Collection of Taxes (AEI & ACT) between India and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was initiated in New Delhi on 24.06.2011. Necessary internal procedures for signing of the Agreement was completed in September 2011 by India. Notification of completion of the internal procedures by Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is awaited. In January 2019, it was informed that the DRC has conveyed that it would not be possible for them to sign the captioned agreement since taxes are very important for DRC. MEA was requested to take up the matter with the DRC to persuade them to sign the TIEA and also ascertain their reasons in detail for not signing the TIEA at this stage. In August 2019, MEA informed that no response was received from DRC despite reminders. It was further informed that there was no government in place in DRC since the December 2018 elections, with governance in a state of limbo and no decision on any matter was being taken. In June 2020, MEA was requested to provide an update in the matter. In December 2020, a reminder was sent to MEA and MEA was also requested to advise on further steps in this regard. In May 2021, another reminder has been sent to MEA to take up the matter with DRC and advise on further steps in this regard. Response of MEA in this regard is awaited. |
| 2. | Honduras | Proposal for negotiations of TIEA with the authorities of Honduras was sent through the |

| | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| | | MEA but no response has been received from Honduras. |
| 3. | Venezuela | Negotiations for entering into DTAA are in an advanced stage. After two rounds of negotiations held in 2005 and 2006, agreement was reached on all the articles on the DTAA. Meanwhile in accordance with the policy decision to delete the secrecy/confidentiality provisions from the article on Exchange of Information in all DTAAs, in September 2009, India proposed to delete the secrecy proposal in Para 1 of Article 26 of the DTAA allowing sharing of information with other government agencies. The Venezuelan Government was unwilling to accept the same. In response, various alternative formulations were proposed so as to reach a common ground and conclude the negotiations. However, the Venezuelan side has informed their inability to accept the revised formulations and that the confidentiality clause has to be retained. Two fresh proposals were again made in 2018. Further, in June 2020, a follow-up request to the proposals was made through diplomatic channels, in response to which it has been communicated by the MEA in July 2020 that the Venezuelan side were interested to sign the agreement and were in process of finalizing a response. The response has since been received vide which Venezuela has, inter alia, suggested the wordings of Article 26 which is being examined. |

It is stated that out of a total of 35 countries referred to in the answer to Question Number 2379 dated 25.07.2014, exchange of information relationship exists in respect of 7 countries (on account of existing DTAA/TIEA as mentioned at above) and 25 countries (through the Multilateral Convention for Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters(MAAC) as mentioned above). Tax treaty in respect of 3 countries remain to be finalized as mentioned above. In view of the above, the Assurance under consideration has been substantially fulfilled as an exchange of information mechanism exists in respect of 32 countries (out of 35 countries mentioned in the reply to the Question). Such exchange of mechanism can be effectuated by India to obtain the details pertaining to any undisclosed foreign asset held by Indian residents in these countries.

With reference to the jurisdictions of Democratic Republic of Congo, Honduras and Venezuela, it may kindly be appreciated that the negotiation of DTAAs/

TIEA with these three countries is an ongoing and time consuming process since it is bilateral in nature and takes sufficient time for reaching agreement. The time and manner in which dialogue is carried out depends to a large extent on the other country/jurisdiction.

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

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated :- 19/05/2022

New Delhi:

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2379
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2014

DTAA Amendment

2379. SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring about any amendment in Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to find out details of black money deposited in the foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details of the said amendments;
- (c) whether the said amendments are likely to result in getting complete information regarding black money deposited in the foreign countries as well as the concerned account holders thereof; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) & (b) During the last three to four years, and as a part of the ongoing process, a number of Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) have been amended through amending Protocols or through re-negotiation of the DTAAs to bring the provisions on Exchange of Information to the International Standards. New DTAAs and Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs) with various countries/jurisdictions have also been signed. Further, the Government of India has joined the Multilateral Convention in Tax matters (Multilateral Convention) and SAARC Multilateral Agreement. The current status of these Exchange of Information Instruments, including the status of amending Protocols and re-negotiated DTAAs, as on 30th June, 2014, is as per Annexure. In addition, negotiations for entering into new DTAAs with Azerbaijan, Chile, Hongkong, Iran, Nigeria and Venezuela and negotiations, for entering into new TIEAs with Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of Congo, Panama, Maldives, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Seychelles, Andorra, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Brunei Darussalam, Cook Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Grenada, Honduras, Jamaica, Monsterrat, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent

and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saint Martin, Turks and Caicos and Vanuatu are going on.

(c) & (d) Under the agreements conforming to the International Standards of Exchange of Information as in foreseeably relevant for administration or enforcement of the Domestic laws concerning taxes in specific cases can be received from our treaty partners, including banking Information

Annexure—India's tax treaties as on 30th June, 2014

| Sl. No. | Jurisdiction | Type of EOI Agreement | Date signed | Date from which in force |
|---------|--------------|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Afghanistan | SAARC Multilateral Agreement Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement ("DTAA") | 13.11.2005 08.07.2013 | 19.5.2010 4.12.2013 |
| 2. | Albania | Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters ("Multilateral Convention") | 1.3.2013 | 1.12.2013 |
| 3. | Andorra | Multilateral Convention | 05.11.2013 | Not yet in force in Andorra |
| 4. | Anguilla | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the United Kingdom | 01.03.2014 |
| 5. | Argentina | Taxation Information Exchange Agreement ("TIEA") Multilateral Convention | 21.11.2011 03.11.2011 | 28.01.2013 01.01.2013 |
| 6. | Armenia | DTAA | 31.10.2003 | 09.09.2004 |
| 7. | Aruba | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the Netherlands | 01.09.2013 |
| 8. | Australia | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 25.07.1991 16.12.2011 03.11.2011 | 30.12.1991 02.04.2013 01.12.2012 |
| 9. | Austria | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 08.11.1999 29.5.2013 | 05.09.2001 Not yet in force in Austria |
| 10. | Bahamas | TIEA | 11.02.2011 | 01.03.2011 |
| 11. | Bahrain | TIEA | 31.05.2012 | 11.04.2013 |
| 12. | Bangladesh | DTAA Protocol SAARC Multilateral Agreement | 27.08.1991 16.02.2013 13.11.2005 | 27.05.1992 13.06.2013 19.05.2010 |
| 13. | Belarus | DTAA | 27.09.1997 | 17.07.1998 |
| 14. | Belgium | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 26.04.1993 04.04.2011 | 01.10.1997 Not yet in force in Belgium |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 15. | Belize | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 18.09.2013 29.05.2013 | 25.11.2013 01.09.2013 |
| 16. | Bermuda | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 07.10.2010 Extension by United Kingdom | 03.11.2010 01.03.2014 |
| 17. | Bhutan | SAARC Multilateral Agreement DTAA | 13.11.2005 04.03.2013 | 19.05.2010 Not yet in force |
| 18. | Botswana | DTAA | 08.12.2006 | 30.01.2008 |
| 19. | Brazil | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 26.04.1988 15.10.2013 03.11.2011 | 11.03.1992 Not yet in force Not yet in force in Brazil |
| 20. | British Virgin Islands | Multilateral Convention | Extension by United Kingdom | 01.03.2014 |
| 21. | Bulgaria | DTAA | 26.05.1994 | 23.06.1995 |
| 22. | Canada | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 11.01.1996 03.11.2011 | 06.05.1997 01.03.2014 |
| 23. | Cayman Islands | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 21.03.2011 Extension by United Kingdom | 08.11.2011 01.01.2014 |
| 24. | China | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 18.07.1994 27.08.2013 | 21.11.1994 Not yet in force in China |
| 25. | Chinese Taipei (Taiwan) | DTAA | 12.07.2011 | 12.08.2011 |
| 26. | Chile | Multilateral Convention | 24.10.2013 | Not yet in force in Chile |
| 27. | Colombia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 13.05.2011 23.05.2012 | Not yet in force 01.07.2014 |
| 28. | Costa Rica | Multilateral Convention | 01.03.2012 | 01.08.2013 |
| 29. | Croatia | Multilateral Convention | 11.10.2013 | 01.06.2014 |
| 30. | Curacao | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the Netherlands | 01.09.2013 |
| 31. | Cyprus | DTAA | 13.06.1994 | 21.12.1994 |
| 32. | Czech Republic | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 01.10.1998 26.10.2012 | 27.09.1999 01.02.2014 |
| 33. | Denmark ¹ | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 08.03.1989 10.10.2013 27.05.2010 | 13.06.1989 Not yet in force 01.06.2011 |

¹ Under a protocol the DTC with Denmark is extended to apply in its entirety to the territory of the Faroe Islands.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 34. | Egypt (United Arab Republic) | DTAA | 20.02.1969 | 30.09.1969 |
| 35. | Estonia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 19.09.2011 29.05.2013 | 20.06.2012 Not yet in force in Estonia |
| 36. | Ethiopia | DTAA | 25.05.2011 | 15.10.2012 |
| 37. | Faroe Islands | Multilateral Convention | Extension by Denmark | 01.06.2011 |
| 38. | Fiji | DTAA | 30.01.2014 | 15.05.2014 |
| 39. | Finland | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 15.01.2010 27.05.2010 | 19.04.2010 01.06.2011 |
| 40. | France | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 29.09.1992 27.05.2010 | 01.08.1994 01.04.2012 |
| 41. | Georgia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 24.08.2011 03.11.2010 | 08.12.2011 01.06.2011 |
| 42. | Germany | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 19.06.1995 03.11.2011 | 26.10.1996 Not yet in force in Germany |
| 43. | Ghana | Multilateral Convention | 10.07.2012 | 01.09.2013 |
| 44. | Gibraltar | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 01.02.2013 | 11.03.2013 |
| 45. | Greenland | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the United Kingdom | 01.03.2014 |
| 46. | Greece | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 11.02.1965 21.02.2012 | 17.03.1967 01.09.2013 |
| 47. | Guatemala | Multilateral Convention | 05.12.2012 | Not yet in force in Guatemala |
| 48. | Guernsey | TIEA | 20.12.2011 | 11.06.2012 |
| 49. | Hungary | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 03.11.2003 12.11.2013 | 04.03.2005 Not yet in force in Hungary |
| 50. | Iceland | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 23.11.2007 27.05.2010 | 21.12.2007 01.02.2012 |
| 51. | Indonesia | DTAA Revised DTAA Multilateral Convention | 07.08.1987 27.07.2012 03.11.2011 | 19.12.1987 Not yet in force Not yet in force in Indonesia |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------------|---|--|--|
| 52. | Ireland | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 06.11.2000 30.06.2011 | 26.12.2001 01.09.2013 |
| 53. | Isle of Man | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 04.02.2011 | 17.03.2011 01.03.2014 Extension by the United Kingdom |
| 54. | Israel | DTAA | 29.01.1996 | 15.05.1996 |
| 55. | Italy | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 19.02.1993 27.05.2010 | 23.11.1995 01.05.2012 |
| 56. | Japan | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 07.03.1989 03.11.2011 | 29.12.1989 01.10.2013 |
| 57. | Jersey | TIEA | 03.11.2011 | 08.05.2012 |
| 58. | Jordan | DTAA | 20.04.1999 | 16.10.1999 |
| 59. | Kazakhstan | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 19.12.1996 23.12.2013 | 02.10.1997 Not yet in force in Kazakhstan |
| 60. | Kenya | DTAA | 12.04.1985 | 20.08.1985 |
| 61. | Korea (Republic of) | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 19.07.1985 27.05.2010 | 01.08.1986 01.07.2012 |
| 62. | Kuwait | DTAA | 15.06.2006 | 17.10.2007 |
| 63. | Kyrgyz Republic | DTAA | 13.04.1999 | 10.01.2001 |
| 64. | Latvia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 18.09.2013 29.05.2013 | 28.12.2013 Not yet in force in Latvia |
| 65. | Liechtenstein | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 28.03.2013 21.11.2013 | 20.01.2014 Not yet in force in Liechtenstein |
| 66. | Liberia | TIEA | 03.10.2011 | 30.03.2012 |
| 67. | Libya | DTAA | 02.03.1981 | 01.07.1982 |
| 68. | Lithuania | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 26.07.2011 07.03.2013 | 10.07.2012 01.06.2014 |
| 69. | Luxembourg | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 02.06.2008 29.05.2013 | 09.07.2009 Not yet in force in Luxembourg |
| 70. | Macau, China | TIEA | 03.01.2012 | 16.04.2012 |
| 71. | Macedonia | DTAA | 17.12.2013 | Not yet in force |
| 72. | Malaysia | DTAA Revised DTAA | 14.05.2001 09.05.2012 | 14.08.2003 26.12.2012 |
| 73. | Maldives | SAARC Multilateral Agreement | 13.11.2005 | 19.05.2010 |
| 74. | Malta | DTAA Revised DTAA Multilateral Convention | 28.09.1994 08.04.2013 26.10.2012 | 08.02.1995 Not yet in force 01.09.2013 |
| 75. | Mauritius | DTAA | 24.08.1982 | 06.12.1983 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------|--|--|---|
| 76. | Mexico | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 10.09.2007 27.05.2010 | 01.02.2010 01.09.2012 |
| 77. | Moldova | Multilateral Convention | 27.01.2011 | 01.03.2012 |
| 78. | Monaco | TIEA | 31.07.2012 | 27.03.2013 |
| 79. | Mongolia | DTAA | 22.02.1994 | 29.03.1996 |
| 80. | Montenegro | DTAA | 08.02.2006 | 23.09.2008 |
| 81. | Montserrat | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the United Kingdom | 01.10.2013 |
| 82. | Morocco | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 30.10.1998 08.08.2013 21.05.2013 | 20.02.2000 Not yet in force Not yet in force Morocco |
| 83. | Mozambique | DTAA | 30.09.2010 | 28.02.2011 |
| 84. | Myanmar | DTAA | 02.04.2008 | 30.01.2009 |
| 85. | Namibia | DTAA | 15.02.1997 | 22.01.1999 |
| 86. | Nepal | DTAA Revised DTAA SAARC Multilateral Agreement | 18.01.1987 27.11.2011 13.11.2005 | 01.11.1988 16.03.2012 19.05.2010 |
| 87. | Netherlands | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 30.07.1988 10.05.2012 27.05.2010 | 21.01.1989 02.11.2012 01.09.2013 |
| 88. | New Zealand | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 17.10.1986 26.10.2012 | 03.12.1986 01.03.2014 |
| 89. | Nigeria | Multilateral Convention | 29.05.2013 | Not yet in force in Nigeria |
| 90. | Norway | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 02.02.2011 27.05.2010 | 20.12.2011 01.06.2011 |
| 91. | Oman | DTAA | 02.04.1997 | 03.06.1997 |
| 92. | Pakistan | SAARC Multilateral Agreement | 13.11.2005 | 19.05.2010 |
| 93. | Philippines | DTAA | 12.02.1990 | 21.03.1994 |
| 94. | Poland | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 21.06.1989 29.01.2013 09.07.2010 | 26.10.1989 01.06.2014 01.10.2011 |
| 95. | Portugal | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 11.09.1998 27.05.2010 | 30.04.2000 Not yet in force in Portugal |
| 96. | Qatar | DTAA | 07.04.1999 | 15.01.2000 |
| 97. | Romania | DTAA Revised DTAA Multilateral Convention | 10.03.1987 08.03.2013 15.10.2012 | 14.11.1987 26.12.2013 01.06.2014 |
| 98. | Russia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 25.03.1997 03.11.2011 | 11.04.1988 Not yet in force in Russia |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|------------------------|---|--|--|
| 99. | San Marino | TIEA Multilateral Convention | 19.12.2013 21.11.2013 | Not yet in force in San Marino |
| 100. | Saudi Arabia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 25.01.2006 29.05.2013 | 01.11.2006 Not yet in force in Saudi Arabia |
| 101. | Serbia | DTAA | 08.02.2006 | 23.09.2008 |
| 102. | Singapore | DTAA Protocol Protocol Multilateral Convention | 24.01.1994 29.06.2005 24.06.2011 29.05.2013 | 27.05.1994 01.08.2005 01.09.2011 Not yet in force in Singapore |
| 103. | Sint Maarten | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the Netherlands | 01.09.2013 |
| 104. | Slovak Republic | Multilateral Convention | 29.05.2013 | 01.03.2014 |
| 105. | Slovenia | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 13.01.2003 27.05.2010 | 17.02.2005 01.06.2011 |
| 106. | South Africa | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 04.12.1996 26.7.2013 03.11.2011 | 28.11.1997 Not yet in force 01.03.2014 |
| 107. | Spain | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 08.02.1993 26.10.2012 11.03.2011 | 12.01.1995 Not yet in force 01.01.2013 |
| 108. | Sri Lanka | DTAA Revised DTAA SAARC Multilateral Agreement | 27.01.1982 22.01.2013 13.11.2005 | 19.04.1983 22.10.2013 19.05.2010 |
| 109. | Sudan | DTAA | 22.10.2003 | 15.04.2004 |
| 110. | Sweden | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 24.06.1997 07.02.2013 27.05.2011 | 25.12.1997 16.08.2013 01.09.2011 |
| 111. | Switzerland | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 02.11.1994 30.08.2010 15.10.2013 | 29.12.1994 07.10.2011 Not yet in force in Switzerland |
| 112. | Syria | DTAA Revised DTAA | 06.02.1984 18.06.2008 | 25.06.1985 10.11.2008 |
| 113. | Tanzania | DTAA | 27.05.2011 | 12.12.2011 |
| 114. | Tajikistan | DTAA | 20.11.2008 | 10.04.2009 |
| 115. | Thailand | DTAA | 22.03.1985 | 13.03.1986 |
| 116. | Trinidad and Tobago | DTAA | 08.02.1999 | 13.10.1999 |
| 117. | Tunisia | Multilateral Convention | 16.07.2012 | 01.02.2014 |
| 118. | Turkey | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 31.01.1995 03.11.2011 | 01.02.1997 Not yet in force in Turkey |
| 119. | Turkmenistan | DTAA | 25.02.1997 | 07.07.1997 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| 120. | Turks & Caicos | Multilateral Convention | Extension by the United Kingdom | 01.12.2013 |
| 121. | Uganda | DTAA | 30.04.2004 | 27.08.2004 |
| 122. | Ukraine | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 07.04.1999 27.05.2010 | 31.10.2001 01.09.2013 |
| 123. | United Arab Emirates | DTAA Protocol Protocol | 29.04.1992 26.03.2007 16.04.2012 | 22.09.1993 03.10.2007 12.03.2013 |
| 124. | United Kingdom | DTAA Protocol Multilateral Convention | 25.01.1993 30.10.2012 27.05.2010 | 26.10.1993 27.12.2013 01.10.2011 |
| 125. | United States | DTAA Multilateral Convention | 12.09.1989 27.05.2010 | 18.12.1990 Not yet in force in United States |
| 126. | Uruguay | DTAA | 08.09.2011 | 21.6.2013 |
| 127. | Uzbekistan | DTAA Protocol | 29.07.1993 11.04.2012 | 25.01.1994 20.07.2012 |
| 128. | Virgin Islands (British) | TIEA | 09.02.2011 | 22.08.2011 |
| 129. | Vietnam | DTAA | 07.09.1994 | 02.02.1995 |
| 130. | Zambia | DTAA | 05.06.1981 | 18.01.1984 |

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 100

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1534 dated 03.05.2016 regarding "Rural Godowns".

On 3rd May, 2016, Shri Sanjay Dhotre, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur and Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1534 regarding "Rural Godowns" to the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. 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 Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) *vide* O.M. No. H-11011/7/2016-M.II dated 2nd February, 2017 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the case is still continuing in the "Special Court of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the time frame for a final verdict cannot be ascertained. Hence, it is requested that this reply may kindly not be considered as an Assurance."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their Sitting held on 15.05.2017 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their Seventieth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 4 January 2018 and urged upon the Ministry to apprise the Committee of the initiatives taken by them and the CBI as well as the progress made in the matter.

5. However, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) *vide* O.M. F. No. H-11011/8/2016-M.II(86481) dated 02.11.2021 has *inter-alia* stated as under:-

"The case is still continuing in the Special Court of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and it will take more time to finalise the case. Time frame for final verdict cannot be ascertained at this stage. Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is pursuing with CBI to expedite the matter.

It is again re-iterated that the matter being sub-judice, the Department has no action left on its part and hence it is again requested that the aforesaid Assurance given in Lok Sabha in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1534 dated 03.05.2016 regarding Rural Godowns may be dropped."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State (Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) has again requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 19/05/2022

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1534
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD MAY, 2016

RURAL GODOWNS

1534. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

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

- (a) whether the Government has implemented schemes/programmes for construction/ renovation of godowns/ warehouses in rural areas of various States to enhance the storage capacity of agricultural produce in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of godowns/warehouses constructed/renovated under the said schemes/ programmes during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UTwise;
- (c) the details of the storage capacity of agriculture produce enhanced during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the details of the funds allocated/ released/utilised under these schemes/ programmes during the said period, State/ UT-wise;
- (e) whether cases of irregularities/ corruption/diversion of funds in implementation of the said schemes/ programmes have come to the notice of the Government during the said period; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIYA)

(a) to (d): In order to enhance the storage capacity for agricultural produce in the country the Government promotes construction/renovation of godowns/ warehouses in rural areas under the storage component (erstwhile Grameen Bhandaran Yojana) of Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM). The scheme is credit linked, capital investment linked and with provision for back ended subsidy @ 25% and 33.33% to eligible promoters of general and special categories respectively. Currently the scheme has been temporarily stopped w.e.f. 05.08.2014 for general category promoters due to exhaustion of funds. However, the scheme continues to be open for Schedule Caste (SC)/ Schedule Tribe (ST) promoters and for all promoters in North-Eastern

Region. As the scheme is demand driven, hence, subsidy for construction and renovation of godowns is not allocated State-wise. While so far no releases have been made in the current year (2016-17), the details of the funds released by the Government to promoters for construction/renovation of godowns/ warehouses in rural areas in various States/Union Territories under the scheme during the last three years are annexed.

(e) & (f): No, Madam. However, one case of corruption was registered in 2006 against Shri D.P. Ukey, Marketing Officer (Retired), Regional Office, Directorate of Marketing & Inspection, Mumbai, for accepting bribe. Sanction of the competent authority for prosecution was issued to Central Bureau of Investigation on 18.09.2009 and Regular Disciplinary Action for imposition of major penalty under Central Civil Service (Conduct) Rules is under process. The case is still continuing in the Special Court of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 101

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 125 dated 03.05.2016 (Supplementary by Dr. Boora Narsaiah Goud, M.P.) regarding "e-NAM".

On 3rd May, 2016, Kumari Shobha Karandlaje and Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut, M.Ps., addressed a Starred Question No. 125 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. During the discussion, Dr. Boora Narsaiah Goud, M.P., raised the following Supplementary Question to the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare:-

"I compliment the Minister for starting e-NAM under which five markets were inaugurated in my State of Telangana also. There are two things. One thing is launching of a programme and the second thing is its implementation. Now that the portal has been launched and e-platform is there, the biggest problem is that whenever a person sitting in Delhi wants to buy from the Telangana market, he has to know the quality of the product and the quantity of the product. What measures have been taken really to implement this project successfully? I know the market conditions personally. Since my childhood, I have seen it with my eyes. Even today, the conditions have not changed. For a farmer, it is like a snake and ladder game. I would request the Minister to tell what measures are being taken to successfully implement this project."

3. In reply, the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare stated as follows:-

"Sir, the first thing is that this is the Agricultural Market Act, it is made by the State Government. For this, in the year 2010, the Government had convened a meeting of the Agriculture Ministers of all the States of the country, formed a Committee and the States were asked to make changes in their laws, so that some such laws should be made in that change, so that the farmers would be benefited. But, then that thing did not move forward. After the new Government came, a Committee was formed under the chairmanship of Shri Ashok Gulati. That Committee will now report."

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

5. In this regard, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) *vide* O.M. No. H-11011/7/2016-M.II (84817) dated 7th February, 2022 has stated as under:-

"As mentioned in the supplementary to the Lok Sabha Starred Q. No. 125 for 03.05.2016 by Kumari Shobha Karandlaje & Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut, M.Ps.

regarding "e-NAM", a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Ashok Gulati to (i) study the report of Committee of State Ministers In-charge of Agricultural Marketing and recommend future course of action and (ii) submit action plan for implementation of agriculture marketing reforms. The Committee was required to submit its recommendations to the Ministry within three months from the date of its constitution. However, the Expert Group was unable to submit its report even after repeated extension and pursuance by the Department.

In the meantime, this Department had already made a significant progress in rolling out the reform agenda to strengthen the Agricultural Marketing system in the country and several initiatives had also been taken by the Government from time to time. Hence, in view of the above reasons and with the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the said Committee has been dismantled *vide* order dated 04th January, 2022."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 19/05/2022

Annexure

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 125
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD MAY, 2016

e-NAM

*125. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

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

- (a) the details of the existing mode/ system of accessing market information by the farmers;
- (b) whether the Government is contemplating to bring reforms in agricultural marketing and amend the Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMC) Act to break the monopoly of middlemen/traders and provide benefit to the farmers and consumers, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has launched online National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) in the country, if so, the details and objectives thereof, State/UTwise;
- (d) the details of the mandis on the electronic platform across the country and the benefits likely to be derived therefrom along with the time by which all the mandis are likely to be on the electronic platform across the country; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to modernise the existing mandis, provide the requisite market information to the farmers and strengthen the agricultural market infrastructure in the country including those in rural areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 125 DUE FOR REPLY ON 3RD MAY, 2016.**

(a): Farmers generally obtain market information from formal and informal sources which include Farmers' Awareness Programmes conducted by market functionaries and market committees, display boards exhibited by the respective Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMCs) in mandi-yards, Kisan Call Center (KCC), print & electronic media including Central AGMARKNET portal and other websites and portals developed under the National e Governance Programme (NeGPA) by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) and disseminated through multiple Information and Communication Technology (ICT) delivery channels including mobile apps like Kisan Suvidha, Agri-market etc.

(b): Agriculture marketing is administered by State Governments and Union Territories (UTs) as per their respective Agriculture Produce Marketing (Regulation) Acts. Realising the need for reforms in the agri-marketing sector, the Government has been playing an advocacy role and actively pursuing with the States and UTs to amend their marketing laws on lines of the Model APMC Act, 2003/ Rules, 2007 and of many subsequent advisories in order to promote, *inter-alia*, competition and transparency in sale transactions of agricultural produce by enhancing the number of active traders and reducing middlemen/traders monopoly and cartels, so as to enhance farmer's share in consumer's rupee.

(c) & (d): With the objective to promote uniformity and streamlining of procedures across the integrated markets, remove information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promote real time price discovery based on actual demand and supply, promote transparency in auction process and informed bidding, promote access to a nationwide

market for the farmer, prices commensurate with quality of his produce and online payment and availability of better quality produce and to offer reasonable prices to the consumer, Government of India approved a Central Sector Scheme "Promotion of National Agriculture Market (NAM) through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF)" on 1st July, 2015 with a budget allocation of Rs. 200 crores. Under the scheme, a pan India electronic trading portal (e-NAM) will be deployed in 585 regulated wholesale markets in States across the country by March, 2018. The e-NAM Portal was launched on 14th of April, 2016 on a pilot basis, integrating 21 mandis in 08 States. State-wise details of pilot mandis are **Annexed**.

The Scheme is reform linked and demand based. Eligible States desirous of integrating their APMC markets to NAM platform may send their proposals to the Government for consideration and for release of assistance. The Government provides grant as one time fixed cost subject to the ceiling of Rs.30.00 lakhs per Mandi for related equipment / infrastructure and software free of cost.

The NAM platform wherever fully operational is expected to benefit the farmers with more options for selling their produce and competitive returns; the local traders with access to larger national market for secondary trading; the bulk buyers, processor, exporters, with opportunities for direct participation in the local mandi trade thereby reducing intermediation cost; consumers with stable prices and availability and lastly reduce the burden of APMCs in accounting and other paper works with chances of better market fee recovery.

(e): In order to modernize the existing mandis, provide requisite market information to the farmers and strengthen agricultural market infrastructure, the Government is implementing various schemes like Market Research and Information Network (MRIN), National e Governance Programme (NeGPA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), etc. More recently the NAM has been launched with the objective to network the mandis electronically on a pan India basis. Under this, the States are supported financially @ Rs.30 lakh per APMC market to upgrade the market infrastructure and participate on NAM platform. This assistance is in addition to the free supply of software and other support that are given to the State Governments to enable them to join e-auction platform.

Details of Mandis where Pilot Launch was undertaken

| Sr.No. | State | APMC | District | Commodity proposed |
|--------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Gujarat | Patan | Patan | Castor Seed |
| 2 | | Botad | Bhavnagar | Chana (Black Gram) |
| 3 | | Himmatnagar | Sabarkantha | Wheat |
| 4 | Telangana | Tirumalgiri | Nalgonda | Paddy |
| 5 | | Nizamabad | Nizamabad | Turmeric |
| 6 | | Badepally | Mahboobnagar | Maize |
| 7 | | Hyderabad | Hyderabad | Onion |
| 8 | | Warangal | Warangal | Maize |
| 9 | Rajasthan | Ramganj Mandi | Kota | Chana (Black Gram) |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | Karond, Bhopal | Bhopal | Chana (Black Gram) |
| 11 | Uttar Pradesh | Sultanpur | Sultanpur | Wheat |
| 12 | | Lakhimpur | Lakhimpur Kheri | Wheat |
| 13 | | Lalitpur | Lalitpur | Wheat |
| 14 | | Bahraich | Bahraich | Wheat |
| 15 | | Saharanpur | Saharanpur | Wheat |
| 16 | | Mathura | Mathura | Wheat |
| 17 | Haryana | Ellanabad | Sirsa | Mustard |
| 18 | | Karnal | Karnal | Wheat |
| 19 | Jharkhand | Pandra, Ranchi | Ranchi | Mahua Flower & Tamarind |
| 20 | Himachal Pradesh | Fruit Mandi, Solan | Solan | Shelling Peas |
| 21 | | Dhali, Shimla | Shimla | Shelling Peas |

(Q. 125)

KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE: Madam, I am very happy to say that 14th April, 2016 is a historical and revolutionary day for the Indian farmers. Madam, that day is not only the 125th birthday of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar but also on that day, our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi Ji launched the National Agriculture Market for our farmers, which was pending for many decades. बहुत सालों से वह किसानों की मांग थी। The purpose behind the National Agriculture Market is a creation of common national market for agriculture commodities through an e-platform network. National Agriculture Market is a game changer. इस सिस्टम से बिचौलियों का अंत होगा। No middle man is involved in buying or selling of agriculture commodities. There is less transaction cost involved. There is single licence across the country and also there is single point levy for all agriculture products. The farmers and traders can sell with the same freedom across the State and across the country.

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहती हूँ कि हमारे एपीएमसी की हालत बहुत बुरी है और उसमें मूलभूत सुविधाएँ भी उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। इन मूलभूत सुविधाओं को सुधारने के लिए हमारी सरकार क्या कदम उठाएगी? इसी विषय पर और दो प्रश्न हैं।

ई ट्रेडिंग के बारे में पूरे देश की तहसील तक मंडियों में लागू करने के लिए हमारी सरकार क्या कदम उठाएगी। थर्ड प्रश्न है...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : एक ही प्रश्न पूछिये। अभी बैठिये।

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया: माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, जो माननीय सदस्या ने महत्वपूर्ण कृषि के लिए, किसानों के लिए सही दाम मिले, इसके लिए जो चिन्ता व्यक्त की है, मैं खास करके माननीय सदस्यों को बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे प्रधानमंत्री जी ने पूरे भारत में ई मार्केटिंग को 14 अप्रैल को लांच किया है। मार्च, 2018 तक पूरे भारत में 585 मंडियों को ई मार्केटिंग के साथ हमने जोड़ने के लिए प्रयत्न शुरू किया है। खास करके जो मंडी स्टार्ट किया है, हरेक ए.पी.एम.सी. को तीस लाख का ऋण यहां से देने का प्रावधान किया है। उसके आधार पर कम्प्यूटर, प्रिंटर सब चीजें वे खरीद सकते हैं। दूसरा मंडियों के ट्रांजैक्शन के लिए सॉफ्टवेयर यहां से भारत सरकार मुफ्त में मुहैया कराएगी।

कुमारी शोभा कारान्दलाजे: मैडम, एक प्रश्न और है। अभी केवल 25 कृषि उत्पादों को ई ट्रेडिंग में बेच रहे हैं, it is only in eight States and 21 mandis. देश भर में पूरे कृषि उत्पादों को ई मार्केट में लाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाएंगे और how many years you need?

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया: माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, अभी कृषि मंडी के लिए हमने 25 फसलों को आईडेंटिफाई किया है, उसका परीक्षण किया है। अभी 25 फसलों को ई मार्केटिंग में उसको बाजार में लाएंगे, बाद में जरूरत पड़ेगी तो नई फसल के लिए आईडेंटिफाई करके दूसरी फसलों को भी उसमें जोड़ सकते हैं।

श्री विनायक भाऊराव राऊत: अध्यक्ष महोदया, देश के करोड़ों उत्पादक किसान और ग्राहकों के हित के बारे में यह प्रश्न जुड़ा है और मैं समझता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय यह गम्भीर प्रश्न देखकर उसे किसानों को और ग्राहकों के हित के लिए जो निर्णय लेना है, उसके बारे में उत्तर दें। आप जानते हैं कि भारत एक कृषि प्रधान देश है। फिर भी आज तक कम से कम 94 परसेंट किसान ए.पी.एम.सी. मार्केट के ऊपर निर्भर रहते हैं। दुर्भाग्य से ए.पी.एम.सी. मार्केट दलालों का एक अड्डा बन चुके हैं और सही तरीके किसानों को दाम नहीं देते। उनकी जो फसल रहती है या उनका उत्पादित माल रहता है, उसका कांटा सही तरीके से नहीं लगाना, सही तरीके से दाम नहीं देना, साथ-साथ जो कुछ दाम रहता है, उससे कुछ टैक्स काटकर लेना, ऐसी स्थिति है।

आज दुर्भाग्य से दाल का भाव बढ़ चुका है, 180 तक गया है...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न पूछिये। माडर्नाइजेशन का प्रश्न है।

श्री विनायक भाऊराव राऊत: मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार की ऑनलाइन एग्रीकल्चर मार्केटिंग की जो पालिसी बनी है। मंत्री महोदय जी ने 25 बोले हैं, लेकिन उत्तर में 21 ही दिया है। देश में आठ या नौ राज्यों में सिर्फ 21 मार्केट कमेटियों में यह ऑन लाइन सिस्टम चालू किया है, जबकि देश में कम से कम 580 मार्केट कमेटियां आज कार्यरत हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो गम्भीर परिस्थिति और जो महंगाई बढ़ती जा रही है, उसको रोकने के लिए और किसानों को और ग्राहकों को आधार देने के लिए ऑन लाइन एग्रीकल्चर मार्केटिंग पॉलिसी का अमल तुरन्त ही सारे देश में करने का प्रावधान क्या कर रहे हैं और साथ में बढ़ते हुए दालों के भाव को कंट्रोल करने के लिए भी सरकार के पास क्या ब्यौरा है?

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया: माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, जो मैंने 25 बताया, मैंने मार्केट नहीं बताया, 25 फसलों के लिए अभी हमने आईडेंटिफाई किया है। अभी आठ राज्यों में 21 ए.पी.एम.सी. में हमने ई मार्केटिंग का 14 अप्रैल को लॉन्च किया है। खास करके किसानों को सही दाम मिले, बिचौलियों से छुटकारा मिले, इसके लिए बड़ा मार्केटिंग बनाने के पूरे स्टेट्स का और पूरे देश का मार्केट को जोड़ने का

हमने प्रयत्न किया है, जिसके आधार पर कोई भी ए.पी.एम.सी. में किसान माल लेकर जाते हैं तो जो लेन वाली पार्टियां हैं, उनका एक रिंग बन जाता है, किसानों को सही दाम नहीं मिलता है, किसानों को बहुत नुकसान होता है। इसके लिए पूरे राज्य और पूरे देश का जब ई मार्केट बन जायेगा तो किसानों को बड़ा प्लेटफॉर्म मिलेगा, बहुत लेने वाली व्यापारी मिलेंगे, उसका सही दाम मिलेगा। इसी के आधार पर हमने एक योजना लॉन्च की है। इसके तहत हमारे किसानों को सही दाम मिलेंगे, उपभोक्ताओं को भी अच्छे दामों पर सामान मिलेंगे। इसलिए हमने ई-मार्केटिंग शुरू की है।

श्री सुमेधानन्द सरस्वती : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। आज से सात-आठ महीने पहले देश ने पचास रुपए के हिसाब से प्याज खरीदा और पूरे देश में इसके लिए हाहाकार मचा हुआ था। लेकिन, इस बार राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश और महाराष्ट्र में भरपूर प्याज पैदा हुआ है। परन्तु, अभी स्थिति यह है कि मंडियों में प्याज तीन रुपए किलो बिक रहा है।

मेरी माननीय मंत्री जी और सरकार से मांग है कि सरकार किसानों का प्याज तुरन्त खरीदे क्योंकि किसानों के पास उसका भंडारण करने की कोई सुविधा नहीं है और किसान बिल्कुल बर्बाद हो चुका है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि किसानों को बचाने के लिए सरकार प्याज खरीदे।

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह) : माननीय सदस्य को मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि आलू, प्याज और दाल के लिए मूल्य स्थिरीकरण फण्ड की स्थापना की गयी है। पहले वह कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत था, पर अब वह फूड एण्ड सप्लाय मिनिस्ट्री के अंतर्गत चला गया है। वहां से इसका नियंत्रण हो रहा है।

DR. BOORA NARSAIAH GOUD: Madam, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to ask a question.

I compliment the Minister for starting e-NAM under which five markets were inaugurated in my State of Telangana also. There are two things. One thing is launching of a programme and the second thing is its implementation. Now that the portal has been launched and e-platform is there, the biggest problem is that whenever a person sitting in Delhi wants to buy from the Telangana market, he has to know the quality of the product and the quantity of the product. What measures have been taken really to implement this project successfully? I know the market conditions personally. Since my childhood, I have seen it with my eyes. Even today, the conditions have not changed. For a farmer, it is like a snake and

ladder game. I would request the Minister to tell what measures are being taken to successfully implement this project.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : महोदया, पहली बात यह है कि यह जो कृषि मंडी कानून है, इसे राज्य सरकार बनाती है। इसके लिए वर्ष 2010 में सरकार ने देश के सभी राज्यों के कृषि मंत्रियों की एक बैठक बुलाई थी, एक कमेटी बनाई थी और राज्यों से कहा गया था कि वे अपने कानून में परिवर्तन करें, ताकि उस परिवर्तन में कुछ ऐसे कानून बनें, जिससे किसानों को लाभ हो। लेकिन, फिर वह बात आगे नहीं बढ़ी। नई सरकार के आने के बाद श्री अशोक गुलाटी की अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बनाई गयी। वह कमेटी अभी रिपोर्ट देगी। लेकिन, राज्य सरकारों से यह आग्रह किया गया कि मंडी कानून में तीन प्रकार के संशोधन करें। पहले तो ई-व्यापार की अनुमति प्रदान करें। मंडी शुल्क को एकल बिन्दु पर लागू करें और पूरे प्रदेश में व्यापार हेतु एकल लाइसेंस की वैधता हो, चूंकि हर मंडी के लिए अलग-अलग लाइसेंस होते थे। उसके बाद हमने राज्यों से कहा तो लगभग 17 राज्यों ने अपने कानून में पूर्णतः या आंशिक संशोधन किया है। उसके बाद 12 राज्यों से लगभग 365 मंडियों के प्रस्ताव मेरे पास आए हैं। उस प्रस्ताव में हमने 160 करोड़ रुपए की स्वीकृति दी है और छः राज्यों के लिए राशि भी रिलीज की है। उसके तहत जो मंडी है, उसमें हम 30 लाख रुपए देते हैं और एक आई.टी. का इंजीनियर देते हैं। उसमें सबसे पहला काम होता है लैब बनाना। आपके ध्यान में होगा कि अभी मार्केट में जब कोई किसान अपना सामान ले जाता है तो जो वहां बिचौलिए हैं, लाइसेंसी हैं, वे मनमाना दाम देते हैं। उसकी जो क्वालिटी है, उसका भी निर्णय वही करते हैं कि अच्छा है या खराब है। इसलिए लैब में उसकी क्वालिटी की जांच होगी, ताकि जो लाइसेंसी है, उसको यह अधिकार नहीं रहे और किसान को नुकसान न हो। अभी हमने 21 राज्यों के 25 मंडियों को जोड़ा है। यह पायलट प्रयोग है। हम देश के 585 मंडियों को जोड़ेंगे। इसका अंतिम उद्देश्य यही है कि किसानों को अच्छा मूल्य मिले।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : हुकुम सिंह जी, शॉर्ट क्वेश्चन पूछिए। वैसे बहुत अच्छे तरीके से मंत्री जी ने बता दिया है। It is a pilot project.

श्री हुकुम सिंह: आपने बहुत विस्तार से उत्तर दिया, लेकिन समस्या ज्यों की त्यों है। दाल के भाव नीचे नहीं आ रहे हैं, प्याज के भाव ऊपर चढ़ नहीं पा रहे हैं।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अभी तो ई-मार्केटिंग की बात हो रही है।

श्री हुकुम सिंह: अब हम ई-ट्रेडिंग का क्या करेंगे? आज किसान को दो रुपए प्रति किलो प्याज बेचने के लिए मजबूर होना पड़ रहा है, एक-एक रुपए की भी बात आ रही है। समस्या का समाधान होना चाहिए और

समस्या का समाधान तभी होगा, जब सरकार बाजार में उतरेगी, प्याज को खरीदेगी और किसान को बचाएगी।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : मेरे मंत्रालय से इसका संबंध नहीं है।

Appendix - XVI

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 103

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 250 dated 23.11.2011 "Civil Nuclear Cooperation".

On 23rd November, 2011, Shri Pradeep Majhi, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 250 to the Minister of Atomic Energy. 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(43)2011-Power dated 08 February, 2017 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the techno commercial discussions being held between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and French Public Utility EDF are still in progress. After the conclusion of the discussion, the project proposal will be submitted to the Government for administrative approval and financial sanction. The project would be put up for obtaining the administrative and financial approval of the Government only after the conclusion of these techno-commercial discussions. 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 Assurances, Rajya Sabha has been requested, with the approval of MoS (PMO) to drop these Assurances. The decision is awaited. This issue involved in the present Assurance are of similar nature. This process of negotiations may take considerable time to reach a conclusion, after which NPCIL can finalise the project proposal. Further, obtaining approval for administrative approval and financial sanction for the Project from the Government (AFC/CCS) may take considerable time. Considering these aspects, it may not be possible to set any time-frame for fulfillment of the above Assurance."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was considered by the Committee at their Sitting held on 15 May, 2017 and it was decided not to drop the Assurance. The Committee accordingly presented their 70th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 04 January, 2018 and desired that the Ministry should pursue the matter vigorously and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

5. However, the Department of Atomic Energy vide O.M. No. 13/2(43)/4/2011-Power/15270 dated 20 December, 2021 has *inter-alia* stated as under:

"Presently negotiations are on with EDF, France covering different aspects of the project. The negotiations as such are a long drawn process. Being bilateral issue no specific time limit can be assigned. The final outcome in the negotiations will depend upon the agreement to be reached by both countries."

6. In view of the above, the Department, with the approval of the Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office) for Atomic Energy, has requested the Committee to drop the Assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 19/05/2022

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 250
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.11.2011

CIVIL NUCLEAR COOPERATION

250. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of the nuclear projects so far undertaken under the civil nuclear cooperation deal between India and France?

ANSWER

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

Presently Nuclear power Corporation of India limited (NPCIL) is considering the techno-economic details of the proposed nuclear power reactors to be set up at Jaitapur, Maharashtra in technical cooperation with France. The work on the project will be started after obtaining the administrative and financial approval of the Government.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES BRANCH
MEMORANDUM NO. 104

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2619 dated 04.08.2021 regarding "Coal Mining".

On 04th August, 2021, Shri Pashupati Nath Singh, M.P., addressed a Unstarred Question No. 2619 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. In this regard, the Ministry of Coal *vide* O.M. F.No.CPAM-54016/8/2021-CPIAM dated 03.02.2022 has stated as under:-

"No mine of BCCL is closed yet as extraction has not been completed in any mine and in many mines operations are suspended. In future, whenever any mine is closed, it will be closed as per approved Mine Closure Plan after following safety and environmental norms. Therefore, the statement mentioned in reply to part (f) of the question that, "Mines of BCCL will be closed as per approved Mine Closure Plan", may not be treated as an Assurance.

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

DATED: 19/05/2022

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.- 2619
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04/08/2021

Coal Mining

2619. SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the BCCL management in Dhanbad and Bokaro district of Jharkhand are not backfilling the closed mines after coal mining which leads to illegal mining of residual coal in these closed mines ;
- (b) whether the burning coal in these closed mines releases poisonous gases which leads to death and also pollutes the environment.;
- (c) if so, the number of mines where backfilling has been done at present;
- (d) the details of steps undertaken by the Government and the management in this direction, colliery-wise;
- (e) the number of closed mines abandoned without backfilling at present along with the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which it will be completed along with the region-wise details?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): No mine of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) is closed yet as extraction has not been completed in any mine due to presence of multi seam formation. Operations in many mines are however suspended for various reasons and proposed to be reopened in future.

(b): Not applicable as mines are not closed.

(c): No mines in BCCL is closed. In case of running mines, progressive back-filling is practiced in 18 mines of BCCL.

(d): In order to ensure back-filling as per approved Mining and Mine Closure Plan, Government has prescribed guidelines for deposition of fund regularly in Escrow Account as security money to ensure proper closure of mines after final closure.

(e): Not applicable as mines are not closed.

(f): Mines of BCCL will be closed as per approved Mine closure plan.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
NINTH SITTING
(06.06.2022)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours in Committee Room No. '2', Extension to Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri Nihal Chand
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Santosh Pandey
6. Shri M.K. Raghavan

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.L. Singh - Deputy Secretary
2. Shri Vineeta Sachdeva - Under Secretary

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|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
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| XXXXX | XXXXX | 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 that the sitting has been convened to (i) consider 25 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of 34 pending Assurances; and (ii) take oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding pending Assurances.

2. Thereafter, the Committee took up the said 25 Memoranda (Memorandum Nos. 82 to 106) containing 34 Assurances for consideration for dropping or otherwise of the relevant Assurances. After brief deliberation, the Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to decide on Memoranda for dropping of the Assurances. The Chairperson subsequently decided to drop 14 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-I and to pursue the remaining 20 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-II* for implementation by the Ministries/Departments concerned.

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|----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3. | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX |
| 4. | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX |
| 5. | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX |
| 6. | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX | XXXXX |

The Committee then adjourned.

*** Not related to this Report.**

Annexure-I

Statement showing Assurances dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances (2021-2022) at their sitting held on 06.06.2022.

| Sl. No. | Memorandum No. | Question/Discussion References | Ministry/Deptt. | Brief Subject |
|----------------|-----------------------|--|---|--|
| 1. | 83 | USQ No. 1713 dated 26.07.2017 | Railways | Anandnagar- Maharajganj Rail Line |
| 2. | 84 | USQ No. 3116 dated 03.08.2017 | Youth Affairs & Sports (Department of Sports) | Regulations for Betting in Sports |
| 3. | 85 | USQ No. 495 dated 20.07.2016 | Railways | Railway Line to Andhra Pradesh Capital |
| 4. | 87 | USQ No. 1337 dated 25.11.2019 | Culture | Excavation Works in Vadnagar and Keeladi |
| 5. | 88 | USQ No. 2675 dated 13.03.2013 | Atomic Energy | Protest against Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant |
| 6. | 90 | SQ No. 270 dated 06.08.2021 | Earth Sciences | Extreme Weather Conditions |
| 7. | 91 | USQ No. 3412 dated 09.08.2021 | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) | Cryptocurrency Transactions |
| 8. | 92 | USQ No. 3297 dated 13.03.2020 | Textiles | Tax for Cotton and Man-Made Fibres |
| 9. | 94 | USQ No. 4954 dated 23.04.2015 | Housing and Urban Affairs | Women Reservation Bill |
| 10. | 99 | USQ No. 2379 dated 25.07.2014 | Finance (Department of Revenue) | Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) Amendment |
| 11. | 100 | USQ No. 1534 dated 03.05.2016 | Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) | Rural Godowns |
| 12. | 101 | SQ No. 125 dated 03.05.2016 (Supplementary by Dr. Boora Narsaiah Goud, M.P.) | Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) | E-NAM |

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|-----|-----|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 13. | 103 | USQ No. 250 dated 23.11.2011 | Atomic Energy | Civil Nuclear Cooperation |
| 14. | 104 | USQ No. 2619 dated 04.08.2021 | Coal | Coal Mining |

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2021-2022)
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)
ELEVENTH SITTING
(28.07.2022)

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours in Room No. 216, (Chairperson's Chamber), 'B' Block, EPHA, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - Chairperson

Members

2. Shri Nihal Chand
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
6. Shri Santosh Pandey
7. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
8. Smt. Supriya Sule

Secretariat

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Shri J.M. Baisakh | - Joint Secretary |
| 2. Dr. (Smt.) Sagarika Dash | - Director |
| 3. Shri K.C. Pandey | - Deputy Secretary |
| 4. Smt. Vineeta Sachdeva | - Under 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 Six (06) draft Reports without any amendments:-

- (i) Draft Sixty-Eighth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (ii) Draft Sixty-Ninth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (iii) Draft Seventieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)'

- (iv) Draft Seventy-First Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (v) Draft Seventy-Second Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Tourism'; and
- (vi) Draft Seventy-Third Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'

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

The Committee then adjourned.