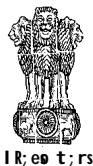


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Friday

30 August, 2013

8 Bhadra, 1935 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 30th August, 2013/8th Bhadra, 1935 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Dharam Chander Prashant, a former Member of this House on the 28th of August, 2013, at the age of 90 years.

Born in April, 1923 in Jammu, Shri Prashant was educated at Prince of Wales College, Jammu and Sanatan Dharam College, Lahore. A journalist by profession, Shri Prashant started his career as a Lecturer of Journalism at the Jammu University and represented the Associated Press of India and the Press Trust of India for over three decades in Jammu. He was also associated with various social, cultural, literary and educational organisations. He served as the President of the Jammu Press Club; Jammu and Kashmir Union of Journalists, Dogra Sanstha, a premier literary organisation of Jammu and Kashmir; Hindi Sahitya Mandal and Hindi Pracharini Sabha. Shri Prashant was a prolific writer and had several publications to his credit. Shri Dharam Chander Prashant represented the State of Jammu and Kashmir in this House from April, 1982 to April, 1988.

In the passing away of Shri Dharam Chander Prashant, the country has lost a renowned journalist and a distinguished Parliamentarian. We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Dharam Chander Prashant.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 281.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, Hon. Leader of Opposition wants to say something.

... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute, please. ... (Interruptions) ... Just one minute, please. ... (Interruptions) ...

... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venkaiahji, ... (Interruptions) ... Just a minute, please. ... (Interruptions) ...

... (Interruptions) ...

... (Interruptions) ... You have had your say. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI M. VENKAIHAH NAIDU (Karnataka): It is the issue of the House or the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, not a Member of the Congress Party. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you wish to say?

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): There is factual incorrectness in what he said, because of the two Members who resigned one Member had given a dissent note on the crucial draft report. That changes the whole ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are not going into all that. ... (Interruptions) ... Let me respond to the point raised by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. He had written to me. I received the letter last night. I shall be replying to it. Thank you. Question No.281. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI M. VENKAIHAH NAIDU: Sir, I have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour, because the Government admitted before the Supreme Court yesterday that a large number of files are missing. The Supreme Court came down heavily on the Government. It went on to the extent of saying "Is there a bid to

destroy coal papers?" This is what the Supreme Court asked the Government. That being the case, nothing is more important than discussing that issue. Earlier also, they tried to avoid discussion in the House. We would like the Prime Minister to come to the House and discuss this very important issue, and then only we can proceed further. Otherwise, we will be failing in our responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*... There was an incomplete discussion ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venkaiahji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I request you to please give us an opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*... There was an incomplete discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Prime Minister was supposed to come to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, we never avoided the discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we never avoided the discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... In fact, the Prime Minister was sitting here for one hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: So what? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal came twice and made statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Prime Minister was also here. ...*(Interruptions)*... We never avoided discussion on it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal is also being criticised. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, we only want the hon. Prime Minister to clarify the entire position because he ...*(Interruptions)*... the Coal Minister. Kindly appreciate ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Supreme Court has also asked why FIR has not been instituted. They have not filed the FIR till now about missing documents. ...*(Interruptions)*... Destruction of evidence ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: This is not the order of the court.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: This is not the order of the court. It may be an observation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, we are grateful that the hon. Prime Minister spent some minutes in the House that day. The House could not proceed. But that does not mean that the issue has been abandoned. The Prime Minister can always be requested to come back and answer the queries which are in the mind of the Opposition. Is the hon. Minister intending to bring him back or not?

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: I am only responding to what Venkaiah Naiduji said that we are avoiding the discussion.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: There's an incomplete discussion. Will you complete that or not on coal files?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Arunji, yesterday you made a request and the Prime Minister responded. He is coming to make a statement on the subject that you raised yesterday. Let us proceed from here. We have got the agenda ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Is the Prime Minister going to respond on missing coal files also?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can't give that assurance.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Let the Government respond to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the issue.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: We will wait for the Government's response. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: The silence on whether the Prime Minister will come again on coal files is very disturbing.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: I will consult the Prime Minister. How can I ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Please consult him and let us know. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Can we now proceed with the Question Hour?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Yes, Sir.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[The Questioner (**Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy**) was absent]

Schemes for promotion of FPIs in Andhra Pradesh

*281. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being implemented by Government in Andhra Pradesh for promotion of Food Processing Industry (FPI) during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise; and

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilized by the State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the following schemes to strengthen the food processing industries in the country including Andhra Pradesh:

1. Scheme for Infrastructure Development for Food Processing which includes:-
 - a. Scheme of Mega Food Parks to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages.
 - b. Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation of Infrastructure to encourage setting up of cold chain facilities and backward linkages in the country and to create supply chain management.

- c. Scheme of Setting up/ Modernization of Abattoirs to provide for induction of better technology and modern processing facilities for meat and meat products in the country.
2. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) has been launched during 12th Plan to be implemented through State/UT Governments. Financial assistance for States/UTs is being provided to implement the following schemes under the NMFP:-
- (i) Scheme for Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/ Modernization of Food Processing Industries
 - (ii) Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non Horticultural Products
 - (iii) Scheme for Setting up/Modernization/Expansion of Abattoirs (to be implemented *w.e.f.* 2014-17)
 - (iv) Scheme for Human Resource Development (HRD)
 - (a) Creation of Infrastructure Facilities for running Degree/ Diploma/ Certificate Courses in Food Processing Technology
 - (b) Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP)
 - (c) Food Processing Training Centre (FPTC)
 - (d) Training at recognised Institutes and sensitization cum awareness programme
 - (v) Scheme for Promotional Activities
 - (a) Organizing Seminar/Workshops
 - (b) Conducting Studies/Surveys
 - (c) Support to Exhibitions/Fairs
 - (d) Advertisement and Publicity
 - (vi) Scheme for Creating Primary Processing Centres/Collection Centres in Rural Areas

- (vii) Modernization of Meat Shops
 - (viii) Reefer Vans
 - (ix) Old Food Parks
3. Scheme of Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries to meet the spillover liability of the proposals received in Eleventh Plan.
 4. Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standard, R&D and Other Promotional Activities for creating quality testing and R&D infrastructure for food processing industries and to undertake promotional activities.
5. Scheme for Human Resource Development for creating
 - I. Food Processing Training Centre (FPTC)
 - II. Infrastructure for running degree/ diploma courses in food processing in universities
 - III. Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs)

This scheme is being continued to meet the spillover liability of the Eleventh Plan.

(b) The details of the funds released under various schemes of the Ministry for projects in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and the current year are given in Statement-I

Statement-I

Statement indicating Scheme-wise details of funds released by the MoFPI in the State of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Location/ District	Implementing agency	Year-wise grant released by the Ministry								(Rs. in lakhs)
				2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		
				Unit	Amount	Unit	Amount	Unit	Amount	Unit	Amount	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1. Infrastructure Development												
	(a) Mega Food Park	Chittoor	M/s Srinii Food Park Private Limited	1	1500.00	1	1500.00	-	-	-	-	-
	(b) Integrated Cold Chain	Hyderabad	M/s Creamline Dairy Products Limited	1	243.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Guntur and Prakasam	M/s Synthite Industries Limited	-	-	-	-	1	156.29	1	312.60	
		Vizianagaram	M/s Bhupati Agro Enterprises	-	-	1	187.04	-	-	-	-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	(c) Modernization of Abattoirs	Hyderabad	Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corp.	1	443.69	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of FPIs	-	Private entrepreneurs/ companies	30	562.09	105	1904.726	221	4245.35	48	821.00
3.	National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP)	-	State Government	-	-	-	-	-	1068.00*	-	-
4.	Quality Assurance, Codex Standard, R&D and Promotional Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(a) Food Testing Lab	East Godavari	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University	-	-	-	-	1	62.30	-	-
	(b) Research and Development (R&D)	Hyderabad	CFTRI	-	-	1	36.21	-	-	-	-

Visakha- patnam	D/o Biotechnology, Gitam Institute of Technology	-	-	1	16.00	-	-	-
Hyderabad	Biotransformation Laboratory, Natural Products Division, IICT	-	1	-	23.17	-	-	-
(c) HACCP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(d) Promotional Activities	-	10	24.59	11	22.09	6	15.97	1
5. Human Resource Development	-	18	142.55	17	112.63	5	9.9	1
								3.5

*An amount of Rs. 91.00 lakhs has been utilised by the State Government under the NMFP

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give year-wise grants release. Modernisation of Abattoirs, 2010-11 the total release was ₹ 142 crore in 19 crore and 2011-12 the total release was ₹ 112.63 crore and 2012-13 the total release was ₹ 17 crore. The total release for the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 was ₹ 254.63 crore. The release for the year 2012-13 is ₹ 17 crore. The release for the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 was ₹ 254.63 crore. The release for the year 2012-13 is ₹ 17 crore. The release for the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 was ₹ 254.63 crore. The release for the year 2012-13 is ₹ 17 crore.

AOS <Q>: What is the stage of implementation of sanctioned scheme for the year 2010-11 and 2011-12? That is the specific question.

AOS <Q>: ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Dr. Waghmare.

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Sir, my question is whether there is any scheme or any policy of the Government to set up food processing industries in backward regions like Telangana, Marathwada, etc. Telangana is part of Andhra Pradesh. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am aware of that.

AOS <Q>: ...

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, as on today, there are three categories. There is no special category for backward States. One category is of normal State, where

the grant is 75 per cent and 25 per cent. Second category is of North East, where it is 90 per cent and 10 per cent and the third category is of Union Territory, where it is 100 per cent. Only three categories are there.

Cheating by online marketing companies

*282. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons the Ministry is not considering to frame proper guidelines, in consultation with State Governments, for rights of consumers who, while buying goods through online shopping and mobile commerce, get cheated by online marketing companies and also in view of the fact that presently there are no proper guidelines in this regard;

(b) whether Central Government would make necessary amendments in the law in this regard, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any study at international level in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The subject of e-commerce is relatively new which has become extremely crucial due to global digital integration, wide spread use of internet and convenience of online business transactions. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was held on 11th July, 2013, in which India participated and gave its strong view point supporting regulation of e-commerce to protect interests of global consumers.

The problems faced by consumers in e-commerce need to be tackled globally since in many cases buyers, sellers, manufacturers, website owners, payment gateways are located in different countries. India is in close touch with International organizations like UNCTAD, International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network (ICPEN) etc. to ensure global cooperation in the matter.

It will become something like 20 billion rupees within five or six years. So, I would like to know whether the Government is proposing to open up the FDI in e-commerce and have 100 per cent FDI in e-commerce.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, my Ministry does not handle the FDI aspect. We are only concerned with consumer affairs and consumer protection.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, humanity is being globally integrated through the platform of web and internet. And, most of the service providers are stationed in the United States of America. It is learnt that nations like China and Australia have taken enough care to protect e-mail users and ensure security of e-commerce and e-business. Even, at the level of defence utilization, there is safety for intranet, and the availability of spectrum is making it possible. I would like to know, through you, Sir, whether the Government is thinking of having a broad-based Task Force involving Ministries of Consumer Affairs, Corporate Affairs, Commerce, Finance and Home Affairs so that we can evolve a comprehensive guideline and protect the status of e-commerce, e-business and e-mail users.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I have already answered that the Government is trying to formulate a very comprehensive guideline, and we have sought suggestions from various Ministries like Finance, Information and Communication Technology, Commerce, Home Affairs and Corporate Affairs. We are also in touch with the United Nations Conference on "Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and with another international organization called the International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network (ICPEN).

ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ ప్రభుత్వం ఇటీవల ఎలక్ట్రానిక్ ట్రేడింగ్ యొక్క భద్రతను మెరుగ్గా చేయడానికి చర్యలు తీసుకుంది. ప్రభుత్వం ఇటీవల ఎలక్ట్రానిక్ ట్రేడింగ్ యొక్క భద్రతను మెరుగ్గా చేయడానికి చర్యలు తీసుకుంది. ప్రభుత్వం ఇటీవల ఎలక్ట్రానిక్ ట్రేడింగ్ యొక్క భద్రతను మెరుగ్గా చేయడానికి చర్యలు తీసుకుంది. ప్రభుత్వం ఇటీవల ఎలక్ట్రానిక్ ట్రేడింగ్ యొక్క భద్రతను మెరుగ్గా చేయడానికి చర్యలు తీసుకుంది.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, e-commerce and misleading advertisement are two different subjects. This is not connected with e-commerce. If you kindly allow me, Sir, to check misleading advertisements, a committee had been constituted.

Intermediate reports have come in, and our Department is studying them. Now, we are in touch with other Departments. For example, if it is an advertisement coming in a channel or in a printed media, we as a Consumer Affairs Ministry cannot take action. We refer it to the I&B Ministry. There are some organisations which are also looking into it. So, Sir, this is an inter-Ministerial issue. Suppose there is a health issue. We cannot take action. We pass it on to the Health Ministry. But if anything is concerned with the consumer, when the consumer is cheated, then, our Consumer Protection Court will take care of it.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Everybody is a consumer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The Chair can direct him that everybody is a consumer. What are the steps being taken? That is all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is quite obvious that this is a new area in which consumers are groping and Governments are groping. So, let the work that is underway be completed, and I am sure the Minister has taken note of it.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sometime limit has to be given, otherwise, this sort of advertisements that are coming in the TV and great actors and actresses, former actors and even politicians also are coming and prescribing something and it is not happening. People are being misled.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sure the sentiments expressed in the supplementaries have been noted by the Minister.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I have noted all the sentiments expressed. That is why we constituted a Committee....

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, this is an age of internet. ...*(Interruptions)*... They should consult and talk.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Goyal. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not a discussion.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: We very humbly suggest, Sir, that hon. the Chairman should take note of this issue, the sentiments of the people, and kindly impress upon the Government to come with suitable guidelines.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been noted by the Minister.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: That will carry some weight.

Pendency of court cases

*283.DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of cases pending in courts across the country *vis-a-vis* the number of judges/judicial officers;

(b) whether, as per a recent study of National Court Management System (NCMS), the number of pending cases in courts is likely to go upto 15 crore; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government for judicial reforms and also to improve the judge/population ratio?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The 'Policy and Action Plan' document formulated under the National Court Management Systems (NCMS) has estimated that there are over three (3) crore cases pending in courts across the country *vis-a-vis* sanctioned strength of 18,871 judicial officers/judges as on 31-12-2011. It has also estimated that with increase in literacy, per capita income and population, the number of new cases filed each year may go upto fifteen (15) crore per annum over the next three decades. NCMS is responsible for preparing policy guidelines for developing a National Framework of Court Excellence (NFCE) to set measurable performance standards for Indian courts to address issues of quality, responsiveness and timeliness to facilitate delivery of justice. Supreme Court of India *vide* its order dated 01-02-2012 in the case of *Imtiyaz Ahmed versus State of Uttar Pradesh & Others* has, *inter-alia*, asked the Law Commission to evolve a scientific assessment for creation of additional courts.

(b) In order to assist the judiciary, the Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve the twin goals of

(i) increasing access to justice by reducing delays and arrears; and (ii) enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and improving capacities. The Mission has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration by providing support for better court infrastructure including computerisation, encouraging increase in the strength of subordinate judiciary and recommending policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and suggesting re-engineering of court procedures for quick disposal of cases.

(c) In the conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held in New Delhi on 07th April, 2013, it was *inter-alia* decided that the State Governments, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, will take requisite steps for creation of new posts of Judicial Officers at all levels with support staff and requisite infrastructure.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: My first supplementary arises out of the Minister's alarming as well as evasive reply. I say alarming because he has admitted that in three decades the number of court cases in the country will reach a whopping 15 crore. So, from the present three crores, there will be a five times increase in the number of cases in thirty years from now. On the other hand, he says that the NCMS has been asked to prepare policy guidelines for National Framework of Court Excellence, and so on and so forth. But there is no reference to the time frame within which any of these new measures are going to be recommended, leave alone implementing it. Sir, through you, I would like to draw the Minister's attention to a statement made by the previous Minister for Law on the floor of Parliament in which he said that several steps are being taken to deal with this challenge, including expediting the appointment of judges, establishment of e-courts, computerisation of court records, fast track courts and other administrative mechanisms. All your statements have intent, but we have not seen in the Minister's reply any concrete steps, assurances or a time-frame as to when these measures would be taken.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, first of all, I would like to state on record that the statement made here is candid and truthful, and not evasive. The fact of the matter is that we, when questions are asked, must state to distinguished Members of the House what the truth is, and the truth is that the pendency in courts is

about three crores and it is going to rise, as the distinguished Member has rightly said, in the coming years to 15 crores. The three crore cases that are pending today are dealt with by about 16,000 courts in India and the requirement to deal with 15 crore cases, which is going to happen, we will need Rs. 75,000 crores. Now that requires financial planning, that requires infrastructure planning. It requires the States to collaborate with the Central Government, as you know that administration of justice is a State subject. It is not a Central Government subject. In fact, there was a Chief Justices' Conference on the 7th of April, 2013 in which certain Resolutions were passed and certain decisions were taken.

And, one of the decisions taken is to increase the ratio, in the next five years, to 30. Today, population-courts ratio is: For every one million population the number of courts that are sanctioned is 15. In any developed country, it is not less than 50. And, in some countries, it is about 100. So, the Chief Justices' Conference took a decision that this ratio of 15 will be increased to 30 in the next five years. Then, the question arose as to where the finances are going to come from, because in order to increase the ratio to 30, we need infrastructure investment.

As far as the Government of India is concerned, we have told the Judiciary that we are happy to contribute to the infrastructure investment. But, as far as salaries and recurring expenditure is concerned, those have to be borne by the State Governments. Now, the State Governments say that they do not have the finances to bear salaries and recurring expenditure. So, they have been advised to write letters to the Finance Commission. Hopefully, the Finance Commission will set apart a sum of money in order to take care of recurring expenditure of increased courts. So, it is not that we have not taken steps. It is not that the reply is evasive. In fact, we are thinking about it. We have given a roadmap for future. And, we hope that the States will collaborate with us — Central Government — to deal with the problem and take solutions forward.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, I would not like to comment on this reply, because there is a tendency to blame the States whereas the principal responsibility is that of the Centre.

But, be that as it may, my second supplementary is that the hon. Minister is very well aware that the Government is the biggest litigant in the country. Being

the biggest litigant in the country, Sir, I would like to know, through you, from the hon. Minister how many Government-related cases in which the Government has either filed cases or is defending itself are going on at present. And, whether any steps are contemplated to reduce the number of cases in which the Government is a litigant, because that will only contribute to the total number of cases. And, out of 15 crore, I would not be surprised if, at least, 1/3rd are Government-related cases which end up only in fattening the pockets of lawyers and does not help the Government.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, we are very happy that some of the distinguished Members in this House are benefited through those transactions. But, be that as it may...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: You are also one of them.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I have lost out on that, as you know. But, you do.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Soon the time may come, hon. Minister.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Hopefully, from your point of view. And, hopefully, from my point of view, you will continue to prosper.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: From April, you will ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fair enough. Let us get back. Can the question be answered?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: May I answer the question?

Sir, constitutionally speaking, the primary responsibility of administration of justice is not that of the Central Government, but of the State Government. Having said that, the distinguished Member is absolutely right that the Government is involved in a lot of litigation as it is bound to be. When individuals go into litigation, the target is always the Government, because unless the Government does not take wrong decision, people will not go to court. So, the maximum litigant is the Government. But, let me give you figures which will surprise you. Sir, of the 3 crore cases that are pending, you will be surprised to hear that there are about 18 per cent of those 3 crore cases relate only to negotiable instrument cases *i.e.*, bouncing of cheques. Now, I think, we can have a very quick solution

to this. And the Government is, in fact, contemplating special procedures to deal with these matters. That is number one.

Another 10 per cent of cases are with respect to motor vehicle claims. Now, this also can be easily dealt with. If we bring in IT and find technology solutions, instead people going to court and litigate in court, they would not have to go to court. So, that is another 10 per cent.

Another 5-7 per cent of cases relate to Electricity Act, such as people are over-billed, over-charged, etc. They go to court and they are harassed in courts. So, almost 30-35 per cent cases are cases which can be easily dealt with efficient procedures in which IT plays a large part. I have already taken a note of this and I am going to move forward to ensure that litigants are not harassed. Having said that, that still leaves about 65,000 cases, and we have noticed that if we increase the number of judges and bring them to the sanctioned strength, and increase the strength of district and trial courts, we would be able to deal with the arrears in the next five to ten years. And I am sure that our Government, after 2014 too, would take steps to do that.

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Sir, while we welcome sections 498A and 304B which are meant for women, it has been observed that due to this section so many families remain on trial for a long time, with elderly people being put in jails. That is what we have observed. Of course, this law has been made to support the women folk in India, but, Sir, the judicial process is so lengthy that many elderly people who suffer from diabetes and other diseases, are harassed in jails. So, what measures does the Government plan to take for improving upon sections 498A and 304B. Is the Government doing something in this regard? That is my particular question.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just want to mention, through you, to the distinguished Member that Governments are not involved in the way in which courts function. Courts have their own procedures, their own levels of efficiency, and we cannot, as distinguished Members of this House would know, direct the court to do A, B, C. But this is a concern that the courts are aware of. I am sure that courts will introspect on this Issue and ensure that the kind of delays that take place in courts, do not happen; they appoint efficient judges;

judges decide on the basis of a time-frame; all that should be done by the court. We will certainly take this up with the court as well.

... ..

... ..

SHRI H. K. DUA: Sir, the figure of three crore pending cases is a very heavy figure. That also means that it is not just cases, three crore families are affected. Three crore families have been waiting for justice for years. Three crore families are waiting for justice; they are not just cases.

Now, one of the reasons for the cases piling up is that too many adjournments are being sought by lawyers and too many adjournments are being granted by magistrates and judges. Can't procedures be improved so that written arguments could be given? With adjournment after adjournment after adjournment, the turn coming in the next year or the year after that and so on, people have to go on waiting for justice. Can't those procedures be improved by courts? The Law

Minister can sit with them; they can sit together and work out the procedure so that litigants get the relief.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the distinguished Member that it is not as if courts and Governments have not applied their minds to a very vexed issue that he has raised. If you go to any court in this country, especially in the trial court, you will find that, on an average, there are more than a hundred cases that are listed. Now, how do you expect the trial judge to decide a hundred cases on that day? It is just not possible. Apart from those hundred cases, there are also trial cases that are listed in the afternoon. Therefore, there are miscellaneous cases, there are trial cases and there are final hearing cases. You cannot expect a judge. I think, we are being very harsh on the judiciary when we expect them to decide these cases instantly. That is one problem. This can only be resolved by expanding the judicial system and having more judges. That is number one.

Number two, there is also the issue of the litigant. A litigant has trust in a particular lawyer. Now, when he has trust in a particular lawyer, normally that lawyer is a busy lawyer because the more efficient the lawyer is the more people will have trust in him. Now, he also has about 30-40 cases. If the judge tells the litigant that he will not grant him an adjournment, who ultimately is harmed? The litigant. So, the judge also does not want to harm the litigant, and the litigant also wants his lawyer to appear. So, the litigant says to the lawyer, "I don't mind the adjournment because I want you to argue my case". So, that is the other issue. So, this is not an easy issue. It is a very complex issue. Governments, from time to time, have tried to grapple with it. The solution to this is that the judge-population ratio should slowly be increased to 100 judges per every million population, and that requires enormous investment in the judicial infrastructure, and in appointing new judges, and I think...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: What is the ratio now?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The ratio is, at the moment, on the sanctioned strength, only 15; but on the actual strength, just above 13. We intend, in the next five years, to increase it to 30, and we hope that in the next 10-15 years, this will be increased to over 50. Once we have that, then, this problem will, to some extent, be resolved. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 284. ...*(Interruptions)*... †00 20Si •0† < ...*(3/00/00)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, we are not getting proper treatment. Members are being allowed to put questions without your permission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. One minute, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me clarify the position. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: In this Session, I have raised my hand just once, and I have not been allowed to put the question whereas other Members have been allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Even Members are allowed to put questions to the Ministers, without raising hands, without taking permission from the Chair, how ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please sit down? None of this is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me make one thing very clear. ...*(Interruptions)*... †00 20Si •0† < ...*(3/00/00)*...

†00 20Si •0† < ...*(3/00/00)*... †00 20Si •0† < ...*(3/00/00)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not your question; number one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please sit down? What you are saying is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute, please. All right, this is enough. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please sit down? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the hon. Member is going beyond all limits. ...*(Interruptions)*... May I please clarify one thing? ...*(Interruptions)*... May I please clarify one thing? Questions are balloted. The right to ask questions and ask supplementaries belongs first and foremost to the Member in whose name the question is. Thereafter, for further supplementaries, the rule in the House is two supplementaries, but this Chair has extended it to three supplementaries. Questions have to be rotated around the House. Now, you cannot demand a supplementary as a matter of right.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: I am not demanding, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; I am not arguing with you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not arguing with you. Will you please sit down? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are interrupting the proceedings. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please sit down? ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen; please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Tyagi, please ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुखेन्दु सेखर रॉय: मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुखेन्दु सेखर रॉय: मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुखेन्दु सेखर रॉय: मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुखेन्दु सेखर रॉय: मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुखेन्दु सेखर रॉय: मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं नहीं माँग रहा हूँ, सर। ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Ravi Shankarji. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*.. I will from the Chair make an offer to the entire House that if anybody can produce a computer programme by which

*Not recorded.

in 245 Members three supplementaries can be selected which would take care of all the parties around the House, all the front benchers, back benchers, middle benchers, let such a programme be produced, I will be very happy to introduce it. Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Tyagiji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(Interruptions)*...
...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(Interruptions)*...
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down, Mr. Ravi Shankar. ...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(Interruptions)*...
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it is in the interest of hon. Member's health not to get too excited. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Ban on monocrotophos pesticides

*284. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that monocrotophos pesticide has been described as of high acute toxicity by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and World Health Organisation (WHO);

(b) whether this pesticide is still in use in the country while it has been banned in several countries, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not banning this pesticide in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

ఆంధ్ర ప్రదేశ్ లోని వివిధ ప్రాంతాల్లో, ప్రత్యేకంగా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి లోని ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో...

అధికార ప్రతినిధి: ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో WHO has asked India to ban toxin that killed children. ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో ప్రత్యేకంగా పశ్చిమ గోదావరి లోని ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో...

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the World Health Organisation have communicated to our country that monocrotophos is one of the pesticides which has to be taken with all precautions. It is hazardous and respective Governments should take a view on it. There are some countries which has totally banned this particular pesticide. We always get complaints about certain pesticides that the Government should take a view about that. But the Government does not take a decision at its level. We always try to appoint a committee of the experts and take then take a view. About this particular pesticide, as I replied, in 1993, a Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Dr. Bami, one of the experts. He reviewed it and recommended to continue it. Second Committee was appointed, under Dr. K.V. Raman, in 1995. That Committee recommended that we could use it with some restrictions. In 2005, another Committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mayee, former Agriculture Commissioner and former Chairman of Scientific Officers' Selection Committee. Dr.Mayee's recommendation was that this should completely be banned for vegetables. So, that decision has already been taken. As on today, another Committee has been appointed, under the chairmanship of Dr. Kanungo. We are waiting for its report. After that, we will take a final view. There are many pesticides where these types of demands are there. But, on the other side, the farming community is insisting that it should continue.

అధికార ప్రతినిధి: ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో ఏలూరు జిల్లాలో...

(b) 59 Gram Panchayats were connected under the pilot project of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) till 31st March 2013. Around 5,000 Gram Panchayats are likely to be connected with optical fibre connectivity by 31st December, 2013. As per information provided by BSNL, broadband coverage has been provided to 1,57,733 Gram Panchayats by it out of its resources upto 31st March, 2013. State / Union Territory-wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) Under NOFN, all Gram Panchayats are expected to be provided with optical fibre cable in a span of two years. This will enable various service providers (Telecom Service Providers and Internet Service Providers) to launch various broadband internet and communication services, once the OFC infrastructure is in place.

Statement

Status of Broadband Coverage of Village Panchayats Upto 31-03-2013

Sl. No.	State /UTs	Cumulative Achievement
1	2	3
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	56
2	Andhra Pradesh	15380
3	Assam	2999
4	Bihar	7032
5	Chhattisgarh	2158
6	Gujarat (including Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu)	7599
7	Haryana	5651
8	Himachal Pradesh	2810
9	Jammu and Kashmir	2885
10	Jharkhand	4471
11	Karnataka	4020
12	Kerala	997

1	2	3
13	Lakshadweep	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	4199
15	Maharashtra (including Goa)	10318
16	Tripura	1649
17	Mizoram**	
18	Meghalaya**	
19	Arunachal Pradesh	1710
20	Manipur	
21	Nagaland**	
22	Orissa	3694
23	Punjab	11170
24	Chandigarh	16
25	Rajasthan	2946
26	Tamil Nadu	9755
27	Pundicherry	98
28	Uttar Pradesh	49914
29	Uttarakhand	2966
30	West Bengal	3169
31	Sikkim	66
TOTAL		157733

Optical fibre network in gram panchayats of Andhra Pradesh

*286. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of gram panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that many grain panchayats in the State are not connected with optical fibre network;
- (c) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and
- (d) the plans his Ministry has formulated for the Twelfth Plan with regard to connecting all gram panchayats of Andhra Pradesh with optical fibre network?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) As per the information available on website of Ministry of Panchayati Raj, there are 21,640 village panchayats in Andhra Pradesh. The district-wise detail is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Yes Sir, Presently, telecom service providers connect Gram Panchayats with optical fibre network based on their operational requirements. As per details provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), 15,380 Gram Panchayats have provided broadband connectivity by BSNL out of its own resources.

Government has approved National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project which plans to connect all Gram Panchayats in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibers of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and laying incremental fiber wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks. Dark fiber network thus created will be lit by appropriate technology to ensure a bandwidth of at least 100 Mbps at each Gram Panchayat.

The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL). Survey work for connecting all Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh has been entrusted by BBNL to PGCIL (Power Grid Corporation of India Limited). PGCIL has informed that they have surveyed over 80% of the Gram Panchayats in the State. The survey report/data is being scrutinized and validated by BBNL and sanction is likely to be accorded for the same in the next 3 months.

The process for procurement of components for implementation of NOFN is currently underway. All Gram Panchayats in the country including 21,640 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh are proposed to be connected with Optical Fibre Cable Network in a span of two years.

Statement*District-wise detail of Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh*

S. No.	Name of District	Number of Gram Panchayats in the District
1	2	3
1.	Adilabad	866
2.	Anantapur	1003
3.	Chittoor	1366
4.	East Godavari	980
5.	Guntur	1011
6.	Karimnagar	1207
7.	Khammam	758
8.	Jcrishna	970
9.	Kurnool	890
10.	Mahbubnagar	1329
11.	Medak	1086
12.	Nalgonda	1169
13.	Nizamabad	718
14.	Prakasam	1028
15.	Rangareddi	690
16.	Spsr Nellore	939
17.	Srikakulam	1099
18.	Visakhapatanam	929
19.	Vizianagaram	921

1	2	3
20.	Warangal	1006
21.	West Godavari	884
22.	Y.S.R.	791
TOTAL		21,640

Source: Website of Department of Panchayati Raj

Internal assessment regarding investment in railways

†*287. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the internal assessment, the investment in Railways during the first two years of the Twelfth Plan is likely to be approximately half of the last investment target resulting into less investment, less capacity building and under procurement of wagons etc.;

(b) if so, details thereof along with reasons therefor;

(c) whether resources for laying new railway lines during this period are turning out to be very inadequate;

(d) if so, details thereof along with reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken for improving fiscal condition of Railways for better allocation /implementation of projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) In the first two years of the 12th Plan, the plan expenditure of Rs. 52,265 crore in 2012-13(Revised Estimate) and Rs.63,363 crore in 2013-14 (Budget Estimate) is lesser than the proportionate outlay required to achieve the approved plan size of Rs.5,19,221 crore. The reasons for shortfall are on account of lower Gross Budgetary Support (GBS), inadequate generation of internal resources as well as lesser than expected Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The targets of 951 kms of new line, 1405 kms of doubling, 980 kms of gauge conversion in the first two years of the Plan are lesser than the proportionate targets. Lower outlays have also affected other plan expenditure. The procurement of 32,894 wagons planned in the first two years of the Plan is lesser than the proportionate target. However, wagon procurement is based on traffic demand assessed on a year-to-year basis.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the 12th Plan period, an outlay of Rs.35,000 crore for New Line projects was approved. However, during the first two years of the 12th Plan, for new lines Rs 12,157 crore (including Rs 3000 crore for land acquisition for Dedicated Freight Corridor) have been provided. Outlay for new lines in 2013-14 is 4% of the throw forward. Funds for new lines are provided as per availability of resources.

As Indian Railways has a large shelf of already sanctioned projects and resources are limited, the projects have been prioritized for execution based on operational needs. Railways are also pursuing with the Government to enhance the GBS to achieve the approved level of 12th Plan. Ministry of Railways has also asked for provision of funds for National Projects as an additionality over and above the present budgetary support. Further, several measures have been taken to improve fiscal health and increase resource mobilization which include rationalisation of fare and freight structure, introduction of Fuel Adjustment Component(FAC) linked revision of freight and passenger rates to compensate for the fuel cost increase, expenditure control, procurement of rolling stock through leasing etc. Projects are also being undertaken under Public Private Partnership, based on the new policy on participative models notified in December 2012.

Flyover bridge at Jajpur-Keonjhar road

*288. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Odisha has given a proposal for constructing a railway flyover bridge at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road;
- (b) if so, the total estimate of the bridge; and
- (c) whether it is included in the Railway Budget of 2013?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) No proposal has been received from Government of Odisha for constructing a Railway flyover bridge at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Food Banking Network

*289. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Food Banking Network has been started recently;
- (b) if so, whether it is a Government initiative or some NGO has organized this social endeavour;
- (c) whether any targets were fixed for distribution of food items to the needy and poorer sections of the society;
- (d) if so, whether these targets were achieved; and
- (e) whether Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) or bodies like FICCI, CII, etc. are also lending their helping hand to make the scheme successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No such scheme named "Food Banking Network" is operated by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

(c) and (d) Government has been providing food grains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls, Annapurna, Emergency Feeding Programme, etc. During 2013-14, a quantity of 499.39 lakh tons of food grains have been allocated to States/UTs under TPDS. In addition, 42.77 lakh tons of foodgrains have also been allocated to States/UTs under Other Welfare Schemes so far. Thus during the current year so far Government has made a total allocation of 542.16 lakh tons of food grains under TPDS and OWS.

(e) Since there is no scheme by this name, the issue of association of Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs), FICCI, CII with the scheme does not arise.

Inclusion of rake points under the fertilizer monitoring system

*290. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from State Governments, including Andhra Pradesh, for inclusion of rake points under the Fertilizer Monitoring System;

(b) if so, the details and status thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to include rake points under the Fertilizer Monitoring System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has received request from some State Governments, including Andhra Pradesh for inclusion of rake points under the Fertilizer Monitoring System. The details and status thereof State-wise is given in the Statement (*See* below).

At present 850 rake points are included in FMS. The inclusion of new rake points in FMS is a dynamic process. On the request of the State Government, new rake points are included in FMS subject to Ministry of Railways operating the said rake point for handling of fertilizers.

Statement*State wise Rake Point details*

Sl. No.	Name of Sate	Total Rake Point as on 26.08.2013	Rake Point Opened in FMS during 2011-12	Rake Point Opened in FMS during 2012-13	Rake Point Opened in FMS during 2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	68	9		2
2	Assam	31	1		
3	Bihar	51	2		
4	Chandigarh	1			
5	Chattisgarh	29	3	4	
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2			

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	Daman and Diu	3			
8	Goa	1		1	
9	Gujarat	36	4		1
10	Harayana	32			
11	Himachal Pradesh	6			
12	Jammu and Kashmir	23			2
13	Jharkhand	13			
14	Karnataka	37	2		
15	Kerala	18			
16	Madhya Pradesh	69		1	
17	Maharashtra	87	3		1
18	Mizoram	1			
19	Nagaland	1			
20	Orissa	28			
21	Pondicherry	1			
22	Punjab	50	5		
23	Rajasthan	65	2	1	
24	Tamil Nadu	29	1	3	
25	Tripura	3			
26	Uttar Pradesh	114			
27	Uttaranchal	10	3		
28	West Bengal	41			
TOTAL		850	35	10	6

Supply of poor quality seeds to farmers

*291. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints of supply of fake and poor quality seeds to farmers;

- (b) if so, the steps Government has taken to address the issue;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to provide relief to farmers affected by bad seeds; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Complaints have been received from time to time regarding supply of fake/poor quality seeds. The State Governments concerned have taken action to issue warnings, show cause notices and stop sale orders and to prosecute suppliers of fake/poor quality seeds in accordance with the provisions of the Seeds Act, 1966, the Seed Rules, 1968 and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983, etc. Further, District Level Committees, Consumer Fora, etc. have also awarded compensation to the affected farmers for failure of seeds.

Doubling of railway lines

*292. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether work relating to doubling of railway lines of Udhna-Jalgaon, Gandhidham-Kandla Port and Gandhidham-Adipur has been completed;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when this work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARUN KHARGE): (a) to (c) Doubling of Gandhidham-Kandla Port (12 km) and Gandhidham-Adipur (8 km) sections have been completed and commissioned. On doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon with electrification (306.93 km) project, doubling of Vyara-Ukaisongarh (20 km) and Amalner-Dharangaon-Chawalkhede (32 km) sections have been completed. Doubling of Bardoli-Vyara (29 km), Chinchpada-Nandurbar (41 km) and Chawalkhede-Girnar (16 km) sections are targeted for completion during 2013-14.

Incentives to private companies to operate in villages

*293. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the incentives provided/proposed to be provided to private companies to operate in villages in the field of telecommunication; and

(b) the extent of success of such initiatives?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has been established w.e.f. 01.04.2002 with the objective of providing access to telecom services to people in the rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices. Administration of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is governed by Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 as amended from time to time. The scope of USOF covers all telecom services including mobile services, broadband connectivity and creation of infrastructure like Optical Fibre Cable in rural and remote areas.

Various schemes have been implemented with financial/subsidy support from USOF. As per Rule 526 of Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules-2012, selection of Universal Service Providers (USPs) for implementing the USOF schemes is made by a bidding process from amongst the eligible operators i.e. the entities having valid license or registration or authorization from Central Government for providing telecom services or infrastructure or any other entities as may be specified in this regard by the Central Government from time to time. Subsidy in the form of viability gap funding from USOF is disbursed/ granted to bidders selected through a transparent mechanism as per the terms & conditions of the agreement signed with USOF. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been awarded work on nomination basis for some schemes.

Out of a sum of Rs. 15814.53 Crore disbursed by USOF from financial year 2002-03 till financial year 2013-14 (upto 31.05.2013), Rs. 1925.92 Crore has been disbursed to private operators (upto 31.07.2013) and the rest has been provided to BSNL.

(b) Private companies have participated in various schemes of USOF. Details of USOF funded schemes wherein Private Operators have been selected for implementing the USOF scheme through bidding process and achievement made therein are given in Statement (*See* below). The implementation of these schemes has enabled the creation of infrastructure and provision of telecom services to people in unserved and underserved areas of the country, which is one of the reason for increase in rural teledensity to 41.60 as on 31.05.2013 from 1.21 as on 01.04.2002. Besides 5,37,204 villages out of 5,93,601 villages have already been provided with mobile connectivity and village public telephones have been provided in 5,82,147 out of 5,93,601 villages.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Target/Objective	Achievement till July 2013	Name of Infrastructure Provider (IP)/ Universal Service Provider (USP)
1	Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme for setting up of infrastructure sites	To install 7353 mobile towers for provision of mobile services in the rural & remote areas of the country, to be shared by three service providers in each area.	7317 (99.51%) mobile towers have been installed	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited KEC International Limited Reliance Communications Infrastructure Ltd Viom Networks Limited GTL Infrastructure Limited Vodafone Essar Cellular Limited
2	Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme for provisioning of mobile services using infrastructure sites set up under (1) above.	To install 3 BTSs per mobile tower site for provision of mobile services in the rural & remote areas of the country.	16,246 (74.01%) Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) have installed	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited Reliance Communications Limited Reliance Telecom Limited Bharti Airtel Limited Bharti Hexacom Limited Dishnet Wireless Limited [Aircel] Aircel Limited Idea Cellular Limited BTA Cellcom Limited Idea Mobile Communications Limited Vodafone Essar Cellular Limited

3	Provision of Rural Community Phones (RCPs)	To provide 40,694 Rural Community Phones i.e. second Public Telephone in villages with population exceeding 2,000 and without a Public Call Offices (PCOs).	40,694 RCPs [BSNL: 21958 & RIL: 18736] The scheme has been completed.	Vodafone Essar South Limited Vodafone Essar Gujarat Limited Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Reliance Infocom Limited (RIL)
4	Provision of Rural Direct Exchange Lines (RDELs)	For providing subsidy support to SDCAs where cost of providing telephoneconnection was more than the revenue earned.	79.2 Lakh RDELs provided [BSNL: 28.50 Lakh, RIL: 21.87 Lakh, TTL: 20.96 Lakh and TTL(MH): 7.94 Lakh] The scheme has been completed.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Reliance Infocom Limited (RIL) Tata Teleservices Limited (TTL) Tata Teleservices Maharashtra Limited [TTL(MH)]

Development of railway stations

*294. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to develop twenty railway stations in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) whether these stations have since been identified; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indian Railways have planned to improve the passenger amenities at 24 identified railway stations keeping in view the heritage and tourism value of the stations / destinations in partnership with Ministry of Tourism. The upgradation and modernisation is to be done on 50:50 cost sharing basis. The priority of works for improvement of amenities has been jointly decided by Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Tourism. The stations identified are Hyderabad and Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh, Hospet in Karnataka, Agra Cantt, Rae Bareilly and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi Safdarjung in Delhi, Kamakhya and Guwahati in Assam, Haridwar in Uttarakhand, Kurukshetra in Haryana, Gaya in Bihar, Madurai and Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu, Tarapith, Tarakeshwar and New Jalpaiguri in west Bengal, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala, Amritsar in Punjab, Aurangabad and Nanded in Maharashtra, Puri in Odisha and Jaipur and Ajmer in Rajasthan. In the first phase, 7 stations (Amritsar, Rae Bareilly, Agra, Gaya, Thiruvananthapuram, Jaipur and Ajmer) have been jointly inspected by the nominated officers from Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Tourism to identify amenities needed at the stations.

Radiation from mobile towers

*295. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cell tower radiation level in the country is very high compared to the international standards;

(b) whether Government is also aware that because of the high radiation level, people living near mobile towers are prone to diseases like cancer etc.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to control high level of radiation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Sir, the norms for radiation limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) in India is 1/10th of the safe limits prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), with effect from 01.09.2012.

(b) World Health Organization (WHO) in its Fact Sheet No. 304, May 2006 on Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health (Base Stations and Wireless Technologies) has concluded that "considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF Signals from base stations and wireless networks caused adverse health effects. From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF Signals produced by Base Stations. WHO, in its Fact Sheet no. 193 of June 2011, has stated to conduct a formal risk assessment of all studied health outcomes from radiofrequency fields exposure by 2013.

(c) As per the directions issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the telecom service providers are submitting compliance of prescribed radiation norms by way of submission of self certification to respective Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cell of DoT.

Further, the TERM Cells audit up to 10% of Base Transmitting Station (BTS) sites randomly. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints are also tested by TERM Cell. If a site fails to meet the Electro Magnetic Radiation criterion, there is a provision of levy of a penalty of Rs. 5 lakh per BTS per service provider.

Checks for pesticides in fruits and vegetables

*296. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central Government panel has recommended stringent checks for pesticides in fruits and vegetables including imported ones;

(b) if so, details of the members on the panel; and

(c) by when the recommendation is expected to be implemented in the interest of human lives?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) In pursuance to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, the Central Government constituted a Committee of technical experts for framing a policy for periodic check to detect pesticide residues in vegetables and fruits.

(b) Details of the members of the Committee are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) The Committee has submitted its report to the Hon'ble High. Court of Delhi on 28th May, 2013.

Statement

Details of the Members of the Committee

(i) Dr. (Mrs.) Sandhya Kulshrestha, Deputy Director General (MSO), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Chairperson

(ii) Dr. (Mrs.) Sarita Bhalla, Specialist Grade-I (Medical Toxicology) & Joint Director, Dte. of PPQ & S, Faridabad.

Member

(iii) Dr. Dhir Singh, Director (OA & S), Food Safety & Standards Authority of India.

Member

(iv) Dr. K.K. Sharma, Principal Scientist & Project Coordinator, All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi.

Member

(v) Shri S.M. Bhardawaj, Food Analyst, Department of Food Safety, Government of NCT of Delhi.

Member

(vi) Shri V.K. Rao, Senior Advocate & Amicus Curiae, High Court of Delhi.

Member

(vii) Dr. (Mrs.) Manjeet Aggarwal, Deputy Director, Analytical Science Division (Bio), Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, Delhi.

Member

(viii) Shri Vipin Bhatnagar, Joint Director (Chemistry), Dte of PPQ &S, Faridabad.

Member Secretary

Shortage of wheat and rice

†*297. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of wastage and rotting of wheat and rice in the country, during the last three years;

(b) whether even today the arrangement for storage of foodgrains like wheat and rice etc. is not adequate in the country; and

(c) if so, the action plan being implemented by Government to make adequate arrangement for the storage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Some quantity of foodgrains including wheat and rice may get damaged or become non-issuable for human consumption due to various reasons including storage pest attack, exposure to moisture or water leakage in the roof etc. Details of wheat and rice in central pool foodgrains handled by Food Corporation of India (FCI) accrued as damaged / non-issuable during last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity accrued as damaged/non-issuable (in tons)	
	Wheat	Rice
2010-11	1997.00	1908.00
2011-12	2401.61	936.40
2012-13	2417.23	728.21

The State-wise details of damages are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) There are adequate arrangements for storage of foodgrains in the central pool. The storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies for storage of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Central Pool stocks as on 30.6.2013 is 746.07 lakh tons including 560.44 lakh tons as covered and 185.63 lakh tons as Cover & Plinth (CAP) storage. The stock position of foodgrains under Central Pool as on 1.8.2013 is 696.14 lakh tons (wheat 403.78 lakh tons and rice 292.36 lakh tons).

(c) To augment covered storage capacity, Government has formulated Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme. Under this Scheme, storage capacity is created by private parties, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) and other State agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI. Under PEG scheme, a capacity of 203.76 lakh tons has been approved for construction of godowns at various locations in 19 States. Out of this, a capacity of 148.34 lakh tons has been sanctioned/allotted to private investors, CWC and SWCs as on 31.7.2013 and a capacity of 73.28 lakh tons has already been completed.

In addition, under the Plan Scheme there is a proposal to augment 6,10,860 tons capacity Food Grain Godown by FCI during 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17). This includes 5,34,640 tons alone in North-East areas including Sikkim and 76, 220 tons capacity in the areas other than North-East.

Statement

*Region-wise accrual of Non-issuable/Damaged wheat and rice in
FCI during 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13*

(Figures in tons)

Sl. No.	Region	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
		Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Bihar	112	88	0	0	833.5	160.8
2.	Jharkhand	39	0	17	12	1.42	2.01
3.	Odisha	18	0	36	0	1	0
4.	West Bengal	23	899	103	374	0	45
5.	Assam	2	47	428	14	0	51.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	North East Frontier	0	175	0	0	0	195
7.	Nagaland & Manipur	0	1	0	0	0	0
8.	Delhi	1	0	10.9	0	39.86	0
9.	Haryana	28	25	0	0	148.04	0
10.	Punjab	67	115	0	37	34	89
11.	Rajasthan	21	0	30	0	27.83	93
12.	Uttar Pradesh.	518	2	33	225	1	17.3
13.	Uttarakhand	931	407	72	0	221	0
14.	Andhra Pradesh	0	3	0.26	4.07	24.72	0
15.	Kerala	37	62	3	197	0	0
16.	Karnataka	0	17	0	0	107.09	34.67
17.	Tamil Nadu	0	12	1	28	743.29	6.37
18.	Gujarat	148	6	222	4	195	0
19.	Maharashtra	49	48	1444	29	30	31
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1	0	0	3.02	0
21.	Chhattisgarh	2	0	1.45	12.33	6.46	2.52
TOTAL		1997	1908	2401.61	936.4	2417.23	728.21

Jammu-Srinagar railway line

*298. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- the progress on Katra-Banihal sector of Jammu-Srinagar railway line;
- the allocation and expenditure on this sector during the last three years along with allocation for the current fiscal year; and
- the expected date of completion of the Jammu-Srinagar railway line?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Physical progress on Katra-Banihal section of "Jammu-Udhampur-Katra-Banihal-Srinagar-Baramulla" new line project as on date is about 15%.

(b) No separate allocation is made for Katra-Banihal section which is a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project. Yearwise allocation of funds and expenditure incurred during the last three years on this project is as under:

Financial Year	Funds allotted. (Rs. in crore)	Expenditure (Rs in crore)
2010-11	1000	944.7
2011-12	1100	751.2
2012-13	1000	943.7
2013-14	1100	258 (upto July 2013)

Jammu-Udhampur (53 km) section has already been completed and commissioned. Udhampur-Katra (25 km) is expected to be completed in September, 2013. Katra-Banihal (110 km) is targeted to be completed by December, 2017. Banihal-Qazigund-Srinagar-Baramulla (138 km) has already been completed and commissioned.

Accidents involving mobile users

*299. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the details given by the Trauma Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi, there is unabated increase in deaths of the mobile users i.e. one every six minutes, as a result of accidents on roads, rail tracks, etc.;

(b) whether the above health centre has expressed the need for issuing guidelines to the subscribers while using mobile phones;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to frame certain measures for guidance of mobile phone users to control fatal accidents and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Sir, no scientific study has been

conducted on this issue by the Trauma Centre, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) Department of Telecommunications, *vide* letter dated 19th June 2009, had issued instructions to the Licensees regarding mobile etiquettes and making it obligatory on the part of all the Unified Access Service / Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Licensees to create adequate awareness amongst the people about proper usage of mobile phones and to ensure supply of literature in English and regional languages prescribing mobile etiquettes which inter-alia states that the mobile phones should not be used while driving.

Saving on subsidy owing to organic farming

*300. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy given on chemicals and fertilizers, per annum, State-wise;

(b) the amount of funds given as subsidy on chemicals and fertilizers, that can be saved, per acre, per crop, if the farmers opt for organic farming, the details thereof;

(c) whether the amount thus saved on subsidy can be given to the farmers to promote organic farming; and

(d) if so, whether any subsidy has been made in this regard and if not, whether Government is planning to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No subsidy is paid on chemicals. However, subsidy on certain chemical fertilizers, namely Urea and 22 Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is provided through fertilizer companies. Hence, State-wise payment of subsidy is not maintained. However, the details of subsidy paid, company-wise, for imported and indigenous fertilizers for the last three years are given in the Statement-I, II, III & IV (*See* below).

(b) and (c) No such comparison has been made with regard to the savings to be made in case the farmers switch over to organic farming. Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) Scheme, being administered by Ministry of Agriculture, there is no provision to provide financial assistance/subsidy to farmers to opt for organic farming. However, under the Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) of NPOF, Government is providing financial assistance as under:

1	For setting up of organic function units.	Back ended subsidy through National Bank for and Rural Development (NABARD) to the tune of Rs.60.00 lakh for setting up of Market Waste/Agro-waste compost units.
2	For setting up of Bio-pesticides production	Financial Assistance to the tune of 25% subsidy of Rs.40.00 lakh.

State-wise details of subsidy approved under CISS scheme of NPOF through NABARD for organic inputs production during the periods 2009-10 to 2012-13 are given in the Statement-V (*See* below).

The Indian Council for Agriculture Research has initiated a Network Project on Organic Farming for different crops in different agro climatic zone. The details of the programme are given in the Statement-VI.

Statement-I

Company-wise Details of Payment Released for Indigenous P&K Fertilizers

		(Rs. in Crores)		
Sl. No.	Company Name	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5
1	Coromandel Fertilizers Ltd	3977.64	3269.52	2555.36
2	Deepak Fertilizers & Petrochemicals Corp	135.28	193.16	134.06
3	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd	1185.37	1085.22	826.43
4	Godavari Fertilisers & Chemical Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Green Star Fertilizers Ltd.	0.00	111.25	440.84

1	2	3	4	5
6	Gujrat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co.Ltd	180.37	247.70	199.18
7	Gujrat State Fertilisers & Chemical Ltd	1943.43	1418.86	752.76
8	Hindalco Industries Ltd	400.37	346.17	290.87
9	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd	5935.22	5968.28	4489.78
10	Indian Potash Ltd	34.44	13.43	0.00
11	Manglore Chemicals & Fertilisers Ltd	351.82	313.64	210.1
12	Madras Fertilisers Ltd	0.00	35.16	116.53
13	Oswal Chemical and Fert. Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Paradeep Phosphate Ltd.	1860.77	1345.44	1217.51
15	Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilisers Ltd	716.59	625.07	705.89
16	Southern Petrochemical Industries Corp Ltd	206.31	403.23	0
17	ZIL Industries Ltd	1190.77	868.89	591.53
18	Tata Chemicals Ltd (HLL)	1024.35	-994.23	597.74
19	Total payment to SSP units	1498.95	1851.63	1604.38
TOTAL		20641.68	19090.88	14732.96

Statement-II*Company-wise Details of Payment Released for Imported P&K Fertilizers*

(Rupees in Crores)

Sl. No.	Company Name	Year		
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5
1	Chambel Fertilizer & Chemicals Ltd.	834.84	780.68	854.94
2	Coromandel International Ltd	438.67	535.52	486.96

1	2	3	4	5
3	Deepak Fertilizers & Petrochemicals Corp	103.67	65.93	112.47
4	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd	89.91	3.33	91.12
5	FCSP	106.79	0.00	0.00
6	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co. Ltd	0.15	0.00	51.54
7	Indian Potash Limited	9929.22	7687.62	5039.11
8	GSFC	0.00	0.00	26.68
9	Madras Fertilisers Ltd	2.91	0.00	15.10
10	National Fertilizers Ltd	92.00	10.94	0.00
11	Nagarjuna Fertilizer& Chemicals Ltd	382.66	813.92	809.74
12	Paradeep Phosphate Ltd.	462.53	353.24	669.36
13	Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilisers Ltd	608.10	263.56	624.57
14	Shriram Fertilizer & Chemicals	221.67	78.54	105.92
15	SPIC	0.00	0.48	0.00
16	Tata Chemicals Ltd (HLL)	796.31	533.30	582.02
17	Tungbhadra Chemicals & Fertilizer Ltd	113.82	4.11	0.00
18	ZIL Industries Ltd	1705.92	1396.19	1143.35
19	MMTC	0.00	0.00	1.56
20	HPM	0.00	0.00	17.63
21	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd	2962.37	2104.61	1998.94
22	Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd.	903.66	733.77	338.91
23	Krishak Bharti Co-operative Ltd.	639.70	370.78	534.36
24	INDOGULF	0.00	80.59	156.72
25	Duncan India Ltd	0.00	1.57	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
26	Manglore Chemicals & Fertilisers Ltd	414.43	337.86	480.83
27	Rallis India Ltd.	0.00	2.55	0.00
28	Foliage Crop. Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	0.00	1.73	0.00
29	GreenStar Fertilizers Ltd.	0.00	327.66	272.72
30	KPR Fertilizers Ltd.	40.67	81.96	151.99
31	Toepeer Pvt. Ltd.	0.00	1.48	0.00
32	SUNFERT	0.00	0.00	4.24
33	TRANS AGRO	0.00	0.00	5.32
TOTAL		20850.00	16571.92	14576.10

Statement-III*Company-wise Details of Payment Released for Indigenous Urea*

Sl. No.	Company name	(Amount in Rs. crore)		
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5
(A) Public Sector				
1	RCF-Thal	705.35	708.51	954.80
2	RCF-Trombay	313.94	232.53	219.05
3	MFL	1290.71	1768.74	1427.26
4	NFL-BHATINDA	923.88	1107.87	1201.50
5	NFL-PANIPAT	801.39	1213.97	1193.59
6	NFL-VIJAIPUR-I	289.41	408.54	413.43
7	NFL-VIJAIPUR-II	443.14	502.98	583.53
8	NFL-NANGAL	748.96	1270.69	1123.71

1	2	3	4	5
9	BVFCL-Namrup-III	114.13	59.22	104.63
10	BVFCL-Namrup-II	56.10	119.06	65.71
11	FACT	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	FCI (Ramagundam)	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	FCI (Sindri)	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	FCI (Talcher)	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	NLC	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	GSFC (State Govt.)	88.85	196.83	134.64
13	GNFC (State Govt.)	489.55	878.30	858.82
TOTAL		6265.41	8467.24	8280.67
B	Cooperative Sector			
1	KRIBHCO	460.80	591.75	660.01
2	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	764.96	907.11	981.90
3	IFFCO-Phulpur-I	626.30	583.99	804.39
4	IFFCO-Kalol	315.28	382.09	359.68
5	IFFCO-Aonla-I	376.49	439.11	539.56
6	IFFCO-Aonla-II	380.32	481.44	528.02
TOTAL		2924.15	3385.49	3873.56
C	Private Sector			
1	NFCL-I	260.16	397.75	307.12
2	NFCL-II	393.47	387.33	344.50
3	CFCL-I	545.59	689.51	701.45
4	CFCL-II	753.72	751.38	889.10

1	2	3	4	5
5	Tata Chemicals	595.76	643.26	606.89
6	ZACL	780.25	781.21	1101.68
7	SFC	223.40	277.47	274.31
8	INDOGULF	453.20	717.68	648.40
9	SPIC	637.67	2164.66	1477.96
10	OCFL	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	KSFL	410.32	452.42	614.02
12	MCFL	837.63	1170.02	880.34
13	DUNCAN	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	5891.17	8432.69	7845.77
	GRAND TOTAL	15080.73	20285.42	20000.00

Statement-IV*Company-wise Details of Payment Released for Import of Urea*

(Rupees in Crores)

Company	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
IPL	- 3200.34	7370.87	8009.05
MMTC	1413.83	5051.51	1149.57
STC	1286.13	1393.55	5118.08
OMIFCO	1301.79	2043.02	4166.87
Other Expenses (Ocean Freight to Vessel Owners, Inland Freight, Custom Duties to FMEs etc)	2053.86	1616.05	1572.43
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9255.95	17475.00	20016.00

Statement-V*State wise details of subsidy approved under Capital Investment Subsidy**Scheme (CISS) of NPOF through NABARD for Organic Input**Production during the period 2009-10 to 2012-13.*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Amount of Subsidy Approved (Lakh Rs.)			
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	23.25	20.00	20.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Assam	2.60	1.38	22.32	0.75
4	Bihar	0.00	0.00	5.25	0.00
5	Chhatishgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Goa	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Haryana	0.00	14.75	0.00	2.03
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	Karnataka	6.18	73/31	0.00	0.00
13	Kerala	30.07	0.00	6.78	0.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	5.04	0.00	0.00	2.26
15	Maharashtra	38.46	13.75	43.08	23.01
16	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<i>Written Answers to</i>		[30 August, 2013]		<i>Starred Questions</i>		63
1	2	3	4	5	6	
18	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
19	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
20	Odisha	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
21	Punjab	61.60	24.86	14.04	0.00	
22	Rajasthan	55.61	30.45	21.34	0.00	
23	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
24	Tamil Nadu	10.99	13.04	0.00	0.00	
25	Tripura	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	
26	Uttar Pradesh	9.75	25.69	3.30	0.00	
27	Uttarakhand	8.95	8.75	0.00	0.00	
28	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL		259.24	229.23	156.11	48.04	

Statement-VI

Network Project on Organic Farming for different crops

In order to promote organic farming in the country, the ICAR, during Tenth Plan, initiated a Network Project on Organic Farming(NPOF) with lead center at Project Directorate for Farming Systems Research, Modipuram with the objective of developing package of practices of different crops and cropping systems under organic farming in different agro-ecological regions of the country. The project is running at 13 Co-operating centres including SAUs, spread over 12 states (Table 1) and is continuing. Funds allocated under the project during last and current years are Rs. 110 lakhs and Rs.120 lakhs respectively. The 12th Plan allocation is Rs. 500 lakhs, Organic farming package of practices for 14 crops namely basmati rice, rainfed wheat, maize, redgram, chickpea, soybean, groundnut, mustard, Isabgol, black pepper, ginger, tomato, cabbage and cauliflower, have been developed and uploaded in PDFSR website.

Table: 1 Centres of Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF)

- 1 IGKV, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- 2 CSKHPKV, Palampur, HP
- 3 BAU, Ranchi, Jharkhand
- 4 VAS, Dharwad, Karnataka
- 5 IISR, Calicut, Kerala
- 6 JNKVV, Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh
- 7 IISS, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- 8 DBSKKV, Dapoli, Maharashtra
- 9 ICAR Res. Complex, Umium, Meghalaya
- 10 PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab
- 11 TNAU, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- 12 GBPUAT, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand,
- 13 PDFSR, Modipuram, Uttar Pradesh

The Council has developed technologies to prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphor-compost, vermin-compost, municipal solid waste compost etc. from various organic wastes. Improved and efficient mains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types are being developed under Network project on bio-fertilizers. The ICAR also imparts training, organises FLDs etc. to educate farmers on these aspects.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

PPP in agricultural projects

2171. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to implement Public Private Partnership (PPP) in agricultural projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the objectives set to achieve under the plan; and

(c) how many States are identified for implementation of the proposed plan and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Agriculture facilitates Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in agriculture and allied sectors throughout the country. Private entrepreneurs can propose integrated agricultural development projects and take responsibility for developing all interventions through a single window. They have complete flexibility in designing suitable projects and submit proposals to State Governments for approval.

Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) has been designated as a national level agency for this purpose by Government of India. SFAC acts as a facilitator to link the project promoter to the concerned State Government. However, the role of SFAC is restricted to facilitate the process of technical appraisal and coordination. An independent monitoring agency (like National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) or any other agency with no conflict of interest with that particular project) can be appointed by the State Government to closely track the performance of these projects and report to all relevant stakeholders in the State and Central Government.

Production of foodgrains

2172. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to increase production of foodgrains in the country, and if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(b) whether Government has fixed any targets during the Twelfth Plan Period for production of foodgrains like paddy, pulse, millet and cotton etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Government of India is implementing various crop development programmes/schemes for increasing foodgrain production in the country such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP), Integrated

Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Nutri-Farms Scheme, Crop Diversification Programme, etc. Under these programmes, various activities like demonstration on high yielding varieties/hybrids, distribution of seed of improved varieties/hybrids, need based plant protection and soil amendments, resource conservation techniques/energy management, efficient water application tools, and cropping system based trainings, are being taken-up to enhance foodgrains production in the country.

(b) and (c) Government of India fixes targets on annual basis for production of foodgrains. The targets fixed for 2013-14 are as follows:

Crops	Production Target (in million tonnes)
Total Foodgrains	259.00
Rice	105.00
Wheat	92.50
Pulses	19.00
Coarse Cereals, including millets	42.50
Cotton*	35.00

*(in million bales of 170 kg. each)

Flood and drought condition in Bihar

‡2173. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Northern Bihar is facing the wrath of flood whereas central Bihar is in the clutches of severe drought; and

(b) if so, whether Government would declare the entire State of Bihar as drought-affected, arrange for rehabilitation of those people whose houses have been flushed in the flood and also waive of the land revenue tax (Malgujari) and electricity bills of the victims of flood and drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) State Governments are empowered to initiate

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

appropriate relief measures in the wake drought/flood from funds readily available under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), upon receipt of detailed drought/flood relief memorandum from the State Government following which Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) is deputed for assessing the situation and recommending central assistance as per established procedure and extant norms.

During current year (2013-14), Government of India has not received any drought/flood relief memorandum from State of Bihar, so far.

Crop losses due to adverse weather conditions

2174. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study of the crop losses due to adverse weather conditions, if so, the details thereof for the last five years;

(b) whether Government has undertaken any measures to reduce crop losses due to adverse weather conditions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) No specific study has been conducted but crop loss due to adverse weather conditions is being assessed regularly. In order to reduce crop losses due to adverse weather conditions, Government of India regularly monitors rainfall and crop sowing situation for the country. Agricultural Universities under ICAR network in collaboration with Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) issue suitable agro-met advisories to farmers through newspapers, radio and television. Government of India has also circulated Contingency Crop Plans to States, prepared by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in consultation with State Agriculture Universities comprising State/region-wise crop varieties/hybrids along with crop management practices for implementation in the event of main crop being affected due to adverse weather conditions. State Governments are advised to educate farmers about Contingency Crop Plans through extension agencies. Government of India is also implementing a Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme on pilot basis since Kharif 2007 season to

provide insurance protection/compensation to farmers against crop losses due to adverse weather incidents.

Growth rate of agriculture sector

2175. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contribution of agriculture to GDP has been declining over the years and is likely to decline further during next four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the rate of growth of crops production and productivity has also declined leading to poverty in various parts of the country;

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

(e) the steps being taken by Government to improve the growth rate of agriculture sector in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) As per the First Revised Estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on 31st, January, 2013, contribution of the agriculture sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country at 2004-05 prices declined from 14.6% in 2009-10 to 14.5% in 2010-11 and further to 14.1% in 2011-12. Similarly, this sector registered a growth rate of 0.8 % in 2009-10, 7.9% in 2010-11 and 3.6% in 2011-12 at 2004-05 prices. Further, as per the Provisional Estimates released by CSO on 31st May, 2013, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP is likely to decline to 13.7% in 2012-13 and this sector is estimated to grow at 1.9% in 2012-13 at 2004-05 prices. The decline in growth rate and contribution of agriculture to GDP is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to a service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy. Despite this, the production of foodgrains has increased from 230.8 million tons in 2007-08 to 255.4 million tons in 2012-13 (4th Advance Estimates). Similarly, productivity of foodgrains has increased from 1860 kg. per ha. in 2007-08 to 2125 kg. per ha. in 2012-13 (Fourth Advance Estimates).

(e) Further, Government has launched several schemes to increase the growth rate of agriculture and boost farm production in terms of its contribution to

the GDP such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana etc. In addition, Government has substantially improved the availability of farm credit; implemented a massive programme of debt waiver; introduced better crop insurance schemes; increased Minimum Support Price (MSP), improved marketing infrastructure, etc.

Proper marketing system for fruits and vegetables

2176. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not considering in consultation with State Governments, proper domestic marketing system for fruits and vegetables, keeping in view the huge price gap between farmers and consumers and within inter-State;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when Government is going to address this important matter in the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) This Ministry has, in consultation with State Governments and other stakeholders, constantly endeavoured to improve the domestic marketing system for agriculture produce including fruits and vegetables with the aim to reduce the price gap between farmers and consumers and within inter-State. Some of the measures taken by this Ministry include formulation of the Model Act, 2003 for adoption by the States and of Model Rules, 2007 for guidance of the States. More recently, Committee of State Ministers Incharge of Agriculture Marketing was constituted in March, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Maharashtra and comprised of nine States *viz.* Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand. During the deliberations over the course of more than two years, the Committee also invited non-member States from across the country for consultation on marketing reforms. The Committee submitted its report to the Ministry on 4th July, 2013 which *inter-alia* recommends, the rationalization of market fee and commission charges on fruits and

vegetables and enunciation of policy and legislative framework to facilitate establishment of terminal markets (Hub and Spoke format) to link more and more producing areas with collection centres(spokes) so as to reduce the gap between farmers' price and consumers price. Other recommendations are single point levy of market fee across the country so that the commodity is not liable to be charged fee again in inter-State transactions and direct purchase from farmers to reduce multiple handling of fruits and vegetables along the supply line.

(b) and (c) As per 'State of the Indian Farmer-A Millennium Study' conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture in 2004, the farmers 'share in consumers' rupee for perishable farm products is generally lower. In case of Fruits, Vegetables and Flowers, it varies from 32-68 %. The study in general revealed that the producers' share in consumers' rupee differed, depending on marketing channels adopted by the farmers.

(d) As marketing of agricultural commodities is a dynamic subject linked to many factors *viz.* production, supply, demand, import, export, etc. and more so as agriculture marketing is a State subject, therefore, reform of marketing system by its very nature has to be an on-going effort.

Share of agriculture production in GDP

†2177. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of agricultural products in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country is decreasing constantly;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the share of agricultural sector in GDP was about 50 per cent at the time of independence and it has been estimated to come upto just 10 per cent by 2019-20; and

(c) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons for regular fall in its share?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) As per the latest estimates released by Central Statistics Office (CSO) the share of agricultural products/Agriculture and Allied Sectors in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country was 51.9% in 1950-51 which has now come down to 13.7% in 2012-13 at 2004-05 prices.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The decrease in the share of Agricultural and Allied Sectors in GDP of the country in comparison to other sectors is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy.

Increase in production of pulses

†2178. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an assessment of decline in total foodgrain production in the country in 2012-13;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is an assessment of increase in production of pulses; and

(d) if so, the details of such assessment and the percentage of requirement of pulses in the country which would be fulfilled by the quantity of production of pulses, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) As against estimated production of 259.29 million tonnes of foodgrains in 2011-12, the production during 2012-13 is expected to be lower at 255.36 million tonnes (4th Advance Estimates).

(c) and (d) Total production of pulses in the country during 2012-13 is estimated at 18.45 million tonnes which is higher by 1.36 million tonnes over the production of 17.09 million tonnes of pulses during 2011-12. The estimated production of pulses in the country during 2012-13 is expected to meet around 97% of the projected demand of 19 million tonnes of pulses for the year.

Potentiality of jobs and earning in agriculture sector

2179. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is high potentiality of jobs and earning in agriculture sector; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for the prosperity of agriculturist for the success of food security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) The job potential or employment opportunities and the earnings in the agriculture sector are not high. However, as per 2011 Census, nearly 54.6 per cent of the total workers are still engaged in agricultural activities, mainly in subsistence farming. This is partly due to the manufacturing and industrial sector not generating adequate employment opportunities to absorb the labour force from the agriculture sector and partly due to the lower level of education and skills of the labour force in the agriculture sector which find it difficult to migrate to other sectors.

(b) Government has taken several steps to revitalize agriculture sector and improve the conditions of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements.

Decline in production of cotton

2180. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of cotton in Karnataka and other parts of the country is declining, which is a cause of concern for the textile sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) State-wise details of production of cotton in the country during the last five years *i.e.* 2008-09 to 2012-13 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

It may be observed that the production of cotton in the country has increased from 22.28 million bales (of 170 kg. each) in 2008-09 to 35.20 million

bales in 2011-12. During 2012-13, the cotton production marginally declined to 34.00 million bales mainly due to shift in the cotton area in some States to other competing crops. Since India is a cotton surplus country, slight decline in cotton production may not affect the textile sector.

In order to further improve production, productivity and quality of cotton, the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Mini Mission II of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in 13 cotton growing States in the country. Under the above Scheme, assistance is provided to farmers for seeds, agriculture implements, water-saving devices, bio-agents/bio-pesticides, integrated pest management, demonstrations, training, etc. Further, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) implements All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cotton with specific mandate to develop high yielding varieties and hybrids of cotton and related cotton production and protection technologies. Central Institute for Cotton Research at Nagpur is conducting basic and strategic research on cotton.

Statement

State-wise estimates of production of cotton during 2008-09 to 2012-13

States	Production ('000 Bales of 170 Kgs. each)				
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13*
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	3569.0	3227.0	5300.0	4900.0	7350.0
Assam	0.6	0.8	#	#	#
Chhattisgarh	0.1	0.3	#	#	#
Gujarat	7013.8	7986.3	10400.0	12000.0	8725.0
Haryana	1858.0	1926.0	1750.0	2650.0	2500.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.1	0.0	#	#	#
Karnataka	866.0	868.2	1200.0	1200.0	1200.0
Kerala	1.5	1.3	#	#	#
Madhya Pradesh	856.1	855.3	2000.0	2000.0	2200.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	4752.0	5859.3	8500.0	7200.0	7650.0
Meghalaya	5.6	5.5	#	#	#
Mizoram	0.1	0.8	#	#	#
Nagaland	0.1	0.0	#	#	#
Odisha	146.6	147.2	250.0	325.0	400.0
Punjab	2285.0	2006.0	2100.0	2300.0	2000.0
Rajasthan	725.7	903.1	900.0	1335.0	1300.0
Tamil Nadu	187.7	225.0	450.0	450.0	500.0
Tripura	1.4	1.4	#	#	#
Uttar Pradesh	0.8	5.0	#	#	#
West Bengal	6.0	3.3	#	#	#
Puducherry	0.0	0.0	#	#	#
Others	NA	NA	150.0	840.0	175.0
ALL INDIA	22276.2	24021.8	33000.0	35200.0	34000.0

#Included in others, NA: Not Applicable.

*4th advance estimates released on 22.07.2013

Implementation of Crop Insurance Scheme

2181. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers benefited under the Crop Insurance Scheme and Seasonal Crop Insurance Scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether benefits of the above two insurance schemes have also accrued to the farmers who have not availed any bank loan;

(c) if so, the number of such farmers, State-wise;

(d) whether any proposal to recognize the Panchayat as a unit under the twin insurance schemes is under consideration of Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Details of loanee and non-loanee farmers covered/benefited under yield index and weather index schemes viz. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Pilot Modified NAIS (MNAIS) and Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) and (e) Based on the recommendations of the Joint Group constituted by Government of India and views of the stakeholders including States, various improvements including reduction in insurance unit area to village/village panchayat. have been incorporated in NAIS and a Modified NAIS (MNAIS) has been approved for implementation on pilot basis in 50 districts from Rabi 2010-11.

Statement

A. Cumulative Number of Farmers covered/benefited under NAIS during last three years (from 2009-10 to 2011-12) (in Nos.)

Sl. No.	State	Loanee	Non-Loanee	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	5793013	591209	6384222
2	Assam	151441	325	151766
3	Bihar	1162018	434429	1596447
4	Chhattisgarh	3117874	18839	3136713
5	Goa	986	0	986
6	Gujarat	3153080	372	3153452
7	Haryana	52821	43	52864
8	Himachal Pradesh	81173	6708	87881

1	2	3	4	5
9	Jammu and Kashmir	12207	106	12313
10	Jharkhand	252734	762102	1014836
11	Karnataka	1085200	1542343	2627543
12	Kerala	92922	6	92928
13	Madhya Pradesh	8759284	19652	8778936
14	Maharashtra	0	6104147	6104147
15	Manipur	1636	6380	8016
16	Mizoram	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	7606	0	7606
18	Odisha	4034827	200659	4235486
19	Rajasthan	420633	19	420652
20	Sikkim	125	0	125
21	Tamil Nadu	1217622	1277787	2495409
22	Tripura	3986	0	3986
23	Uttar Pradesh	6857834	2936	6860770
24	Uttaranchal	169365	6438	175803
25	West Bengal	3283066	45851	3328917
26	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1001	137	1138
27	Puducherry	9770	1560	11330
TOTAL		39722224	11022048	50744272

B. Cumulative number of farmers covered / benefited under WBCIS & MNAIS from 2009-10 to 2011-12

Sl.No.	State	WBCIS					MNAIS			MNAIS + WBCIS		
		Farmers covered		Total	Farmers covered		Total	Farmers covered		Total	Farmers covered	
		Loanee	Non-Loanee		Loanee	Non-Loanee		Loanee	Non-Loanee		Loanee	Non-Loanee
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
1	Andhra Pradesh	997918	31480	1029398	625092	20436	645528	1623010	51916	1674926		
2	Assam			0	11863	18	11881	11863	18	11881		
3	Bihar	4258301	98409	4356710	501449	2648	504097	4759750	101057	4860807		
4	Chhattisgarh	80021	9127	89148	18	0	18	80039	9127	89166		
5	Gujarat	0	497661	497661	432	0	432	432	497661	498093		
6	Haryana	54845	7752	62597	82215	58	82273	137060	7810	144870		
7	Himachal Pradesh	41556	3249	44805			0	41556	3249	44805		
8	Jharkhand	19109	89857	108966	34747	6882	41629	53856	96739	150595		
9	Karnataka	239760	81057	320817	380869	30637	411506	620629	111694	732323		
10	Kerala	14290	10727	25017			0	14290	10727	25017		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	Madhya Pradesh	853800	2278	856078	104698	0	104698	958498	2278	960776	
12	Maharashtra	460979	28555	489534	46378	5586	51964	507357	34141	541498	
13	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	453	453	0	453	453	
14	Odisha	249821	20912	270733	54765	0	54765	304586	20912	325498	
15	Rajasthan	14694196	218107	14912303	857201	0	857201	15551397	218107	15769504	
16	Tamil Nadu	47233	21390	68623	82487	119859	202346	129720	141249	270969	
17	Uttar Pradesh	96340	1760	98100	293919	203	294122	390259	1963	392222	
18	Uttarakhand	18896	5682	24578	51678	394	52072	70574	6076	76650	
19	West Bengal	0	86957	86957	271283	0	271283	271283	86957	358240	
	TOTAL	22127065	1214960	23342025	3399094	187174	3586268	25526159	1402134	26928293	

Assistance to tackle drought situation in Maharashtra

‡2182. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by Central Government against the financial assistance demanded by the Government of Maharashtra to tackle the drought situation in the State; and

(b) the details of other assistance extended by the Central Government to tackle the drought situation in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Government of India had approved 778.09 crore and Rs. 1036.98 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to Govt. of Maharashtra for managing drought situation of Kharif-2012 and Rabi 2012-13 respectively.

In addition, Central Government had approved implementation of a special package for rejuvenation of orchards in drought affected districts of Maharashtra with an allocation of Rs.557.60 crore under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and released an additional allocation of Rs.25 crore during 2012-13 under Accelerated Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) for enhancing fodder production in Maharashtra.

Government of Maharashtra has, so far, not declared drought in any parts of the State during 2013-14.

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

2183. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has been extended to entire Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the percentage of agricultural families covered under NAIS in Andhra Pradesh, during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12;

(c) the steps taken and proposed to be taken at present to cover maximum percentage of agricultural families in Andhra Pradesh, under NAIS;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has suggested certain modifications and changes in the existing NAIS; and

(e) if so, the changes to be made by Central Government in the existing NAIS and whether such changes have taken place and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) As per provisions of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), the scheme, is voluntary for the States and UTs. State Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing the scheme in 18 districts. Pilot Modified NAIS (MNAIS) is also being implemented in 3-4 districts. The percentage of farmers covered in the State under NAIS during 2009-10 to 2011-12 is given below:-

Year	No. of farmers covered (in lakhs)	%age of farmers covered to State's total farmers
2009-10	33.63	29.24
2010-11	28.34	24.64
2011-12	32.41	28.18

(c) Continued efforts are made to create awareness about ongoing NAIS by the implementing agency in coordination with State since its inception. The salient activities for campaigning involve the publicity of features & benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/goshti, organization of workshops/trainings etc.

(d) and (e) Based on the experience gained during implementation of NAIS and suggestions of the State Governments, many improvements have been incorporated in NAIS to make it easier and more farmer friendly. These improvements include (i) actuarial premium with subsidy in premium ranging 40% to 75% to farmers (ii) Unit area of insurance reduced to village panchayat level for major crops (iii) coverage of prevented sowing/planting risk (iv) coverage of post harvest losses due to cyclone in coastal areas (v) on account payment up to 25% advance of likely claims as immediate relief (vi) more proficient basis for calculation of threshold yield (vii) minimum indemnity level of 70% instead of 60% etc. A new

pilot scheme in the name of "Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS)" was approved by Government of India for implementation in 50 districts in the country from Rabi 2010-11.

Floriculture in Uttarakhand

†2184. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 50 per cent grant is provided to farmers engaged in floriculture in the country including Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, the details of grants provided to the States so far;
- (c) whether Government is getting expected results, if not, whether no proper arrangement for marketing is the reason for this failure;
- (d) whether the Ministry would consider to set up shopping centres at Haldwani and Doiwala in Uttarakhand; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (e) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for overall development of horticulture in the country including floriculture. Under HMNEH, assistance @ 75%, while in NHM upto 50% of the cost is provided for cultivation of flower crops.

The details of grants provided to the States are given in Statement-I and II (*See* below).

Under these schemes, 991 no. of marketing facilities have been created. Besides, 3 Farmer Consumer Markets have been set up at Majri Grant in Doiwala Block, Danda Lakhond and Nanurkhera in Raipur Block under RKVY. Government of Uttarakhand has established a separate Uttarakhand Horticulture Marketing Board to assist farmers of the state in Marketing of horticulture produce including flowers.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

Details of Grants provided to States including floriculture under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1. Arunachal Pradesh	728.85	1099.00	1220.00	1645.55	1300.00
2. Assam	611.12	1092.15	1400.00	871.00	1300.00
3. Manipur	487.03	685.00	638.00	1286.25	1500.00
4. Meghalaya	625.71	775.60	850.00	1395.99	1700.00
5. Mizoram	508.95	1099.73	1089.00	1801.30	1800.00
6. Nagaland	551.70	979.00	1256.00	1467.30	1700.00
7. Sikkim	616.77	855.00	1000.00	1150.00	1800.00
8. Tripura	512.40	785.00	900.00	1111.30	1500.00
9. Jammu and Kashmir*			650.00	1233.00	1550.00
10. Himachal Pradesh*			650.00	1300.00	1100.00
11. Uttarakhand*			564.72	975.00	1100.00
TOTAL	4642.53	7370.48	10217.72	14236.69	16350.00

* Since 2003-04

Statement-II

Details of Grants provided to States including Floriculture under National Horticulture Mission (NHM)

Sl. No.	State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	4420.96	7500.00	7836.94

Statement-I

Details of Grants provided to States including floriculture under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH)

(Rs. in lakh)

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Total
1612.90	2830.00	1765.00	1492.00	2684.60	4363.65	4741.76	25483.31
1400.00	2680.00	3675.00	3743.00	2995.02	2500.00	3748.76	26016.05
1700.00	2228.00	2500.00	3029.00	3951.00	4650.00	4893.00	27547.28
2000.00	2700.00	2862.50	1932.00	2675.00	3444.50	2900.00	23861.30
3200.00	3095.00	3050.00	3500.00	3890.00	3835.15	4310.00	31179.13
2356.00	2500.00	2450.00	3950.00	4400.00	4555.00	4355.00	30520.00
2331.00	3110.00	2675.00	3428.20	2455.00	4250.66	4289.30	27960.93
1400.00	2400.00	1700.00	3000.00	2620.00	3950.00	4480.00	24358.70
2933.00	2000.00	1815.00	1700.00	3000.00	3357.50	1825.00	20063.50
4000.00	2400.00	2100.00	1589.00	1500.00	3531.21	2755.41	20925.62
4000.00	2839.94	2000.00	1700.00	2900.00	3000.00	1023.35	20103.01
26932.90	28782.94	26592.50	29063.20	33070.62	41437.67	39321.58	278018.83

Statement-II

Details of Grants provided to States including Floriculture under National Horticulture Mission (NHM)

(Rs. in Lakh)

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
6	7	8	9	10
12968.39	9566.59	10518.00	9293.82	8740.75

1	2	3	4	5
2	Bihar	3100.00	3500.00	269.72
3	Chhattisgarh	2367.83	5500.00	6252.41
4	Goa	315.20	200.00	3.19
5	Gujarat	3239.28	2577.03	1954.24
6	Haryana	1050.00	3480.00	6476.50
7	Jharkhand	3030.00	4000.00	781.00
8	Karnataka	4455.17	8448.25	8571.05
9	Kerala	3533.98	7959.53	6147.74
10	Madhya Pradesh	2839.77	4291.75	5537.49
11	Maharashtra	8260.28	14492.65	13224.97
12	Odisha	3611.91	4450.00	3812.16
13	Punjab	2868.82	1150.00	2409.99
14	Rajasthan	2259.57	3837.93	5673.19
15	Tamil Nadu	3891.67	6450.00	8536.82
16	Uttar Pradesh	5340.25	1500.00	9425.91
17	West Bengal	4035.31	4600.00	681.82
18	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.00	
19	Daman & Diu		0.00	
20	Delhi		300.00	
21	Lakshadweep		63.00	29.9
22	Chandigarh		0.00	
23	Andaman and Nicobar		85.00	
24	Puducherry		0.00	

6	7	8	9	10
3122.48	2435.17	-	2017.38	3531.46
3000	6000.00	9657.00	8522.93	9156.00
100.45	150.00	212.00	200.00	124.93
3531.83	2521.32	5497.00	9297.82	10025.35
3300.305	5600.00	5150.00	7639.01	9082.14
5000.00	3084.00	1600.000	4236.73	4797.00
12536.88	8001.67	9325.00	9996.05	11342.61
7517.29		4400.00	5363.04	3520.79
6000	3545.00	5100.00	5534.34	3066.89
13021.70	9173.20	12614.00	9399.40	12819.60
2341.00	3500.00	3259.00	4694.34	6591.00
1412.48	2578.00	3500.00	4702.35	5834.30
4097.71	2500.00	4000.00	4021.67	4158.30
9688	6180.00	7750.00	6222.50	5601.00
6372.78	9143.38	5400.00	5136.90	3266.44
607.2		2880.00	2584.34	1935.65
	200.00	152.00	300.00	265.00
	33.25	56.34	64.00	45.67

Lack of banking penetration for farmers in remote areas

2185. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 50 per cent of farmers are under Agriculture Credit Net as per an NSSO survey and 43.42 million farmers households are under debt at a time when Government is pushing for credit coverage for the entire farming community;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to lack of banking penetration in remote areas, farmers especially small and marginal are largely dependent on local money lenders for credit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) As per NSSO Situation Assessment Survey of farmers, 59th Round (January-December, 2003) Report No.498, out of 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million (48.6%) were reported to be indebted and more than 50% of indebted farmer households had taken loan for the purpose of capital or current expenditure in farm business. The survey report also indicates that the share of banks and cooperative societies in the outstanding loan taken by farmer household was 55% followed by moneylenders (26%).

Government has taken several measures to improve institutional credit flow to farmers. These *inter-alia*, include announcement of agriculture credit flow targets in the union budget to ensure that adequate credit is made available to farmers by banks, provision of crop loans upto Rs.3.00 lakh @ 4% per annum to such farmers who repay their loan as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, extension of benefit of interest subvention scheme to small & marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period upto six months for storing their produce in warehouses against negotiable warehouse receipts, collateral free loan upto Rs.1.00 lakh, implementation of revival package for short term cooperative credit structure in the country. Implementation of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 has also helped in de-clogging the lines of credit that were clogged due to debt burden on farmers.

Irrigation facilities in Jharkhand

2186. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the area under irrigation is stagnating since 2000, so far Jharkhand is concerned;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for not creating additional irrigation capacity during the last decade; and
- (d) how this problem is being addressed now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) The irrigation potential created upto March, 2001 was about 6.3 lakh hectare and by the end of March, 2013 the total irrigation potential created is about 8.3 lakh hectare there by creating an additional irrigation potential of about 2 lakh ha. The irrigation potential created during 2001-02 to 2012-13 through Major, Medium & Minor Irrigation Schemes is given in Statement.

Statement

Major, Medium & Minor Irrigation Potential in Jharkhand

Year-wise Status	(Irrigation Potential in thousand hectare)	
	Major & Medium Irrigation Schemes	Minor Irrigation Schemes
1	2	3
Total Irrigation Potential created upto March 2001	205.39	421.78
Irrigation Potential created during 2001-02		0.73
Irrigation Potential created during 2002-03	11.74	1.74
Irrigation Potential created during 2003-04		6.17
Irrigation Potential created during 2004-05		12.24
Irrigation Potential created during 2005-06		4.17

1	2	3
Irrigation Potential created during 2006-07		16.32
Irrigation Potential created during 2007-08		15.52
Irrigation Potential created during 2008-09	8.05	17.74
Irrigation Potential created during 2009-10	2.20	10.32
Irrigation Potential created during 2010-11	6.26	6.51
Irrigation Potential created during 2011-12	0.40	28.46
Irrigation Potential created during 2012-13	19.30	32.12
Total Irrigation Potential created upto March 2013	253.34	573.83
GRAND TOTAL		827.17

Source: Minor Irrigation Census

Agricultural production on dry land

2187. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures being taken by Government to raise agricultural production on dry land;

(b) whether Government has adopted recommendations of the Parthasarathy Committee report in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken on the recommendations of the report; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to bring maximum agricultural land under irrigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is implementing a sub-scheme "Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP)" under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to address specific concerns of rainfed/ dryland farmers. Besides, all major development programmes of MoA, viz., National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Mission on Micro

Irrigation (NMMI) etc. give special focus to dryland/ rainfed areas. Research Projects on dryland agriculture are also being implemented by Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) for enhancing agriculture production and productivity in these areas.

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is implementing the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for development of rainfed and degraded areas of the country. MoRD had constituted the Parthasarthy Committee and based on the suggestions of the Committee, National Rainfed Area Authority, in coordination with the Planning Commission, formulated Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008 to give an impetus to watershed development programmes. MoRD has implemented main recommendations of the Technical Committee by integrating the three area development programmes namely Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) - into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) with effect from 26.02.2009. The IWMP is implemented under the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008.

(d) Rainwater harvesting structures like farm ponds, check dams etc. are constructed under watershed programmes to create supplementary irrigation source. Under National Mission on Micro Irrigation, drip & sprinkler technologies are promoted which not only improves water use efficiency but also extends the coverage and duration from the available water source. Central assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme is also provided to State Governments for creation of irrigation potential by completion of identified ongoing irrigation projects.

Re-introduction of cotton seed under ECA

2188. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cotton seed was removed from the list of Essential Commodities Act (ECA) on 12 February, 2007;

(b) if so, the reasons for re-introduction of cotton seed in the list of Essential Commodities from 22 December, 2009 by the Central Government; and

(c) whether re-introduction of cotton seeds in the list of Essential Commodity is in the interest of cotton producing farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cotton seed has been re-introduced in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 through notifications issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs on 22.12.2009, 18.06.2010 and 22.12.2010 to protect the interest of cotton producing farmers by regulating the production, supply, distribution and quality of cotton seeds.

Small and marginal peasants in the country

2189. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and marginal peasants in the country during the last three years and their contribution to production of food articles in these years in the country;

(b) how many out of them were compelled to leave agriculture every year in search of an alternate source of livelihood; and

(c) how many peasants were forced to commit suicide during the last three years and how many of them were rich peasants, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Agriculture Census in India is conducted at an interval of five years to collect data on operational holdings in the country. As per results (provisional) of the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, there were 92356335 marginal (below 1.0 hectare) operational holdings and 24705047 small (1.0 - 2.0 hectare) operational holdings in the country.

Details of contribution of small and marginal peasants in the total production of food articles in the country are not maintained. However, during the last three years i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13, total production of food grains in the country has been estimated respectively at 244.49 million tonnes, 259.29 million tonnes and 255.36 million tonnes (4th Advance Estimates).

The total number of marginal and small operational holdings in the country

which was 107623999 (excluding Jharkhand) as per Agriculture Census 2005-06 increased to 117061382, as per the results (provisional) of the Agriculture Census 2010-11.

(c) As per the Report on Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, a total of 15964, 14027 and 13754 suicides were committed by self-employed persons in Farming/ Agriculture, including rich peasants, in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively, in the country (Data for the year 2012 excludes the State of West Bengal).

Use of banned pesticides

2190. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the rampant use of banned pesticides in vegetables and fruits which pose health hazards;

(b) whether Government has plan to detect the level of banned pesticides in vegetables and fruits periodically; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level" under which samples of various food commodities including fruits and vegetables are analyzed for the presence of pesticide residue. During the period April 2009 to March, 2013, a total of 54,195 samples of food commodities and irrigated water were collected and analysed for the possible presence of organo-chlorine, organo-phosphorous, synthetic pyrethroids, carbamates, herbicides etc. groups of pesticide residues. Residues were found above maximum residue limit (MRL) in 1085 (2%) samples. No banned pesticides were detected in any of the samples analysed.

Anti-hail guns for protection of apple crop

2191. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the anti-hail guns installed in apple belt of Shimla in Himachal Pradesh suffered extensive damage and there was a big question mark over their effectiveness;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons that the State Government has decided to continue with anti-hail guns for a year;

(c) whether Government will provide modern technique to the State Government to protect the apple crop from hailstorm;

(d) whether Government will remove these guns in near future and provide antihail nets to the apple growers on subsidised rates; and

(e) whether the State Government had sent any proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (e) As reported by Government of Himachal Pradesh, the anti hail guns along with radar system installed in apple growing area for transmitting signals for automatic firing of anti-hail guns was partially damaged due to heavy snowfall/lightning & thundering. However, the anti-hail guns are being operated manually. These guns are being allowed by the State department of horticulture, Government of Himachal Pradesh to use during the fruiting season 2013-14, keeping in view the demand of the local orchardists.

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation constituted a committee comprising of members from Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Indian Meteorological Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry (UHF) and representative of apple growers association to assess the effectiveness of the existing anti hail guns in Himachal Pradesh. Based on the observations of the committee, Government of Himachal Pradesh has been suggested to take action on the following points:-

- (i) to designate a Nodal Officer to monitor the existing hail control system;
- (ii) to provide uninterrupted power supply to the system besides deploying 24X7 manpower at the sites;
- (iii) to undertake a study by the scientists of UHF, Solan, Himachal Pradesh and Department of Horticulture jointly; and
- (iv) to continue the prevalent method of protecting apple crops from hail by using anti hail nets.

Anti-hail nets are found to be most suitable to protect fruit crops from hails.

Under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH), assistance is provided for anti-hail nets @50% of the cost of Rs. 20 per sq. m limited to 5000 sq.m per beneficiary to protect horticulture crops including apple from hails. In addition, Government of Himachal Pradesh is providing 30% subsidy to farmers for anti-hail nets.

Promotion of fisheries

‡2192. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating overall development of fishermen and promoting fisheries in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government for upliftment of fishermen and promotion of fisheries in the country;
- (c) the details of funds allocated by Government for growth of fisheries during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for enhancing the facilities of production, storage capacity and marketing of fisheries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a), (b) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Governments for overall development of fishermen and promoting fisheries through:

- (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture;
- (ii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations;
- (iii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen;
- (iv) Central Sector Scheme on Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System for Fisheries Sector.

Besides, the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad established by the Ministry of Agriculture during 2006 also implements various

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

schemes including enhancing production, storage capacity and marketing of fisheries for promotion of fisheries.

(c) The details of fund released by Government for growth of fisheries during the last three years and current year is given in Statement.

Statement

*Details of fund released for the growth of fisheries during
the last three years and current year*

Name of Schemes	(Rs. in lakh)			
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (up to 26.08.2013)
Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture	2294.31	2985.40	3141.64	1219.62
Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations	7811.43	7592.91	7457.73	1741.85
National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen	4194.48	4456.03	3938.47	1559.20
Strengthening of Database and Geographic Information System of Fisheries Sector	888.00	912.00	427.00	58.09
National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)	9230.00	10800.00	10681.00	4500.00

Shortage of veterinaries

‡2193. SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is heavy shortage of veterinaries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of veterinarians passing out every year during the last two years; and

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of veterinaries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) As against the estimated requirement of 67200 Veterinary doctors in the country, there are 62345 registered veterinary practitioners, as per the entries made in the Indian Veterinary Practitioners Register (IVPR) maintained by Veterinary Council of India.

During the last two years, 2997 Veterinary graduates have been registered in the IVPR under the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 as reported by Veterinary Council of India. The detailed break up is as under:

Year	Number of Registered graduates
2011-12	1477
2012-13	1520
TOTAL	2997

Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India regulates veterinary practice through Veterinary Council of India (VCI). VCI is mandated to maintain the Indian Veterinary Practitioners' Register (IVPR) containing the names of the persons who possess recognized Veterinary qualification (Degree in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry). Veterinary training and practice is a State subject. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries does not have the mandate to open Veterinary Colleges to meet any shortfall in the requirement of veterinary doctors in the country. However, as per Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries confers recognition to veterinary qualifications awarded by veterinary institutions, on the recommendation of Veterinary Council of India.

Price rise of onion

2194. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the unprecedented increase in the prices of onion and some other vegetables;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government to ensure that people, particularly poor people, get onion at a reasonable price; and

(c) whether Central Government is reluctant to allow onion import due to ever-falling value of Rupee against the US Dollar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) The Monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of vegetables including onions increased from 191.0 in January 2013 to 337.3 in July 2013, while onion WPI increased from 340.0 in January 2013 to 442.6 in July 2013. Reasons for fluctuations in prices include seasonality of production, perishable nature of these commodities and mismatch in localized production and demand. Government has initiated various measures to ensure adequate availability of onion in the market which include imposing a Minimum Export Price (MEP) of USD 650 PMT (FOB) on onion, import of onion through National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), procurement of onion by NAFED from mandis for supply to the consumers through its retail outlets and to State marketing and supply federations etc.

(c) No, Sir. There is no restriction of import on onion.

Implementation of APMC Act

2195. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act across the country, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that provisions in certain States make it difficult for farmers to sell their produce at fair prices by restricting the number of buyers and not letting farmers free access of markets of their own choice;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether corrective steps are being taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) State-wise status of implementation of the Agricultural

Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act across the country is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) As per the provisions in the present State APMC Acts, wholesale buyers are mandatorily required to obtain registration/license issued by secretary of concerned APMC or the Officer authorized there for. This provision acts as a restriction on the number of buyers, thus, reducing the competition in the market. Moreover, in certain States, registration of traders/market functionaries is made conditional to possession of shops/godowns, which further limits the number of buyers and thereby competition.

In effect, by limiting the number of buyers in APMCs and through licensing restrictions on processors/exporters farmers get restricted in exercising their choice of markets.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Agriculture has taken a number of corrective steps to initiate the reform process in agriculture marketing sector. One of the important reform initiatives was to formulate the Model APMC Act 2003 to be adopted by the States/UTs. The Model Act, *inter-alia*, provides for alternative competitive marketing choices to the farmers through direct purchase of agriculture produce from farmers outside the APMC market-yard and sub-market yard and setting up of markets in private and cooperative sectors including e-markets. many of the States/UTs have amended their APMC Acts to implement the reforms, State-wise progress of which is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise status of implementation of Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act as on 31.7.2013.

Sl. No.	Status of implementation of APMC Act	Name of States/Union Territories
1	2	3
1	States/UTs where APMC Act is implemented	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya,

1	2	3
		Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and UT of Chandigarh and Puducherry.
2	States/UTs which have the APMC Act, but which is not implemented	Jammu and Kashmir.
3	States/UTs which do not have APMC Act	Bihar*, Kerala, Manipur, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep.

*APMC Act is repealed w.e.f. 1.9.2006.

Statement-II

State-wise Progress of Reforms in Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts as on 31.7.2013.

Sl. No.	Stage of Reforms	Name of States/Union Territories
1	2	3
1	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done for Direct Marketing; Contract Farming and Markets in Private/Coop Sectors.	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand.
2	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done partially	<p>a) Direct Marketing: NCT of Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab (In Rule only) and Chandigarh (In Rule only)</p> <p>b) Contract Farming: Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab (Separate Act), Haryana and Chandigarh (Only</p>

1	2	3
		waiver of market fee and in Rule only)
		c) Private Market: Punjab (In Act only not in Rule and also not implemented) and Chandigarh (In Act only and also not implemented)
3	States/UTs where there is no APMC Act and hence not requiring reforms	Bihar*, Kerala, Manipur, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep.
4	States/UTs where APMC Act already provides for the reforms	Tamil Nadu
5	States/UTs where reforms are not initiated	Meghalaya, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Puducherry and Uttar Pradesh.

* APMC Act is repealed w.e.f. 1.9.2006.

Status of APMC Rules

- a) States where Rules have been framed completely:
Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka.
- b) States where Rules have been framed partially:
 - i) Mizoram only for single point levy of market fee;
 - ii) Haryana for Contract Farming.

Release of central funds to Chhattisgarh

†2196. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Chhattisgarh has not yet received the Central

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

funds for the year 2013-14 regarding Inland Fishing Industry and Development of Aquaculture Agency for Development of Fishery, Housing Scheme for fishermen and Short Duration Savings Sahsaral Programme; and

(b) if so, keeping in view of the fact that against the required Central funds of Rs. 306.75 lakhs, funds only to the tune of Rs.148.00 lakhs have been released in the year 2013-14, by when the balance amount would be released to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) During 2013-14, a proposal for the release of central share of Rs.158.75 lakh under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture; and a proposal for the release of central share of Rs.100 lakh and Rs.48 lakh for construction of houses and Saving cum Relief respectively, was received under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen from Government of Chhattisgarh. A sum of Rs.56 lakh has been released as first installment under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture and a sum of Rs.50 lakh was released as first installment for construction of houses and Rs.48 lakh under Saving cum Relief component. The balance amount is released after the amount released earlier is utilized and its progress report submitted.

Land degradation

2197. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR-2005) indicates that out of the total geographical area of the country of 328.73 million hectares about 146.82 million hectares is affected by various kinds of land degradation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a matter of grave concern;

(d) how much of the above degraded area has been reclaimed/developed; and

(e) the present status of degradation/soil erosion/land damage by flood, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. However, as per the latest estimates (NAAS, 2010) based on harmonized database, around 120.4 M ha of total geographical area of the country is affected by various kinds of land degradation.

(b) Deforestation, overgrazing, forest encroachment, shifting cultivation, inappropriate land use and faulty management practices, poor water and nutrient management, developmental activities like mining and road construction and lack of adoption of proper soil and water conservation measures are the major causes of land degradation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) About 57.61 Mha area has been developed under various watershed development programmes of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development since inception upto 2011-12.

(e) The present status of various kinds of land degradation (state-wise) is given in Statement.

Statement*State-wise area affected by various kinds of land degradation in India (Area in Lakh hectare)*

Sl. No.	Name of States	Area affected by various kind of land degradation							Geographical Area	
		Water and Wind erosion*	Water logged	Alkali/Sodic Soil	Acid Soil	Saline Soil	Mining/Industrial waste	Degraded Area	Area	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	88.64	0.36	1.94	0.01	0.60	0.39	91.94	275.05	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	0.05	0.00	17.69	0.00	0.00	21.54	83.74	
3.	Assam	23.66	2.10	0.00	19.95	0.00	0.00	45.71	78.44	
4.	Bihar	10.49	1.33	1.06	0.41	0.40	0.02	13.71	94.16	
5.	Chhattisgarh	24.22	0.00	0.13	23.42	0.00	0.07	47.84	134.81	
6.	Goa	0.01	0.06	0.00	1.03	0.00	0.12	1.22	3.70	
7.	Gujarat	10.12	0.01	5.45	0.00	15.59	0.12	31.29	196.03	
8.	Haryana	3.03	0.04	1.84	0.02	0.46	0.12	5.51	44.21	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9.84	0.04	0.00	0.76	0.00	0.01	10.65	55.67	

10.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.01	0.14	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.01	20.94	222.24
11.	Jharkhand	31.81	0.06	0.00	7.35	0.00	0.21	39.43	79.72
12.	Karnataka	77.99	0.03	1.45	0.93	0.02	0.51	80.93	191.79
13.	Kerala	1.17	0.44	0.00	24.26	0.21	0.01	26.09	38.86
14.	Madhya Pradesh	134.64	0.01	1.24	4.82	0.00	0.24	140.95	308.64
15.	Maharashtra	88.22	0.27	4.21	2.69	1.71	0.16	97.26	307.71
16.	Manipur	1.50	0.21	0.00	15.97	0.00	0.00	17.68	22.33
17.	Meghalaya	7.06	0.03	0.00	10.23	0.00	0.00	17.32	22.43
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.63	0.00	0.00	11.63	21.08
19.	Nagaland	0.31	0.03	0.00	15.16	0.00	0.00	15.50	16.58
20.	Odisha	33.28	0.52	0.00	2.03	1.31	0.08	37.22	155.71
21.	Punjab	3.02	0.34	1.52	0.00	0.00	0.06	4.94	50.36
22.	Rajasthan	201.91	0.00	1.52	0.00	0.82	0.00	204.25	342.24
23.	Sikkim	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.60	7.10
24.	Tamil Nadu	21.34	0.39	3.52	4.27	0.11	0.34	29.97	130.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25.	Tripura	0.74	0.25	0.00	7.09	0.00	0.00	8.08	10.49
26.	Uttarakhand	10.09	0.25	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.01	14.35	55.84
27.	Uttar Pradesh	128.84	1.76	13.20	0.00	0.22	0.03	144.05	238.57
28.	West Bengal	12.64	0.43	0.00	4.18	4.08	0.07	21.40	88.75
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.71	0.00	0.71	8.25
30.	Delhi	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	1.48
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.49
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.05	0.00	1.05	0.11
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48
Total (Lakh ha.)		948.8	9.15	37.08	179.26	27.29	2.58	1204.04	3287.26
Total (Million ha.)		94.87	0.91	3.70	17.93	2.73	0.26	120.40	328.73

* Includes area affected by wind erosion of 115.60 lakh ha (Gujarat-0.01 lakh ha. and Rajasthan-115.59 lakh ha.)

Allotment of DMS booths on compassionate grounds

2198. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of DMS milk booths allotted during the last five years on compassionate grounds to the dependents after death of the concessioner;
- (b) the number of such cases pending as on date; and
- (c) by when these pending cases are likely to be decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Six DMS milk booths have been allotted during the last five years on compassionate grounds to the dependents after death of the concessionaire.

- (b) As on date no case is pending for allotment of DMS booth.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Increasing desertification and its impact on agriculture

2199. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the increasing desertification and its impact on agriculture, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken any step to improve the soil health and its nutrient value; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. As per "Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India, Department of Space, Government of India", about 25% geographical area of the country is affected by desertification, which directly impacts the people in terms of vulnerability to food shortage, natural disasters and depletion of natural resources.

- (b) and (c) With a view to mitigate adverse impact of land degradation/desertification, increasing the productivity of agricultural land and sustaining

foodgrain production, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Schemes/Programmes, namely; National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSH&F), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) etc. for promotion of organic farming and integrated nutrient management through judicious use of chemical fertilizer, organic manure and bio-fertilizer for improving soil health and its fertility across the country.

Decline in sugarcane sowing area

2200. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the area under sugarcane sowing has declined by 5.24 per cent so far this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that farmers have sown sugarcane in 40.30 lakh hectares as on May 8, 2013 as against 45.54 lakh hectares an year ago; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) As on May 8, 2013, area coverage under sugarcane was 40.30 lakh hectares as compared to 45.54 lakh hectares an year ago *i.e.* a decline of 5.24 lakh hectares. However, as per latest information available as on August 23, 2013, area coverage under sugarcane now stands at 48.53 lakh hectares as compared to 50.06 lakh hectares an year ago *i.e.* a decline of about 1.53 lakh hectares.

Decline in agricultural growth rate

2201. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rate of growth of food production has decreased from 2011-12;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to increase the rate of growth of foodgrains production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) As against growth rate of 6.05% in foodgrains production in the country during 2011-12 over 2010-11, the growth rate during 2012-13 over 2011-12 has been -1.51%.

(c) In order to increase the production and rate of growth of production of foodgrains in the country, Government is implementing a number of Crop Development Schemes and Programmes, namely; National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. through State Governments. A new initiative under NFSM viz. Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) in the form of block demonstrations has been started in 16 pulses growing States of the country. During 2010-11, a new programme viz. Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India has also been initiated under RKVY.

Price fixation of sugarcane

2202. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether CACP has recommended a fair and remunerative price of Rs.210 per quintal for sugarcane; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has recommended a fair and remunerative price (FRP) of Rs.210 per quintal for sugarcane for the sugar season 2013-14, linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs.2.21 for every 0.1 percentage increase in recovery above that level. The recommendation has been accepted by the Government.

Cloud seeding

2203. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States have planned cloud seeding to stem crisis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its status in each State, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Many States including Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have undertaken cloud seeding operations in the past by engaging private organizations and these operations were funded by the respective State Governments.

As of now, artificial rain making techniques involving cloud seeding cannot be used for bringing rain clouds to rainfall deficit/drought areas. Such efforts can only induce potential preexisting clouds, already passing over a given place, to produce rain only if organized weather modification intervention becomes successful.

Linking of MSP with inflation

2204. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to link Minimum Support Price (MSP) for agricultural produce with inflation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The estimates of cost of cultivation/cost of production, which is an important input for forming the recommendation of MSP, include all actual expenses in cash and kind incurred in production by the farmer. Moreover, CACP tracks the movement in prices of all factor inputs to arrive at the estimates of the cost of production for the year for which minimum support price policy is formulated.

Use of bio-products to control pests

2205. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some bio-product manufacturers are selling several products in the name of Amino Acids, Sea Weed Extract, herbal extracts, plant extracts and enzymes etc. to control pests and promote plant growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the use of bio-products, apart from causing risk to human beings, results in financial loss in certain cases due to increased cost of cultivation and sometimes crop loss to the farmers; and

(d) if so, the action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Insecticides Act, 1968 is applicable to all the insecticides, pesticides and fungicides which are defined under Section 3(e) of the Act and are listed in the schedule of the Act. Registration Committee constituted U/s 5 of the Insecticide Act 1968 registers pesticide including biopesticides, botanical pesticides and Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) for use in the country. So far three botanical pesticides viz. Azadirachtin (Neem Based) Pyrethrum & Cymbopogon have been registered in different formulation is given in Statement (*See* below).

As seaweeds/seaweed extract, Amino Acids and the like are not included in the said schedule, these products are not covered under the Insecticides Act 1968.

(c) and (d) If bio-products registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968 are used as per the approved label claims, then no risk to human beings or financial loss is likely to accrue. Government of Haryana has prohibited sale of bioproducts, and the decision has been challenged in the Punjab and Haryana High Court. The High Court has directed laboratory evaluation of bio-products. Further, it is mentioned that the registration of botanical pesticides such as neem based pesticides is done after evaluation of efficacy and safety data, generated on all important parameters as laid down in the guidelines of the Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The functionaries of the Central and State Governments impart training to the farmers on judicious use of insecticides including that of botanical pesticides.

Statement

Botanical pesticides registered under the Insecticides Act, 1968

Neem based

- (1) Azadirachtin 0.03% EC
- (2) Azadirachtin 0.15% EC
- (3) Azadirachtin 0.3% EC
- (4) Azadirachtin 0.5% EC
- (5) Azadirachtin 1% EC
- (6) Azadirachtin 5% EC
- (7) Azadirachtin 25% EC

Cymbopogan

- (1) Cymbopogan 20% EC

Pyrethrum (Pyrethrin)

- (1) Pyrethrum extract 2% Tech.
- (2) Pyrethrum extract Refined 25%
- (3) Pyrethrum extract Oleo Resin 25%
- (4) Pyrethrum 0.05% w/w (HH)
- (5) Pyrethrum 0.2% (HH)
- (6) Pyrethrum 10% (HH)
- (7) Pyrethrum 0.4% Mat
- (8) Pyrethrum 0.2% Coil
- (9) Pyrethrum 0.3% Agarbatti

MSP of cotton

2206. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cotton farmers are demanding MSP of cotton at Rs.5000 in view of input costs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that CACP has recommended an increase of just Rs. 100 and fixed it at Rs.4,000;

(c) if so, how his Ministry thinks that cotton farmers would survive with a meager increase of just Rs.100; and

(d) the efforts his Ministry is making to accept the demand of cotton farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Government received various representations for enhancing Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton. Details of MSP for cotton recommended by various State Governments for 2013-14 season are as under:

States	(Rs. per Quintal)			
	Cotton	Long staple organic	Long staple	Medium staple
Andhra Pradesh			7158	6675
Gujarat		4100-4600		3900-4400
Haryana				4200
Himachal Pradesh			3900	3600
Madhya Pradesh				4200
Odisha			5000	4500
Punjab	4674			
Rajasthan	4500			
Tamil Nadu			4500	4000

(b) Yes, Sir. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has recommended to fix the MSP of two basic varieties of Cotton of Medium Staple Length and Long Staple Length at Rs.3700 per quintal and Rs.4000 per quintal, respectively for 2013-14 season, with an increase of Rs.100 per quintal for each variety.

(c) and (d) In order to ensure remunerative prices to the growers of agricultural commodities, the Government of India, on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), announces the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for various notified agricultural commodities including cotton.

While recommending the MSPs for various agricultural commodities including Cotton, the CACP holds consultations with different stakeholders including farmer representatives and considers a number of important factors which include cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, trends in market prices, demand-supply situation, inter crop price parity, trends in market prices, demand-supply situation, inter crop price parity etc. While fixing the MSP for Cotton, the Government of India has also taken into account the views of the State Governments, Central Ministries and such other relevant factors which are considered important for the fixation of Minimum Support Prices.

For 2013-14 season, weighted average cost of production for cotton at all-India level was estimated at Rs.3533 per quintal. Taking into account these costs and other relevant factors, Government of India has already increased the MSP for medium staple from Rs.3600 per quintal in 2012-13 to Rs.3700 per quintal in 2013-14. Similarly for long staple it has been increased from Rs.3900 per quintal in 2012-13 to Rs.4000 per quintal in 2013-14. Minimum Support Price (MSP) is in the nature of a minimum guaranteed price for the farmers offered by the Government for their produce in case of market prices fall below cost of production. If the market offers higher price than the MSP, the farmers are free to sell their produce at market price.

The Government organizes purchase operations through its designated agencies *i.e.*, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) for undertaking procurement operations under Price Support Scheme (PSS) as and when the market prices fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government. These Nodal agencies remain active in the market from the day one of the beginning till the end of cotton season to ensure remunerative prices to the cotton farmers.

Jan Aushadhi stores

†2207. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan for making the generic drugs available to common people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the State-wise details of the number of Jan Aushadhi stores opened by Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) For making available low-cost quality generic medicines at affordable prices to common people, the Government launched Jan Aushadhi Campaign in November, 2008 by way of opening up of Jan Aushadhi Drug Stores. Since November, 2008, 157 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in various parts of the country so far, out of which 93 are functional. A New Business Plan has been designed particularly to address the shortcomings and challenges identified in scaling up the activities. Under the new Plan, the process of identification of operating agencies has now been simplified and entities other than those identified by the State Governments are also proposed to be appointed as Stores operating agencies for running the Jan Aushadhi. As per the new Plan, societies/ trusts/ unemployed pharmacists / entrepreneurs etc would be eligible for appointment as operating agencies. Stores would now be opened even outside the hospital premises. Basket of drugs has now been widened to 361 drugs covering all therapeutic categories. It is now proposed to open 3000 stores during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(c) The State-wise details of the number of Jan Aushadhi stores opened by Government is given in Statement.

Statement

List of Jan Aushadhi Stores opened so far (as on 31.07.2013)

Sl. No.	State	District	Date of opening
1	2	3	4
1	Punjab (24)	Amritsar	25.11.08
2		Mohali	23.02.09
3		Bhatinda	02.03.09
4		Ludhiana	17.06-09/08.09.11
5		Jalandhar	17.06-09
6		Patiala	29.06.09

1	2	3	4
7		Moga	30.06.09
8		Faridkot	30.06.09
9		Ferozpur	04.09.09
10		Mansa	12.09.09
11		Sangrur	01.10.09
12		Barnala	01.10.09
13		Fatehgarh Sahib*	28.10.09
14		Roop Nagar (Ropar)*	03.12.09
15		Nava sahar (Sahid Bhagat Singh Nagar)	03.12.09
16		Hoshiarpur	11.12.09
17		Taran Taran	13.12.09
18		Muktsar	18.12.09/re-opened on 05.09.2011
19		Gurdaspur	29.12.09
20		Kapurthala	31.12.09
21		Civil Hospital, Pathankot	09.05.11
22		Civil Hospital, Abohar	30.11.11
23		Civil Hospital, Nabha District, Patiala	03.04.12
24		Civil Hospital, Jalalabad, Ferozpur	31.05.13
25	Delhi (4)	Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi	05.02.09
26		Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Shahdara	13.11.09
27		Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Hari Nagar	11.02.10

1	2	3	4
28		Delhi Consumer Cooperative Store, Moti Nagar	04.06.13
29	Haryana (4)	# Gurgaon **	20.02.09
30		Punchkula	23.02.09
31		Faridabad **	05.08.09
32		Yamuna Nagar**	29.08.09
33	Rajasthan(53)@	Kanwatia Hospital, Jaipur	27.02.09
34		Jaipuriya Hospital, Jaipur	01.06.09
35		Alwar	05.06.09
36		Sawai Madhopur	25.08.09
37		Sriganganagar-I	26.03.10
38		Sriganganagar-II	26.03.10
39		Udaipur	28.03.10
40		Banswara	05.04.10
41		Jhalawad	15.04.10
42		Keshorao Patan	20.04.10
43		Bundi	30.04.10
44		Bhawani Mandi	01.05.10
45		Jalore	01.05.10
46		Khanpur (Jhalawad)	02.05.10
47		Churu	03.05.10
48		Jhujhunu	04.05.10
49		Rajgarh (Alwar)	06.05.10

1	2	3	4
50		Byawar	08.05.10
51		Hanumangarh	14.05.10
52		Sunel (Jhalawad)	16.05.10
53		Rampura (Kota 1)	25.05.10
54		MBM Hospital (Kota 2)	25.05.10
55		Rajsamand	27.05.10
56		Bhilwara	01.06.10
57		Pali	02.06.10
58		Onsiya (Jodhpur)	05.06.10
59		Dungarpur	06.06.10
60		Mandore, Jodhpur	06.06.10
61		Sagwara	06.06.10
62		Tonk 1	12.06.10
63		Niwahi (Tonk 2)	12.06.10
64		Bikaner	21.06.10
65		Partapgarh	06.07.10
66		Bijay Nagar	07.07.10
67		Barmer (Ajmer)	09.07.10
68		Dausa	10.07.10
69		Hanumangarh	13.07.10
70		Bharatpur	20.08.10
71		Malpura (Tonk)	28.08.10
72		Lalsoth	01.09.10

1	2	3	4
73		Sirohi	14.09.10
74		Sikar-1	18.10.10
75		Sikar-2	18.10.10
76		Bandi Kui	14.11.10
77		Medical College, Kota 3	01.12.10
78		Neem Ka Thana	04.12.10
79		Jaisalmer	15.12.10
80		Sojat City-1	12.01.11
81		Sojat City-2	12.01.11
82		Ajmer	28.02.11
83		Bhindar	28.02.11
84		Dholpur	15.06.11
85		Baran	13.07.11
86	Andhra Pradesh(3)	Visakhapatnam Port Trust Hospital	12.12.09
87		Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, (NIMS) Hyderabad **	05.03.10
88		Uppal Industrial Employees Healthcare Centre, Uppal **	29.07.10
89	Odisha (21)	Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar	06.03.10
90		Red Cross Bhavan, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar	06.03.10
91		District HQ Hospital, Khordha	06.03.10
92		District HQ Hospital, Dhenkanal	25.03.10

1	2	3	4
93		District HQ Hospital, Koraput	11.06.10
94		District HQ Hospital, Angul	09.07.10
95		District HQ Hospital, Nabrangpur	15.08.10
96		District HQ Hospital, Baragarh	03.10.10
97		District HQ Hospital, Nayagarh	26.03.11
98		District HQ Hospital, Berhampur	11.04.11
99		District HQ Hospital, Jajpur	13.04.11
100		District HQ Hospital, Puri	19.04.11
101		District HQ Hospital, Naupada	30.04.11
102		District HQ Hospital, Baripada Mayurbhanj	12.05.11
103		District HQ Hospital, Balasore	28.04.12
104		District HQ Hospital, Jeypore	15.09.12
105		District HQ Hospital, Bhawanipatana	01.12.12
106		District HQ Hospital, Phulbani	22.02.13
107		District HQ Hospital, Bhadrak	08.03.13
108		District HQ Hospital, Keonjhar	19.03.13
109		District HQ Hospital, Malkangiri	01.06.13
110	West Bengal (3)	M.R. Bangar Hospital, Kolkata #	25.08.10
111		N.R.S. Medical College & Hospital, Kolkata #	25.08.10
112		Howrah District Hospital, Howrah #	10.08.11
113	Uttarakhand (5)	Doon Hospital, Dehradun	09.11.09

1	2	3	4
114		Roorkee***	27.11.09
115		Rishikesh	07.03.13
116		Vikash Nagar	07.03.13
117		Sahaspur	07.03.13
118	Chandigarh (3)	PGIMER, Chandigarh	16.11.09
119		Government Medical College Hospital, Sector-32	04.08.10
120		Multi-Specialty Hospital, Sector -16	02.02.11
121	Jammu and Kashmir (3)	Red Cross Building, Exchange Road, Srinagar.	09.05.11
122		District Hospital, Leh	09.01.12
123		MMAB hospital, Anantnag	01.05.12
124	Himachal Pradesh (10)	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla	18.05.11
126		Zonal Hospital, Mandi	18.06.11
126		Civil Hospital, Una	25.07.11
127		Zonal Hospital, Tanda	19.08.11
128		Zonal Hospital, Dharamshala	30.08.11
129		Civil Hospital, Solan	09.11.11
130		Regional Hospital, Chamba	18.11.11
131		DDU Zonal Hospital, Shimla	07.12.11
143		Regional Hospital, Hamirpur	01.04.12
133		Zonal Hospital, Kullu	19.03.2012/09.05.2012

1	2	3	4
134	Jharkhand (24)	District Hospital, Sahibganj	15.08.2012
135		District Hospital, Latehar	15.08.2012
136		District Hospital, Jamtara	15.08.2012
137		District Hospital, RIIMS Ranchi	22.08.2012
138		District Hospital, Simdega	23.08.2012
139		District Hospital, Gumla	29.08.2012
140		District Hospital, Chatra	15.08.2012
141		District Hospital, Godda	16.08.2012
142		District Hospital, Ranchi	22.08.2012
143		District Hospital, Dhanbad	31.08.2012
144		District Hospital, Bokaro	15.08.2012
145		District Hospital, Saraikela	15.08.2012
146		District Hospital, Dumka	21.08.2012
147		District Hospital, Lohardaga	31.08.2012
148		District Hospital, Chaibasa	25.09.2012
149		District Hospital, Giridih	09.09.2012
150		District Hospital, Khuti	28.08.2012
151		District Hospital, Ramgarh	31.08.2012
152		District Hospital, Palamu	21.09.2012
153		District Hospital, Deogarh	15.08.2012
154		District Hospital, Hazaribagh	31.08.2012

1	2	3	4
155		District Hospital, Pakur	05.10.2012
156		District Hospital, Garhwa	15.10.2012
157		District Hospital, Koderma	09.01.2013

* In Punjab, two stores at Fatehgarh Sahib and Roop Nagar are non-functional due to administrative reasons.

** In Haryana, three Jan Aushadhi Stores at Faridabad, Gurgaon and Yamuna Nagar and also Jan Aushadhi Store at NIMS and UPPAL, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh are non-functional due to administrative reasons.

*** In Uttrakhand, Jan Aushadhi Store at Roorkee is temporarily non-functional due to administrative reasons.

@ In the case of Rajasthan, as per the latest Health Policy of the Government of Rajasthan, free medicines are being given to all the in-patients as well as out-patients visiting the State Government Hospitals for treatment *w.e.f.* 2nd October, 2011. Accordingly, the State Government has since converted all the existing 53 JASs in the State, besides opening new outlets for free distribution centers for medicines. The matter regarding functioning of JASs in the State has been taken up with the MD, Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation, Government of Rajasthan.

In the case of West Bengal, as per the latest message received from the operating agencies, the State Government has directed them to close the Jan Aushadhi sales from there and are contemplating to run fair price stores for sale of medicines from such outlets.

Revival of FCI'S Talcher fertilizer factory

2208. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether FCI's Talcher fertilizer factory is being revived;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and the total amount of investment required for the purpose; and
- (c) by when it will start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) had in August, 2011 approved the Draft Rehabilitation

Scheme (DRS) for revival of all the Units of FCIL, including Talcher Fertilizer Plant. DRS envisaged revival of Talcher Unit by the consortium of M/s. Rashtriya Chemical & Fertilizers Limited (RCF), M/s Coal India Limited (CIL) and M/s Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL). Recently, CCEA in its meeting held on 9.5.2013, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) to facilitate FCIL to arrive at positive net worth. This enabled FCIL to get de-registered from the purview of Board For Industrial and Financial reconstruction (BIFR). Talcher project involves setting up 3850 MTPD Urea plant and 1000MTPD of Ammonium Nitrate plant with an estimated cost of Rs. 9000 core. No time schedule has been fixed as yet, however, it takes normally around three years to fully operationalise a urea plant from its zero date.

Shortage of fertilizers

2209. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a shortage in fertilizer supply *vis-a-vis* its demand, in any region, particularly in West Bengal in the last financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken by Government to address such shortage in supply of fertilizer in each State;
- (d) the prices of various fertilizers in the country during the last three years;
- (e) the measures taken by Government to control the price rise of fertilizers; and
- (f) the demand as projected by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation regarding availability and sale of various fertilizers in West Bengal, in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) and (f) A statement showing State-wise requirement, availability and sales of fertilizers including West Bengal

during the last financial year (2012-13) and current financial year 2013-14 (upto July, 2013) is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

As can be seen from the Statement-I that Availability of fertilizers in West Bengal has been comfortable.

(d) and (e) For Urea, the MRP in all the States, since 2003 was Rs. 4830/- per MT, which was increased to Rs. 5310/- per MT w. e. f. 1st April, 2010. With effect from 01st November, 2012, the price of urea is fixed at Rs. 5360 per tonne (exclusive of the central excise duty, central sales tax, countervailing duty, the sales tax and other local taxes wherever levied)

For P & K fertilizers, it has been made mandatory for the fertilizers companies (manufacturers/importers) of P&K fertilizer to submit certified cost data along with their subsidy claims to examine and ensure that the MRPs fixed by the companies are reasonable. While announcing subsidy rates for 2013-14, Government has also notified the indicative MRPs of P&K fertilizers and the amount to be reduced by the fertilizer companies from then prevailing prices, so as to check and ensure that the prices are fixed reasonably.

The distribution of fertilizers to the farmers within the state at fair price is the responsibility of the concerned states. State Governments under the extant provisions of Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 are adequately empowered to take preventive/punitive actions against the offenders who indulge in Black-Marketing/Breach of Price/Tagging etc.

Through Web based information system i.e. Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS), DOF is monitoring movement of fertilizer across the country and through FMS it has been extended up to retailer's level. Every company is required to feed MRP of fertilizers in FMS.

A state showing the per Kg. NBS rates for nutrients NPKS from 2011-12 to 2013-14 is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

*State-wise Requirement, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers
during 2012-13 to 2013-14 (upto July, 2013)*

State	Year	Urea			DAP	
		Require- ment	Availability	Sales	Require- ment	Availability
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2012-13	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
	2013-14	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	2012-13	32.50	29.39	28.51	12.30	6.80
	2013-14	8.50	8.57	8.36	4.50	1.88
Arunachal Pradesh	2012-13	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	2012-13	3.15	2.62	2.62	0.65	0.38
	2013-14	0.96	0.86	0.76	0.17	0.12
Bihar	2012-13	21.50	21.10	21.01	5.00	5.65
	2013-14	5.70	5.29	5.07	1.80	0.73
Chandigarh	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	2012-13	6.90	7.26	7.06	3.12	2.50
	2013-14	3.50	3.66	3.56	1.36	1.38
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2012-13	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
	2013-14	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.01
Daman and Diu	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	2012-13	0.07	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.00
	2013-14	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00

Statement-I

*State-wise Requirement, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers
during 2012-13 to 2013-14 (upto July, 2013)*

Sales	MOP			NPK		
	Require- ment	Availability	Sales	Require- ment	Availability	Sales
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
6.48	6.60	3.35	3.14	22.50	18.16	17.59
1.51	1.50	0.72	0.56	6.99	3.63	3.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.33	1.50	0.61	0.58	0.23	0.06	0.06
0.04	0.40	0.38	0.27	0.05	0.02	0.02
5.41	2.30	1.15	1.14	3.65	3.03	3.00
0.38	0.65	0.59	0.34	1.40	0.33	0.22
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.33	1.27	0.68	0.66	1.75	1.17	1.04
1.25	0.50	0.57	0.33	0.94	0.60	0.54
0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00
0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0*31	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goa	2012-13	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.02
	2013-14	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Gujarat	2012-13	23.75	19.50	19.24	8.80	4.21
	2013-14	7.45	6.47	6.23	2.40	1.25
Harayana	2012-13	20.00	21.01	20.34	7.20	7.23
	2013-14	6.60	6.41	5.88	1.80	0.86
Himachal Pradesh	2012-13	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.30	0.32	0.31	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	2012-13	1.46	1.50	1.44	0.85	0.55
	2013-14	0.55	0.49	0.44	0.29	0.25
Jharkhand	2012-13	2.70	1.98	1.98	1.25	0.54
	2013-14	1.15	0.72	0.69	0.37	0.15
Karnataka	2012-13	15.00	14.64	14.46	8.90	4.19
	2013-14	4.38	4.95	4.77	3.45	2.25
Kerala	2012-13	2.05	1.36	1.36	0.45	0.30
	2013-14	0.73	0.51	0.49	0.14	0.14
Lakshadweep	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	2012-13	18.50	19.48	18.91	11.50	11.74
	2013-14	4.58	6.00	5.57	3.53	2.55
Maharashtra	2012-13	28.00	23.40	22.92	15.60	6.97
	2013-14	10.33	11.22	10.64	6.33	2.20
Manipur	2012-13	0.48	0.21	0.21	0.12	0.00
	2013-14	0.24	0.09	0.09	0.03	0.00
Megalaya	2012-13	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.00
	2013-14	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00
Mizoram	2012-13	0.11	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.00
	2013-14	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.00

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.08	0.03	0.03
0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00
3.95	2.00	0.83	0.79	5.55	4.69	4.58
0.72	0.48	0.35	0.30	1.84	1.49	1.15
6.87	0.75	0.21	0.21	0.98	0.26	0.26
0.51	0.18	0.08	0.08	0.20	0.02	0.00
0.00	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.46	0.17	0.17
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.04	0.04
0.50	0.35	0.18	0.16	0.00	0.00	0 . 0 0
0.21	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.54	0.35	0.03	0.03	1.29	0.26	0.26
0.08	0.10	0.03	0.00	0.28	0.10	0.08
4.04	5.65	2.76	2.67	14.40	9.67	9.40
1.87	1.78	1.06	0.88	4.31	3.49	2.98
0.25	1.94	0.89	0.88	2.51	1.61	1.53
0.09	0.70	0.32	0.29	0.90	0.49	0.37
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.07	1.40	0.86	0.85	4.34	2.51	2.33
1.81	0.77	0.37	0.20	1.52	0.80	0.57
6.59	6.25	3.24	3.14	19.00	13.28	12.80
1.78	2.00	1.55	1.24	6.32	4.85	4.25
0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nagaland	2012-13	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
	2013-14	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orissa	2012-13	6.50	5.41	5.26	2.75	1.50
	2013-14	2.10	1.75	1.70	1.13	0.82
Pondicherry	2012-13	0.31	0.19	0.19	0.09	0.02
	2013-14	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.01	0.00
Punjab	2012-13	26.40	29.05	28.43	8.80	9.10
	2013-14	11.50	9.81	9.22	2.80	0.85
Rajasthan	2012-13	17.25	18.91	18.46	7.60	6.33
	2013-14	4.05	4.00	3.61	1.62	1.24
Sikkim	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	2012-13	11.50	9.36	9.28	4.55	2.44
	2013-14	2.75	2.24	2.24	1.12	0.60
Tripura	2012-13	0.51	0.19	0.17	0.06	0.02
	2013-14	0.23	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	2012-13	60.00	63.31	62.56	18.15	21.67
	2013-14	19.00	18.38	16.54	5.40	2.66
Uttaranchal	2012-13	2.45	2.51	2.45	0.35	0.28
	2013-14	1.05	1.11	1.11	0.16	0.08
West Bengal	2012-13	13.50	14.02	13.87	5.25	4.34
	2013-14	3.02	3.03	2.57	1.36	0.51
TOTAL :	2012-13	315.44	307.25	301.58	123.58	96.80
	2013-14	98.90	96.11	90.10	39.89	20.54

Written Answers to [30 August, 2013] *Unstarred Questions* 129

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1.44	2.00	0.75	0.75	3.97	2.36	2.29
0.69	0.56	0.44	0.36	1.85	0.68	0.59
0.02	0.09	0.02	0.02	0.30	0.13	0.13
0.00	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.02
8.71	1.06	0.35	0.35	1.48	0.44	0.42
0.50	0.20	0.15	0.14	0.30	0.05	0.03
5.93	0.48	0.15	0.15	1.66	0.84	0.84
0.88	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.06	0.04
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0*00	0.00	0.00
2.33	5.55	2.18	2.17	6.82	5.89	5.71
0.43	1.19	0.64	0.61	1.72	1.15	1.05
0.02	0.17	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.85	3.50	1.47	1.31	11.48	6.73	6.62
1.13	0.60	0.34	0.29	3.50	0.84	0.49
0.27	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.57	0.33	0.32
0.05	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.12	0.07
4.25	4.25	2.18	2.16	8.28	8.01	7.90
0.35	0.73	0.78	0.68	2.70	1.64	1.25
92.22	47.82	22.07	21.34	111.39	79.64	77.29
14.30	12.65	8.44	6.61	35.69	20.43	16.76

Statement-II*Per Kg NBS rates for nutrients NPKS from 2011-12 to 2013-14:*

Nutrients	NBS rates (Rs. per Kg)		
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
'N' (Nitrogen)	27.153	24.000	20.875
'P' (Phosphate)	32.338	21.804	18.679
'K' (Potash)	26.756	24.000	18.833
'S' (Sulphur)	1.677	1.677	1.677

Sl. No.	Fertilizer Grades(FG) (NPKS nutrient)	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5
1.	DAP (18-46-0-0)	19763	14350	12350
2.	MAP (11-52-0-0)	19803	13978	12009
3.	TSP (0-46-0-0)	14875	10030	8592
4.	MOP (0-0-60-0)	16054	14400	11300
5.	SSP (0-16-0-11)	5359	3676	3173
6.	16-20-0-13	11030	8419	7294
7.	20-20-0-13	12116	9379	8129
8.	20-20-0-0	11898	9161	7911
9.	23-23-0-0 (upto 22.6.2012)	13686	10535	-
10.	28-28-0-0	16657	12825	11075
11.	10-26-26-0	18080	14309	11841
12.	12-32-16-0	17887	13697	11496
13.	14-28-14-0	16602	12825	10789

1	2	3	4	5
14.	14-35-14-0	18866	14351	12097
15.	15-15-15-0	12937	10471	8758
16.	17-17-17-0	14662	11867	9926
17.	19-19-19-0	16387	13263	11094
18.	Ammonium Sulphate (20.6-0-0-23)	5979	5330	4686
19.	16-16-16-0 (w.e.f. 1.7.2010)	13800	11169	9342
20.	15-15-15-9 (w.e.f. 1.10.2010)	13088	10622	8909
21.	24-24-0-0(w.e.f. 1.10.2010 to 29.5.12)	14278	10993	9493
22.	DAP Litef 16-44-0-0) (w.e.f. 1.2. 2011)	18573	13434	11559
23.	DAP Lite - II (14-46-0-0) (for one year w.e.f. 30.8.2011)	18677	13390	
24.	MAP Lite (11-44-0-0) (for one year w.e.f. 30.8.2011)	17276	12234	
25.	13-33-0-6 (for one year w.e.f. 30.8.2011)	14302	10416	
26.	18-46-0-4			12350*

*under subsidy scheme till 7th Nov., 2013.

Likely fall in drug prices

‡2210. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of essential medicines are likely to fall following the announcement of new national policy regarding medicines; and

(b) if so, the details of those medicines along with the effective date of decrease in price?

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) After the announcement of National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy - 2012, Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) was notified on 15.05.2013. As per the provisions of DPCO, 2013 all the existing manufacturers of scheduled formulations, selling the branded or generic or both the versions of scheduled formulations at a price higher than the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable) so fixed and notified by the Government under DPCO, 2013, shall revise the prices of all such formulations downward not exceeding the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable). All the existing manufacturers of scheduled formulations, selling the branded or generic or both the versions of scheduled formulations at a price lower than the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable) so fixed and notified by the Government shall maintain their existing maximum retail price. Further, as per the provisions of DPCO, 2013 the manufacturers shall have to implement the notified ceiling price within a period of 45 (forty five) days from the date of notification. NPPA has notified the ceiling prices for 300 essential medicines. In all these cases, prices have reduced significantly as compared to highest price of that particular medicine as per data furnished by IMS-Health.

Sale of medicines at more than the fixed price

†2211. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has found that about 1,000 drug manufacturing companies in the country are guilty of selling medicines at more than the fixed prices;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by Government against these companies so that these companies may not exploit the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) There are 970 cases as on 31.07.2013 where pharmaceutical companies have been found to be selling some of the scheduled medicines to the consumers at a price higher than the price notified by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) Action for recovery of the overcharged amount has been taken as per the provisions of Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995). Demand notices have been issued to the pharmaceutical companies amounting to Rs. 2902.22 crore for selling the medicines at a price higher than the price fixed by NPPA, out of which, Rs. 253.43 crore has been recovered till 31.07.2013. However, in some cases, the demands raised for overcharging have been challenged in courts and as of now about 94% of the total outstanding amount i.e. Rs.2648.79 crore is under litigation. These court cases are being handled by the Law Officers and Central Government Counsels. NPPA is actively pursuing these court cases and is in constant touch with the Government Counsels. Where the demand raised by NPPA has not been challenged in the court and the concerned company does not deposit the amount of demand within the time granted, the matter is referred to the respective Collector for recovery of the overcharged amount as arrears of land revenue under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Popularizing generic medicines

2212. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) how far Government is successful in popularizing generic medicines;
- (b) whether the Ministry has issued any instructions to doctors to prescribe generic medicines; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to keep rates of branded medicines within control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) For making available low-cost quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all, the Government launched Jan Aushadhi Campaign in November, 2008 by way of opening up of Jan Aushadhi Drug Stores. Since November, 2008, 157 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in various parts of the country, out of which 93 are functional. A New Business Plan has been designed particularly to address the shortcomings and challenges identified in scaling up the activities. Under the new Plan, the process of identification of operating agencies has now been simplified and entities other than those identified by the State Governments are also proposed to be appointed as operating agencies for running the Jan Aushadhi Stores. As per the new Plan, societies/ trusts/

unemployed pharmacists / entrepreneurs etc. would be eligible for appointment as operating agencies. Stores would now be opened even outside the hospital premises. Basket of drugs has now been widened to 361 drugs covering all therapeutic categories.

(b) Wherever Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened, the concerned State Governments are issuing instructions/guidelines to their Doctors in the Government Hospitals to prescribe generic medicines. Similar instructions are also reported to have been issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to the Doctors to prescribe medicines in generic names.

(c) All the existing manufactures of scheduled formulations, selling the branded or generic or both the versions of scheduled formulations at a price higher than the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable) so fixed and notified by the Government, shall revise the prices of all such formulations downward not exceeding the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable). All the existing manufactures of scheduled formulations, selling the branded or generic or both the versions of scheduled formulations at a price lower than the ceiling price (plus local taxes as applicable) so fixed and notified by the Government shall maintain their existing maximum retail price. National Pricing Policy Authority (NPPA) has so far notified the ceiling prices for 300 formulations as per the provision of DPCO, 2013.

Supply of urea by OMIFCO

2213. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether supply of urea by JV entity namely 'Oman India Fertilizer Company' (OMIFCO) will help the Government in meeting the local demand of urea which is estimated to be around 336.77 LMT by the end of Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Government of India (GOI) has entered into a long Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) with OMIFCO to lift its entire production of urea in the first fifteen years of its production. The commercial production of the company commenced *w.e.f.* 14th July

2005. Import of urea for direct agriculture use is made on Government account to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. At present around 8 million MT of urea is being imported per annum on Government account. The rated capacity of OMIFCO plant is 1.652 million MTs granular urea per annum. The present annual production of the company is around 2 million MT. The production up to the rated capacity is being imported at the Long Term Price (LTP) of granular urea while the production in excess of rated capacity in any year is imported at 5% discount over the published prices of granular urea in the international journals. The LTP of granular urea is much cheaper in comparison of the prevailing prices in the international market. The current LTP of granular urea is US\$135.68 per MT FOB as against the latest published FMB price of US\$ 300 to 312 per MT FOB. The imports from OMIFCO are resulting into as great savings to the Government exchequer on account of subsidy on fertilisers. Since the UOTA with OMIFCO is valid upto July 2020, it will certainly contribute in meeting part of the local demand of urea during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period.

Disinvestment in NFL

2214. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided for disinvestment in National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for this disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Government has disinvested its 7.64% equity in National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), a listed company, on 31.07.2013 to make it compliant with the mandatory 10% minimum public shareholding requirement, in conformity to Securities contracts (Regulation) Rules 1957 (SCRR) as amended by SCRR, 2010.

FDI in Brownfield companies

2215. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to allow 100 per cent FDI in Brownfield companies is operational in the country;

(b) if so, which companies, have changed their ownership to foreign companies;

(c) the details of inflow of FDI, total value of share transferred and the actual sale proceeds received by the seller companies; and

(d) whether the Ministry has noticed any change in the production/export and pricing policy of the above companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) According to the circular 1 of 2013 dated 5.4.2013 of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion regarding consolidated Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy, 100% FDI in brownfield pharmaceuticals sector is permitted through Government route. Government may incorporate appropriate conditions for FDI in brownfield cases, at the time of granting approval.

(b) Foreign Direct Investment(FDI) in Pharmaceuticals Sector was under automatic route prior to November 2011. Thereafter, as on March, 2013, Foreign Investment and Promotion Board (FIPB) has granted approval for 100% FDI by foreign companies in following 10 pharmaceutical units:

Sl. No.	Name of the domestic Pharmaceuticals manufacturing units
1	Ordain Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. Chennai
2	Edict Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
3	Arvee Synthesis Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
4	Cosme Farma Laboratories, Goa
5	Cosme Pharma Ltd., Goa
6	Cosme Remedies Ltd., Goa
7&8	Two units of Orchid Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Chennai
9	One unit of SMS Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Hyderabad
10	One unit of M/s Vivin Lifesciences

(c) The requested information is not maintained by the Department. However, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has given the details of inflow of FDI which are as under:

Sl. No.	Year (April-March)	FDI (Rs. Crores)
1.	2010-11	961.09
2.	2011-12	14,605.03
3.	2012-13	6,011.49
4.	2013-14 (April-June)	5,442.15
GRAND TOTAL :		27,019.77

Note:1. Amount includes the Inflows received through Secretariat for Industrial Approval (SIA)/ Foreign Investment and Promotion Board (FIPB) route, acquisition of existing shares and RBI's automatic route only.

(d) The Department of Pharmaceuticals had made a price analysis of the drugs for the period May 2009-2011 in which prices of 7 top domestic companies and 7 top MNCs were compared with the prices of 7 major Indian companies acquired by MNCs. The trend in prices of all the companies were similar and no conclusion could be drawn to support the fact that acquisition by MNCs of Indian origin companies had resulted in price increase. It was also observed that there had been an increase in the number of medicine packs during the said period.

Renomination of members on BoG in NIPER, Mohali

2216. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali Act, 1998 provides for renomination of member on its Board of Governors;

(b) if so, for how many terms and under which clause/provision of the NIPER Act; and

(c) whether it is a fact that none of the nominated Governors on the Board of Governors is from the host State of Punjab or neighbouring States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Chandigarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (b) The Act is silent on this issue.

(c) Region is not the consideration for nomination of Governors on the Board of Governors.

Overcharging by fertilizer companies

2217. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that fertilizer companies are charging exorbitantly and above MRP from farmers;

(b) the reasons that local prices of fertilizers are not coming down when international prices come down;

(c) how Government would ensure that domestic fertilizer companies strictly follow its instructions and reduce price of fertilizers; and

(d) whether Government proposes to deny subsidy to companies which do not follow subsidy mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme, fertilizers companies are allowed to fix Maximum Retail Prices (MRP) of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers at reasonable level. Under the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), fertilizers companies are required to print the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on each bag of fertilizer. No fertilizer company or dealer is supposed to sell or offer for sale any fertilizers at a price exceeding printed MRP. Violation of this is punishable under Essential Commodities Act. State Governments have powers to take preventive/punitive actions for violation of any of the provisions of Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) 1985 and Essential Commodities Act 1955. The State Governments have not reported any specific instances of overcharging, by fertilizer companies. There could, however, be some instances of charging a price above MRP at retail level for which action has to be taken by the State Government concerned.

(b) Urea is being provided to farmers at a statutory price of Rs.5360 per Q one fixed by Government. In respect of P&K fertilizers, the Government is implementing NBS Policy w.e.f. 01.04.2010, under which a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on annual basis, is provided on each grade of subsidized P&K fertilizers depending upon their nutrient content. Under the Policy, the Fertilizer companies have been allowed to fix MRP of P&K fertilizers at reasonable level.

The country is fully dependent on import in Potassic sector and to the extent of 90% in Phosphatic sector in the form of either finished products or its raw materials. Subsidy being fixed, any fluctuation in international prices has effect on the domestic prices of P&K fertilizers.

There has been an increase in the prices of P&K fertilizers during last 3 years mainly due to increase in international prices of fertilizers and also on account of depreciation of Indian rupee *vis a vis* USD. In the year 2013-14, the prices of P&K fertilizers have been reduced marginally by fertilizer companies as compared to the previous year. However, the recent unprecedented depreciation of Indian rupee may subside the gains that would have accrued from the reduction in international prices of P&K fertilizers.

(c) In order to ensure that the MRPs of P&K fertilizers covered under NBS Scheme are fixed reasonably, it has been made mandatory for the fertilizer companies to submit certified cost data alongwith their subsidy claims to examine and ensure that the MRPs fixed by the companies are reasonable. While announcing subsidy rates for 2013-14, Government has also notified the indicative MRPs of P&K fertilizers and the amount to be reduced by the fertilizer companies from the said indicative prices to check and ensure that the prices are fixed reasonably.

(d) Yes, Sir. In cases, where after scrutiny, unreasonableness of MRP is established or where there is no correlation between the cost of production or acquisition and the MRP printed on the bags, the subsidy may be restricted or denied even if the product is otherwise eligible for subsidy under NBS Scheme. In proven case of abuse of subsidy mechanism, any grade/ grades of fertilizers of a particular fertilizer company or the* fertilizer company itself can be excluded from the NBS Scheme.

Notices to NIPER, Mohali

2218. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of objections that have been sustained by the Comptroller and Auditor General, Punjab after receiving explanation from the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali, Punjab, till date;

(b) whether any other Government department has issued notices to NIPER, Mohali for non-compliance of the provisions of law; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Detailed information is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (c) No, Sir.

Statement

(a) The details of objections that have been sustained by the Accountant General (Audit), Punjab, Chandigarh after receiving explanation from NIPER, Mohali upto FY 2010-11 are given below. As regards audit of 2011-12 and 2012-13, the audit was conducted from 17.06.2013 to 26.07.2013 and the Inspection Report is not received.

Sl. No.	Para No. and Summary of its contents	Brief Reply of Institute
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1	2	3
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01	Para 1 Infructuous expenditure of Rs. 1.90 crore on constructions of staff quarters.	The Type-V houses have been constructed in phase manner keeping in view the post sanctioned. Against the requirement of 49 Type-V quarters only 42 quarters have been constructed. The necessary requirement for the construction of houses was assessed from time to time by the Institute and Government of India vide order No. 52(3)/95-P(IV) dt. 10.01.1995 has approved the requirement of the construction of houses for faculty on 100% satisfaction. On the basis of the approval the houses have been built-up. In view of the above, it may be seen that there is no in fructuous expenditure of Rs. 1.90 crores on the construction of staff accommodation.
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02	Para 1 Loss of Interest Rs. 49.56 lakh	It is intimated that the funds were invested at the competitive prevailing rate @ 7.25% in August, 2005 and thereafter after six months the rates were increased to 8.10% for the fresh investment. The matter was also taken up with the State Bank of Patiala, Mohali on the subject and bank has replied that better rate of interest 8.10% in May, 2006 was for fresh deposits for a particular period and was not meant for existing deposits. As per banks policy, interest on
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deposit is being paid at contracted rate and not very with every rise and fall.

All the equipments were installed in due course of time. There is no delay in the installation of these various equipments totalling Rs. 10.58 crores against various purchase orders. However, inspection note have been cleared by the respective indenters at a different dates after testing of these equipments. Though the instrument is installed and equipments are kept under testing for number of months. So all the scientific equipments were procured with proper planning, as such there is no loss of interest worked out to Rs. 52.70 lakh which is notional.

A project titled "Facility Development for Toxicity screening of Nanoparticle used for Drug Delivery and to elucidate its mechanism of action" was sanctioned by the Department of Science and Technology. Under this project, Rs. 3.12 crores was received from DST and Rs. 1.20 crores was made from the plan grant of the Institute. There was no delay in the installation as the TEM a very sophisticated equipment required state-of-the-art environment and infrastructure which required. It was in the knowledge of the Institute that there are only manufacturers in the world who are manufacturing 200 KVA TEM. One is JEOL Japan and the other one is FIE from whom NIPER has purchased the said equipment. Both these companies have their agents in India. The purchase has been made after following the proper purchase procedure *i.e.* open tender. There is no delay in the installation as explained above.

03 **Para 2**
Loss of Interest Rs. 52.70 lakh due to improper planning in purchase of imported equipment

04 **Para 4**
Irregular purchase of imported equipment
Rs. 432.98 lakh

- 05 **Para 5**
Recoverable amount of Rs. 17.68 lakh due to incorrect fixation of Pay
- 06 **Para 6**
Blockage of funds in purchase of imported equipment Rs. 37.34 lakh
- 07 **Para-1**
Avoidable payment of Octroi charges on electricity of Rs. 14.65 lacs
- It is intimated that the institute had already initiated action for the recovery of the excess salary paid to the employees out of the monthly salary paid to respective staff. Amount has been recovered from all employees except two staff. The recovery from the salary of two staff is in progress.
- It is intimated that equipment (BacteT MGIT 960) was procured from M/s Bacton Dickinson & Co. Singapore at basic cost of Rs. 39.27 lakh against which payment was made through Letter of Credit. The equipment was imported in Oct., 2008 and was installed initially on 06.05.2009 vide installation note FRS No. 6385. The equipment was finally installed by indenter Prof. P P Singh, i.e. the user on 19.05.2009 vide installation note FRS 5986. The equipment has been got issued from the store by the intender in the month of June, 2010 even though the equipment was installed prior to that and also was in use. From the above facts, it will be clear that, there is no blockage of funds resulting financial loss on accounts of interest amounting to Rs. 4.73 lakhs.
- The State levy is not applicable in case the office is purely Govt, of India. NIPER is an autonomous body set up by Act of Parliament for the purpose of research & higher education in the pharmaceutical sciences. Matter was also taken up with Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd.. and reply dated 20.10.11 received. The Article 287 of Constitution of India indicates regarding taxes only. However, octroi

charges being earned by Municipal Corporation, Municipal Committees/ councils/Nagar Panchayat / notified area committee, which comes under their jurisdiction, are not defined in Article 287. Octroi charges are levied to all consumers except agriculture consumer.

08

Para 2

Funds Management of Rs. 6.44 lacs

The Institute prepared the fund flow statement periodically in order invest the available funds prudently. The Institute had framed the guidelines with the approval of Board of Governors for operation and maintenance of Corpus Fund Account. The Institute has Investment Committee, which invest/re-invest the funds after carrying out interest benefit study and inviting rates from 9-10 nationalized banks. The Institute does not park any funds in the saving bank accounts, the funds available in the saving bank account is those funds for which institute has already issued cheques which are not presented for payment and payment against the letter of credit (L/Cs) have not been matured. As per the Govt, of India sanction letter for the release of grants in which the Institute has been directed to invest only in nationalized bank.

09(a)

Para 3 (i)

Delay in the revising the laboratory charges

The Institute has already revised the analytical charges in the year 2011 with the approval of Board. The amount of receipt from analytical charges are much higher than amount spent on the paid samples. The rates were fixed after comparison with other similar Govt. Institutes. The Laboratory maintains the proper records of receipt of consumables and its usage.

3

2

- 1
- 9(b) **Para 3(ii)**
Non-revision of usage charges of Technology Development Centre
- The Institute has revised the of charges of TDC periodically. Against the cost of Rs. 4.04 crore for the setting up of the TDC, the Institute has earned Rs. 10.36 crore and every year the usage charges of TDC has been enhanced. The 10% rate of depreciation was taken in cost sheet keeping in view the minimum average running life of 10 year of plant and machinery installed in the Technology Development Centre. In view of this there is no understatement of cost by Rs. 15.65 lacs during the year 2010-11. There is no delay in receipt of usage charges from Ranbaxy as the payment was received immediately from M/s Ranbaxy Laboratory Limited to Institute on the receipt of non deduction of TDS certificate issued by the Income Tax Deptt. and there is no loss of interest. The Institute also uses the facility for in house training of the Masters and PhD. Students.
- 10(a) **Para 4(A)**
Purchase of Chemicals acids solvents through limited offer
- In all the Government research laboratories, the consumables are procured on annual rate contract basis. The Institute procures solvents from the reputed chemicals suppliers for which the research standards have been set up in the laboratories.
- 10(b) **Para 4(B)**
Purchase of equipment through single tender enquiry
- The Institute purchase the equipment as per provisions of GFR. The items purchased through single enquiry are of proprietary nature. All the items other than the proprietary items are purchased through limited/open tender.

- 11 **Para 5**
Project Related Research
- The scientific projects are undertaken for a tenure of 3-5 years and progress of the projects are watched by the Principal investigator independently and there is no delay in completion of project. The progress of projects are also monitored by Project Monitoring Committees of the concerned funding agencies. The project report is sent to funding agencies on annual basis. The funds are utilized for the purpose it is sanctioned and books of accounts of the projects are maintained separately.
- 12 **Para-6**
Non-taking up the construction work
of auditorium building
- The Finance Committee in its 21st meeting held on 02.09.10 had approved to deferred the construction of auditorium in view of estimates of 12.86 crores received from Project Management Consultant against the projected expenditure of Rs. 5.50 crore in the year 2005.
- 13 **Para-7**
Shortage of Manpower
- The institute from time to time advertised the vacant positions and also issued rolling advertisement for faculty positions. Due to contractual nature of job as per provision of Recruitment Rules and Statutes, the response to the advertisement is unsatisfactory. Against the total sanction posts of 279, 169 posts have been filled, moreover Institute is making continue efforts to fill the vacant posts.
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Marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketeers

2219. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

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

- (a) the reasons for not including marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketeers in urea manufacturing cost;
- (b) whether Ministry has received any communication from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketeers;
- (c) how much losses have been incurred by urea manufacturing units since 1st January, 2013 till date due to non-payment of marketing margin of private sector natural gas marketeers along with unit-wise details; and
- (d) by when Government intends to address this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) As per Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas's O.M. No. L-12015/5/09-GP dated 4th February 2010, the Government has not fixed or approved the quantum of marketing margin for sale of natural gas by any contractor, NELP or otherwise.

(c) The quantum of estimated loss incurred at the contracted quantity of RIL for the period 01.01.2013 to 31.07.2013 is Rs 78.95 crores on the basis of 15.530 MMSCMD gas supply to gas based urea units, NCV of 8200 Kcal/SCM, \$=Rs 55.82. Company wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) The issue of Marketing Margin is under consideration of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas.

Statement*Estimate quantum of marketing margin for the period 01.01.2013 to 31.07.2013.*

Name of the unit	RIL Supply MMSCMD	RIL (Marketing Margin) \$/MMBTU	Amount Rs/Crs
1	2	3	4
On HBJ Pipeline			
NFL- Vijaipur 1	0.325	0.1350	1.69

1	2	3	4
NFL- Vijaipur II	0.325	0.1350	1.69
CFCL-Gadepan -I	0.575	0.1350	2.99
CFCL-Gadepan - II	0.575	0.1350	2.99
IFFCO-Aonla -I	0.875	0.1350	4.55
IFFCO-Aonla - II	0.875	0.1350	4.55
IFFCO-Phulpur I	0.260	0.1350	1.35
IFFCO-Phulpur II	0.260	0.1350	1.35
TCL-Babralla	0.880	0.1350	4.57
IGFL-Jagdishpur	0.478	0.1350	2.48
KSFL-Shahjahanpur	0.978	0.1350	5.08
SFC-Kota	0.620	0.1350	3.22
SUB TOTAL :	7.026	0.1350	36.52
Non-HBJ Pipeline			
Kribhco-Hazira	1.370	0.1350	7.12
NFCL-Kakinada -I	0.875	0.1350	4.55
NFCL-Kakinada- II	0.875	0.1350	4.55
RCF-Trombay - V	0.950	0.1350	4.94
RCF- Thai	2.100	0.1350	10.92
IFFCO-Kalol	1.273	0.1350	6.62
GSFC-Vadodara	0.720	0.1350	3.74
SUB TOTAL :	8.504	0.1350	42.43
TOTAL of Gas based Plants	15.530		78.95

NCV=8200

\$= Rs 55.82

No of days=212

Market-based pricing of drugs

2220. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

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

- (a) whether Government has finalized the new drugs pricing policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the new drugs pricing policy marks a move from the cost based pricing mechanism to a market based pricing mechanism;
- (d) if so, whether any study has been conducted to assess the impact of the new drugs pricing policy on the price of essential drugs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The Government notified National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy - 2012 on 07.12.2012.

The salient features of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012) are as under:

- The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of essentiality of drugs as under National List of Essential Medicines-2011.
- The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of regulating the prices of formulations only.
- The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of fixing the ceiling price of formulations through Market Based Pricing (MBP).

(d) to (e) At the time of preparation of the policy, an analysis was made with the data available as on March'2011, with the pharmaceuticals market data specializing company - IMS Health. As per the analysis there is a reduction of more than or equal to 20% in the prices of around 60% essential medicines as under National List of Essential Medicines 2011.

Broadband connection for gram panchayats

2221. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats are going to get broadband connection through optic fibre;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayats that are going to be benefited through this in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise; and

(c) to what extent the above move help in empowering Panchayats and people getting better delivery of services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All 21,640 Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh will be covered. District-wise details of Gram Panchayats are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) The objective for creation of NOFN as a National asset is for providing Broadband Connectivity to rural areas. Coverage of panchayats with broadband internet connectivity has a great potential for empowering rural masses by giving them access to information, public services including those of education, health and financial inclusion. Broadband, internet and communication services can be provided by various categories of Telecom Service Providers and Internet Services Providers utilizing the bandwidth available from NOFN project, which will be made available to them on non-discriminatory basis.

Statement

District-wise detail of Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of District	Number of Gram Panchayats in the District
1	2	3
1.	Adilabad	866
2.	Anantapur	1003
3.	Chittoor	1366
4.	East Godavari	980
5.	Guntur	1011
6.	Karimnagar	1207

1	2	3
7.	Khammam	758
8.	Krishna	970
9.	Kurnool	890
10.	Mahbubnagar	1329
11.	Medak	1086
12.	Nalgonda	1169
13.	Nizamabad	718
14.	Prakasam	1028
15.	Rangareddi	690
16.	Spsr Nellore	939
17.	Srikakulam	1099
18.	Visakhapatnam	929
19.	Vizianagaram	921
20.	Warangal	1006
21.	West Godavari	884
22.	Y.S.R.	791
TOTAL :		21,640

[Source: Website of Department of Panchayati Raj]

Connecting Gram Panchayats under E-governance

†2222. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to connect Gram Panchayats under e-Governance;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the objectives and benefits thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Electronics and Information technology is implementing the State Wide Area Network(SWAN) Scheme under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP). SWAN is a converged backbone network for data, voice and video communications throughout a State/UT. It provides for connecting all the State headquarters to district and block headquarters, in a vertical hierarchical structure with a minimum bandwidth capacity of 2 Mbps per link. Also, The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is implementing a National Optical fibre Network Project to provide connectivity to all 2,50,000 Panchayats in the country.

Further, Common Service Centres which are IT enabled kiosks with broad band connectivity have been set-up across the country (to provide various citizen centric services). As on 30 June, 2013, 1,29,266 CSCs have been established.

Training programme to curb cyber crimes

2223. SHRI MASUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of sharp rise in cyber crimes, the Ministry in consultation with State Governments and Ministry of Home Affairs would conduct a special training programme to train police personnel to curb and identify cyber crime activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Ministry has any specific data about cyber crimes registered during last five years and if so, State-wise data in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) In order to address the growing threat of Cyber crimes / incidents in the country. Government has issued an Advisory to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations advising them to build adequate technical capacity in handling cyber crime including technical infrastructure, cyber police stations and trained manpower for detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of cyber crimes. Also, under the Cyber Crime Investigation programme, Ministry of Home Affairs is

supporting the establishment of Cyber Crime Police Station (CCPS) and Cyber Crime Investigations and Forensic Training Facilities (CCITF) in each State / Union Territory of India under Police Modernization Scheme. Government has formulated a set of investigation manuals with procedures for Search, Seizure Analysis and Presentation of digital evidence in courts. The manuals have been circulated to Law Enforcement Agencies in all States.

A major programme has been initiated on development of cyber forensics tools, setting up of infrastructure for investigation and training of the users, particularly police and judicial officers in use of this tool to collect and analyse the digital evidence and present them in Courts.

Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) are involved in providing basic and advanced training to Law Enforcement Agencies, Forensic labs and judiciary on the procedures and methodology of collecting, analysing and presenting digital evidence. Cyber forensics training lab has been set up at Training Academy of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to impart basic and advanced training in Cyber Forensics and Investigation of Cyber Crimes to Police Officers associated with CBI. In addition, Government has set up cyber forensic training and investigation labs in the States of Kerala, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Meghalaya, Manipur and Jammu and Kashmir for training of Law Enforcement and Judiciary in these States.

In collaboration with Data Security Council of India (DSCI), NASSCOM. Cyber Forensic Labs have been set up at Mumbai, Bangaluru, Pune and Kolkata for awareness creation and training programmes on Cyber Crime investigation. National Law School, Bangalore and NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad are also engaged in conducting several awareness and training programmes on Cyber Laws and Cyber crimes for judicial officers.

Action also has been taken to set up a National Centre of Excellence exclusively devoted to render Cyber Forensic services and to act as National Research and Training Centre on Cyber Forensics.

(c) As per the cyber crime data maintained by National Crime Records Bureau, a total of 288, 420, 966, 1791 and 2876 Cyber Crime cases were registered under Information Technology Act during 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively. A total of 176, 276, 356, 422 and 601 cases were registered under Cyber Crime related Sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC) during 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively. State / Union Territory-wise details of cases registered under Information Technology Act and Indian Penal Code are given in Statement.

Statement**Cyber Crime Cases recorded by NCRB****Number of Cases Registered under IT Act and Related Sections of IPC during 2008 - 2012**

State/UT	I.T. Act						IPC Sections					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11	
Andhra Pradesh	25	30	105	349	429	78	8	66	23	25		
Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	3	13	12	0	0	0	1	0		
Assam	1	2	18	31	28	1	2	0	0	0		
Bihar	0	0	2	25	23	0	0	0	13	7		
Chhattisgarh	1	4	4	2	49	19	46	46	76	10		
Goa	6	8	15	16	30	0	4	1	2	2		
Gujarat	17	20	35	52	68	16	16	20	15	10		
Haryana	0	0	1	42	66	0	0	0	3	116		
Himachal Pradesh	6	6	17	12	20	0	0	0	0	0		
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	5	14	35	0	0	1	0	0		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jharkhand	0	0	0	8	10	0	0	0	25	25
Karnataka	57	97	153	151	412	0	0	23	9	25
Kerala	65	64	148	227	269	2	7	8	18	43
Madhya Pradesh	9	16	30	90	142	2	1	5	13	55
Maharashtra	37	53	142	306	471	2	108	104	87	90
Manipur	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	3	2	7	7	14	12	11	5	5	13
Punjab	11	28	41	59	72	36	28	27	20	6
Rajasthan	4	27	52	122	147	0	1	3	24	7
Sikkim	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tamil Nadu	21	18	52	37	39	4	19	25	8	2
Tripura	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0

Uttar Pradesh	2	14	32	101	205	0	3	9	13	44
Uttarakhand	2	7	10	6	4	0	0	1	0	0
West Bengal	0	13	49	43	196	2	10	11	14	113
Total (States)	267	411	922	1725	2761	174	264	356	370	593
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	8	4	3	10	33	1	0	0	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	12	5	41	50	76	0	12	0	49	8
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puducherry	1	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (UTs)	21	9	44	66	115	2	12	0	52	8
TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)	288	420	966	1791	2876	176	276	356	422	601

Commemorative postal stamps

2224. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commemorative postal stamps issued so far by the Department of Posts on the dignitaries and others of Maharashtra; and

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration to issue more such stamps in the near future, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) The number of commemorative postal stamps issued so far by the Department of Posts on the dignitaries and others of Maharashtra is 92 (Ninety Two).

(b) The stamps on following personalities from Maharashtra have been approved for issue:

(i) Baba Joomdevji

(ii) Bhimsen Joshi

The proposal for issue of a commemorative postage stamp on Ganesh K. Khaparde will be placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee for consideration in its next meeting.

Logistics post air service by India Post

2225. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Post has been facing tough competition from various private service providers in the country, and if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether India Post has in the recent past launched Logistics Post Air Service in the country, and if so, the details including the salient features thereof;

(c) the name of the cities identified for the said service;

(d) the details of the criteria fixed for identification of Post Air Service; and

(e) the extent to which India Post service will be able to boost their business and compete with other private service providers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) India Posts is facing competition from private service providers in the courier and express market. India Post's Speed Post has increased its market share from 15.1% to 18.3% in 2010-11 to 16.7% to 19.8% in 2011-12.

(b) to (e) Logistics Post Air Service has been started on 17.6.2013, not as a new service but providing another mode of transmission i.e. by air, under Logistics Post service launched in 2004. Keeping in view the business potential, facility for air transmission of Logistics Post article is now being provided under an MOU with Air India for 15 stations, viz., Agartala, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Nagpur, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, Pune, Ahmedabad, Imphal, Guwahati, Patna, Lucknow, Trivandrum. Introduction of air as a mode of transmission is expected to boost the business of Logistics Post and help to compete with other private service providers.

Broadband facility by MTNL, Delhi

2226. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that broadband facility of MTNL, Delhi is not satisfactory;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of broadband users of MTNL, Delhi have shifted to other service providers because of that reason;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that MTNL, Delhi lacks accountability and malpractices go on unabated; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken to streamline MTNL, Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the quality of service (QoS) of Service Providers against the prescribed benchmarks through quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs). As per the Performance Monitoring Report for the quarter ending March, 2013, MTNL, Delhi's performance is well above the benchmarks specified by TRAI on two parameters directly related to Broadband

service i.e. broadband connection speed available (download) from Internet Service Provider (ISP) node to user and service availability/ uptime. It is also generally complying with the quality of service benchmarks for most of the parameters for Telecommunication services except certain parameters like Service provisioning, fault repair, billing performance and bandwidth utilization/throughput.

(b) and (c) As per information provided by MTNL, 839 Broadband connections have been closed on account of shifting to other service providers since 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013, whereas 45,151 net broadband connections were added to MTNL, Delhi network during this period. MTNL, Delhi has been consistently adding subscribers over the years. The increasing trend of Broadband connections during the last five years is given below:

As on	No. of Broadband connections
31.03.2008	2,32,169
31.03.2009	3,13,657
31.03.2010	3,79,225
31.03.2011	4,26,772
31.03.2012	4,76,127
31.03.2013	5,21,278
31.07.2013	5,34,890

(d) and (e) MTNL is operating in the most competitive telecom circles of Delhi and Mumbai. MTNL has established transparent systems and procedures which include checks and balances as well as systems to deal with any malpractice coming to notice. A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted by the Government for the revival and revitalization of MTNL and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) which would look into all aspects of the functioning of MTNL and advise on measures to revive it.

Data centres in the country

2227. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has international level Data Centres and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Indian Data Centres have data security arrangement, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has mandated any standards for Data Security and Data Capacity creation in the country, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir. There are three National Data Centres set up by National Informatics Centres(NIC) at Delhi, Hyderabad and Pune and DeitY has set up State Data Centre(SDC) in each capital Head Quarter of the State / Union Territory (UT) under the SDC Scheme of National e-Governance Plan(NeGP). 22 SDCs are already operational. All these Data centres have been designed on internationally defined Tier standards.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Data Centres have multi-layer security architecture and have been designed using state of art technologies, such as, Network Firewall, Intrusion Prevention System, application Firewall, antivirus, Security and Patch Management Solutions, ISO 27001 etc., to secure the servers and applications. Technology based security is coupled with security practices, such as, Application Security Audit, Application Source Code Scanning, Black Box Scanning and Vulnerability Assessment.

Round the clock monitoring of the logs and events generated by the systems is carried out to find out unauthorized,/ abnormal activities of the systems. NIC is following OWASP (Open Web Application Security Project) standards for Application Security.

Post offices for women

†2228. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the details of purpose and benefits likely to be accrued from post offices for women on the lines of Banks for women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KRUPARANI KILLI): The objective for opening of all women post offices in the country is to lay focus on women's empowerment and to achieve Departments objectives and mission to sustain its position as the largest postal network in the world. It is an effort to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

integrate gender equality and women's empowerment for good governance by ensuring that women employees working at various levels in the Department have a real voice in the decision making of the Department as well as have a role in the management of post offices in the country. The all women post offices are the post office where all employees are women and they have been given the responsibility of managing the events of the post offices. This is done with a view to promote leadership and managerial qualities in women employees of the Department. These post offices are opened in major cities and at present 34 all women post offices are functioning in the country. These post offices are functioning within the postal network of the Department in the country and not a separate set up of post offices.

Besides this, from our customers' perspective, Post Offices offer products and services like small savings, postal life insurance and other mail related products which are used by the common man. All Women Post Office offers a secured environment to our woman customers from all strata of society to transact postal business with a level of comfort and familiarity with women employees of the Department.

Pendency of applications for Internet Service Provider Licence

†2229. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of applications for obtaining Internet Service Provider licence of various categories are pending; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Applications for grant of Internet Service Licences from Indian Registered Companies were being received and processed on a continuous basis. Letters of Intent for grant of Internet Service Licences were issued to the companies, who met the eligibility criteria and had submitted the requisite documents.

However, after announcement of Unified Licence (UL) guidelines by the Government in August 2013, it has been decided that henceforth no other licence for any of the services covered under UL shall be issued. Since Internet Services are covered under UL, the same are not being issued henceforth.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

E-post service

2230. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of E-post centres, operating in the country, State-wise, including in Haryana;
- (b) whether Government has made any assessment of E-post service;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to popularise the E-post service in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KRUPARANI KILLI): (a) Presently, 13051 ePost Centres are operating across the country. State-wise list which includes Haryana is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Assessing ePost service is an ongoing process wherein service features, network expansion and revenue earned are continually reviewed. Department of Posts has started Corporate and Prepaid service under the ePost scheme to popularize the service.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Postal Circle	Number of ePost centers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1801
2.	Assam	54
3.	Bihar	139
4.	Chhattisgarh	243
5.	Delhi	92
6.	Gujarat *	883
7.	Haryana	253

1	2	3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	365
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	56
10.	Jharkhand	120
11.	Karnataka	1258
12.	Kerala **	1060
13.	Madhya Pradesh	604
14.	Maharashtra #	1494
15.	North East ##	51
16.	Orissa	343
17.	Punjab @	19
18.	Rajasthan	911
19.	Tamil Nadu @@	2090
20.	Uttar Pradesh	588
21.	Uttarakhand	162
22.	West Bengal @@@	465
TOTAL		13051

* Includes Daman, Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli

** Includes Lakshadweep

Includes Goa

Includes Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Tripura

@ Includes Chandigarh

@@ Includes Pondicherry

@@@ Includes Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Contribution of internet economy to GDP

2231. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

- (a) whether contribution of internet economy to GDP would grow to \$ 100 billion by 2015; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Government has not conducted any study in this regard. However, a study report "Impact of Internet on the Indian Economy" by a private global consultancy firm projects that Internet economy contribution to India's GDP would grow to \$100 billion by 2015 from the current \$30 billion. India's Internet Economy will grow at 23% by 2016 and would contribute 5.6% to GDP and will largely be driven by consumers followed by exports. This study has not been verified by Government.

Financial crisis in telecom sector

2232. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is negative growth prevailing in the Telecom sector due to acute financial pressure and crippling debts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial measures being taken by Government to boost the growth in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Sir, the information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Ranking of India in food security index

2233. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India ranks far below many countries in the Food Security Index;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government has taken to provide food to the needy and the poor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Global Food Security Index(GFSI), 2013 brought out by News Magazine "The Economist" available in public domain, ranks India 70 with a score of 44.4 out of 107 countries. The Index gives scores ranging from 0-100, where 100 is most favourable.

(b) The Global Food Security Index(GFSI) assesses food security across three criteria: affordability, availability and quality and safety. The report does not provide data/ranks of various countries on the specific dimensions but only on the composite index. The report also does not give reasons of present ranking of India in the Food Security Index. Moreover, methods used for data gathering, its analysis and forecasting are not test checked/validated by Government of India or any UN agencies.

(c) The Government of India has accorded high priority to ensure food security in the country. With a view to specially target poor sections of society, under the Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS), allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) are made to States and Union Territories(UTs) at subsidized prices for distribution to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line(BPL) families which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana(AAY) families. Government also implements other welfare schemes like Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) Scheme for pre-school children and pregnant and lactating mothers through the Ministry of Women and Child Development, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) through Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme for primary and upper primary children through Ministry of Human Resource Development, Annapurna Scheme for the senior citizens, Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls, Emergency Feeding Programme etc. to ensure further food and nutrition security in the country.

To further ensure food security in the country, Government has promulgated National Food Security Ordinance, 2013, on 5.7.2013 to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices for people to live a life with dignity. The Ordinance entitles upto 75% of rural and upto 50% of urban population to receive 5 kgs of foodgrains per person per month at subsidised prices of Rs.3/- per

kg. for rice, Re.2/- per kg. for wheat and Rs.1/- per kg. for coarse grains under TPDS. The Ordinance also contains provisions for nutritional support to women and children and specifically pregnant women and lactating mothers.

Capacities under PEG Scheme

2234. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of capacities allotted under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme in Andhra Pradesh, during the last two years, centre-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of rates approved/finalized against tenders for private investors, SWCs and CWCs;

(c) the details of capacity already hired by FCI under PEG scheme; and

(d) the extent to which PEG helps in reducing the wastage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Centre-wise, year-wise details of capacities allotted under PEG Scheme in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Details of rates approved/finalized against tenders for private investors as on 30.06.2013 are given in Statement-II (*See* below). In addition to this, a capacity of 0.30 lakh MT and 0.55 lakh MT has been allotted to CWC and SWCs respectively for construction of godowns on the rate payable to CWC on guarantee basis.

(c) Details of capacity hired by FCI under PEG Scheme as on 31.07.2013 is given in Statement-III (*See* below).

(d) PEG Scheme has been devised in a manner to prevent unscientific storage of foodgrains. It is expected that after construction of required capacities under PEG Scheme, stock would not be required to be stored in the open. For this purpose, storage requirement of a State has been assessed keeping in view different requirements of consuming and procuring regions.

Statement-I
Details of capacity to be constructed in Andhra Pradesh under PEG Scheme

As on 31.07.2013

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	Centres	Capacity sanctioned (in MT)	Date of sanction (DD-MM-YY)
1	East Godavari	Biccavole(RS)	30,000	29-12-10
2	East Godavari	Dwarapudi	5,000	27-08-10
3	Karimnagar	Sultanabad(RS)	38,000	14-03-11
4	Karimnagar	Karimnagar	50,000	-
5	Mahbubnagar	Gadwal	10,000	27-08-10
6	Nalgonda	Mellachervu(RS)	31,000	29-12-10
7	Nalgonda	Nagireddipalli(RS)	50,000	29-12-10
8	Nizamabad	Bodhan	20,000	27-08-10
9	Nizamabad	Nizamabad(RS)	60,000	29-12-10
10	Nellore	Mypadu Road	15,000	27-08-10
11	Prakasam	Chirala	10,000	27-08-10
12	Srikakulam	Amudalavalasa	20,000	21-05-09
13	Srikakulam	Tekkali	16,000	31-12-11
14	Vizianagaram	Bobbili	6,000	29-12-10
15	Warangal	Jangoan	10,000	29-12-10
16	Warangal	Nekkonda(RS)	50,000	29-12-10
17	West Godavari	Palakole(RS)	25,000	31-01-11
18	West Godavari	Palakole	5,000	29-07-10
TOTAL			4,51,000	

Statement-II*Details of rates approved/finalized by SLC/HLC under PEG Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh*

As on 31.07.2013

Sl. No.	Name of Centre	Capacity for which tender sanctioned (in MT)	Rate approved by HLC/SLC (Rs./Qtl./ month)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1	Nekkonda	5000	3.69	
2	Bicavolu-B.B.Puram	30000	23.12.2010	3.06
3	Palakkolu	25000	12.01.2011	4.65
4	Huzur Nagar	31000		2.95
5	Bobbili	6000		3.51
6	Janagoan	10000		2.35
7	Nagireddypalli/Bhongir	50000	23.12.2010	3.15
8	Nizamabad	60000		2.95
9	Sultanabad	38000		3.78
10	Tekkali	16000	27.12.2011	2.42
11	Amadalavalasa	20,000		

Lease with services railway siding godowns except at Bobbili, Janagoan & Tekkali which are lease with services but without railway siding.

1	2	3	4	5
12	Chirala	10,000		
13	Dwarapudi	5,000	As per rate payable .	
14	Nellore	15,000	27.08.2010	to CWC
15	Palakole	5,000		
16	Bodhan	20,000		
17	Gadwal	10,000		
	TOTAL	401000		

* Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for construction of 50,000 MT capacity at Karimnagar is yet to be floated.

Statement-III

Details of capacity hired by FCI under PEG scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	Location	Capacity sanctioned (in MT)	Capacity Completed (in MTs)	As on 31.07.2013	
					Capacity taken over (in MTs)	
1.	East Godavari	Biccavole(RS)	30,000	30,000	30,000	
2.	East Godavari	Dwarapudi	5,000	5,000	5,000	
3.	Karimnagar	Sultanabad(RS)	38,000	38,000	38,000	

4.	Mahbubnagar	Gadwal	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
5.	Nalgonda	Mellachervu(RS)	31,000	-	-	-
6.	Nalgonda	Nagireddipalli(RS)	50,000	-	-	-
7.	Nizamabad	Bodhan	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
8.	Nizamabad	Nizamabad(RS)	60,000	-	-	-
9.	Nellore	Mypadu Road	15,000	-	-	-
10.	Prakasam	Chirala	10,000	5,800	5,800	5,800
11.	Srikakulam	Amudalavalasa	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
12.	Srikakulam	Tekkali	16,000	-	-	-
13.	Vizianagaram	Bobbili	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
14.	Warangal	Jangoan	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
15.	Warangal	Nekkonda(RS)	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
16.	West Godavari	Palakole(RS)	25,000	-	-	-
17.	West Godavari	Palakole	5,000	5,000	5,000	-
GRAND TOTAL			4,01,000	1,99,800	1,99,800	1,94,800

* Notice Inviting Tender(NIT) for construction of 50,000 MT capacity at Karimnagar is yet to be floated.

Total Capacity Approved: 4,51,000 MTs.

Tribunal for patients and doctors

2235. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government, in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the State Governments, is considering to establish a Special Consumer Tribunal to redress grievances between patients and doctors;

(b) whether Government has received any representation in this regard, if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government has approached or going to approach the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the State Governments to seek their views in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No such representation has been received by Department of Consumer Affairs. The present Consumer Fora located all over the country are dealing all cases of deficiency in service including deficiency in paid medical service. Hence, no proposal for Special Consumer Tribunal is under consideration of this Department, nor any consultation with Health Ministry made on this subject.

Storage capacity for foodgrains in Maharashtra

2236. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of godowns for storage of foodgrains-hired, acquired and taken on lease in the State of Maharashtra, category-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether Government has also acquired land for construction of godowns in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how many godowns have so far been constructed; and

(d) the action, Government proposes, to take to further increase godown capacity in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The present status of godowns with FCI for storage of food grains (hired/ acquired/ taken on lease) in the State of Maharashtra as on 31.07.2013 is given as below:

Sl. No.	Hired/ Acquired/ Leased Godowns	No. of Godowns	Capacity in MT.
1.	Owned covered Godowns	12	848255
2.	Owned CAP (Cover & Plinth) capacity	4	88348
3.	Hired from Private parties (under general hiring - lease only)	5	122260
4.	Hired from private parties under PWS (Private Warehousing Scheme) with preservation, maintenance and security arrangements.	6	38390
5.	Hired under PEG (Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee) Scheme -guaranteed hiring for 9/10 years.	24	293092
6.	Hired from CWC (Central Warehousing Corporation)	16	245214
7.	Hired from MSWC (Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation)	32	315300
TOTAL		99	19,50,859

The District wise/ Depot wise position is attached herewith for information is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) No, Sir. During 11th Plan (2007-12), no godown was constructed in the State of Maharashtra and also there is no proposal to augment FCI's own storage capacity under 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) in the State of Maharashtra.

(d) To augment the additional storage capacity in the country, Government of India/FCI has formulated a scheme called Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, CWC & SWCs. Under this Scheme, storage capacity is created by private parties, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI.

In Maharashtra, a capacity of 7 Lakh MT has been approved under the PEG Scheme. A capacity of 6 Lakh MT has been sanctioned/ allotted to private investors, CWC and MSWC for construction of godowns. Out of this a capacity of approx. 3.35 lakh MT has been completed and 2.65 Lakh MT is under construction at various stages of development. 1 (one) lakh MT capacity is reserved for construction of Silos at Pune and Nagpur (50,000 MT each).

Statement**Districtwise/Depotwise/Agencywise Stg.Capacity of FCI in the State of Maharashtra**

As on 31st July, 2013

Name of District	Name of Depot	Owned		Cap		Pvt/ARDC		Hired Covered Peg		Grand Total	
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Borivli	Borivli	134352	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	134352	
	Bhivandi	10000	5000	0	0	0	0	0	0	15000	
	Vashi	0	0	0	0	12000	0	0	0	12000	
	Total	144352	5000	0	0	12000	0	0	0	161352	
Panvel	Panvel	91700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91700	
	Taloja (Silo)	0	0	50000	0	0	0	0	0	50000	
	TOTAL	91700	0	50000	0	0	0	0	0	141700	
Manmad	Manmad	311125	26868	0	0	0	0	0	0	337993	
	Srirampur	0	0	24600	0	0	1800	0	0	26400	

Aurangabad	0	0	0	5000	16000	0	20000	41000
Parbhani			0	0	19750	0	0	19750
Parbhani Deva (PEG)			0	0	0	0	30000	30000
Jalgaon (PWS)	0	0	0	8300	35000	0	20000	63300
Jalgaon	0	0	0	0	0	0	13000	13000
Jalana	0	0	0	0	18000	0	0	18000
Nanded	0	0	0	25000	26350	0	0	51350
Nasik	0	0	0	12000	0	0	0	12000
Ambad	0	0	0	9314	0	0	0	9314
Dondaicha	0	0	0		9500	0	15000	24500
Dhule	0	0	0	0	12000	0	10000	22000
Hingoli (PWS)	0	0	0	6590	0	0	0	6590
Shri.Changdeo(PWS)	0	0	0	4100	0	0	0	4100
Shri Sai Amarth(PWS)	0	0	0	7000	0	0	0	7000
Amalner	0	0	0	0	0	0	7000	7000
TOTAL	311125	26868	24600	17690	138400	0	115000	693297
Nagpur	74978	2720	0	0	0	0	0	77698
Wardha	105000	53760	0	0	8000	0	0	166760
Gondia	30000	0	0	14500	0	10000	0	54500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Akola	0	0	0	0	26000	0	17400	43400	
	Amravati	0	0	5000		25000	0	0	0	30000
	Dhamangaon	0	0	0		2000	6000	0	0	8000
	Kardha	0	0	0		4000	0	0	0	4000
	Soundad	0	0	0		2600	0	0	0	2600
	Chandrapur	0	0	0		0	14000	0	11090	25090
	Khamgaon	0	0	0		0	20000	0	6000	26000
Pvt. PEG	Khamgaon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15000	15000
	Morgaon A.	0	0	0		0	2000	0	0	2000
	Warthi	0	0	0		0	2200	0	0	2200
A.O.B.	Bramhapuri	0	0	0		0	1000		8500	9500
A.O.B.	Gadchiroli	0	0	0		0	1000	0	0	1000
	Amgaon	0	0	0		0	3000	0	0	3000
	Wadsa	0	0	0		0	6000	0	0	6000
	Tumsar	0	0	0		0	5000	0	0	5000
	Lakhandhur	0	0	0		0	1400	0	0	1400

Wadi Hingna	0	0	0	0	0	8200	0	0	8200
Yeotmal (CWC)	0	0	0	7000	0	15000	10000	32000	
Buldhana Urban	0	0	0	5860	0	0	0	5860	
Badnera (CWC)	0	0	0	0	0	25000	0	25000	
NEW PEG	209978	56480	5000	81100	77800	67400	50590	554208	
Pune	29100	0	0	0	0	0	0	29100	
A'nagar	5000	0	22500	0	15000	0	0	42500	
Solapur	32000	0	0	0	0	0	0	32000	
Ratnagiri	10000	0	0	0	9000	0	5000	24000	
Miraj	0	0	0	77500	0	0	0	77500	
Kolhapur	0	0	0	10000	0	0	0	10000	
Fursungi (B)				7560				7560	
Fursungi (A)				7280				7280	
Latur	0	0	0	0	10000	0	8870	18870	
Latur	0	0	0	0	0	0	10000	10000	
P. Vajinath	0	0	0	0	14000	0	0	14000	
Lonand	0	0	0	0	10000	0	8232	18232	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Chincholi	0	0	0	0	0	8000			8000
	Kurduwadi	0	0	20160	0	0	10000		8000	38160
	Pandharpur	0	0	0	0	0	12000			12000
	Nagapur	0	0	0	0	0	4500			4500
	New (PEG) Satara	0	0	0	0	0	3000		7000	10000
	New (PEG) Baramati	0	0	0	0	0	0		6000	6000
	New PEG Kudal	0	0	0	0	0	3600		7000	10600
	TOTAL	76100	0	42660	14840	87500	99100	0	60102	380302
Goa		15000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15000
	Sada	0	0	0	0	5000	0	0	0	5000
	TOTAL	15000	0	0	0	5000	0	0	0	20000
	GRAND TOTAL	848255	88348	122260	38390	245214	315300	67400	225692	1950859
	No. of Depot	12	4	5	6	16	32	4	20	99

Remarks:- ** Panvel (Silo) Pvt. 50000 MT Capacity at Taloje

Decontrolling of sugar

‡2237. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumers and farmers would be benefited from decontrolling of sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which sugar-decontrol would be beneficial when Government's control on sugar has failed to bring the benefits; and

(d) whether Government has formulated any plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Central Government has recently decontrolled the sugar sector partially, by removing the levy obligation on sugar mills and doing away with the regulated release mechanism on open market sale of sugar. These measures seek to increase competitiveness, improve efficiency and promote development of the sugar sector on sustainable basis which in turn would help to meet the aspirations of consumers for better prices and adequate availability of sugar. Further, the de-regulation of the sugar sector is likely to improve the financial health of the sugar mills, increase the cash flow, reduce their inventory cost and also result in timely and better payment of cane price to sugarcane farmers in the country.

(c) As mentioned in reply to parts (a) and (b) above, the partial decontrol is likely to benefit all stakeholders i.e. consumers, farmers and the sugar industry.

(d) The sugar prices have remained stable in the domestic market after the decontrol. Besides, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been asked to procure sugar from the open market through a transparent system so as to make it available in the Public Distribution System (PDS) at the existing retail issue price of Rs. 13.50 per kg. The Central Government would provide fixed subsidy of Rs. 18.50 per kg, limited to the quantity based on their existing allocations. The custom duty on import of sugar has been kept at a moderate level of 15% with effect from 8.7.2013.

Shortage of foodgrains storage facilities

2238. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the quantity of wheat and rice procured annually for PDS during last five years, year-wise;

(b) the gross expenditure incurred in grain procurement, including the average price to farmer for procurement of wheat and rice, for the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government is aware of the huge foodgrains losses in several regions of the country due to shortage of storage facilities; and

(d) if so, the details of these losses for the last three years, State-wise and yearwise, and the steps Government has taken or proposes to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Food grains procured under Central Pool are used for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). The quantity of wheat and rice procured during last five years is as under:

Rice

	(Fig. in Lakh MT)
KMS 2007-08	263.00
KMS 2008-09	341.04
KMS 2009-10	320.26
KMS 2010-11	341.97
KMS 2011-12	350.41

(KMS - Kharif Marketing Season)

Wheat

	(Fig. in Lakh MT)
RMS 2008-09	226.89
RMS 2009-10	253.82
RMS 2010-11	225.14
RMS 2011-12	281.44
RMS 2012-13	381.48

(RMS - Rabi Marketing Season)

(b) Details of the gross expenditure incurred on procurement of wheat and rice during the last five years are given in Statement (*See* below). The minimum Support Price (MSP) paid to the farmers for procurement of wheat and rice during last five years are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) All precautionary measures are taken to preserve the quality of procured foodgrains, however, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakages in roof, exposure to moisture in case of unscientific storage, floods or negligence on the part of persons concerned. State-wise details of foodgrains accrued as non-issuable /damaged in FCI during last three years is given in Statement-III. Steps taken by Government to avoid damage of foodgrains during storage is given in Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Gross expenditure incurred in grain procurement of wheat and rice during last five years, year-wise

Wheat - Rabi Marketing Season

(Rupees in crore)					
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	22882.00	31462.00	28470.00	38613.00	56978.00

RICE - Kharif Marketing Season

(Rupees in Crore)					
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	32928.65	47887.00	53301.00	55780.00	70763.00

Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) - 1st October to 30th September

Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) - 1st April to 30th June.

Statement-II

The Minimum Support Price paid to farmer for procurement of wheat and rice, for the last five years, year-wise

(Rate is rupees per quintal)							
	Marketing Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
MSP +	Wheat	850	1000	1080	1100	Rs.1170	1285
Bonus	Paddy. Gr. A	775	930	1030	1030	1110	1280
	Paddy.	745	900	1000	1000	1080	1250
	Common						

Statement-III

Region-wise details of the foodgrain accrued as damaged/ non-issuable in FCI during last three years and current year

(Figures in tons)

Sl. No.	Region	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1.	Bihar	200	0	997.61
2.	Jharkhand	39	29	3.43
3.	Orissa	18	36	1
4.	West Bengal	922	477	45
5.	Assam	49	442	51.54
6.	North East Frontier (NEF)	175	0	195
7.	Nagaland & Manipur	1	0	0
8.	Delhi	1	10.9	39.86
9.	Haryana	53	0	148.04
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
11.	Punjab	182	37	123
12.	Rajasthan	21	30	120.83
13.	Uttar Pradesh	520	258	18.3
14.	Uttarakhand	1338	72	221
15.	Andhra Pradesh	3	4.33	24.72
16.	Kerala	99	200	0
17.	Karnataka	17	0	141.77
18.	Tamil Nadu	12	29	749.66
19.	Gujarat	2595	226	195
20.	Maharashtra	97	1473	61
21.	Madhya Pradesh	2	0	3.02
22.	Chhattisgarh	2	13.78	8.98
TOTAL		6346	3338.01	3148.76

Statement-IV*Steps taken by Government to avoid damage of foodgrains during storage*

The following precautionary and remedial steps are mandated to be followed by F.C.I, and State Government agencies to check damages to central pool stocks of foodgrains:

- (i) All godowns are to be constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are to be stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are to be used to check migration of moisture from the floor.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are to be provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are to be carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.
- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are to be used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are to be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are to be used as dunnage material. Stacks are to be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water -proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff including senior officers.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is to be followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are to be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.

Need for rejuvenation of PDS

2239. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of PDS in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is urgent need for the system's rejuvenation; and
- (c) whether for rejuvenation of PDS, hilly States like Jammu and Kashmir would receive a special treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) With a view to specially target poor sections of society, the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in June, 1997. Under TPDS, allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) are made to States and Union Territories (UTs) for distribution to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Allocation of foodgrains to BPL families, including AAY families, are made @ 35 kg per family per month at the Central Issue Price (CIP) of Rs.3/- per kg for rice and Rs.2/- per kg for wheat for AAY families and Rs.5.65 per kg for rice and Rs.4.15 per kg for wheat for BPL families. Allocation of foodgrains to about 11.52 crore Above Poverty Line (APL) families are also made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the Central pool and the past offtake. Presently, the allocation of foodgrains to APL families ranges between 15 and 35 kg per family per month. CIPs of foodgrains for APL category are Rs. 7.95 per kg. for rice (common)/Rs. 8.30 per kg. for rice (grade 'A') and Rs. 6.10 per kg. for wheat. A statement indicating State/UT-wise number of households covered under TPDS is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. Government has regularly reviewed and has issued instructions to States/UTs to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and improving the viability of Fair Price Shop operations.

The National Food Security Ordinance (NFSO), 2013 has been promulgated on 5.7.2013. The NFSO, 2013 inter-alia provides that while implementing the provision of this Ordinance and the schemes for meeting specified entitlements, the Central Government and the State Governments shall give special focus to the needs of the vulnerable groups, specially in remote areas and other areas which are difficult to access, hilly and tribal areas, for ensuring their food security.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of BPL, AAY and APL households covered under TPDS

(As reported by 30.6.2013)

(Figures in lakhs)

Sl. No	State/UT	Accepted number of BPL households	AAY households identified and ration cards issued	Total (BPL+ AAY)	Accepted number of APL households
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	25.050	15.58	40.63	117.58
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.610	0.38	0.99	1.43
3	Assam	11.320	7.04	18.36	26.57
4	Bihar	40.220	25.01	65.23	53.56
5	Chhattisgarh	11.560	7.19	18.75	25.36
6	Delhi	2.590	1.50	4.09	23.73
7	Goa	0.340	0.14	0.48	2.72
8	Gujarat	13.100	8.10	21.20	66.37
9	Haryana	4.970	2.92	7.89	23.59
10	Himachal Pradesh	3.170	1.97	5.14	7.43
11	Jammu and Kashmir	4.800	2.56	7.36	10.66
12	Jharkhand	14.760	9.18	23.94	19.62
13	Karnataka	19.910	11.38	31.29	63.08
14	Kerala	9.580	5.96	15.54	45.56
15	Madhya Pradesh	25.430	15.82	41.25	55.78

1	2	3	4	5	6
16	Maharashtra	40.700	24.64	65.34	111.93
17	Manipur	1.020	0.64	1.66	2.41
18	Meghalaya	1.130	0.70	1.83	2.66
19	Mizoram	0.420	0.26	0.68	0.99
20	Nagaland	0.770	0.47	1.24	1.78
21	Odisha	20.330	12.65	32.98	34.93
22	Punjab	2.890	1.79	4.68	35.08
23	Rajasthan	14.990	9.32	24.31	64.36
24	Sikkim	0.270	0.16	0.43	0.62
25	Tamilnadu	29.980	18.65	48.63	90.19
26	Tripura	1.820	1.13	2.95	4.27
27	Uttar Pradesh	65.840	40.95	106.79	154.63
28	Uttarakhand	3.070	1.91	4.98	7.21
29	West Bengal	36.990	14.80	51.79	93.44
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.240	0.04	0.28	0.53
31	Chandigarh	0.210	0.02	0.23	1.8
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.130	0.05	0.18	0.18
33	Daman and Diu	0.030	0.01	0.04	0.22
34	Lakshdweep	0.018	0.01	0.03	0.08
35	Puducherry	0.520	0.32	0.84	1.4
TOTAL		408.778	243.25	652.03	1151.75

Buffer stock of foodgrains

2240. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the norm for buffer stock of foograins at present;
- (b) whether Government proposes to enhance the norm due to implementation of Food Security Act;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to enhance the storage capacity of foodgrains, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The present buffer norms of foodgrains are as under:

(in million tons)			
As on	Rice	Wheat	Total
1st April	14.2	7.0	21.2
1st July	11.8	20.1	31.9
1st October	7.2	14.0	21.2
1st January	13.8	11.2	25.0

Buffer norms include Strategic Reserves of 3 million tons of wheat and 2 million tons of rice from 1.7.2008 and 1.1.2009 respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Revision of buffer norms is under consideration.

(d) Government of India/ Food Corporation of India (FCI) has formulated a scheme called Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) & States Warehousing Corporation (SWC). Under this Scheme, storage capacity is created by private parties, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI. A capacity of 73.28 lakh MT has already been completed. The State wise details are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Government has also approved the proposals for the creation of 20 lakh MT capacity in the form of Silos throughout the country. These 20 LMT Silos would be created against the capacity approved/ storage gap already assessed under the PEG Scheme. State-wise details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I*Status of construction of godowns under PEG Scheme as on 31.07.2013*

Sl. No.	State	Total capacity approved	Total capacity allotted/ sanctioned				Work completed				Total
			CWC	SWC	Private Investors	Total	CWC	SWC	Private Investors	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	Andhra Pradesh	4,51,000	30,000	55,000	3,16,000	4,01,000	30,000	35,800	1,34,000	1,99,800	
2	Bihar	9,40,000	70,000	95,000	1,80,000	3,45,000	0	25,000	8667	33,667	
3	Chhattisgarh	5,42,600	50,000	4,92,600		5,42,600	25,150	2,22,200		2,47,350	
4	Gujarat	1,00,000	5,000		45,000	50,000	4,800			4,800	
5	Haryana	39,52,800	5,000	5,99,376	27,59,415	33,63,791	5,000	1,17,828	13,98,685	15,21,513	
6	Himachal Pradesh	1,42,550	2,500		35,010	37,510	2,500			2,500	
7	Jammu and Kashmir	3,61,690			2,68,510	2,68,510			40,000	40,000	
8	Jharkhand	4,75,000			1,25,000	1,25,000			15,000	15,000	

Fig, in MT

9	Karnataka	3,55,300	50,520	1,87,850	75,000	3,13,370	50,520	1,72,850	50,000	2,73,370
10	Kerala	55,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5000	5,000	0	0
11	Madhya Pradesh	23,66,600	1,08,300	6,21,370	10,16,900	17,46,570	26,400	48,070	1,48,200	2,22,670
12	Maharashtra	6,99,900	47,400	2,96,602	2,53,000	5,97,002	42,400	1,69,287	1,23,000	3,34,687
13	Odisha	3,75,000	1,87,500	1,12,500		3,00,000	1,27,000	82,000		2,09,000
14	Punjab	49,99,000	73,150	2,19,200	41,48,738	44,41,088	71,600	1,05,400	31,69,788	33,46,788
15	Rajasthan	2,50,000		45,000	2,05,000	2,50,000		25,000	1,38,000	1,63,000
16	Tamil Nadu	3,45,000	35,000	45,000	1,15,000	1,95,000	35,000	25000	25,000	85,000
17	Uttarakhand	25,000			10,000	10,000				0
18	Uttar Pradesh	32,95,500	6,200	2,36,000	14,80,500	17,22,700	6200	47,000	5,45,164	5,98,364
19	West Bengal	6,43,600	90,180		30,000	1,20,180	26,000			26,000
TOTAL*		2,03,75,540	7,65,750	30,05,498	1,10,63,073	148,34,321	4,57,570	10,75,435	57,95,504	73,28,509

Statement-I*Status of construction of godowns under PEG Scheme as on 31.07.2013*

Sl. No.	State	Capacity taken over			Work under construction			Yet to Start			Total		
		CWC	SWC	Private Investors	Total	CWC	SWC	Private Investors	Total	CWC		SWC	Private Investors
1	2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1	Andhra Pradesh	30,000	30,800	1,34,000	1,94,800	0	1,82,000	1,82,000	1,82,000	0	19,200	0	19,200
2	Bihar	0	25,000		25,000	10,000	76,333	86,333	70,000	60,000	95,000	2,25,000	
3	Chhattisgarh	21,150	1,19,400		1,40,550	0	1,62,200	1,62,200	24,850	1,08,200	0	1,33,050	
4	Gujarat	4,800			4,800		45,000	45,000	200	0	0	200	
5	Haryana	5,000	1,08,828	12,24,335	13,38,163	3,70,590	8,62,988	12,33,578	0	1,10,958	4,97,742	6,08,700	
6	Himachal Pradesh	2,500			2,500		23,340	23,340	0	0	11,670	11,670	
7	Jammu and Kashmir			10,000	10,000		71,000	71,000	0	0	1,57,510	1,57,510	
8	Jharkhand				0		70,000	70,000	0	0	40,000	40,000	

Fig. in MT

9	Karnataka	50,520	56,250	50000	1,56,770	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	0	15,000	0	15,000
10	Kerala	5000			5,000			0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Madhya Pradesh	26,400	17,220	95000	1,38,620	10000	4,68,580	2,61,400	7,39,980	71,900	1,04,720	6,07,300	7,83,920
12	Maharashtra	42,400	1,65,582	93,000	3,00,982	5000	1,27,315	1,30,000	2,62,315	0	0	0	0
13	Odisha	1,27,000	77,000		2,04,000	32,500	10,000		42,800	28,000	20,500	0	48,500
14	Punjab	71,600	95,400	30,10,658	31,77,658	1550	63,800	7,04,100	7,69,450	0	50,000	2,74,850	3,24,850
15	Rajasthan		25,000	63,000	88,000		5,000	52,000	52,000	0	15,000	15,000	30,000
16	Tamil Nadu	35,000	25000	10,000	70,000		20,000	50,000	70,000	0	0	40,000	40,000
17	Uttarakhand				0			10,000	10000	0	0	0	0
18	Unar Pradesh	6200	47,000	25,000	78,200	0	10,000	6,07,336	6,17,336	0	1,79,000	3,28,000	5,07,000
19	West Bengal	26,000			26,000	3,600		30,000	33,600	60,580	0	0	60,580
TOTAL*		4,53,570	7,92,480	47,14,993	59,61,043	52,650	12,47,485	32,00,497	45,00,632	2,55,530	6,82,578	20,67,072	30,05,180

* A capacity of 3.19 lakh MT approved under XIIth 5 year Plan in the States of NE, will be simultaneously tried under PEG Scheme.

Statement-II*State-wise details of approved Silos capacity.*

Sl. No.	State	Silo capacity in MTs	Approved locations
1.	Bihar	2,00,000	Kaimur, Buxar, Bhagalpur, Bettiah. (50,000 MT each)
2.	Haryana	3,00,000	Bhattu, Jind, Karnal, Palwal, Rohtak, Sonapat. (50,000 MT each)
3.	M.P.	3,50,000	Sehore, Jabalpur, Raisen, Vidisha, Guna, Hoshangabad, Ujjain (50,000 MT each)
4.	Punjab	4,00,000	Barnala, Chhehreatta, Patiala, Jalalabad, Kilaraipur, Sangrur, Dhuri, Batala. (50,000 MT each).
5.	West Bengal	2,00,000	Rangapani, Malda, Dankuni, Mecheda. (50,000 MT each)
6.	Assam	50,000	Guwahati (Changsari) and Dibrugarh. (25,000 MT each)
7.	Kerala	50,000	Eranakulam and Calicut. (25,000 MT each)
8.	Maharashtra	1,00,000	Pune, Nagpur (50,000 MT each)
9.	Uttar Pradesh	3,00,000	Jaunpur, Kannauj, Faizabad, Fatehpur, Basti, Deoria (50,000 MT each)
10.	Gujarat	50,000	Between Palanpur (Banaskantha) and Siddhapur (Patan)
TOTAL		20,00,000	

Supply of sugar and kerosene to States

†2241. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of quota of sugar and kerosene allocated to States through Public Distribution System in this financial year, so far;

(b) whether Government is aware that several States including Uttarakhand are not getting the quota of sugar and kerosene timely; and

(c) if so, the details of measures taken by Government for allocation of sugar and kerosene on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Central Government has decontrolled the sugar sector partially in April, 2013 and has, *inter alia*, removed the levy obligation on sugar mills. Under the new dispensation, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been asked to procure sugar from the open market through a transparent system so as to make it available in the Public Distribution System (PDS) at the existing Retail Issue Price (RIP) of Rs. 13.50 per kg. The Central Government would provide fixed subsidy @ Rs. 18.50 per kg, to those States which continue to have the RIP of Rs. 13.50 per kg. at the Fair Price Shops (FPS) level, limited to the quantity based on their existing fixed quotas.

The Kerosene quota allocated to the States/UTs under PDS during the first half of the current financial year is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Guidelines for procurement of sugar for distribution under PDS and reimbursement of sugar subsidy under the new system have been circulated to all State Governments/UT Administrations. Considering the initial problems that were likely to be faced by the States/UT Administrations, the Central Government has decided to grant advance subsidy for procurement of sugar from the open market. As per the information received from the Government of Uttarakhand, arrangement has been made for procurement of sugar from cooperative sugar mills of the State for distribution under PDS.

Government of India allocates PDS Kerosene to States/Union Territories (UTs) on quarterly basis for distribution under PDS for cooking and illumination only. Further, distribution within the States/UTs through their PDS network to card holders as per their respective criteria is the responsibility of the concerned States/UTs. For the current year 2013-14, upto 2nd Quarter of 2013-14 i.e. April 2013 to September, 2013, an allocation of 18096 KL has been made to the State of Uttarakhand. The overall situation of supply of Kerosene in the country is satisfactory.

Statement*PDS Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) Allocation to States/UTs in KL*

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	2013-14 (upto 2nd Quarter)
1	2	3
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3456
2	Andhra Pradesh	232992
3	Arunachal Pradesh	5736
4	Assam	163992
5	Bihar	407040
6	Chandigarh	1776
7	Chhattisgarh	90048
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1152
9	Dam and Diu	432
10	Delhi**	26712
11	Goa	2616
12	Gujarat	336720
13	Haryana	45624
14	Himachal Pradesh	12336
15	Jammu and Kashmir*	40662
16	Jharkhand	134352
17	Karnataka	261456
18	Kerala	60096
19	Lakshadweep	1008

1	2	3
20	Madhya Pradesh	312840
21	Maharashtra	365232
22	Manipur	12480
23	Meghalaya	12960
24	Mizoram	3912
25	Nagaland	8544
26	Orissa	199488
27	Puducherry	2232
28	Punjab	45072
29	Rajasthan	254376
30	Sikkim	3168
31	Tamil Nadu	174360
32	Tripura	19584
33	Uttar Pradesh	795000
34	Uttarakhand	18096
35	West Bengal	481776
TOTAL ALLOCATION		4537326

*Including separate allocation of 4626 KL for Laddakh Region of Jammu and Kashmir.

** PDS Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) quota for Delhi is linked to new LPG connections released to BPL/AAY/JRC Ration card holders under the "Kerosene Free Delhi Scheme" and is being progressively reduced on quarterly basis.

Price rise of onion

†2242. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the consumer retail sale price of onion touched Rs. 50 per kilogram in the country during the period from June to August, 2013;

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether an Inter-Ministerial Committee has been set up to monitor the situation of price rise;

(d) if so, whether this Committee has given any suggestion to reduce the prices, and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the said Committee has also assessed the onion production, and if so, the status of onion production during the period 2012-13 and 2013-14?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) During the period June to August 2013, the prices as reported by the State Civil Supplies Departments from various centres in the country show that, retail prices of onion have been on the rise. In the month of August 2013, the retail prices of onion were in the range of Rs.40 to Rs.60 per kg.

The prices of onion are governed by market forces of demand and supply, cost of transportation and storage, weather conditions etc.

(c) and (d) An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) is in position to look into onion issues which recommended a Minimum Export Price (MEP) of USD 650 PMT in view of the continued rise in the domestic price of onion. This MEP came into effect from 14th August, 2013.

(e) The Committee reviews, inter-alia, the production of onion in the country.

As per the second advance estimates released by National Horticulture Board, onion production during 2012-13 is 16.66 million tonnes. No firm estimates of onion production for 2013-14 are available.

Foodgrains procurement in Jharkhand

2243. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether foodgrains procurement in Jharkhand has not achieved the desired progress so far;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to achieve the foodgrains procurement target of the State in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Against an estimation of procurement of 3.40 lakh tons of paddy in terms of rice during the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2012-13, a quantity of 2.15 lakh tons of paddy in terms of rice has so far been procured in Jharkhand. Procurement of foodgrains depends on various factors such as production, market surplus, private trade, market rates. Minimum Support Price (MSP) etc.

As the market rate this year was comparatively more than the MSP, the procurement in the State has been less than the estimation.

(c) Paddy in the State is mainly procured by State Government through PACS (Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies) and LAMP (Large Area Multiple Societies) by opening 462 and 424 Paddy Procurement Centres respectively through the State during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2012-13. Food Corporation of India (FCI) made arrangements for undertaking paddy procurement operations at its base depots.

Consumption of cereals and pulses

2244. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the consumption of cereals and pulses in the country during last three years and the quantity available thereof;
- (b) the portion thereof distributed through PDS;
- (c) the number of poor families not able to get the benefit of PDS; and
- (d) the calorie value of per capita food available during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per the latest available data carried out by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), the per capita consumption of cereals and pulses & pulse products was as under:

(Kgs. per annum)

Year	Cereals		Pulses & Pulse Products	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1993-94	163.03	128.97	9.25	10.46
2004-05	147.46	120.94	8.64	9.98
2009-10	138.08	114.05	7.92	9.60

The per capita net availability of cereals and pulses (Per Annum) was as under:

(Kgs. per year)

Year	Cereals	Pulses
2009	148.6	13.5
2010	146.6	12.9
2011(P) *	154.6	14.4

(b) and (c) During the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, Government of India has allocated 475.47 lakh tons, 488.76 lakh tons and 504.68 lakh tons of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) which covers all accepted number of 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the country. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains up to the designated depots of Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

(d) As per the details available in the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) Report No. 540 of NSS 66th round (July 2009-June 2010) on "Nutritional Intake in India", the per capita per day intake of calorie (Kcal) for rural and urban population was as under:

Year	Rural	Urban
2004-05	2047	2020
2009-10	2020	1946

Issue of smart cards

‡2245. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued smart cards in place of ration cards in some of the States to provide foodgrains through Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of benefits achieved from it;
- (c) whether Government proposes to extend this scheme to other States also;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the allocation made under PDS for the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government has initiated implementation of Component-I of the scheme for End-to-end Computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations, which comprises digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portal and grievance redressal mechanisms.

As part of Fair Price Shop (FPS) automation, some States/UTs namely, Chandigarh UT, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Odisha, Puducherry UT, etc. have reported issuance of TPDS commodities on pilot basis using Smart Cards wherein existing ration cards are replaced by Smart Cards. These Smart Cards have biometric features of members of beneficiary families, based on which verification of the beneficiary family takes place and only thereafter, the essential commodities are issued to the intended beneficiaries from the FPSs.

The exact model of FPS automation, that is, Aadhaar based authentication through Point of Sale (PoS) devices, Smart Cards, etc. would be finalised by the Government in consultation with States/UTs and taken up in the next phase.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) State-wise details of allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) under TPDS during 2013-14 is given in Statement.

Statement

*Annual allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice)
under TPDS during 2013-14*

(in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Antyodaya Anna Yojana	Below Poverty Line	Above Poverty Line
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	654.288	1052.088	2116.44
2	Arunachal Pradesh	15.972	25.524	60.06
3	Assam	295.692	475.224	1115.94
4	Bihar	1050.42	1689.372	964.08
5	Chhattisgarh	301.944	485.688	456.48
6	Delhi	63.084	108.696	427.14
7	Goa	6.108	5.532	51.396
8	Gujarat	340.08	550.368	1194.66
9	Haryana	122.82	208.572	424.62
10	Himachal Pradesh	82.74	133.14	312.06
11	Jammu and Kashmir	107.388	201.696	447.72
12	Jharkhand	385.524	619.968	353.16
13	Karnataka	477.816	836.46	1135.452
14	Kerala	250.26	402.348	820.08
15	Madhya Pradesh	664.26	1068.216	1004.04
16	Maharashtra	1034.88	1709.424	2014.74

1	2	3	4	5
17	Manipur	26.724	43.008	101.22
18	Meghalaya	29.484	47.376	111.72
19	Mizoram	10.92	17.64	41.58
20	Nagaland	19.968	32.112	74.796
21	Odisha	531.12	1165.572	495.18
22	Punjab	75.36	121.176	631.44
23	Rajasthan	391.488	629.532	1158.48
24	Sikkim	6.936	11.304	26.04
25	Tamil Nadu	783.144	1259.232	1680.456
26	Tripura	47.52	76.38	179.34
27	Uttarakhand	80.184	128.988	302.82
28	Uttar Pradesh	1719.696	2765.484	2783.34
29	West Bengal	621.684	1553.58	1681.932
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.01	5.34	26.67
31	Chandigarh	0.624	3.756	32.4
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.196	5.028	3.24
33	Daman and Diu	0.636	1.044	3.972
34	Lakshadweep	0.504	0.756	3.36
35	Pudducherry	13.548	21.564	25.2
TOTAL		10217.02	17461.19	22261.25

Assessment of poverty

2246. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a report of Planning Commission, published in July 2013, poverty in the country is reduced to 21.9 per cent in 2011-12;

(b) whether the report has drawn poverty line at Rs. 816 per capita per month for rural areas and Rs.1000/- per capita per month in urban areas;

(c) if so, the reasons for bringing 67 per cent of the population under Food Security Ordinance ignoring the assessment of Planning Commission;

(d) whether Government is considering rejection of Planning Commission's assessment on reduction of poverty and yardstick of poverty line; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty from the Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, based on the methodology determined by an Expert Committee. The NSSO surveys are normally conducted on quinquennial basis. The latest data of large sample survey on Household Consumer Expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 68th Round conducted in 2011-12. Based on this data, the Planning Commission has estimated poverty lines and poverty ratio in 2011-12 following the Tendulkar Committee methodology. According to a Press Note, released by the Planning Commission on 22.07.2013, the poverty in India has reduced to 21.9% in 2011-12 and the poverty line at all India level has been estimated as Monthly Per-Capita Consumption Expenditure of Rs. 816/- for rural areas and Rs. 1000/- for urban areas.

(c) Coverage under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Ordinance, 2013, has been delinked from the poverty estimates and the Ordinance provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, which comes to about 67% of the total population, to receive subsidised foodgrains under TPDS.

(d) and (e) The methodology for estimation of poverty line followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by the experts in the field. The present poverty estimates are based on the methodology recommended by the Expert Group under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar in 2009. The Planning Commission reviews the methodology for estimation of poverty from time to time to make the estimates of poverty contemporaneous. The Planning Commission, in June, 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to 'Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty'.

Families covered by Food Security Law

†2247. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether identification of priority families as mentioned in the draft Food Security Bill would be based on the survey conducted for persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in 2001;

(b) if so, whether Government is aware that the said BPL survey list has excluded the actual poor and included the names of many rich and employed persons; and

(c) if so, whether Government would conduct a fresh survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As per the National Food Security Bill, 2013, passed by the Lok Sabha on 26.8.2013, upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, at the all India level, will be entitled to receive subsidised foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). It further provides that corresponding to the above, the State-wise coverage will be determined by the Central Government. As regards identification, the Bill provides that within the coverage under TPDS determined for each State, the identification of priority households is to be done by the State Governments, in accordance with such guidelines as State Government may specify.

Issue of BPL ration cards

†2248. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of total number of BPL families in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of people given and yet to be given BPL ration cards in the country, as on date, State-wise;
- (c) the details of ration cards meant for other categories, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of ration allocated to States during last ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Planning Commission is the nodal agency of the Government of India for estimating poverty at National and State levels. The Planning Commission estimates the number of persons living below the poverty line in the States from the data of Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). Based on the latest Large Sample Survey of Consumer Expenditure of NSS 68th round (2011-12), the number of persons living below poverty line has been estimated following Tendulkar Committee methodology as 27 crore in 2011-12. The State-wise details of number of persons living below poverty line are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) For allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. However, as reported upto 30.06.2013, State/UT Governments have issued 11.14 crore BPL ration cards, which includes 2.43 crore AAY ration cards. A statement showing State/UT-wise accepted number of BPL families including AAY families and ration cards issued to them by States/UTs is given in Statement-II (*See* below). To ensure coverage of all eligible households under TPDS, the PDS (Control) Order, 2001 *inter-alia* stipulates that State Governments shall get the lists of BPL and Antyodaya families reviewed every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families.

- (c) The PDS (Control) Order, 2001 provides that the State Governments shall

issue distinctive ration cards to Above Poverty Line (APL), BPL and Antyodaya families. Some States/UTs have reported issuance of ration cards to categories other than the above referred category. However, the details of such categories are not maintained in this Department.

(d) A Statement showing allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) under normal TPDS to States/UTs by the Government during the last ten years is given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

*State-wise estimated number of persons living below poverty line
for the year 2011-12 (Tendulkar Methodology)*

Sl. No.	States	No. of persons (in lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	78.8
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4.9
3	Assam	101.3
4	Bihar	358.2
5	Chhattisgarh	104.1
6	Goa	0.8
7	Gujarat	102.2
8	Haryana	28.8
9	Himachal Pradesh	5.6
10	Jammu and Kashmir	13.3
11	Jharkhand	124.3
12	Karnataka	129.8
13	Karala	23.9
14	Madhya Pradesh	234.1

1	2	3
15	Maharashtra	197.9
16	Manipur	10.2
17	Meghalaya	3.6
18	Mizoram	2.3
19	Nagaland	3.8
20	Orissa	138.5
21	Punjab	23.2
22	Rajasthan	102.9
23	Sikkim	0.5
24	Tamil Nadu	82.6
25	Tripura	5.2
26	Uttarakhand	11.6
27.	Uttar Pradesh	598.2
28.	West Bengal	185.0
ALL INDIA :		2697.8

Statement-II

State-wise accepted number of BPL families and BPL/AAY ration cards issued by States/UTs as on 30.06.2013

Sl. No.	State/UT	Accepted No. of BPL households (in lakhs)	Ration Cards (In lakhs)		
			BPL	AAY	Total (BPL+AAY)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	199.93	15.58	215.51
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.61	0.38	0.99

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Assam	18.36	12.02	7.04	19.06
4	Bihar	65.23	39.22	25.01	64.23
5	Chhattisgarh	18.75	11.56	7.19	18.75
6	Delhi	4.09	1.67	1.50	3.17
7	Goa	0.48	0.17	0.14	0.31
8	Gujarat	21.20	25.11	8.10	33.21
9	Haryana	7.89	9.94	2.92	12.86
10	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	3.17	1.97	5.14
11	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	4.80	2.56	7.36
12	Jharkand	23.94	14.76	9.18	23.94
13	Karnataka	31.29	86.41	11.38	97.79
14	Kerala	15.54	14.47	5.96	20.43
15	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	52.48	15.82	68.30
16	Maharashtra	65.34	45.88	24.64	70.52
17	Manipur	1.66	1.02	0.64	1.66
18	Meghalaya	1.83	1.13	0.70	1.83
19	Mizoram	0.68	0.42	0.26	0.68
20	Nagaland	1.24	0.77	0.47	1.24
21	Odisha	32.98	36.78	12.65	49.43
22	Punjab	4.68	2.89	1.79	4.68
23	Rajasthan	24.31	16.53	9.32	25.85
24	Sikkim	0.43	0.27	0.16	0.43
25	Tamil Nadu *	48.63	176.78	18.65	195.43

1	2	3	4	5	6
26	Tripura	2.95	1.82	1.13	2.95
27	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	65.84	40.95	106.79
28	Uttarakhand	4.98	3.07	1.91	4.98
29	West Bengal	51.79	39.92	14.80	54.72
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.08	0.04	0.12
31	Chandigarh	0.23	0.09	0.02	0.11
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.12	0.05	0.17
33	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.04
34	Lakshdweep	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03
35	Puducherry	0.84	1.17	0.32	1.49
TOTAL :		652.03	870.95	243.25	1114.20

* Separate figures of APL/BPL cards in Tamil Nadu are not available as there is no categorisation on the basis of APL/BPL in the State.

Statement-III

Allocation under normal TPDS from 2003-04 to 2013-14 (Upto June, 2013)

(in lakh tons)

Year		Allocation				
		BPL	AAY	BPL+AAY	APL	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2003-04	Rice	126.57	25.06	151.63	191.51	343.14
	Wheat	99.13	20.50	119.63	249.76	369.39
	TOTAL	225.70	45.56	271.26	441.27	712.53
2004-05	Rice	119.25	34.27	153.52	191.00	344.52
	Wheat	93.47	26.33	119.80	252.68	372.48
	TOTAL	212.72	60.60	273.32	443.68	717.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2005-06	Rice	118.99	49.89	168.89	231.00	399.89
	Wheat	73.02	30.78	103.80	212.53	316.33
	TOTAL	192.01	80.67	272.68	443.53	716.22
2006-07	Rice	125.01	62.62	187.63	244.74	432.37
	Wheat	55.03	31.07	86.10	58.08	144.19
	TOTAL	180.04	93.69	273.73	302.83	576.56
2007-08	Rice	123.35	66.97	190.32	82.82	273.15
	Wheat	50.30	33.99	84.29	35.34	119.63
	TOTAL	173.65	100.97	274.62	118.16	392.78
2008-09	Rice	114.94	67.21	182.15	59.16	241.30
	Wheat	59.11	34.75	93.86	52.60	146.46
	TOTAL	174.05	101.96	276.01	111.75	387.76
2009-10	Rice	113.89	67.15	181.05	67.14	248.19
	Wheat	60.24	34.80	95.04	132.80	227.84
	TOTAL	174.13	101.96	276.09	199.94	476.03
2010-11	Rice	116.58	68.37	184.95	76.03	260.98
	Wheat	57.91	33.92	91.83	122.66	214.49
	TOTAL	174.49	102.29	276.78	198.69	475.47
2011-12	Rice	116.19	68.92	185.11	76.16	261.27
	Wheat	58.20	33.46	91.66	135.83	227.49
	TOTAL	174.39	102.38	276.77	211.99	488.76
2012-13	Rice	116.11	68.74	184.85	86.55	271.40
	Wheat	58.50	33.42	91.93	141.35	233.28
	TOTAL	174.61	102.17	276.78	227.91	504.68
2013-14 (Upto June, 2013)	Rice	29.03	17.19	46.21	20.57	66.78
	Wheat	14.63	8.36	22.98	35.08	58.07
	TOTAL :	43.65	25.54	69.19	55.65	124.85

Wastage of foodgrains in FCI godowns

2249. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of foodgrains gets damaged in FCI godowns of various States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and foodgrain-wise during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. However, some quantity of foodgrains get damaged /become non-issuable during storage due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakages in the roof, exposure to moisture in case of unscientific storage, floods or negligence on the part of persons concerned in taking precautionary measures etc.

(b) A quantity of 6346 tons, 3338 tons and 3148 tons of foodgrains accrued as damaged /non-issuable in Food Corporation of India (FCI) during 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively. Foodgrain-wise and State-wise details are given in Statement-I, II and III.

Statement-I

*Region-wise accrual of Non-issuable Damaged Foodgrains
in FCI during 2010-11*

(Figures in tons)

Sl. No.	Region	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	112	88	0	200
2.	Jharkhand	39	0	0	39
3.	Orissa	18	0	0	18
4.	West Bengal	23	899	0	922
5.	Assam	2	47	0	49

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	North East Frontier	0	175	0	175
7.	Nagaland and Manipur	0	1	0	1
8.	Delhi	1	0	0	1
9.	Haryana	28	25	0	53
10.	Punjab	67	115	0	182
11.	Rajasthan	21	0	0	21
12.	Uttar Pradesh.	518	2	0	520
13.	Uttarakhand	931	407	0	1338
14.	Andhra Pradesh	0	3	0	3
15.	Kerala	37	62	0	99
16.	Karnataka	0	17	0	17
17.	Tamil Nadu	0	12	0	12
18.	Gujarat	148	6	2441	2595
19.	Maharashtra	49	48	0	97
20.	Madhya Pradesh.	1	1	0	2
21.	Chhattisgarh	2	0	0	2
TOTAL :		1997	1908	2441	6346

Statement-II

*Region-wise accrual of Non-issuable Damaged Foodgrains
in FCI during 2011-12*

Sl. No.	Region	Wheat	Rice	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jharkhand	17	12	29
2.	Orissa	36	0	36

1	2	3	4	5
3.	West Bengal	103	374	477
4.	Assam	428	14	442
5.	Delhi	10.9	0	10.9
6.	Punjab	0	37	37
7.	Rajasthan	30	0	30
8.	Uttar Pradesh	33	225	258
9.	Uttarakhand	72	0	72
10.	Andhra Pradesh	0.26	4.07	4.33
11.	Kerala	3	197	200
12.	Tamil Nadu	1	28	29
13.	Gujarat	222	4	226
14.	Maharashtra	1444	29	1473
15.	Chhattisgarh	1.45	12.33	13.78
TOTAL :		2401.61	936.4	3338.01

Statement-III

*Region-wise accrual of Non-issuable Damaged Foodgrains
in FCI during 2012-13*

(Figures in tons)

Sl. No.	Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Bihar	833.5	160.8	3	997.3
2	Jharkhand	1.42	2.01	0	3.43
3	Orissa	1	0	0	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	West Bengal	0	45	0	45
5	Assam	0	51.54	0	51.54
6	North Easter Frontier	0	195	0	195
7	Delhi	39.86	0	0	39.86
8	Haryana	148.04	0	0	148.04
9	Punjab	34	89	0	123
10	Rajasthan	27.83	93	0	120.83
11	Uttar Pradesh	1	17.3	0	18.3
12	Uttarakhand	221	0	0	221
13	Andhra Pradesh	24.72	0	0	24.72
14	Karnataka	107.09	34.67	0	141.76
15	Tamil Nadu	743.29	6.37	0	749.66
16	Gujarat	195	0	0	195
17	Maharashtra	30	31	0	61
18	Madhya Pradesh	3.02	0	0	3.02
19	Chhattisgarh	6.46	2.52	0	8.98
TOTAL :		2417.23	728.21	3	3148.44

Payment settlement crisis at NSEL

2250. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the major payment settlement crisis at National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL);

(b) if so, the details of the real cause of such a major crisis and the amount involved;

(c) the action Government has taken against those responsible for the crisis; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to protect the interests of the retail investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The matter is under examination.

Items under PDS

2251. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for increase in the price of essential commodities during the last few months;

(b) the steps Government has taken or proposes to take to contain rise in prices of essential commodities;

(c) whether there is any proposal to add a few more items to the basket of PDS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Wholesale Price index (WPI), which is an indicator of general price trend of essential commodities, shows that the overall rate of inflation for Food Articles which was at 11.95% in February 2013, with fluctuations stood at 11.91% for the month of July, 2013.

Rise in the prices of essential commodities are due to several factors such as shortfall in domestic supply related to demand, transportation cost, adverse weather conditions, improvement in income and living standards with resultant changes in dietary habits etc.

Government has initiated several measures to contain price rise and improve the availability of essential commodities. The steps in operation include allowing

import of various items of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restrictions on exports, prescribing stockholding limits under Essential Commodities Act and allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

(c) to (e) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Construction of Godown under PPP Scheme

‡2252. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of Government while implementing Public Private Partnership (PPP) scheme for constructing godowns and whether its objectives have been fulfilled;

(b) whether it is a fact that the norms set by Government for the Public Private Partnership were not appropriate due to which hundred per cent target could not be achieved; and

(c) whether Government is considering to review the norms, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) There were gaps in the storage capacity for foodgrains available in various States which were attempted to be met through PPP scheme for constructing godowns. The objective was to invite private sector investment in the storage sector. Against approved capacity of 203 lakh MT under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme 148 lakh MT has been sanctioned. The objectives have been broadly met.

(b) and (c) No. Sir. Issues relating to environmental clearances, complexity of land laws, land use changes, delays in approval of layout plans by concerned authorities, have hampered the progress under PEG scheme to achieve hundred percent target as scheduled.

In order to remove bottlenecks and elicit better response from the investors, the following changes have been made in the Model Tender Format (MTF) for the PEG scheme by FCI:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(i) The bidders may be allowed to bid anywhere in the Revenue District in the hilly areas.

(ii) Provision for furnishing Non-Encumbrance Certificate (NEC) with technical bid has been relaxed.

(iii) Provision for High Tension line free land at the time of site inspection, has also been relaxed.

Identification of BPL families

2253. SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is allocating BPL rice for 27.76 lakh families @ 35 kg. per family as per survey in 1997 and Government of Odisha is distributing it to 42.31 lakhs families @ 25 kg. per family per month at present;

(b) whether Government is awaiting Hashim Committee Report to identify BPL families; and

(c) whether in 2011 census, the number of BPL families have increased to 97 lakhs, but Government is not enhancing BPL rice quota to Government of Odisha even at its several requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) For allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of Registrar General of India (RGI) as on 1st March, 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the total number of BPL families in the country is 6.52 crore, which includes about 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Under the TPDS, the State of Odisha is being allotted 141391 tons of rice @ 35 kg per family per month for 32.98 lakh Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including 12.65 lakh Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

As reported by State of Odisha upto 30.06.2013, they have issued 49.43 lakh BPL ration cards including 12.65 lakh AAY cards. State Government has reported

distribution of foodgrains @ 25 kg per family per month for BPL category and foodgrains @ 35 kg per family per month to AAY category.

(b) In so far identification of families for distribution of foodgrains under TPDS is concerned, Government has introduced the National Food Security Bill (NFSB), 2013 on 07.08.2013 which Government passed in the Lok Sabha on 26.08.2013. As per the Bill, 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population at the all India level, will be entitled to receive 5 kg of subsidized foodgrains per person per month under TPDS. The existing AAY households will however continue to receive 35 kgs of foodgrains per household per month. The Bill *inter-alia* provides that within the coverage under TPDS determined for each State, the identification of priority households is to be done by State Governments in accordance with guidelines to be prescribed by them.

(c) Considering the requests of the State Government of Odisha and availability of stocks in the Central Pool, Government of India has been making additional allocation of rice to the State of Odisha for BPL families over and above normal BPL allocation since 2010-11. Odisha was allotted additional 252906 tons of rice each for 2010-11 and 2011-12 and 227615 tons of rice in 2012-13 for additional BPL families. Further, 143702 tons and 204647 tons of rice was allotted in 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively for additional BPL/AAY families in the poorest/backward districts of Odisha.

Rise in prices of wheat, pulses etc.

2254. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of wheat, pulses and other essential commodities like edible oil and sugar have sharply increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action Government has taken/ proposes to take to check their prices so that these items are within reach of common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) which is an indicator of general price trend, show that during the period 2010 to 2012 the annual rate of inflation for Primary Food Articles

was 17.70% for the year 2010, declined to 9.09% for the year 2011 and to 8.50% for the year 2012. During the month of July 2013 rate of inflation for food articles stood at 11.91%. The details are as follows:

Commodity Name	2010	2011	2012	July, 2013
Food Articles	17.70	9.09	8.50	11.91
Cereals	7.72	3.87	9.56	17.66
Rice	7.56	3.24	8.91	21.15
Wheat	7.78	-1.58	9.47	13.42
Pulses	12.33	-1.81	18.86	-7.39
Vegetables	8.28	7.65	11.12	46.59
Sugar	14.70	0.57	9.88	1.93
Edible oils	2.35	13.35	9.92	-2.23

Source: DIPP

Rise in the prices of essential commodities are due to several factors such as shortfall in domestic supply related to demand, transportation cost, weather conditions and improvement in income and living standards with resultant changes in dietary habits etc.

(c) With a view to insulate the vulnerable sections of society and common man, Government has initiated several measures to contain price rise and improve availability of essential commodities such as import of various items of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restriction on exports, prescribing stock holding limits under Essential Commodities Act and allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

Per capita availability consumption of foodgrains

2255. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative figures of per capita availability of foodgrains in rural and urban areas of the country in 2000-2001 and at present;

- (b) the per capita average consumption of foodgrains in the country;
- (c) whether foodgrains being provided to families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) is equal to the per capita average consumption in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The per capita net availability of foodgrains in the country for 2001,2005 and 2010-2012 was as under:

(Grams per day)

Year	Foodgrains
2001	416.2
2005	422.4
2010	437.1
2011	453.6
2012(P)	449.9

(b) As per the latest available data through Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (various rounds) carried out by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), the per capita consumption of cereals was as under:

(Kg. per Annum)

Year	Cereals	
	Rural	Urban
1993-94	163.03	128.97
2004-05	147.46	120.94
2009-10	138.08	114.05

(c) and (d) Government of India allocates foodgrains (rice/wheat) @ 35 kg per family per month under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to BPL families in all States/Union Territories (UTs).

(e) Between 2001-02 and 2011-12, production of foodgrains has increased from 212.85 million tons to 259.29 million tons. Government implements various programmes/schemes viz Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) etc. with the objective of increasing production and productivity.

Missing of huge stock of paddy and wheat from CWC godowns

2256. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether huge stock of paddy and wheat are reported missing from the godowns of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) the action taken against the concerned authorities so far; and
- (d) the steps being taken to increase the security of foodgrains at Central Warehousing Corporation godowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is no incident of loss of Paddy reported from the godowns of the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC). However, 8756 bags of wheat and 2595 bags of rice belonging to Food Corporation of India (FCI) have been reported short at Central Warehouse, Amrawati in the State of Maharashtra and theft of 186 bags of Rice belonging to FCI has been reported at Central Warehouse, Jeypore (Odisha) during December, 2011. No clear reasons for short of the wheat and rice have been identified.

(c) In the case of missing stock of wheat and rice at Amrawati, FIR has been lodged at local Police Station against 11 employees of the Corporation and the Warehouse Manager has been transferred. In case of theft of rice at Jeypore, FIR has been lodged with the local Police and claim has also been raised with the Insurance Company towards the cost of stocks.

(d) CWC has adequate security arrangements for the safety and security of stocks stored at its Warehouses. Monthly physical verification is carried out and tallied with records. General inspections, technical inspections and internal audits are also carried out at regular intervals to ensure quality and quantity of the stocks. Vigilance Division also undertakes periodic preventive checks.

Pendency of cases in consumer courts

2257. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many cases of consumer disputes take very long time to be resolved and the public are at loss; and

(b) if so, whether Government has data of the number of cases lying pending in different Dispute Redressal Commissions across the country, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The norm laid down in Consumer Protection Act, 1986 for disposal of consumer cases is 3 to 5 months. However, in certain cases there are unavoidable delay in disposal due to various reasons. As per information received from National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), the total pendency in National Commission, State Commissions and in District Fora are about 12.95%, 15.59% and 7.79% respectively. The details of cases pending in various Consumer Courts are as follows:

(as on 28.8.2013)

Sl. No.	Name of Agency	Cases filled since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases pending
1.	National Commission	82612	71915	10697
2.	State Commission	611804	516448	95356
3.	District Fora	3307160	3049615	257545
TOTAL :		4001576	3637978	363598

Construction of new warehouses

2258. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of warehousing facility augmented during last year and the current year so far, State-wise;

(b) whether more warehouses would be required due to implementation of Food Security Act, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to construct new warehouses in the country in view of the above; if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether Government would provide any financial assistance to those who construct small warehouses in private capacity; and

(e) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Details of warehousing facility augmented during last year and the current year so far, is as under:

Name of Agency/ Scheme	(figures in MTs)	
	Last Year (2012-13)	Current Year (2013-14)
Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) Statement-I (<i>See below</i>)	31700	9400 (upto July, 2013)
State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) Statement-II (<i>See below</i>)	601000	339000 (upto July, 2013)
Food Corporation of India (FCI) -Plan Scheme Statement-III (<i>See below</i>)	4570	- -
Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme Statement-IV (<i>See below</i>)	2817000	7328000 (as on 31.7.13)
Grameen Bhandaran Yojana Statement-V (<i>See below</i>)	2913618	364897 (upto June 2013)

(b) and (c) To meet the requirement of increased storage capacity the PEG Scheme has been devised. For this purpose, storage requirement of a State has been assessed keeping in view different requirements of consuming and procuring regions. In procuring states, peak stocks in the last 3 years is the benchmark whereas in

consuming states capacity equivalent to 4 months consumption is the yardstick. The Government is promoting construction of storage capacity under PPP mode. Under PEG Scheme, a capacity of 203.76 lakh MT has been approved for construction of godowns at various locations in 19 states. Out of this, a capacity of 145.38 lakh MT has been sanctioned/allotted to private investors, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). A capacity of 73.02 lakh MT has already been completed. For ensuring long-term scientific storage, the Government has also approved construction of 20 lakh MTs of storage capacity in silos within the overall sanctioned capacity of the PEG Scheme through the PPP mode. Under the Plan Scheme there is a proposal to augment 6,10,860 MT capacity Food Grain Godown by FCI during 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17). This includes 5,34,640 MT alone in North East Areas including Sikkim and 76,220 MT capacity in the areas other than North East.

(d) and (e) The project for construction of rural godown under Grameen Bhandaran Yojana can be taken up by various categories of beneficiaries to whom capital assistance under the scheme is provided by way of back ended subsidy. Subsidy @ 25% of project cost is provided to all categories of farmers, agriculture graduates, cooperatives and Central Warehousing Corporation/State Warehousing Corporations; @ 15% of project cost to individuals, companies and corporations and @ 33.33% of project cost in case of North-Eastern States/hilly areas, women farmers and SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives.

Statement-I

*State-wise storage capacity by Central Warehousing Corporation
during the year 2012-13 and 2013-14 (upto 31st July, 2013)*

Sl. No.	State	Capacity	
		2012-13	2013-14
1	Odisha	5000	
2	West Bengal		5200
3	Kerala	5000	
4	Rajasthan	19700	
5	Uttar Pradesh		4200
6	Assam	2000	
TOTAL :		31700	9400

Statement-II

State-wise details of constructed covered capacity by State Warehousing Corporation during 2012-13 and 2013-14 (Upto 31st, July 2013)

(Figure in lakh MT)

Sl. No.	Name of SWC	2012-13	2013-14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.83	0.02
2.	Assam	0.01	0
3.	Bihar	0.25	0.01
4.	Chhatisgarh	0.90	0.49
5.	Haryana	0.99	0
6.	Karnataka	0.64	0.54
7.	Kerala	0.09	0
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0.21	0.97
9.	Maharashtra	1.10	0.71
10.	Odisha	0.42	0.10
11.	Punjab	0	0.05
12.	Rajasthan	0.11	0.25
13.	Tamil Nadu	0	0.25
14.	Uttar Pradesh	0.46	0
TOTAL :		6.01	3.39

Statement-III

The details of the storage capacity created/ to be created by FCI during 2012-13 and current year i.e. 2013-14 under plan scheme for construction of storage godowns

(Figures in MTs)

Sl. No.	Name Of State/ Centre	2012-2013	2013-2014 (Projected)
1	2	3	4
A. North East Including Sikkim			
I.	Assam	0	32000
II	Arunachal Pradesh	0	7760

1	2	3	4
III.	Manipur #	2910	2500
IV.	Meghalaya	0	2500
VI.	Nagaland	0	7,500
VII.	Sikkim	0	1000
SUB TOTAL (NE)		2910	53260

B. Other Than NE

I	Orissa	-	10000
III	Kerala	-	10000
IV	Himachal Pradesh ##	1660	-
SUB TOTAL (OTHERS)		1660	20000
GRAND TOTAL (NE+OTHERS)		4570	73260

Out of this capacity, 4590 MT (3340 MT Senapati & 1250 MT at Jiribam in Manipur) has been completed during 2012-13.

1660 MT capacity in HP at Noorpur was the spillover capacity of 11th Plan which was completed in 2012-13.

Statement-IV

State-wise capacity completed by CWC, SWCs and Private Investors under PEG Scheme as on 31st July, 2013

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity approved by HLC	Total capacity completed
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	4,51,000	1,99,800
2	Bihar	9,40,000	33,667
3	Chhattisgarh	5,42,600	2,47,350
4	Gujarat	1,00,000	4,800
5	Haryana	39,52,800	15,21,513
6	Himachal Pradesh	1,42,550	2,500
7	Jammu and Kashmir	3,61,690	40,000
8	Jharkhand	4,75,000	15,000

1	2	3	4
9	Karnataka	3,55,300	2,73,370
10	Kerala	55,000	5,000
11	Madhya Pradesh	23,66,600	2,22,670
12	Maharashtra	6,99,900	3,34,687
13	Odisha	3,75,000	2,09,000
14	Punjab	49,99,000	33,46,788
15	Rajasthan	2,50,000	1,63,000
16	Tamil Nadu	3,45,000	85,000
17	Uttar Pradesh	32,95,500	5,98,364
18	Uttarakhand	25,000	—
19	West Bengal	6,43,600	26,000
TOTAL :		2,03,75,540	73,28,509

*In addition to 203.76 LMT, a capacity of 3.19 LMT is also approved for construction under PEG Scheme parallelly with 12th Five Year Plan in six NE States.

Statement-V

*Details of Rural Godowns Constructed during 2012-13 and 2013-14
(up to June, 2013) under Grameen Bhandaran Yojana*

Sl. No.	State	2012-13		2013-14 (up to June'13)	
		No. of godowns completed	Capacity created during the year in MT	No. of godowns Completed	Capacity created during the year in MT
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	10	73063.67	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	08	37949	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Bihar	17	26943	04	8675
5	Chhattisgarh	09	25260	01	1920
6	Goa	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	1124	288471	02	227
8	Haryana	36	417081	06	93340
9	Himachal Pradesh	01	99.07	01	246.77
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0
11	Jharkhand	01	5170.97	0	0
12	Karnataka	84	126276	03	5393
13	Kerala	0	0	0	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0
15	Maharashtra	89	156939	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19	Orissa	08	6055.44	02	2684
20	Punjab	75	1343363	0	0
21	Rajasthan	20	48966	0	0
22	Tamil Nadu	16	74721	02	23139
23	Uttar Pradesh	18	128031.3	04	24011.17
24	Uttarakhand	17	77448.06	18	79627.15
25	West Bengal	34	77780.82	38	125633.99
26	Tripura	0	0	0	0
27	UTs	0	0	0	0
TOTAL :		1567	2913618	81	364897.1

Distribution of foodgrains under Food Security Act

2259. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Security Act would be implemented through existing Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether Government has taken fresh measures to streamline the PDS in the country which has 40 per cent leakage and diversion of foodgrains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, how Government would be able to ensure food security and proper distribution of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Bill, 2013 (NFSB), introduced in the Lok Sabha on 7.8.2013, *inter-alia* provides that upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, at the all India level, will be entitled to receive subsidised foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). As such, the TPDS will continue to be implemented, though with the changed parameters relating to coverage, foodgrain entitlements, prices etc. prescribed in the Bill.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. Government has regularly reviewed and has issued instructions to States/UTs to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, monthly certification of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops (FPS) and improving the efficiency of FPS operations, etc.

The NFSB also prescribes measures for reforms in TPDS which Central and State Governments shall endeavour to progressively undertake. These reforms *inter alia* include, doorstep delivery of foodgrains to the TPDS outlets, application

of information and communication technology tools including end-to-end computerization, leveraging "aadhaar" for unique identification, with biometric information of entitled beneficiaries for proper targeting of benefits, diversification of commodities distributed under the Public Distribution System over a period of time etc.

Success of PPP model in Food Processing Sector

2260. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) how far the PPP model is successfully encouraged to be utilised by the farmers in Food Processing sector; and

(b) how far the State Governments are successfully engaged in achieving this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) The Ministry is providing financial assistance to industries/ institutions/ entrepreneurs/ organizations under various schemes for development of food processing industries. Under the scheme of setting up/modernization of abattoirs, the Ministry has approved 3 abattoir projects during the Twelfth plan. Of these, one project at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh is on PPP model between Greater Vizag Municipal Corporation and the Private Partner.

Promotion of FPIs in Haryana

2261. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing any measures to promote Food Processing Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is proposing any special measures for Haryana which has high level of agricultural production and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing the Scheme of Infrastructure Development for Food Processing with three components *viz.*, Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chain Projects and Modernization/ Setting up of Abattoirs; Scheme of Technology Up-gradation/

Establishment/Modernization of food processing industries; Scheme of Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D, Establishment of Food Testing Laboratories and other promotional activities; Scheme of Human Resource Development and Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions for promotion and development of the food processing sector in the country. With a view to give further impetus to the sector, Government has launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) on 1.4.2012 for its implementation with active participation of the State/ UT Governments.

(c) The benefits available under these various schemes of the Ministry may also be availed by the persons/groups/companies/institutions which are willing to set up and promote food processing in Haryana. Further, the various schemes under the NMFP are being implemented by the State Government of Haryana based on the local needs in the State.

Establishment and promotion of FPIs

2262. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI AVINASH PANDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) how many projects for establishment/promotion of Food Processing Industries have been sanctioned in the country particularly in the States of Assam and Maharashtra during the last five financial years along with the details of the projects;

(b) the steps taken to oversee the waste management in such industries;

(c) how many Research and Development projects for the promotion of agriculture and Food Processing Industries have been sanctioned during the last five financial years, project-wise and State-wise along with their terms of reference; and

(d) how much fund has been allotted for Research and Development during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Eleventh Plan scheme of Technology Upgradation/ Modernization/ Establishment of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance to food processing units in the country including Assam and Maharashtra.

The implementing agencies/entrepreneurs receive the financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas and @ 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North-Eastern States, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. The implementing agencies include Central / State Government organizations / PSUs / NGOs / Cooperative societies and private sector units and individuals. The Food Processing Industries assisted, *inter-alia*, generally includes Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) to oversee the waste management. The details of financial assistance provided to the food processing industries in the country including in the State of Assam and Maharashtra during the last five financial years along with the details of the projects are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

However, the above said scheme has been subsumed in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme-National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) during Twelfth Plan implemented through State/UT Governments.

(c) Under the Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and other Promotional Activities including financial assistance released by Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), under Department of Science and Technology for implementation of Research and Development scheme of Ministry of Food Processing Industries during the last five years, project-wise and State-wise are given in Statement-II and III (*See below*).

The Terms of Reference for R&D projects revolves around the objectives of the scheme which are as below:—

- (i) End products/outcome/findings of R&D work to benefit Food Processing Industries in terms of product and process development;
- (ii) Improved packaging;
- (iii) Value addition and leading to innovative products and processes with commercial value.

(d) The component of Research and Development is a part of the Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research & Development and other Promotional Activities. The R&D Scheme is a project oriented, therefore, allocation of budget is not done project-wise. However, funds sanctioned for R&D projects in the last five years is given in Statement-II and III.

Statement-I

*Number of units assisted and financial assistance provided during the years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, State-wise under the scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPIs.**

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13**	
		App	Amount released	App	Amount released	App	Amount released	App	Amount released	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	48	908.999	41	677.05	30	562.096	105	1904.726	221	4245.35
2	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	17.67	3	376.14	2	66.42	0	0	0	0.00
4	Assam	17	176.79	22	418.74	26	875.701	12	242.7782	18	376.12
5	Bihar	2	42.3	2	35.59	6	136.681	5	89.65674	3	51.99
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	1	25	0	0	0	0.00
7	Chhattisgarh	10	163.725	4	45.46	27	297.574	75	841.8276	148	1738.11
8	Delhi	7	160.65	2	50	3	82.6	16	410.68	9	198.70

(Rs in lakh)

9	Goa	1	24.57	1	24.26	1	25	2	50	1	19.42
10	Gujarat	39	714.81	42	665.18	52	1419.72	106	1975.034	53	858.71
11	Haryana	23	349.415	11	134.96	14	325.28	62	828.2817	86	1122.16
12	Himachal Pradesh	5	152.745	10	269.58	7	204.53	14	377.51	5	133.45
13	Jammu and Kashmir	3	22.05	7	59.73	5	89.095	6	98.42	2	16.43
14	Jharkhand	0	0	3	44.09	4	85.425	1	16.57	4	76.53
15	Karnataka	35	629.895	24	269.55	14	377.79	61	896.2926	81	1271.03
16	Kerala	32	545.37	33	567.53	19	411.72	52	901.285	15	252.44
17	Madhya Pradesh	14	201.87	18	273.03	14	211.294	23	376.5413	31	422.19
18	Maharashtra	121	1802.633	113	1717.3	56	1006.524	202	2824.152	137	1864.79
19	Manipur	3	45.51	6	163.75	1	23.975	11	189.7182	21	467.49
20	Meghalaya	2	159.57	2	123.02	2	100.045	0	0	1	5.42
21	Mizoram	0	0	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
22	Nagaland	4	178.205	1	64.99	1	6.205	0	0	2	14.21
23	Odisha	2	38.68	6	84.4	8	200.875	9	113.5908	15	259.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
24	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25	6	150.00
25	Punjab	61	841.36	13	172.37	9	149.495	147	1692.902	231	2420.76
26	Rajasthan	44	551.975	27	325.46	48	691.123	95	1236.563	41	615.63
27	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
28	Tamil Nadu	36	594.355	41	672.11	24	493.582	75	1389.79	44	689.19
29	Tripura	1	13.86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
30	Uttar Pradesh	43	875.475	32	560.63	47	1078.638	53	907.0513	39	622.29
31	Uttarakhand	6	163.15	12	307.57	6	168.523	5	138.047	5	115.49
32	West Bengal	19	390.135	10	136.48	10	317.945	19	319.87	8	186.85
33	MM IV									5	426.28
TOTAL :		579	9765.767	487	8249.97	437	9432.862	1157	17846.29	1232	18620.0

*Data is under reconciliation with co-ordinating bank i.e. HDFC Bank.

** Committed liabilities of Eleventh Plan.

Statement-II

Number of Research and Development Projects assisted and financial assistance provided during the years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13, State-wise under the scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
		App	Amount released	App	Amount released	App	Amount released	App	Amount released	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	3.50	1	13.56	0	0	2	36.22	0	0
2	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Assam	0	0	1	39.342	5	106.06	5	53.59	1	7.868
5	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

(Rs. in lakh)

Statement-III

Grant released by Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), under Department of Science and Technology for implementation of Research and Development Scheme of MoFPI as on 31.3.2013.

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Nos.	Amount of grant-in-aid released
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	39.17
2	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
4	Assam	3	70.45
5	Bihar	0	0
6	Chandigarh	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	1	8.874
8	Delhi	0	0
9	Goa	0	0
10	Gujarat	1	13.708
11	Haryana	0	0
12	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
13	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
14	Jharkhand	0	0
15	Karnataka	4	107.478
16	Kerala	0	0
17	Madhya Pradesh	0	0

1	2	3	4
18	Maharashtra	2	36.606
19	Manipur	0	0
20	Meghalaya	0	0
21	Mizoram	0	0
22	Nagaland	0	0
23	Odisha	0	0
24	Puducherry	0	0
25	Punjab	0	0
26	Rajasthan	0	0
27	Sikkim	0	0
28	Tamil Nadu	5	70.704
29	Tripura	0	0
30	Uttar Pradesh	0	0
31	Uttarakhand	0	0
32	West Bengal	0	0
TOTAL		19	346.99

Vacations in courts

2263. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are summer and winter vacations in courts every year in the country;

(b) whether this practice was started by the Britishers;

(c) whether before independence most of the judges who were Britishers used to visit England when the vacations start; and

(d) whether in view of acute shortage of judges in all the courts and given a huge backlog of cases, Government will discontinue this practice?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The practice of vacation in courts is continuing since pre-independence. The duration of vacations in the Supreme Court and High Courts is governed by the Rules/Regulations framed by the concerned courts. Considering the staggering arrears of cases pending in Courts, the Law Commission of India in its 230th Report submitted on 5th August, 2009 had, *inter-alia*, recommended that vacations in the higher judiciary must be curtailed by at least 10 to 15 days and the court working hours should be extended by at least half an hour. The Report has been forwarded to the Chief Justices of High Courts to consider the recommendations contained therein for adoption.

SC/ST and women judges in higher judiciary

2264. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether vacancy exist in the Supreme Court and High Courts in our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of judges from SC and ST communities working in the Supreme Court and High Courts; and

(d) the number of women judges working in these courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Statement showing the vacancies of judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts as on 26.08.2013, is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, no caste or class-wise data of Judges is maintained. The Government has, however, requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and from amongst women.

Statement*The vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court of India and High Courts*

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 26.08.2013
1	2	3
A.	Supreme Court of India	03
B.	High Court	
1	Allahabad	71
2	Andhra Pradesh	24
3	Bombay	17
4	Calcutta	21
5	Chhattisgarh	08
6	Delhi	07
7	Gauhati	08
8	Gujarat	11
9	Himachal Pradesh	03
10	Jammu and Kashmir	03
11	Jharkhand	11
12	Karnataka	14
13	Kerala	08
14	Madhya Pradesh	10
15	Madras	19
16	Manipur	02
17	Meghalaya	01
18	Orissa	07

1	2	3
19	Patna	10
20	Punjab & Haryana	21
21	Rajasthan	09
22	Sikkim	01
23	Tripura	0
24	Uttarakhfthd	01
TOTAL		287

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms

2265. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms has been set up to streamline and quicken the disposal of more than three crore pending cases in judicial courts, including High Courts and Supreme Court;

(b) if so, its terms of reference and the period within which it will give its Report; and

(c) whether it is looking only into the infrastructural and manpower constraints or will also review the archaic laws of nineteenth and early part of twentieth century, which are mostly being followed by the courts of law?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Disposal of pending cases in various courts is within the domain of the judiciary. However, with a view to assist judiciary in addressing the problem of pendency of cases, the Central Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms in August, 2011. The Mission has twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has adopted a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration by providing support for better court infrastructure including computerisation, encouraging increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, recommending policy and legislative measures in the areas

prone to excessive litigation suggesting re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and laying emphasis on human resource development. The National Mission has a time frame of five years (2011-16).

Judge-population ratio

2266. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the judge-population ratio in the country is sufficient to provide timely justice to the public at large;

(b) how the judge-population ratio of our country is comparable with other developing countries; and

(c) the efforts being made to increase this ratio and Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) In All India Judges' Association case the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 21st March, 2002, on a comparative assessment of the position in other countries directed that there should be 50 judges for a million population in the country. Further, the Supreme Court in its order dated 1st February, 2012 in the case of *Imtiyaz Ahmed Vs State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.* has, *inter-alia*, asked the Law Commission to evolve a scientific assessment for creation of additional courts. Currently the judge-population ratio in the country is around 15 judges/ judicial officers per million population.

In the Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, the State Governments were, *inter-alia*, asked to create new posts of judicial officers at all levels with requisite staff and infrastructure in consultation with concerned High Courts.

Vacant posts of judges

†2267. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government feels that posts of judges in the courts are far less in number as compared to the population of the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, whether Government has made its assessment;
- (c) the number of posts of judges vacant in the Supreme Court and various High Courts of the country; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to fill these posts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court had, in its judgement of 21st March, 2002, in *All India Judges' Association & Ors Vs. Union of India & Ors*, directed the States to increase the judge strength in subordinate judiciary from the existing 10 per million population to 50 Judges per million population in a period of five years. On this, a modification petition in the Supreme Court was filed praying that the increase in Judge strength in the Union Territories for which the Central Government is administratively responsible, be allowed based on workload and pendency of cases. Further the Supreme Court in its order dated 1st February, 2012 in the case of *Imtiyaz Ahmed vs. State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.* has asked the Law Commission to evolve a scientific assessment for creation of additional courts.

(c) The Statement showing the vacancies of judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts as on 26.08.2013, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998. the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of the Supreme Court rests with Chief Justice of India and for the appointment of a Judge of the High Court rests with the Chief Justice of that High Court. Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among Constitutional authorities to select suitable candidates for higher judiciary. It is time consuming process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 26.08.2013
1	2	3
A.	Supreme Court of India	03

1	2	3
B.	High Court	
1	Allahabad	71
2	Andhra Pradesh	24
3	Bombay	17
4	Calcutta	21
5	Chhattisgarh	08
6	Delhi	07
7	Gauhati	08
8	Gujarat	11
9	Himachal Pradesh	03
10	Jammu and Kashmir	03
11	Jharkhand	11
12	Karnataka	14
13	Kerala	08
14	Madhya Pradesh	10
15	Madras	19
16	Manipur	02
17	Meghalaya	01
18	Orissa	07
19	Patna	10
20	Punjab & Haryana	21
21	Rajasthan	09
22	Sikkim	01
23	Tripura	0
24	Uttarakhand	01
TOTAL		287

Setting up of Lok Adalats

2268. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of setting up of Lok Adalats in various States/UTs in the country;

(b) whether Lok Adalats have since been set up in all regions of the country to help fast-track justice to the people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is proposed to provide some incentives to the States who go fast in this direction; and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) A statement showing the number of Lok Adalats organised during the last two financial years *viz.* 2011-12 and 2012-13, State/UTs-wise, is given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) No such proposal is under consideration.

Statement

Number of Lok Adalats organised during the last two financial years viz. 2011-12 and 2012-13, State/UTs-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the State Authority	Number of Lok Adalats organised	
		2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16,330	15,269
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		8
3.	Assam	59	66
4.	Bihar	2,515	2,413
5.	Chhattisgarh	1,774	2,252
6.	Goa	64	106

1	2	3	4
7.	Gujarat	10,400	10,091
8.	Haryana	1,478	2,871
9.	Himachal Pradesh	596	404
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	467	575
11.	Jharkhand	4,664	1,692
12.	Karnataka	28,070	14,067
13.	Kerala	3,820	4,185
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,420	1,440
15.	Maharashtra	3,227	2,868
16.	Manipur	5	3
17.	Meghalaya	15	6
18.	Mizoram	29	25
19.	Nagaland		58
20.	Odisha	596	990
21.	Punjab	3,345	3,322
22.	Rajasthan	20,828	18,975
23.	Tamil Nadu	5,150	5,011
24.	Tripura	82	105
25.	Uttar Pradesh	2,588	4,018
26.	Uttrakhand	208	182
27.	West Bengal	1,307	1,506
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	76	26
29.	U.T. Chandigarh	884	822
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	3

1	2	3	4
31.	Daman and Diu	2	5
32.	Delhi	1,134	1,182
33.	Lakshadweep	108	44
34.	Puducherry	106	99

Assistance to advocates of SC/ST/Backward Classes

‡2269. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide financial assistance to advocates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes to encourage them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when a final decision will be taken in this regard; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Women's Reservation Bill

‡2270. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Women's Reservation Bill is pending for a long time; and

(b) whether Government would introduce the Women's Reservation Bill and get it passed immediately?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) A Bill, namely, the Constitution (One Hundred and Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2008 providing for reservation for women in as nearly as one-third of the total seats of the Lok Sabha and of the State Legislative Assemblies, including the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, for a period of 15 years was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 6th May 2008. The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

on 9th March 2010. The Bill is yet to be passed by the Lok Sabha and is also required to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States by resolution.

Bringing improvement in judicial system

‡2271. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the proposal of All India Judicial Service;
- (b) whether Government intends to bring fairness and transparency in selection of judges of High Courts and to ensure accountability in judicial system;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is aware of the alleged corruption prevalent in judiciary; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken/to be taken to remove the same and for structural improvement of judicial system?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Constitution was amended in 1977 to provide for an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) under Article 312 of the Constitution. There has been support in favour of AIJS by the Law Commission in its Reports, the First National Judicial Pay Commission, Committee on Centre State Relations and Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee. However, consensus on having AIJS has not been possible in the consultations held with the State Governments and the High Courts. The proposal was placed for consideration in the Conference of Chief Ministers of the States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 07th April, 2013. It has been decided that further consultation on the matter would be required with States and High Courts.

(b) and (c) The Judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President under Article 124 (2) of the Constitution while the Judges of the High Courts are appointed under Article 217 (1) of the Constitution. The appointment of Judges is made as per the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure for Appointment of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998. In order to make the mechanism for appointment of Judges more

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

broad based and transparent, a proposal has been initiated by the Government to establish a Judicial Appointments Commission.

(d) and (e) As per the "in-house mechanism" for the higher judiciary, Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of their Courts. Administrative control over the members of the subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court and State Government.

"The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill" has been moved by the Government to provide for a comprehensive mechanism for handling complaints made by citizens on grounds of alleged misbehaviour and incapacity against judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts and for taking action against those found guilty after investigation. The Bill also lays down judicial standards and makes it incumbent on the Judges to declare their assets/liabilities.

Status of statutory document to election manifesto

†2272. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the election reform process, election manifestos of political parties should be granted the status of statutory document so that political parties should not be able to gather votes on false promises and they must have to fulfil the promises made in their election manifesto;

(b) whether in a situation in which promises are not fulfilled as per the manifestos, the cancellation of recognition and party symbol of political parties, would make them responsible to the people; and

(c) whether Government will consider this in the interest of people?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give statutory backing to the manifestos of the political parties.

Financial assistance for setting up of Fast Track Courts

†2273. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is planning to expedite setting up of Fast Track Courts in view of large pendency of court cases in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Governments have requested for financial assistance from the Centre in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Setting up of subordinate courts is the responsibility of the State Governments under the Constitution of India. Fast Track Courts (FTCs) were set-up to handle long pending cases on the recommendation of Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) and grants were provided to States for FTCs for the eleven year period from 2000-01 to 2010-11. States were free to meet any expenditure in excess of the grant provided by the Central Government. The Central Scheme of grant to States for FTCs was discontinued after 31.3.2011. However, some States have continued FTCs beyond 31.3.2011 with their own resources.

After the gang rape incident in Delhi in December, 2012 Government requested the Chief Justices of High Courts to set-up Fast Track Courts for speedy trial of pending rape cases. The State Governments were requested to provide requisite financial support to the High Courts in this regard and utilize the 10% additional positions of Judges being created in the Subordinate Judiciary in compliance with the judgment of the Supreme Court on 19th April 2012 in Brij Mohan Lal case. Further, in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, it has been resolved that the State Governments shall, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, take necessary steps to establish suitable number of Fast Track Courts relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of the society and provide adequate funds for the purpose of creating and continuing Fast Track Courts.

A meeting of Law/Home and Finance Secretaries of State Governments and Registrar General of High Courts was convened on 31st May, 2013 to discuss, *inter-alia*, the setting up of Fast Track Courts and doubling of the number of existing district and subordinate courts in the country. Some of the States requested for additional funds for setting up the proposed Fast Track Courts and for doubling

of courts. In response, it was emphasized that subordinate courts is a state subject and, thus, the funds will be provided by the States, as per the decision of the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices on 7th April, 2013.

Sky train project

2274. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of Sky Train Project of Konkan railway;
- (b) the total expenditure made by Government on the project;
- (c) the efforts made till date to market the project; and
- (d) the reasons for dropping or temporarily postponing the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The Sky Bus Project has since been shelved.

(b) Total expenditure made so far on Sky Bus Developmental Project is Rs. 52.30 crore. The expenditure has been made by Konkan Railway using its own internal resources.

(c) and (d) Sky Bus Developmental Project has been shelved in view of insufficient response from the industry for investment in this project.

Policy for allocation of stalls/shops

†2275. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have finalised a policy/adopted a procedure for allocation of stalls/allotting shops on contract at railway stations for sale of different items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any contractor has been given contract without following the above policy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A new Catering Policy, 2010 dated 21.07.2010, for allotment of stalls/trolleys for sale of catering/vending items and Miscellaneous Article Policy dated 02.11.2012 for allotment of stalls/trolleys for sale of miscellaneous articles, have been issued. As per the above policy guidelines, allotment of all static General Minor Units (GMUs) at A, B & C categories of stations is done through open, competitive, two-packet tender system while allotment of all static Special Minor Units (SMUs) at A, B, and C category stations and all GMUs and SMUs at D, E and F category stations is done by calling applications through press notification duly following the laid down eligibility criteria, financial capability, annual sales turnover, past experience etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Deaths while crossing unmanned railway tracks in Karnataka

2276. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people died while crossing the railway tracks in Karnataka during the last five years;

(b) the number, out of this, in Bengaluru;

(c) the preventive measures taken by Railways in this regard; and

(d) the number of skywalks constructed during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) The number of people died while crossing the railway tracks in Karnataka and in Bengaluru during the year 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 are as under:

Year	No. of people died while crossing railway tracks in Karnataka	No. of people died while crossing railway tracks in Bengaluru
1	2	3
2008	834	425
2009	765	380

1	2	3
2010	815	405
2011	936	460
2012	851	430

(c) Following preventive measures are being taken to prevent deaths on railway tracks:

- Regular announcements are made through Public Address system at important railway stations urging the passengers to use foot over bridges and to avoid crossing of railway tracks.
- Various passenger awareness programmes are being organised to create awareness amongst general public about the fatalities of crossing railway tracks.
- Unauthorised trespassing on railway premises including the railway track is a punishable offence in terms of section 147 of the railways Act. Regular drives are conducted against unauthorised trespassing on railway premises as well as railway tracks.

(d) No skywalks have been constructed in the last five years in the state of Karnataka.

Affordable pure water at railway stations

†2277. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering any scheme for providing affordable pure water to train passengers as Rail Neer and other bottled water is available/ being sold between Rs. 12 to Rs. 18 at railway stations and on trains whereas it costs a maximum of Rs. 6;

(b) if so, by when such scheme would be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The sale price of Rail Neer packaged drinking water bottle is based on the cost of production of water which depends upon the cost of raw materials, electricity, fuel, transportation and manpower etc.

Incidents of maoist/naxalite attacks

†2278. SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of sabotage and attack by Maoists/Naxalites on running trains during last three years and current year, year-wise, and the number of persons injured/died in these incidents, zone-wise;

(b) the *ex-gratia* amount announced and given to the victims of these incidents; and

(c) the measures taken/being taken by Railways to prevent the occurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) The number of incidents of sabotage and attacks by Maoists/Naxalites on running trains reported during the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 (Upto June), the number of persons died/injured and amount of *ex-gratia* announced and paid to the victims are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Policing on Railways is a State Subject and the prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the States concerned. As such, the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Govt. Railway Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying their staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.

Regular co-ordination is being maintained with the State Governments concerned and intelligence inputs are shared with Intelligence Bureau, Government Railway Police/Local Police from time to time.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Security arrangements in naxal affected areas have been augmented by increasing the strength of train escorting parties. The train escort parties are equipped with sophisticated weapons, sufficient ammunition, bullet proof jackets, walkie-talkies, dragon search lights etc. Additional deployment of CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) is being made by the concerned State Governments in Railway as well as civil areas in naxal affected sections.

Statement

The number of incidents of sabotage and attacks by Maoists/ Naxalites on running trains reported during the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 (Upto June), the number of persons died/injured and amount of ex-gratia announced and paid to the victims are as under:

Railway	Year	No. of incidents of sabotage or attacks by Maoist/Naxalites on running trains reported	No of Persons		Amount of Ex-gratia announced and paid (in Rs.)
			Died	Injured	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Central	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
Eastern	2010	3	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
East Central	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	1	1	3	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	1	3	6	1725000
East Coast	2010	5	0	0	0
	2011	4	0	0	0
	2012	4	0	0	0
	2013	1	0	0	0
Northern	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
North Central	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
North Eastern	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
Northeast Frontier	2010	0	0	0	
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
North Western	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
Southern	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
South Central	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
South Eastern	2010	7	150	174	66800000
	2011	1	0	0	0
	2012	1	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
South East Central	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
South Western	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
Western	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
West Central	2010	0	0	0	0
	2011	0	0	0	0
	2012	0	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0	0
	2010	15	150	174	66800000
TOTAL	2011	6	1	3	0
	2012	5	0	0	0
	2013	2	3	6	1725000

Earnings from freight

2279. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways carried 256.79 MT of revenue earning freight traffic during the first quarter of 2013-14;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been an increase in the earning from freight traffic during the said quarter of the current fiscal as compared to the same period last year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Railways has carried 256.79 MT revenue earning freight traffic during the first Quarter of 2013-14.

(b) Zonal Railway-wise and commodity-wise freight loading during the 1st quarter *i.e.* April' 13 to June' 13 are as under:

(figures in million tonnes)

Railways	Commodity-Wise Loadings										Total revenue earning traffic
	Coal	Raw material for steel plants except iron ore	Pig iron and finished Steel	Iron ore	Cement	Food grains	Fertilizers	Mineral Oil (POL)	Container Service	Other goods	
Central	6.72	0.00	0.07	0.00	1.53	0.32	0.69	1.17	2.30	0.62	13.42
Eastern	9.32	0.00	0.63	0.00	0.55	0.09	0.01	0.10	0.18	3.17	14.05
East Central	23.76	0.10	0.07	0.00	0.63	0.80	0.00	0.35	0.02	0.70	26.43
East Coast	22.93	1.09	1.48	6.72	0.37	0.40	0.90	0.64	0.24	2.46	37.23
Northern	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.59	6.85	1.82	1.77	2.06	0.41	13.54
North Central	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.37	0.01	0.77	0.58	0.30	2.59
North Eastern	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.14	0.33
Northeast Frontier	0.69	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.48	0.06	0.65	0.01	0.67	2.78

North Western	0.12	0.36	0.00	0.00	1.37	0.66	0.04	0.43	0.82	0.43	4.23
Southern	6.77	0.70	0.03	0.12	0.62	0.70	0.54	0.83	0.34	0.55	11.20
South Central	14.64	0.39	0.01	0.00	6.99	1.69	0.75	0.22	0.25	1.64	26.58
South Eastern	7.06	0.53	3.48	17.92	2.21	0.03	0.06	0.45	0.32	0.82	32.88
South East Central	28.98	0.60	1.44	1.67	3.30	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.62	37.26
South Western	2.14	0.00	1.38	2.69	0.17	0.10	0.08	0.37	0.21	0.52	7.66
Western	5.84	0.00	0.07	0.00	1.80	0.17	2.47	1.99	2.73	1.76	16.83
West Central	0.12	0.26	0.00	0.15	5.49	0.60	1.12	0.67	0.11	0.46	8.98
Konkan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.58	0.80
TOTAL	129.09	4.21	8.70	29.27	26.22	13.95	8.57	10.61	10.32	15.85	256.79

(c) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that there has been an increase of Rs.1571.38 crore in the earnings from freight traffic during the 1st quarter of 2013-14 as compared to the freight earnings realized during the same period of last year (2012-13).

(d) Zonal Railway-wise freight earnings during the 1st quarter *i.e.* April'13 to June'13 as compare to the same period of last year is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Zone	Freight earning		
	2012-13 (1st Quarter)	2013-14 (1st Quarter)	Increase/Decrease Col. (2-1)
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Central	1339.59	1446.20	106.61
Eastern	768.31	734.57	-33.74
East Central	1559.77	1702.57	142.80
East Coast	2312.09	2709.68	397.59
Northern	1570.76	1680.10	109.34
North Central	1883.65	1981.23	97.58
North Eastern	348.44	339.09	-9.35
Northeast Frontier	390.00	367.60	-22.40
North Western	762.22	869.35	107.13
Southern	645.62	712.31	66.69
South Central	2102.33	2191.65	89.32
South Eastern	2002.76	2135.13	132.37
South East Central	1860.59	2070.18	209.59
South Western	593.86	544.23	-49.63
Western	1574.90	1681.54	106.64
West Central	1305.79	1426.63	120.84
Metro	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	21020.68	22592.06	1571.38

Railway line projects

2280. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of railway tracks already laid along with the ones that have been proposed, State-wise; and

(b) the status of gauge conversion on Lumding-Silchar and Rangia-Murkongselek as proposed in the Railway Budget 2013-14?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) As on 31.03.2011, 64459.9 Route Km of railway line exists across the country over Indian Railways. State-wise break-up of existing railway network (as on 31.03.2011) is given in Statement (*See below*). 500 Km of new lines have been targeted for completion during 2013-14.

(b) Lumding-Silchar including branch lines (482.73 Km) gauge conversion & Rangia-Murkongselek (510.33 Km) gauge conversion projects have been declared as National Projects and funds for these projects is provided by Ministry of Finance over and above the Gross Budgetary Support provided to the Railways. Rangia-Rangpara North (124 Km) & Rangpara North-North Lakhimpur (172 Km) sections of Rangia-Murkongselek project have been completed & remaining portion is targeted for completion in 2014-15. Lumding-Silchar project is also in advance stage of execution and planned for completed by December, 2015 subject to availability of resources.

Statement*Breakup of existing railway network*

(a) *Break-up of existing railway network (as on 31.03.2011) across the Indian Railway is as under:*

Sl. No.	State	Length (in Route Km.)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	5264.15
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1.26
3	Assam	2433.99

1	2	3
4	Bihar	3612.02
5	Chhattisgarh	1187.47
6	Delhi	183.23
7	Goa	69.31
8	Gujarat	5270.89
9	Haryana	1540.14
10	Himachal Pradesh	296.26
11	Jammu and Kashmir	255.67
12	Jharkhand	1984.27
13	Karnataka	3076.24
14	Kerala	1049.74
15	Madhya Pradesh	4954.48
16	Maharashtra	5601.62
17	Manipur	1.35
18	Meghalaya	0.00
19	Mizoram	1.50
20	Nagaland	12.85
21	Orissa	2461.05
22	Punjab	2133.89
23	Rajasthan	5784.16
24	Sikkim	0.00
25	Tamil Nadu	4062.06
26	Tripura	151.40

1	2	3
27	Uttar Pradesh	8762.30
28	Uttarakhand	344.91
29	West Bengal	3936.89
	TOTAL	64459.9

Elimination of unmanned level crossings

2281. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble Minister for Railways has announced in the Budget Speech for elimination of all unmanned level crossings in the country;

(b) if so, the number of unmanned level crossings eliminated so far in the country, particularly in Karnataka;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to eliminate all unmanned level crossings in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The Hon'ble Minister for Railways has mentioned in his Budget Speech 2013-14 that 10,797 level crossings will be eliminated during the 12th Plan.

(b) In the last five year from 2007-08 to 2012-13, Indian Railway have eliminated 5400 unmanned level crossings (3090 by closure, merger & subways and 2310 by manning). During year 2013-14 (upto July'2013), 313 nos. unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) have been eliminated out of which 16 UMLCs have been eliminated in Karnataka.

(c) and (d) It has emerged from the study of pattern of accidents that **manning of unmanned level Crossings is not an ideal solution**. Therefore, the policy of manning of unmanned level crossings has been reviewed and Ministry of Railways have decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:

- (i) **Closure** - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU).
- (ii) **Merger** - Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUB) or Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road.
- (iii) **Provision of Subways/RUBs.**
- (iv) **Manning** - The unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above means, will be progressively manned based on rail-road traffic volume, visibility conditions.

Elimination of all these Level Crossings is a gigantic task and involves lot of manpower, resources and budgetary support. It is a continuous process and is done as per need, inter-se priority of works, availability of funds and co-operation of State Government, particularly, in getting consent of closure of level crossing and undertaking to maintain road and drainage in future for subways.

Onboard housekeeping service

2282. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have any plan to start Onboard House Keeping Service in all Mail/Express trains; and
- (b) the number of Mail/Express trains presently covered under this Service; train-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) **On Board Housekeeping Services (OBHS)** scheme is prescribed in the trains meeting laid down criterion such as nature of train service, journey time/period, pattern of maintenance etc. The scheme has so far been implemented in around 385 trains. Presently, this service is being provided in 23 Rajdhani, 21 Shatabdi, 27 Duronto & 314 other identified long distance Mail/Express trains for frequent cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles & passenger compartments during the run of the trains. Other important trains as identified by Zonal Railways are also planned for provision of OBHS.

Duronto trains

2283. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any plan to start Duronto trains from Patna, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Katihar railway stations to New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Introduction of new train services including Duronto train is an on-going process, subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc. However, at present, linking of Patna, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Katihar with New Delhi by Duronto train is not being planned due to operational and resource constraints.

Development of healthcare infrastructure

2284. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have proposed to develop new healthcare infrastructure facilities along the railway network in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof along with the locations identified for the purpose, zone-wise;

(c) the time-frame set for its implementation; and

(d) the other steps being taken by Railways to improve healthcare facilities/ infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up healthcare facilities, i.e. OPD & Diagnostic Centres, Secondary Level General Speciality Hospitals and Tertiary Level Super Speciality Hospitals on vacant railway land, not immediately operationally required, along the railway network of the country. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is to develop these facilities for

the beneficiaries of common people living in those areas, passengers & railway men. To operationalise the MoU, a High Power Working Group with senior officials of both the Ministries, has identified 91 locations, 50 for OPD & Diagnostic Centres on 200. sq.m. of land, 25 for Secondary Level General Speciality Hospitals on 5 acres of land, 16 for Tertiary Level Super Speciality Hospitals on 20 - 25 acres of land as a pilot project. M/s. IL & FS has been appointed as a Transaction Advisor by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for this project. The zone-wise list of locations is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) M/s. IL & FS are entrusted to carry out the Technical and Financial assessment for the select locations and advise the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare about the suitable locations specific model for the healthcare facilities to be developed there. Keeping in view the location specific requirements, a few locations were chosen for assessment on pilot basis depending upon the assessment by IL & FS of these locations. It will be assessed by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare as to how many of these sites/locations would be suitable for setting up the facilities.

(d) Upgrading of the healthcare facilities/infrastructure for benefit of Railway beneficiaries is an ongoing process. Works and equipments are being sanctioned regularly to improve the existing infrastructure and add new facilities based on the needs of the Railway beneficiaries. In the recent past, two centres for advanced Cardiac Care viz. at B.R.Singh hospital, Kolkata/ Eastern Railway and J.R. hospital, Mumbai/ Western Railway and a Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber also at B.R.Singh hospital, Kolkata have been added.

Statement*Zone-Wise List of Identified Locations*

Railway	OPD & Diagnostic Centre	Secondary Level General Hospital	Speciality	Tertiary Level Super Speciality Hospital
1	2	3	4	
Central Railway	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Badnera, Balharshah, Betul, Bhusawal, Burhanpur, Chalisgaon, Chandrapur, Daund, Devlali, Ghoradongari, Gulbarga, Kalyan, Khandawa, Kolhapur, Kopergaon, Kurduwadi, Lonavala, Malkapur, Manmad, Matheran, Miraj, Mumbai CST, Mumbai LTT, Nasik Road, Sangli, Sewagram, Shegaon, Shirdi, Solapur, Thane, Wardha	Balharshah, Betul Chandrapur, Daund, Khandawa, Kurduwadi, Lonavala, Miraj, Solapur		Bhusawal, Chalisgaon, Miraj, Wardha
Eastern Railway	Asansol, Bandel, Berhampore, Barrackpore, Bhagalpur, Burdhan, Dumka, Durgapur, Howra-Juamalpur, Kalyani, Kolkata Station, Krishnanagar City Jn., Madhupur, Naihati, Rampurhat, Raniganj, Sahibganj, Sainthia, Sealdah, Sultanganj	Asansol, Bally, Ballygunge, Barasat, Budge Budge, Burdhan, Canning, Jadavpur, Malda Town, New Farakka, Paglachandi Rampurhat, Sultanganj, Siuri		Asansol, Dankuni, Howrah, Kanc Hrapara, Malda Town, New Farakka, Paglachandi Rampurhat, Rangaghat
East Central Railway	Ara, Bagaha, Bakhtiyarpur, Banmaki Jn., Baraun-Ibarh, Barkakana, Begusarai, Bettiah, Bihar Sharif, Buxar, Chakia, Daltonganj,	Barauni, Gay A, Khagaria, Mansi, Naugachia		Mughalsarai

1	2	3	4
East Coast Railway	Danapur, Dhanbad, Dildar Nagar, Garhwa Road, Gomoh, Hajipur, Hasanpur Road, Jhajha, Khagaria, Kiul, Koderma, Lakhisarai, Madhepura, Madhubani, Mansi, Mokama Jn., Mughal Sarai, Muzaffarpur, Narkatiaganj, Naugachia, Parasnath, Patna, Patna City, Rajendranagar Terminus, Rajgir, Raxaul, Renukoot, Saharsa, Samastipur, Sasaram, Singrauli, Sitamarhi, Sonpur, Sugauli Jn.	Bhadrak, Brahmpur Jajpurkeonjhar Road, Kantabanji, Koraput Jn., Palasa, Rayagada, Visakhapatnam	Kantabanji
Northern Railway	Akbarpur, Amethi, Amritsar, Amroha, Ayodhya, Bahadurgarh, Ballabgarh, Barabanki, Bareilly, Beas, Bhadohi, Bhatinda, Chakki Bank, Chandausi, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Delhi Cantt., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Delhi, Shahdara, Deoband, Faizabad, Faridabad	Ambala Cantt, Chakki Bank, Chandigarh, Hapur, Jind, Kurukshetra, Partapghar, Sonapat, Sultanpur, Udhampur	Chandigarh, Rampur

Faridkot, Firozpur, Ghaziabad, Gurgaon, Hapur, Haridoi, Haridwar, Hazrat Nizamuddin, Jalandhar Cantt., Jalandhar City, Jammu Tawi, Janghai, Jaunpur, Jind, Kalka, Karnal, Kathua, Kurukshetra, Laksar, Lucknow, Ludhiana, Meerut Cantt., Meerut City, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Nangloi, New Delhi, Palwal, Panipat, Pratapgarh, Pathankot, Patiala, Phagwara, Prayag, Rai Bareilly, Raiwala, Rampur, Rishikesh, Rohtak, Roorkee, Saharanpur, Sahibabad, Shahaganj, Shakur Basti, Sonipat, Sultanpur, Udhampur, Una Himachal			
North Central Railway	Agra Cantt, Aligarh Jn, Babina, Banda, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Gwalior, Jhansi, Khajuraho, Lalitpur, Mahoba, Mathura, Mirzapur, Morena, Orai, Raja Ki Mandi	Aligarh Jn, Kanpur, Mathura	Nil
North Eastern Railway	Azamgarh, Ballia, Belthra Road, Bhatni, Chhapra Jn., Deoria Sadar, Ghazipur City, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Kaptanganj Jn., Khalilabad, Lakhimpur, Mairwa, Manduadih, Mau Jn, Salempur, Siwan Jn., Suraimanpur	Azamgarh, Mau Jn, Paliakalan, Sitapur	Nil

1	2	3	4
North East Frontier Railway	Agartala, Alipurduar Jn, Araria Court, Barsoi Jn., Binnaguri, Bongaigaon, Dhuvguri, Dibrugarh Town, Dimapur, Diphu, Itanagar, Katihar, Kishanganj, Kokrajhar Jn, Lumding, New Alipurduar, New Bongaigaon, New Cooch Behar, Rangapara North, Rangiya Jn, Silchar, Siliguri Jn., Srirampur, Tezpur, Tinsukhia, New Mal Jn.	Coochbehar, Guwahati, Katihar, New Bongaigaon, New Cooch Behar, New Jalpaiguri, Rangapara North, Siliguri Jn.	Guwahati, Katihar New Bongaigaon, New Jalpaiguri, New Mal, Rangapara North, Siliguri Jn.
North Western Railway	Falna, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Lalgarth, Merta Road, Nagaur, Pali Marwar, Rani, Devnagar	Lalgarth	Bandikui, Rewari Sawai Madhopur
Southern Railway	Chengalpattu, Ernakulam, Erode Jn, Kannur, Karur Jn, Kasargod, Katpadi Jn, Kollam Jn, Kumbakonam, Nagercoil Jn, Rameswaram, Shoranur Jn, Thiruvanthapuram Central, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli Jn, Trichur, Villipuram Jn, Virudunagar Jn, Tirur	Tiruchirapalli Jn	Nil
South Central Railway	Adoni, Anantapur, Annavaram, Aurangabad, Bapatla, Basar, Bhadrachalam Road, Bhimavaram Town, Bhimavaram Jn., Bidar, Chirala, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Dharmavaram, Dhone, Dornakal, Gooty, Gudur, Guntakal, Jahna, Kakinada,	Jalna, Adilabad, Aurangabad, Basar, Bhadrachalam Road, Bhimavaram Jn, Dharmavaram, Eluru, Gooty, Kakinada Port, Machilipatanam, Mahaboobnagar, Nagarsol, Pakala, Palakollu, Purna,	Purna, Vijayawada

	Town, Kavali, Kazipet, Khammam, Machilipatnam, Raichur, Secunderabad, Tanuku, Mahbubnagar, Mahbubabad, Manchiryal, Tirupati, Vijaywada	
	Mantralayam, Road, Mudkhed, Nadikudi, Nagarsol, Nalgonda, Nanded Nandyal, Nellore, Nidadavolu, Nizamabad, Ongole, Pachora, Pakala, Palakollu, Parli, Vajinath, Purna, Raichur, Rajahmundry, Renigunta, Secunderabad, Sirpur, Kagaznagar, Srikalasthi, Tadepalligudem, Tandur, Tanuku, Tenali, Tuni	
South Eastern Railway	Balasoore, Bokaro Steel City, Chakradharpur, Ghatsila, Hatia, Jhargram, Jharsuguda, Kharagpur, Midnapore, Rajgangpur, Ranchi, Rourkela, Tatanagar	Bankura, Bokaro Steel City, Hatia, Jhargram, Jharsuguda, Mecheda, Midnapur, Purlia, Ranchi, Uluberia
South Western Railway	Bangalore City, Bangarpet, Bellary, Bhadravati, Birur, Gadag, Ghataprabha, Harihar, Hindupur, Hospet, Hosur Town, Londa, Mandya, Sri Satya Sai Prashanti, Nilayam, Tumkur, Yashwantpur	Birur, Dharwad, Hosur Town, Hubli
Western Railways	Nil	Nil
West Central Railway	Bharatpur, Bina, Damoh, Gangapur City, Ganj Basoda, Guna, Hoshangabad, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Katni, Kota, Mathar, Narsingpur, Pipariya, Rewa, Sagour, Satna, Sawai Madhopur, Vidisha	Gangapur City, Itarasi, Kota
		Bokaro Steel City, Garden Reach, Halida, Kharagpur
		Krishnaraja Nagar Old Station
		Bhuj, Rajkot
		Gangapur City, Itarasi, Kota

Train connectivity of Secunderabad and Raichur during day time

2285. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no train during day time from Secunderabad to Raichur; and

(b) if so, by when the facility would be provided to avoid inconvenience to passengers of both sides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The DEMU service between Kacheguda and Raichur, announced in Railway Budget 2011-2012, would provide a day time service between Kacheguda and Raichur upon its introduction.

Utilisation of budget allocated for railways

†2286. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is not being able to properly utilise the budgetary allocation made for Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the failure to utilise the budget fully is the major reason behind non-completion of projects; and

(d) if so, whether Government has fixed responsibility in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) The Plan allocations under Budgetary sources in Revised Estimates and Actual in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 are given below:

(Rs. in crores)			
Year	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Variation
2010-11	30445	31012	567
2011-12	33151	30271	-2880
2012-13	36215	35242	-973

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

It would be seen that the expenditure during 2011-12 and 2012-13 was less than the allotments made, primarily due to regulation of expenditure in view of lesser internal resources generated.

(c) No, Sir. In view of scarcity of resources, the works have been prioritised so as to make optimum utilisation of available finances and ensure timely completion of last mile projects etc.

(d) Does not arise.

Shortage of TTEs

2287. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have shortage of TTEs;
- (b) whether shortage of TTEs is a factor that influences passengers not to take tickets;
- (c) if so, the shortage of TTE posts under each division of Railways; and
- (d) the steps Railways are taking to fill up TTE vacancies on a priority across all railway zones in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand for train facilities

2288. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Saurashtra region of Gujarat is having very low/inadequate train facilities and representations have been made to Railways for starting of new trains;
- (b) whether Railways have received representations from various people/organisations/rail users and associations for starting new trains from Rajkot/Bhavnagar region of Saurashtra; and
- (c) if so, by when the demand of people of Saurashtra is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Representations are received at various levels of Railway. However, compendium of such data is not maintained. To cater to the needs of Rajkot/Bhavnagar, the following trains have been announced in Railway Budget 2013-2014:

1. Okha-Nathdwara Express (weekly) *via* Rajkot
2. Rajkot-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express (weekly)
3. Somnath-Rajkot Passenger (daily)
4. Bhavnagar-Palitana Passenger (daily)
5. Bhavnagar-Surendranagar Passenger (daily)
6. Extension of 79454/79445 Morbi-Wankaner DEMU upto Rajkot

Participation in rescue operations in Uttarakhand

2289. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have participated in the rescue operations in the flood affected areas of Uttarakhand in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of additional passenger and goods trains operated by Railways for rescue of flood victims; and

(d) the number of flood affected persons rescued and quantum of relief material transported by Railways during the said operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Though Railways do not have any tracks in the Uttarakhand state where the unfortunate devastation took place, Railway authorities were in constant touch with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)/National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) so that immediate help could be extended as and when demanded by them.

During the period of rescue operations in the flood affected areas of Uttarakhand in the recent past, in addition to considerable number of available regu-

lar trains, 10 special trains were run and about 100 additional extra coaches were attached to regular trains from 20.06.2013 to 25.06.2013 for important destinations for the convenience of passengers.

Further, stranded passengers/pilgrims whose status was authenticated by various State Governments through their Resident Commissioners were allowed to travel in the second class by the following means:

- (i) Special relief trains attached for the purpose of evacuation of stranded passengers.
- (ii) Special relief coaches attached/earmarked by regular trains for clearing stranded passengers. Besides above, relief material were carried free of cost by coaching trains from any station of Indian Railways to any station of Uttarakhand for distribution among the cloudburst affected population of Uttarakhand for the period from 25.06.2013 to 08.08.2013.

One platoon of Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) was deployed at Haridwar Station for Bandobast Duty. Railway Protection Force (RPF) staff had been deployed to assist the Uttarakhand flood victims to board their respective destination at Dehradun and Haridwar railway stations under the supervision of superior officers.

No separate data for number of flood affected persons rescued and quantum of relief material transported by Railway is maintained.

Passenger services on Konkan route

2290. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received any representation regarding augmentation of passenger services on Konkan route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of steps proposed to introduce new trains on Konkan route and to terminate passenger services at Ratnagiri/Sawantwadi;

(d) whether there is a proposal for stopping all Mail/Express/Superfast trains at Chiplun station; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Representation for introduction of new train services, extension and increase in frequency of existing train services are received constantly at various levels of railway administration. However, a compendium of the same is not maintained.

(c) The following train services *via* Konkan route, have been announced in 2013-14:

- (i) Hazrat Nizamuddin-Thiruvananthapuram Express (weekly)
- (ii) Lokmanya Tilak (T)- Kochuveli Express (Bi-weekly)
- (iii) Madgaon-Mangalore Intercity Express (daily)
- (iv) Bhatkal-Thokur DEMU (6 days a week)
- (v) Madgaon-Karwar DEMU (6 days a week)

In addition to the above, Ratnagiri -Madgaon Passenger (daily), which would run *via* Konkan route, would originate/terminate at Ratnagiri.

(d) and (e) At present, 12 pairs of Mail/Express trains and 2 pairs of passenger trains have scheduled stoppage at Chiplun station. In addition to these two pairs of Express trains *viz.* 22634/22633 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Thiruvananthapuram Express (weekly) and 22113/22114 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Kochuveli Express (Bi-weekly), with scheduled stoppage at Chiplun station, have been announced in the Railway Budget 2013-14. These are considered adequate for present level of traffic at Chiplun. However, provision of stoppage of trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways and depends upon various factors like demands, traffic offering at station, operational feasibility, commercial viability, availability of alternative services, passing time of the train at the station, population & signification of towns/cities and developments etc.

Loan for dedicated freight corridor

2291. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are finding it difficult to arrange loan for Dedicated Freight Corridor from Dadri to Mumbai in view of the clause that one of the company participating in the project has to be a Japanese company and the term of contract of earlier company has expired;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the efforts made to complete the project in time without further time and cost overrun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Funding for entire Western Dedicated Freight Corridor has already been tied up with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

(c) To ensure timely completion of the project, steps taken, inter alia, include setting up of a separate organization *viz.* Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd (DFCCIL) to implement this project, tying up of funding, timely land acquisition before start of construction, regular monitoring of the project implementation and active coordination with various agencies to obtain required clearances for the projects.

Railways projects in Jharkhand

2292. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway projects taken up in Jharkhand;

(b) how many of them have been badly delayed;

(c) the reasons for delay in their completion; and

(d) the efforts being made to cut the delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Projects are undertaken railway-wise and not State-wise. However, 9 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion, 13 Doubling and 3 electrification projects falling fully/partly in Jharkhand have been taken up.

(b) and (c) Due to limited availability of resources, difficulty in land acquisition, forestry clearances, adverse law and order condition, the ongoing projects get delayed. Railways have a huge throwforward of Rs.1.78 lakh crore for ongoing New Lines, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects with limited amount of resources resulting in thin spread of funds which are allocated annually to these projects as per availability of resources.

(d) Efforts have been taken to generate extra budgetary resources through State participation, defence funding, declaring some projects as National Projects and implementation of bankable projects through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). To expedite completion of projects, forestry & other clearances have been taken up with State Government at highest level.

Website strengthening by IRCTC

2293. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has decided to strengthen its e-ticketing website to enable it to book 7200 e-tickets per minute as compared to the current rate of 2000 e-tickets per minutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the move to upgrade its website will cost IRCTC heavily; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Next Generation e-ticketing System is under development by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) to be used on Indian Railway Catering & Tour-

ism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) website which would support 7200 e-tickets per minute.

This would have high performance and seamless access even at peak time and have high availability and business continuity, scalability to cater to future growth and security to prevent frauds and unauthorised access.

(c) and (d) The estimated cost is Rs.68.97 crores.

Commercial utilisation/development of surplus railway land

2294. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the locations/sites identified by the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for commercial utilisation/development and the revenues likely to be generated as a result thereof, zone-wise;

(b) the present status in respect of each of the locations/sites identified for the purpose;

(c) whether RLDÂ has shortlisted/finalized the developers for the purpose, and if so, the details thereof along with the rates offered and the revenues likely to be earned; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by Railways for commercial utilisation of surplus railway land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Zone-wise details of the location/sites identified by the Rail Land Development Authority as amenable for commercial utilization/development and the revenue likely to be generated is as under:

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	No of sites	Station (Division)
1	2	3	4
1	Central	1	Thane (Mumbai)
2	East-Central	2	Gaya (Mughal Sarai) Raxaul (Samastipur)
3	East-Coast	1	Visakhapatnam (Waltair)
4	North East	2	Izzatnagar Izzatnagar
5	North West	1	Ajmer
6	North Central	2	Gwalior (Jhansi) Gwalior (Jhansi)
7	North Frontier	1	Siliguri (Katihar)
8	Northern	8	Delhi (Delhi) Badli (Delhi) Amritsar (FZR) Amritsar Chandigarh Ambala Katra (Firozpur) Brar Square
9	South Central	7	Hyderabad (Hyderabad)

Site particulars	Area in site (Ha)	Approx. site Potential (Rs. in crores)	Status
5	6	7	8
–	0.80	23	Assigned to MRVC for development.
Gautum Budh Institute	0.57	4.62	Developer Fixed
On station approach Road	1.20		Consultancy study completed
Daba Gardens (Ambedkar circle)	0.20	11	Consultancy study completed
Shahamatganj	14.68	44	Consultant appointed
Cluttervuckganj	55.27		Consultant appointed
Ajmer	0.30	8	Consultancy study completed
Kampoo Kothi	0.60	32.27	Consultancy study completed
Gola Ka Mandir	1.30		Developer Fixed
Burdwan Road	1.20	7	Bids opened and discharged.
Old steam loco shed Sarai Rohilla	15.50	2420.51	Developer Fixed
Near Badli Station	0.70		Consultancy study completed
Near Railway Colony No.2	0.25		Consultancy study completed
A' Block			
Railway Colony	1.26		Consultancy study completed
Plot No. 14	23.51		Consultancy
Plot No. 15	3.52		study completed
Katra	4.28		Notice inviting tender published for inviting architecture consultancy.
New Delhi	5.20		Consultancy study completed
Air Space over PRS, Hyderabad	0.40	55.55	Consultancy study completed

1	2	3	4
			Hyderabad
			Secunderabad (Hyderabad)
			Vijaywada (Vijaywada)
			Aurangabad (Nanded)
			Guntakal (Guntakal)
			Guntakal (Guntakal)
10	Southern	6	Chennai (Chennai)
			MTP (Chennai)
			Chennai Esplanade
			Salem (Salem)
			Nagapattinam (Tiruchirapalli)
			Pattukoti (Tiruchirapalli)
11	South-Western	2	Bangalore city (Bangalore)
			Bangalore Cantt
12	Western	6	Rajkot (Rajkot)
			-do-
			-do-
			Mumbai (Mumbai)

5	6	7	8
Nizamabad Railway Station	0.24		Consultancy study completed
Near Moulali flyover	8.90		Final Consultancy report submitted
Near Rly Hospital	0.15		Letter of acceptance to developer cancelled. Bids re-invited.
Part of old ITDC Hotel	3.90		Area under verification with State Govt.
In Rly Colony	0.02		Consultancy study completed
In Rly Colony	0.03		Consultancy study completed
Kakkapalam, Padi, 5kms from ICF	2.10	49.85	Reserve price revised. Bids re-invited.
Built up/air space at Metro stations	2.20		Consultancy study completed
	0.10		Consultancy study completed
2 plots at Salem market station	0.33		Consultancy study completed
1 plot at station	0.13		Consultancy study completed
3 plots at station	0.80		Land documentation completed.
On platform road Bangalore	1.01	77.9	Developer Fixed.
	1.71		Consultancy study completed
Old Surendra Nagar Station	24.69	2674	Consultancy study completed
Rajkot- Lakhajinagar Section	2.89		Consultancy study completed
MORBI-Workshop	3.35		Consultancy study completed
Bandra (East)	4.50		Process of demarcation and issue of property card is underway.

1	2	3	4
			Rajkot (Rajkot)
			Jamnagar (Rajkot)
13	South-East Central	2	Raipur (Raipur)
			Raipur (Raipur)
14	Kolkata Metro	14	Tollygunj station
			Bansdroni Station
			Chandni Chowk station
			New Garia Station
			Between Central Station and M.G Road
			Central Station
TOTAL		55	

5	6	7	8
Morbi-Store	1.85		Consultant appointed.
Old station area	1.00		Tender re-invited.
On Highway opp. Zone III / BMY	91.00	-	Consultancy study completed
Urkura-Wagon Repair Shop	137.00		Consultancy study completed
Air space over station	0.59		Consultancy study completed
Adjacent to the Bansdroni station bldg.	0.30		Consultancy study completed
Dispersal bldg.	0.03	14.95	
Air space over New Garia Station	0.90		
Air Space Central Stn. At Eden Hospital-2	0.08		NOC not given by Kolkata Municipal Corporation.
52 A&B CR Avenue	0.48		
53 CR Avenue Air Space	0.47		
53 CR Avenue Ground Space	0.03		
56 CR Avenue	0.30		
57 CR Avenue	0.08		
At Eden Hospital exits of Central Station	0.09		
Opposite Eden Hospital (85B CR Avenue exits of Central Station)	0.06		
Between Shyam Bazar & Shova Bazar	0.08		
Between Tollyganj & Ravindra Srovar	0.03		Consultancy study completed
	422.17	5422.65	

(d) Indian Railways have approx. 11.25 lakh acre of land. About 90% of this land is under railways operational and allied usages. The total vacant railway land at present is about 1.10 lakh acre. The vacant land is mostly in the form of a narrow strips along tracks and is also essential for servicing and maintenance of track and other infrastructure. The vacant railway land is utilized for execution of various infrastructural projects for meeting future growth needs of Railways and include projects like doubling, traffic facilities, Rail Coach and Component factories, etc. The vacant land, which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational needs, is utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible, in order to mobilize additional financial resources through Rail Land Development Authority, set up through the Railway (Amendment) Act, 2005 to undertake commercial development of that vacant railway land/air space subject to extant rules/instructions governing such use, as amended from time to time.

Train accidents

2295. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of accidents taken place due to collision of trains in the seven States of North-East in the last three financial years;
- (b) the number of people injured/ died therein;
- (c) whether the Ministry plans to install Anti-Collision Devices, which have been installed under Konkan Railway, for preventing collision;
- (d) if so, the status of the project, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Ministry to prevent accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) During the last three years i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13, one consequential collision between trains took place on Northeast Frontier Railway covering the states of North East. On 26.12.2012 at 17.30 hrs. while the train No. 55908 Dn. Passenger was arranged to be received on loop line (Platform line) and Up Light Engine on main line (Line No. 2) of Chhabua station on New Tinsukia-Dibrugarh Town section of Tinsukia Division of Northeast Frontier Railway,

Loco Pilot of Light Engine passed Starter Signal of Main Line at 'Danger' and collided head on with the Passenger train which was approaching Dn. Home signal. As a result, engine of the Passenger train derailed by front trolley. 3 persons suffered grievous injuries and 7 persons sustained simple injuries in this accident.

(c) and (d) The deployment of Anti-Collision Device (ACD) after initial trials, was done on Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) covering 1736 Route KMs. This was a single/double line non-electrified Broad Gauge section. Based on experience of NFR, to improve reliability and dependability of ACDs and to test its functioning on multiple lines as well as electrified routes, the specification and design configuration were revised and the system as evolved was tried on the electrified multiple lines of automatic signalling section of Southern Railway in 2010-11. Operation and technical problems noticed on Southern Railway trials are being looked into. Anti-Collision Device provided by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) and on trials on Northeast Frontier Railway also has operational problems and technical issues which are yet to be resolved. It will be possible to proliferate ACD system on complicated and High Density Routes (HDN) on other railways only after these issues are resolved comprehensively by KRCL. KRCL has now developed improved ACD version 1.1.2 for deployment on NFR. Improved ACD version has been validated by Electronics Testing Development Centre (ETDC) and Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) has cleared for deployment of ACD on Tinsukia Division of NFR. Further clearance for ACD version 1.1.2 for deployment on other Divisions of NFR shall be subject to satisfactory performance of initial deployment in Tinsukia Division.

(e) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. In addition to Anti Collision Device, the other devices/systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Vigilance Control Device (VCD), Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), etc.

Hacking of CRIS website

‡2296. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that website of Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS) was hacked in April, 2013 that caused enormous problem to passengers;
- (b) if so, the details of the hacker and objectives behind it;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to make CRIS website fool-proof; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Necessary action is taken as advised in Security audit by authorized agency.

Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor

2297. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Son Nagar to Dankuni section of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor, which passes through the poorest region of the country, has been proposed to be built under PPP model;
- (b) whether no interest has been shown by any PPP partner yet in the above section;
- (c) if so, whether this shows that PPP is not a viable model for this section;
- (d) whether Government has mooted alternate model for this section, such as external financing adopted in other sections of the corridor; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The bids are yet to be invited.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) No, Sir.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (e) Does not arise.

Revamping of railway stations

2298. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway stations that are proposed to be revamped during the current financial year;
- (b) the status of such stations on the East Coast Railway network;
- (c) whether it is proposed to create certain additional facilities on the East Coast Railway network to boost tourism in this backward region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Revamping, improvement/augmentation of amenities at stations is a continuous process and is undertaken as per requirement subject to *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

(b) to (d) On East Coast Railway, recently various facilities have been provided/upgraded at 19 stations under 'Adarsh' station scheme *viz.* Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Khurda Road, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam Road, Rayagada, Koraput, Kantabanji, Titlagarh, Balugaon, Paradeep, Kesinga, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Bargarh Road, Khariar Road, Muniguda, Mahasamund, Lanjigarh Road and Doikallu. In addition, 14 more stations *viz.* Visakhapatnam, Bhadrak, Palasa, Angul, Bobbili, Duvvada, Talcher, Naupada, Parvathipuram, Jakhapura, Meramandali, Raghunathpur, Lapanga and Rengali have also been identified for development under 'Adarsh' station scheme as per norms. Puri station is identified for joint development in association with Ministry of Tourism for providing/augmenting tourist/passenger amenities at station.

Policy for unused railway land

†2299. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy and the system in place for protection, upkeep and preventing from any encroachment of unused railway land;
- (b) whether any estate officer maintains its records; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to protect Railway land/property by providing boundary walls, fencing, tree plantation, etc. Temporary occupation of land by hawkers, cattle owners & temporary huts etc, are removed from time to time. For other encroachments, action is taken under Railway Act and Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971, for eviction, with the help of State authorities. The land records are maintained by designated Railway Officials & validated at regular intervals.

Rescheduling Dehradun-Bandra Express train

‡2300. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum, the maximum and the average speed of Express trains in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Dehradun-Bandra Express approximately takes 10 hours 45 minutes for covering a distance of around 275 kilometers from Dehradun to Nizamuddin i.e. it runs at a speed of 26-27 kilometers per hour;

(c) whether its running time would be rescheduled to bring it at par with national average; and

(d) if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) There is no specified minimum and maximum average speed of express trains in the country. The details of average speed of trains including halts (Kilometre per hour) for the year 2011-12 are given below:

Type of Train	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge
Mail/Express	50.30	30.20

However, the minimum average speed of superfast trains is 55 Kilometre per hour (KMPH) on Broad Gauge and 45 KMPH on Metre Gauge on end to end basis.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) No, Sir. The end to end average speed of 19020 Dehradun-Bandra Express is 40.29 KMPH. However, the average speed of the same train from Dehradun to Nizamuddin is 29.64 KMPH as it takes 10:40 Hours for covering a distance of 316 Km from Dehradun to Nizamuddin.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Speeding up of trains is a constant endeavor and continuous process on Indian Railways and is dependent on constant optimization of the investments made by Railways in modernization of technology, high powered locos, modern coaches - Linke Holfmann Busch (LHB), air brakes, Center Buffer Coupler (CBC) and better tracks. Upon the segregation of Passenger and Freight traffic, it would be feasible to speed up passenger train services further.

Accident compensation claims

2301. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the pending railway accident compensation claims, till date, zone-wise;

(b) the details of the persons belonging to SC/ST who have filed claims before the tribunal; and

(c) the details of persons belonging to SC/ST to whom payment of decree amount has been made so far in 2013?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The compensation to the victims of Train Accidents, as defined under Section 124 of the Railways Act, 1989, is paid by the Railways after a claim filed by the claimant in the Railway Claims Tribunal (which is a quasi-judicial body independent from the Railway) is decreed by the Tribunal in favour of the claimant. The details of the pending railway accidents compensation claims till date, zone-wise is as under:

Zonal Railway	Number of Railway Accident Compensation claims pending	
	Death	Injury
1	2	3
Central	1	8
Eastern	14	53
East Central	6	15

1	2	3
East Coast	21	53
Northern	39	41
North Central	20	16
North Eastern	8	10
Northeast Frontier	-	3
North Western	4	2
Southern	-	10
South Central	13	8
South Eastern	39	22
South East Central	2	1
South Western	25	25
Western	5	6
West Central	1	1
TOTAL	198	274

(b) and (c) Data about the caste of the claimant/victims of the train accidents to whom compensation is paid is not maintained either by the Railway Claims Tribunal or by Railways.

Adding more coaches to Lahori Express train

2302. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Lahori Express, train No. 14631, is running between Dehradun and Amritsar;

(b) if so, whether there is a public demand to add more 2AC, and 3AC coaches with the train, to facilitate the passengers; and

(c) if so, by when it would be acceded to, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Presently, 14631/14632 Dehradun - Amritsar

Express is running with a composition of 16 coaches. Representations inter-alia for augmentation of trains are received at various levels of Railways and action as found feasible and justified, is taken subject to operational feasibility, availability of resources, traffic justification, etc. The presently available one 3 AC coach and one first class coach running by 14631/14632 Dehradun - Amritsar Express (serving the upper class passengers) are considered adequate for the present level of traffic offering. As such, augmentation of 14631/14632 Dehradun -Amritsar Express is not feasible at present.

Gauge conversion project

‡2303. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the duration of construction work going-on on Balaghat-Nainpur- Jabalpur line for gauge conversion under the South Eastern Railway;
- (b) the amount needed for completion of this project and by when this project would be completed;
- (c) whether Railways are facing any difficulties to complete this project; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Balaghat-Nainpur- Jabalpur section is a part of Jabalpur- Gondia Gauge conversion project and the work has commenced from 1996-1997.

(b) The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 1038. crore and Rs. 643 crore has been spent till date. No time frame has been fixed for completion of this project.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment and Forest has refused to give sanction for acquiring forest land in Balaghat District.

Introducing more MEMU trains in Kerala

‡2304. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have noticed the arrest of a large number of passengers using seasonal tickets/monthly passes in Kerala;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures Railways would take to reduce the problem of daily commuters by providing more trains; and

(d) whether Railways would explore the possibility of introducing more MEMU trains in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir. There have been no large scale arrests of passengers using seasonal tickets/monthly passes in Kerala.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) To cater to the needs of passengers, the following services has been announced in the Parliament:

1. Ernakulam-Kollam-MEMU *via* Kottayam.
2. Ernakulam-Kolam MEMU *via* Alleppey (Alappuzha).

Besides, introduction of new train services including MEMU service is an on-going process subject to traffic jurisdiction, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

Tie up with academic institutions for skill enhancement

2305. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to work with academic institutions to devise courses, curricula and diplomas for skill enhancement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering a system of reward for collective performance and variable pay linked to incremental surplus; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Eastern dedicated freight corridor

2306. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have received pre-qualification applications from many global companies for the proposed Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the World Bank has agreed in principle to part finance the said Project for a stretch which is divided into three phases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pre-qualification applications have been received from over 50 Global and Indian companies in response to tenders for civil and systems (electrification and signaling) contracts of Khurja-Kanpur and Kanpur-Mughalsarai sections of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Project.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The part financing of the 1183 kms. Ludhiana - Khurja-Dadri-Kanpur-Mughalsarai section of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor is in 3 Phases *viz.* Khurja -Kanpur (Phase 1), Kanpur -Mughalsarai (Phase 2) and Ludhiana - Khurja- Dadri (Phase 3). Loan agreement for Phase 1 has been signed and civil construction contract has been awarded. Loan agreement for the Phase 2 is targeted in 2013-14 and for Phase 3 thereafter.

Multi-functional complexes

2307. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to establish Multi-Functional Complexes (MFC) in the country through private investment;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has plans to establish such MFCs in Maharashtra; and
- (d) if so, the names of such stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways have identified 196 sites for development of Multi-Functional Complexes (MFCs) at various railway stations, out of which 120 MFCs are planned for development through private investment.

(c) and (d) In Maharashtra, eleven stations *viz.*, Hazur Sahib Nanded, Manmad, Nasik Road, Shirdi, Aurangabad, Gondia, Lokmanya Tilak Terminus, Miraj, Shegaon, Vasai Road & Wardha are identified for development of MFCs.

Facilities for disabled persons and senior citizens

2308. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons that most of the stations across the country do not have ramps in order to make them accessible for the physically disabled;
- (b) the steps being taken to address the same;
- (c) whether escalators are being put in place at railway stations across the country for easier access of foot-bridges for senior citizens; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Provision of standard ramp with railing for barrier free entry is contemplated at all stations over Indian Railways starting with A1, A & B category stations, and to be extended to stations falling in other categories. Out of 579 A1, A & B category stations, standard ramps have been provided at station entrance at 562 stations. Ramps have also been provided at the end of platforms inter connected by pathways for ease of inter platform transfer for physically disabled people.

(c) and (d) Escalators have been planned to be provided at AI category and other important Railway stations across Indian Railways progressively. The work for provision of 100 escalators is currently under progress. Further, 400 more escalators have also been sanctioned.

Reduced number of passenger bookings

2309. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total number of passengers booked during April-June, 2013 was approximately 2,100.2 million compared to 2114.69 million during the same period last year;

(b) whether Railways have taken a note of this reduced number of passengers booking; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There has been a drop in the number of passengers booked during the period from April to June, 2013 as compared to the corresponding period of last year owing to various factors like reduction in Advance Reservation Period (ARP) and relative slowdown in the economy etc. Indian Railways continuously strive to attract passenger traffic through various measures like introduction of new trains, enhancement of the composition of more popular trains, attachment of extra coaches in the existing trains, running of special trains keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources etc.

Illegal occupation of official residence

2310. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each of railway official who continue to occupy official residence after retirement, transfer, etc.;

(b) the grounds on which Railways permitted them to continue in such official residences;

(c) for how many months an official can retain his or her official accommodation on the grounds of illness; and

(d) the action the Ministry has taken to evict those officials who are illegally occupying the official residences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bengaluru-Kanakpura-Chamarajanagar railway line

2311. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new railway line from Bengaluru to Chamarajanagar sanctioned by Railway Board at an estimated cost of Rs. 901.62 crore way back in 2007 has not made any significant progress so far;

(b) whether it was agreed by the Railway Board, as part of infrastructure development of the area, to examine the feasibility of taking up the project;

(c) the present stage of consideration of the matter; and

(d) by when it is expected to be approved and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) Bengaluru-Satyamangalam new line project was sanctioned during 1996-97 at a cost of Rs.260 crore. However, in absence of requisite permission to conduct survey through reserve forest area and compliance to the orders of Central Empowered Committee constituted under Hon'ble Supreme Court, work on this project was held up.

It has been decided recently to initiate work on Bengaluru-Kanakpura-Chamarajanagar non forest section of Bengaluru-Satyamangalam new line project.

Overstaying in Government Accommodation

†2312. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that its many officers and employees are illegally occupying Government residential bungalows/houses despite their transfer or retirement;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any steps for getting these houses vacated and for recovering outstanding amount in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Ministry proposes to take more such steps for stopping the practice of over-staying?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Trains originating from Goa

2313. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names and number of trains introduced/originating from any of the railway station in Goa in the last five years; and
- (b) if no train has been introduced, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Indian Railways do not introduce train services on State-wise basis as Railway network run across State boundaries. However, the trains introduced serving the State of Goa in last five years are as under:

1. 12741/12742 Vasco-da-Gama-Patna Express (weekly) w.e.f. 20.12.2008.
2. 10215/10216 Madgaon-Ernakulam Express (weekly) w.e.f. 27.12.2009
3. 17315/17316 Vasco-da-Gama-Velankanni Express (weekly) w.e.f. 29.8.2011.

Besides, the following trains serving the State of Goa have been announced in 2013-14:

1. Madgaon-Mangalore Intercity Express (daily)
2. Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Kochuveli Express (Bi-weekly) *via* Madgaon
3. Thiruvananthapuram-Hazrat Nizamuddin Express (weekly) *via* Madgaon
4. Madgaon-Ratnagiri Passenger (daily)
5. Madgaon-Karwar DEMU.

Doubling of railway lines in Odisha

2314. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the present status of the doubling of Sambalpur-Talcher, Delang-Puri, Cuttack-Baranga and Banspani-Tomka-Daitari railway lines in Odisha which are of public importance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (i) **Sambalpur-Talcher:-** Part-Detailed Estimate for Talcher-Bamur section has been sanctioned. Contract for Earthwork and minor bridges have been awarded. Contract for track linking is under finalization.

(ii) **Delang-Puri:-** Earthwork & bridge work have been taken up. 35% Earthwork and 55% work on bridges have been completed. Delang-Sakhigopal section is targeted for completion in 2013-14.

(iii) **Cuttack-Barang:-** Overall progress of project is 76%. Project is targeted for completion by March 2014.

(iv) **Banspani-Tomka-Daitari-Jakhapura:-** Overall progress of the project is 25% and is targeted for completion by December 2015.

Rail Tariff Authority

2315. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had decided to set up a Rail Tariff Authority;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in setting up the Authority; and
- (c) the time by when the Rail Tariff Authority is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The modalities of constituting a Rail Tariff Authority, and related issues, are under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rayagada-Gopalpur railway project

2316. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken any decision regarding construction of Rayagada-Gopalpur railway project, and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the time schedule by which the project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening up of multi-cuisine restaurants

2317. SHRI A. A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any proposal to open multi-cuisine restaurants at several stations, including New Delhi Railway Station, in collaboration with IRCTC;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it would be operational;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start such multi-cuisine restaurants at Chennai railway station and at all other major railway stations in Tamil Nadu and in other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

- (d) Does not arise.

Dimapur-Kohima railway link project

2318. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Dimapur-Kohima Railway Link project was announced by Government, and if so, the status of this project;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the project is far behind the time-frame set by Government for its completion; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Dimapur-Kohima (88 km) new line project was sanctioned in 2006-07 at a cost of Rs. 850 crores. Final Location Survey of the project has been completed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Project delayed for want of approval of final alignment by State Government on account of agitation by Villagers of Theilixu Village, alignment falling in Zoological Park and exorbitantly high rate of land compensation indicated by State Government.

Recruitment to Group A posts in railways

2319. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether recruitment rules for Group A posts in Jr. Time Scale in all organised services of Railways provide 50 per cent of vacancies to be filled by promotion from amongst Group B officers through UPSC;
- (b) if so, the number of vacancies in Group A posts in the last four years and number of Group B officers promoted to Group A posts during this period;
- (c) whether 50 per cent of vacancies were filled up by promotion of Group B officers;
- (d) if not, the reasons for non-implementation of recruitment rules; and

- (e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There were 411 Group 'A'/Jr. Scale vacancies in eight organised services of Indian Railways under promotion quota corresponding to 412 vacancies under direct recruitment quota in each of the last four vacancy years, viz. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12. 1522 Group 'B' officers were promoted during this period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Termination of Rockfort Express at Tiruchirapalli

2320. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rockfort Express, running between Chennai and Kumbakonam, is going to be terminated at Tiruchirappalli with effect from 29 August 2013;

(b) whether representations have been received by the Ministry from Members of Parliament and the travelling public to continue this service upto Kumbakonam; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Rockfort Express, running between Chennai and Kumbakonam, is going to be terminated at Tiruchirappalli with effect from 1st September 2013.

(b) Representations regarding trains operations are received at various level of Railway, a compendium of which is not maintained. Representation from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament has been received for running of Rockfort Express upto Kumbakonam.

(c) In the Metre Gauge (MG) era, Rockfort Express used to run between Chennai Egmore and Tiruchchirappalli. The service was extended to Kumbakonam to provide connectivity to Thanjavur/Kumbakonam as the direct Broad Gauge (BG)

connectivity to Chennai was not available due to gauge conversion work on Villupuram-Kumbakonam section. To meet the demand of passengers for running Rockfort Express between Chennai and Tiruchirappalli, the train will revert to be terminated at Tiruchirappalli and in lieu a new direct service between Chennai and Thanjavur via Villupuram, Mayiladuturai, Kumbakonam has been announced in the Railway Budget 2013-14.

Late running of trains

†2321. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for trains running late in the country;
- (b) the number of trains running late everyday;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to run trains on time;
- (d) whether Government has ever contemplated upon the hardships faced by passengers on trains running late; and
- (e) if so, the Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The reasons for which trains run late are miscreant activities, alarm chain pulling, dislocations due to accidents, natural calamities such as cyclonic storms, damage to track due to breaches, speed restrictions imposed due to law and order problems, agitations, bad weather, cattle run over, electricity grid failures, equipment failures, rescheduling of trains due to late arrival of incoming link rakes etc.

(b) (i) On an average 255 Mail and Express trains ran late out of the 1474 Mail/Express trains run per day on terminating basis in the current financial year till July 2013.

(ii) On an average 804 Passenger trains ran late out of the 3370 Passenger trains run per day on terminating basis in the current financial year till July 2013.

(c) The following steps are taken for running trains on time:

- (i) Monitoring of running of trains at Board, Zonal and Divisional

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

levels, on an almost real time basis through the Integrated Coaching Management System so that timely planning can be done to ensure punctual running of trains on run.

- (ii) Better time tabling to ensure that clear paths are available for running of trains. Providing scratch rakes to obviate rescheduling of trains owing to late arrival of link rakes.
- (iii) Improving Maintenance practices so that trains running late can be returned from platform after the mandatory safety and cleanliness inspections. Ensuring timely availability of blocks so that the fixed structures - Over Head Equipments, track signals etc. get their due maintenance and function more reliable.
- (iv) Monitoring equipment failures so that recurrence of failure may be avoided.
- (v) Close coordination with civil authorities so that advance action is taken to avoid law and order setbacks to the running of trains.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Steps enumerated in (c) above are being followed. Due to consistent efforts, the number of trains reaching their destination on time has improved. In July 2013, 5% improvement was registered for trains reaching within 15 minutes of scheduled time, as compared with corresponding period of previous year.

Railway connectivity of Ballia and Ghazipur districts of U.P.

2322. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Ballia and Ghazipur districts in U.P. are least railway connected districts in plains of northern part of the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is actively considering to connect Ballia *via* Ghazipur to Mughalsarai by railway link;
- (d) if so, whether Government would connect Ghazipur to Mughalsarai by railway bridge on Ganga river;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of other railway services Government would provide for above districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Ballia and Ghazipur are already connected by broad gauge railway network.

(c) to (f) Due to constraint of resources and limited budgetary support, no such proposal is under consideration.

Central Projects in Madhya Pradesh

†2323. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the various Central projects being run in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) the amount spent in respect of each project;
- (c) the details of deadline fixed for the completion of each project;
- (d) the new projects proposed to be launched in Madhya Pradesh during the current Five Year Plan; and
- (e) the details of amount to be allocated for each project, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors the on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing Rs.150 crore and above on time and cost overruns on the basis of information supplied by the project implementing agencies. New projects in the XII Five Year Plan are dependent upon requisite appraisals and competent approvals. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation does not maintain information on projects which are at various stages of appraisal and approval.

As on 1st June 2013, a total of 20 on-going Central Sector Projects being implemented in Madhya Pradesh were on the monitor of this Ministry. Details of these projects is given in Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*Project-wise details of on-going projects costing Rs. 150 crore and above in Madhya Pradesh*

Sl. No.	Project	Date of Approval	Original Date of Commissioning	Anticipated Date of Commissioning	Cost Original (Rs. Crore)	Cost Anticipated (Rs. Crore)	Reported Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Coal							
1	Amlohri Expansion (NCL) (6 Mty)	12/2009	03/2016	03/2016	1352.04	1143.54	438.86
2	Block-B OCP NCL (3.5 Mty)	06/2011	03/2015	03/2015	746.04	535.10	159.13
3	Batura OCP (2.0 Mty)	09/2008	03/2015	03/2015	203.82	203.82	0.00
4	Nigahi OC Expansion Project 10 Mty To 15 Mty, Singrauli	10/2007	03/2012	03/2015	259.40	259.40	6.26
Power							
5	System Strengthening Common for WR And NR (Line Bays and Reactor Provision)	03/2012	03/2014	03/2014	213.78	213.78	0.00
6	Transmission System for Connectivity of MB Power Limited	08/2011	10/2013	10/2013	425.51	425.51	290.84
7	Vindhyachal STPP Stage-V	12/2011	08/2015	08/2015	3180.40	3180.40	286.00
8	Vindhyachal STPP Stage-IV (NTPC)	01/2009	10/2012	03/2013	5915.00	5915.00	3401.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Railways						
9	Bhopal Bina 3d Line Doubling	09/2007	03/2010	12/2015	687.20	800.00	718.89
10	Chhindwara - Nagpur (GO)(SECR)	04/2005	N.A.	12/2013	383.79	585.93	194.91
11	Ramganjmundi-Bhopal (NL),WCR	04/2001	N.A.	N.A.	727.13	1225.90	226.32
12	Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola (GC)	04/2008	03/2012	N.A.	603.04	603.04	222.76
	Road Transport & Highways						
13	Bhopal-Sanchi section from Km 0.00 to Km 53.775 of NH-86	10/2011	01/2013	10/2013	209.00	209.00	13.80
14	Gwalior Bypass, NH-75 and NH-3	12/2003	10/2009	06/2013	300.93	300.93	303.02
15	Indore-Dewas(NH-3)	11/2010	05/2013	02/2014	325.00	325.00	447.50
16	Indore-Jhabua-Gujrat/MP	10/2010	04/2013	12/2013	1175.00	1175.00	138.70
17	Lakhnaadon To MP/MH Border, Km 596.75-653.22 (NS-1/Bot/MP-2), NH7	12/2003	06/2010	12/2013	407.60	407.60	186.40
18	Lakhnaadon To MP/MH Border (Ns-1/Bot/MP-2), NH-7	12/2003	09/2009	09/2014	263.17	263.17	233.80
19	Rajmarg Choraha To Lakhnaadon. Km 297 To Km 351, NH-26 (NHAI)	12/2003	10/2008	06/2013	251.03	251.03	326.80
	Telecommunications						
20	GSM Equipment of 1625000 lines (2G) 325000 Lines (3G) MP Phase V.1 Telecom Circle	11/2009	11/2010	09/2013	916.70	930.60	828.80

NSSO survey report on unemployment rate

2324. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Survey Report of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) released in June, 2013, the population gainfully employed in the country has dipped from 36.5 per cent in 2009-10 to 35.4 per cent in 2011-12, and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether unemployment rate has also risen from 2.5 per cent to 2.7 per cent during the period, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether 9.1 million rural women have also lost their jobs in rural areas during the period, and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir. State-wise details of employment rates on usual principal status basis (based on principal activity) during 2009-10 and 2011-12 are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Yes, Sir. The details of unemployment rate (in percentage) in the country on usual principal status basis during 2009-10 and 2011-12 are given below:

Categories	2009-10	2011-12
Rural Male	1.9	2.1
Rural Female	2.4	2.9
Rural Person(Male+Female)	2.1	2.3
Urban Male	3.0	3.2
Urban Female	7.0	6.6
Urban Person (Male+Female)	3.7	3.8
Male (Rural+Urban)	2.2	2.4
Female (Rural+Urban)	3.3	3.7
Person (Rural+Urban)	2.5	2.7

(c) Yes, Sir. Number of rural females in the workforce in the country has declined by 9.1 million from 81.2 million to 72.1 million between 2009-10 and 2011-12, as per estimates released by National Sample Survey Office. Statement on State-wise rural females in workforce on usual status basis during 2009-10 and 2011-12 is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

*State-wise Worker Population Ratios (Employment rates) on Usual
Principal Status Basis during 2009-10 and 2011-12.*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Employment rate (%) on Usual Principal Status Basis during	
		2009-10	2011-12
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	46.2	45.3
2	Arunachal Pradesh	37.9	36.5
3	Assam	34.7	32.2
4	Bihar	26.8	26.1
5	Chhattisgarh	41.3	43.4
6	Delhi	32.9	33.5
7	Goa	33.7	35.7
8	Gujarat	39.7	39.8
9	Haryana	34.1	30.9
10	Himachal Pradesh	46.3	48.6
11	Jammu and Kashmir	30.5	29.6
12	Jharkhand	30.9	30.4
13	Karnataka	45.0	41.7
14	Kerala	35.1	34.0

1		2	3
15	Madhya Pradesh	39.5	36.3
16	Maharashtra	42.3	40.2
17	Manipur	33.0	32.4
18	Meghalaya	43.3	42.5
19	Mizoram	44.8	41.7
20	Nagaland	30.4	29.7
21	Odisha	36.5	36.2
22	Punjab	31.1	32.7
23	Rajasthan	35.0	35.1
24	Sikkim	43.2	51.8
25	Tamil Nadu	44.1	41.7
26	Tripura	33.4	34.0
27	Uttarakhand	35.2	31.6
28	Uttar Pradesh	29.1	28.9
29	West Bengal	35.4	34.9
30	Andaman Nicobar	38.0	39.4
31	Chandigarh	34.2	35.1
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	31.8	34.1
33	Daman and Diu	38.3	40.1
34	Lakshadweep	34.4	31.2
35	Puducherry	40.7	34.3
	ALL INDIA	36.5	35.4

Statement-II

State-wise rural female workforce on Usual Principal Status basis during 2009-10 and 2011-12.

Number in Million

Sl. No.	State/UT	Rural females in Workforce on Usual Principal Status Basis during	
		2009-10	2011-12
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	12.48	11.44
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.12	0.14
3	Assam	1.61	1.1
4	Bihar	1.8	1.4
5	Chhattisgarh	3.35	3.56
6	Delhi	0.01	0.03
7	Goa	0.04	0.06
8	Gujarat	4.20	3.61
9	Haryana	1.04	0.5
10	Himachal Pradesh	1.19	1.43
11	Jammu and Kashmir	0.23	0.18
12	Jharkhand	1.45	1.18
13	Karnataka	6.59	5.11
14	Kerala	2.30	1.42
15	Madhya Pradesh	6.56	4.82
16	Maharashtra	10.37	9.23
17	Manipur	0.15	0.13
18	Meghalaya	0.33	0.45

1	2	3	4
19	Mizoram	0.08	0.09
20	Nagaland	0.15	0.12
21	Odisha	2.74	2.42
22	Punjab	0.36	0.40
23	Rajasthan	5.36	5.93
24	Sikkim	0.07	0.10
25	Tamil Nadu	6.10	5.60
26	Tripura	0.13	0.16
27	Uttarakhand	0.97	0.73
28	Uttar Pradesh	6.58	6.56
29	West Bengal	2.81	3.27
30	Andaman Nicobar	0.02	0.02
31	Chandigarh	0.005	0.0005
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.004	0.001
33	Daman and Diu	0.01	0.001
34	Lakshadweep	0.002	0.0004
35	Puducherry	0.06	0.04

Status of ISSP in Karnataka

2325. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Indian Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) in the country especially in Karnataka and the details thereof;

(b) the number of States which have signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with the Ministry for the project; and

(c) whether any budgetary provision has been made for the purpose and, if so, the funds released to various States during last year and the current year?

12.00 Noon

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) is a comprehensive project primarily aimed at strengthening the State Statistical Systems in all relevant dimensions, to improve the statistical capacity and infrastructure of State Statistical Systems.

Of the 33 States/UTs (except Goa and Chandigarh) agreeing to participate in the Project, it is under implementation in 13 States and 1 Union Territory, namely, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Sikkim, Mizoram, West Bengal, Odisha, Kerala, Jharkhand, Manipur and Lakshadweep. This apart, seven States/UT, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Punjab and Puducherry, have finalised their respective State Strategic Statistical Plans (SSSPs). The remaining States/UTs are at various stages of preparation of their respective SSSPs.

Karnataka was the first State to sign the MoU with the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India under the ISSP, on 10.12.2010. Till date, against the central release of Rs. 26.97 Crore (Rupees Twenty Six Crore and Ninety Seven lakhs only) by MoSPI to the State under the Project, the expenditure reported as on 31.07.2013 is Rs. 19.37 Crore (Rupees Nineteen Crore and Thirty Seven Lakhs only).

(b) Under the Project, 13 States and 1 Union Territory have signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with MoSPI so far.

(c) Yes, Sir. During 2012-13, Rupees 22.43 Crore (Rupees Twenty Two Crore and Forty Three Lakhs only) were released to various States under the Project. However, funds are yet to be released during the current financial year *viz.* 2013-14.

[Mr. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

II Accounts (2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12) of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati, Assam and Related Papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers) Notification No. S.O. 1194 (E), dated the 10th May, 2013, regarding order indicating the supplies of urea to be made by domestic manufacturers of urea to States and Union Territories during Kharif Season 2013, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9589/15/13]

- II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998:—
 - (a) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati, Assam, for the year 2009-10, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati, Assam, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati, Assam, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9588/15/13]

Notifications of the Ministry of Power

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Power, under sub-section (1) of Section 59 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001:—

- (1) No. 2/11(5)/03-BEE-4, dated the 9th May, 2013, publishing the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Household Frost Free Refrigerators) Amendment Regulations, 2013.

- (2) No. 2/11(5)/03-BEE-2, dated the 9th May, 2013, publishing the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Room Air Conditioners) Amendment Regulations, 2013. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (2), *See* No. L.T. 9619/15/13]

Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, along with delay statement under sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956, :—

- (1) G.S.R. 173 (E), dated the 15th March, 2013, publishing the Companies Directors Identification Number (Amendment) Rules, 2013.
- (2) G.S.R. 183 (E), dated the 21st March, 2013, publishing the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits Amendment) Rules, 2013. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (2), *See* No. L.T. 9621/15/13]

**MoU between the Government of India and the National
Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) and the National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9622/15/13]

**Report and Accounts (2011-12) of the Central Council for
Research in Siddha, Chennai and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Central Council for Research in Siddha, Chennai, for the year 2011-12.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Central Council for Research in Siddha, Chennai, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9659/15/13]

Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, on behalf of Shri R.P.N. Singh, I lay on the Table:—

- (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs, under sub-section (3) of Section 154 of the Indo Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992, along with delay statement:—
- G.S.R. 788 (E), dated the 31st October, 2011, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Inspector (Pioneer), Group 'B' Post Recruitment Rules, 2011.
 - G.S.R. 60 (E), dated the 3rd February, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Deputy Commandant (Education and Stress Counsellor), Group 'A' post, Recruitment Rules, 2011.
 - G.S.R. 61 (E), dated the 3rd February, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Sub-Inspector (Medic) Para Medical Cadre Group 'B' Posts, Recruitment Rules, 2011.
 - G.S.R. 62 (E), dated the 3rd February, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Deputy Commandant (Official Language) and Assistant Commandant (Official Language), Group 'A' Posts, Recruitment Rules, 2011.
 - G.S.R. 63 (E), dated the 3rd February, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Deputy Commandant (Office) and Deputy Commandant (Principal Private Secretary), Group 'A' Posts, Recruitment Rules, 2011.
 - G.S.R. 237 (E), dated the 21st March, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Telecommunication Cadre (Group 'B' and 'C' Posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2012.
 - G.S.R. 252 (E), dated the 25th February, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, (Animal Transport Cadre) Group 'A' Post Recruitment Rules, 2012.

- G.S.R. 297 (E), dated the 17th April, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Veterinary Cadre Group 'A' Posts Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 397 (E), dated the 29th May, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (Publication and Printing Cadre) Group 'B' and 'C' Posts Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 484 (E), dated the 21st June, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Engineering Cadre, (Group 'A' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 540 (E), dated the 9th July, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, General Duty Cadre (Group 'A' Posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 618 (E), dated the 7th August, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Education and Stress Counsellor Cadre, Group 'A', 'B, and 'C' posts, Recruitment Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 817 (E), dated the 8th November, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, General Duty Cadre (Group 'B' and Group 'C' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 814 (E), dated the 7th November, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Combatant Accounts Cadre, Group 'A' and Group 'B' Posts Recruitment Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 790 (E), dated the 25th October, 2012, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Water Wing (Group 'A', Group 'B, and Group 'C' Technical Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2012.
- G.S.R. 23 (E), dated the 15th January, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Para Medical Cadre (Group 'C' combatised Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 81 (E), dated the 14th February, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Assistant Sub-Inspector (Stenographer) and Head Constable (Ministerial), Group 'C' post Recruitment Rules, 2013.

- G.S.R. 217 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, General Duty Cadre (Group 'A' posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 218 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Judge Attorney General, Additional Judge Attorney General, Deputy Judge Attorney General and Judge Attorney Group 'A' Posts Recruitment and conditions of Service Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 219 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (Group 'B' posts) Hindi Translators Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 220 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Constable (Water Carrier) and Constable (Safai Karamchari) Group 'C' Posts, Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 221 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Inspector (Librarian), Group 'B' post, Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 222 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Para Medical Cadre Inspector (Pharmacist) Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 223 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Assistant Commandant (Office) and Assistant Commandant, Staff Officer (Group 'A' Posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 224 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Combatant Ministerial Cadre and Combatant Stenographer Cadre Group 'B' and Group 'C' posts, Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 225 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Medical Cadre (Group 'C' Posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.

- G.S.R. 226 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Para Medical Cadre (Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' Posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 227 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Animal Transport Cadre (Non-gazetted), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 228 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Veterinary Cadre (Group 'B' & 'C' posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 229 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Armourer Cadre (Group 'B' and 'C' posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 230 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Pioneer Cadre, Group 'B' and Group 'C' Posts, Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 231 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Tailor, Cobbler and Gardener Cadre Group, 'B' and 'C' Posts, Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 232 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Constable (Cook), Constable (Washerman) and Constable (Barber) Group 'C' Posts, Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 233 (E), dated the 11th April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Engineering Cadre (Group 'A' posts), Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 265 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Telecommunication Cadre (Group 'B' and 'C' Posts), Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2013.
- G.S.R. 266 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Animal Transport Cadre (Group 'C') Post, Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2013.

- G.S.R. 267 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Pioneer Cadre, Group 'B' and Group 'C' Posts, Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2013.
 - G.S.R. 268 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Tailor, Cobbler and Gardener Cadre, Group 'B' and 'C' Posts, Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2013.
 - G.S.R. 391 (E), dated the 21st June, 2013, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Sub Inspector (Medic), Para Medical Cadre, Group 'B' Posts, Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2013.
 - G.S.R. 657 (E), dated the 1st September, 2011, publishing the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Para Medical Cadre (Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' Posts), Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2011.
 - G.S.R. 354 (E), dated the 11th May, 2012, publishing corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 1019 (E), dated the 28th December, 2010.
 - G.S.R. 445 (E), dated the 28th June, 2013, publishing the corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 217(E), dated the 8th April, 2013 (Hindi version).
 - G.S.R. 569 (E), dated the 17th July, 2012, publishing corrigendum (in English only) to Notification No. G.S.R. 354 (E), dated the 11th May, 2012.
 - G.S.R. 663 (E), dated the 3rd September, 2012, publishing corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 484 (E), dated the 21st June, 2012. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (44), See No. L.T. 9669/15/13]
- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 485 (E), dated the 12th July, 2013, publishing the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Rules, 2013, under subsection (3) of Section 22 of the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9597/15/13]

Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) Volume I, II and III

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) Volume I — Faster, More Inclusive and Sustainable Growth.
- (ii) Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) Volume II — Economic Sectors.
- (iii) Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) Volume III — Social Sectors. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9685/15/13]

MoU's between the Government of India and various PSUs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the IRCON International Limited, for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9624/15/13]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9625/15/13]
- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCI), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9626/15/13]
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Burn Standard Company Limited, for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9627/15/13]
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Bharat Wagon & Engineering Company Limited, for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9628/15/13]
- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited (IRFC), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9629/15/13]
- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India

(Ministry of Railways) and the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9630/15/13]

- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Limited (MRVC), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9631/15/13]
- (ix) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Braithwaite & Company Limited, for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9632/15/13]
- (x) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Railtel Corporation of India, for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9633/15/13]
- (xi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the RITES Limited, for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9634/15/13]
- (xii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), for the year 2013-14. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9635/15/13]

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY: Sir, on behalf of Shri Jesudasu Seelam, I lay on the Table:—

- (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, along with Explanatory Memoranda:—

S.O. 1464 (E), dated the 6th June, 2013, amending Notification No. S.O. 709(E) dated the, 20th August, 1998, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.

S.O. 1768 (E), dated the 19th June, 2013, appointing the 1st day of July, 2013 as the date on which Chapter VII of the Finance Act shall come into force.

[Shrimati Rajani Patil]

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs):—

- (i) Thirtieth Report on 'Bureau of Indian Standards (Amendment) Bill, 2012'; and
- (ii) Thirty-first Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report of the Committee (2012-13) on 'Demands for Grants (2013-14)'.

**REPORT OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Forty-sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development on 'Working of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in States/UTs'.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth
Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food,
Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) pertaining to the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth
Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on
Chemicals and Fertilizers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I make

a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on the Demands for Grants (2012-13) pertaining to the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Sixteenth, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth, One Hundred and Fortieth and One Hundred and Forty-seventh Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Sixteenth, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth, One Hundred and Fortieth and One Hundred and Forty-seventh Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Forty-seventh Report of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Forty-seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) pertaining to the Department of Agriculture Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 2nd of September, 2013, will consist of: —

[Shri Rajeev Shukla]

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.
2. Discussion on the Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the National Food Security Ordinance, 2013 and consideration and passing of the National Food Security Bill, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha.
3. Discussion on the Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Securities Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 and consideration and passing of the Securities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2013, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.
4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Lok Sabha:—
 - (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Amendment) Bill, 2013;
 - (b) The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2013;
 - (c) The Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Amendment Bill, 2013; and
 - (d) The Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011.
5. Consideration and passing of the Representation of the People (Second Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013.
6. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha: -
 - (a) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Bill, 2011.
 - (b) The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Bill, 2012.
 - (c) The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Bill, 2012.
 - (d) The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 2011.
 - (e) The Nuclear Safety Regulatory Authority Bill, 2011.
 - (f) The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013.

(g) The Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University Bill, 2013; and

(h) The Civil Aviation Authority Bill, 2013.

7. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 2013, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.

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GOVERNMENT BILL

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I have a Bill just for introduction. It is just introduction.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

The Representation of the people (Second Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, not Zero Hour; we want the issue of Andhra Pradesh to be taken up.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, we have given notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA (Karnataka): Sir, I have an objection to the introduction of this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has already been introduced.

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Sir, the Court had said that the provision in the RP Act is constitutionally invalid because it is beyond the

[Shri Rangasayee Ramakrishna]

legislative powers. He is again bringing an amendment to the RP Act which cannot be sustained in the Court.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, since it is already introduced, you will be given time to speak when the Bill is taken up for consideration. It has already been introduced, procedurally. ...(*Interruptions*)... I agree. It should have been brought to my notice. He should have stood up immediately when I called the Minister. Now, what do I do?

SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, he was standing. ತುಂಗೆ ಒಂದು ಸುತ್ತು ಬಂದಿತ್ತು.

ಅದು ಒಂದು ಸುತ್ತು ಬಂದಿತ್ತು.

SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU: Since Mr. Kapil Sibal is more presentable, ತುಂಗೆ ಒಂದು ಸುತ್ತು ಬಂದಿತ್ತು.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; would you like to respond, Mr. Minister.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Yes, Sir.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, let him speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. As a special consideration, I would allow the Member to speak.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, with great respect to you, in matters of bills, in matters of resolutions, at least, the Opposition must be properly factored too when you have to say something. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let us respect that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But I didn't hear him. ...(*Interruptions*)... Maybe, he had stood up and said something, but I didn't hear it. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am sorry. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I would request the Chair to look at ...(*Interruptions*)... I am only seeking permission. It was a legal point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You cannot raise it now. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. Mr. Balagopal, you cannot raise it.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, I am only asking for permission. I was raising a legal point. The Chair should ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Balagopal, it is not permitted. You are speaking without my permission. ...(*Interruptions*).. Now, please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*).. Mr. Balagopal should know the rules. For the correction of a statement ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Yesterday, when I had raised...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please; that is a different matter. ...(*Interruptions*).. He is alleging on the Chair.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, I am not alleging on the Chair. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not only is he alleging on the Chair, but it has even appeared in the Press. But you should know the rules. For a statement correcting the Statement of a Minister, there is no question of clarifications. There is nothing like that in the rules. I must tell you that what you tried yesterday was wrong and now, you are again speaking without my permission. But if you want that question again, you may bring a Privilege Notice against the Minister; I have no problem.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: But, Sir, it was just a clarification. It is a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, sit down. ...(*Interruptions*).. It is not going on the record. Please, go by the rules. ...(*Interruptions*).. Now, Mr. Ramakrishnaji, I agree that you have a right to oppose the introduction, but the moment the Minister said, you should have stood up and called my attention by saying that you oppose it. In fact, I am told that you stood up. But you should have said that you oppose the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*).. That you stood up there did not catch my eye. I did not see you and now the Bill has been introduced. What do I do?

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Sir, he has given it to you in writing. Please, look at the papers. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But that is not to be done. That is not the procedure. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, he wanted to speak but you did not...(*Interruptions*).. What can he do? ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bill has already been introduced, but he wanted to say something. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, the Minister has agreed; let the Member speak.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, he had put it down in paper for you. Let him speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, let him speak and his reply would will be on record. That is all. ...*(Interruptions)*... But what is done is done. It will be on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay. The House is supreme. I have no problem.

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Sir, the point I am making is that the Supreme Court, when it struck down this particular provision in the RP Act, clearly said that this is beyond the legislative powers of the Parliament. And now, you are bringing another amendment to the RP Act which you...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You can oppose only on the question of jurisdiction. It can be only on that ground. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what he is saying. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, he is right when he says that the introduction of the amendment is wrong. He is not speaking on the substance of the Bill; he is speaking on the title of the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, okay.

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Sir, my objection is that this will not be sustained in the court of law. What ought to have been done is a constitutional amendment and not through the ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That would be on record. Now, Mr. Minister. Since I have allowed him, you may say a few words. Don't take too much time.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, while I recognize the fact that the Supreme Court has ruled that Section 8(4), as it was originally drafted, was outside the competence of Parliament, we have reframed Section 8(4). The nature of the provision is entirely different and it is consistent with the orders of the Supreme Court when people are charged for corrupt practices and they are found

to have committed a corrupt practice, the usual order of stay granted by the Supreme Court in those matters is the kind of provision that we have incorporated in Section 8(4) today, and I believe it will not fall foul of the Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Zero Hour.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: *

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)... I will give you a chance later. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members, at 12.30 p.m., there is a statement of hon. Prime Minister. So, be brief. Shri D. Raja. ...(Interruptions)...

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Incursion by Burmese (Myanmar) army into Indian territory in Manipur

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am raising an issue which has national importance which is bound to have an impact on the national security of our nation. It is related to Manipur. Manipur is one State in the North-East which is very strategic and sensitive. Now, the entire State is in tension. The issue is the recent Myanmar Army's construction of base camps in Indian territory. Sir, the border fencing along the Manipur sector of Indo-Myanmar (Indo-Burma) border was undertaken by the Home Ministry. When it was undertaken, the Government of Myanmar made a protest about the zero point. Then the Government of India agreed to construct fences within our own territory. Hence, border fencing cut off our own territories in a big way. ...(Interruptions)... Border fencing cut off apart Govajang village, right in the middle; about 15 villages would be forced to be left out of India. It was also noticed that the border fence is being constructed in about 100 metres inward from natural boundary of India, which means a big territorial loss to Manipur. This border fencing was undertaken with two objectives. One, to check the smuggling of drugs and, second, to check the cross-border movement of insurgents. But, actually speaking, India is losing its territories to Myanmar and many villages in our territory will go to Myanmar territory. Recently, a delegation of All Manipur Nupi Marup visited the disputed villages on 18th and 19th of August,

*Not recorded.

[Shri D. Raja]

2013. They had meeting with villagers of disputed areas. Their visit was widely reported in the local media of Manipur. In the meantime, one alarming and disturbing thing occurred. The Myanmar or Burmese Army was found constructing base camps in the disputed village, Holenphai, which is the real territory of Manipur. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Those who want to associate, their names may be added. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Mohammed Adeeb. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

Exclusion of the Arabic and Persian languages from syllabus of examination conducted by UPSC

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مہابھارت کے ترجمے پرشین میں کئے، تو پوری دنیا نے جانا کہ ہندوستان کیا ہے اور ہندوستان کتنا عظیم ملک ہے۔ یہ ایک ایسی زبان ہے، جس کو پریذیڈنٹ آف انڈیا خود 6 اسکالرشپ اور ایوارڈ عربک میں دیتے ہیں، 6 اسکالرشپ اور ایوارڈ پرشین میں دیتے ہیں اور 15 اسکالرشپ اور ایوارڈ سنسکرت میں دیتے ہیں۔ آپ نے ان کو یوپی۔ایس۔سی۔ کی پریکشا سے الگ کر کے ایک بہت غلط کام کیا ہے۔

مہودے، میں آپ کے ذریعے اپنی بات کو پرائم منسٹر صاحب تک پہنچانا چاہتا ہوں کہ میرے ملک کی یہ کلاسیکل زبانیں ہیں۔ ہماری تہذیب، ہمارا کلچر، ہمارا آرکیٹیکٹ انہیں زبانوں سے جڑا ہے۔ جہاں یوپی۔ایس۔سی۔ میں بچے مدرسوں و دوسرے اسکولوں سے پریکشا دینے جاتے تھے، آپ نے ان لینگویجز کو ہٹا کر، ان کا راستہ بند کر دیا ہے۔ میں آپ کے ذریعے یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ اس پر نظر ثانی فرمائیں اور یوپی۔ایس۔سی۔ میں جتنی ہماری کلاسیکل لینگویج ہیں، جیسے سنسکرتی ہے، ایسے ہی ہماری زبانیں پرشین اور عربک بھی ہیں۔ ان کو قائم رکھا جائے۔ اس لئے میں آپ سے گزارش کر کے آپ کا شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں۔ بہت بہت شکریہ۔]

(ختم شد)

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Mohammed Adeb.

SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Mohammed Adeb.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA (Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Mohammed Adeb.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The names of those who associate may be added.

श्री जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैं अपने आप को इस विषय से जोड़ती हूँ जो श्री मोहम्मद अदेब ने उठाया है।

श्री अहमद सायद मलिहाबादी (पश्चिम बंगाल): मैं अपने आप को इस विषय से जोड़ता हूँ जो श्री मोहम्मद अदेब ने उठाया है।

श्री प्रेम चंद गुप्ता (बिहार): मैं अपने आप को इस विषय से जोड़ता हूँ जो श्री मोहम्मद अदेब ने उठाया है।

श्री अहमद सायद मलिहाबादी (पश्चिम बंगाल): मैं अपने आप को इस विषय से जोड़ता हूँ जो श्री मोहम्मद अदेब ने उठाया है।

CBI enquiry into the alleged nexus between railway officials and corporate catering houses

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, for years together, at the instance of the Ministry of Railways, the entire catering system of Railways is being systematically dismantled at the initiative of a section of Railway officials to appease the big corporate houses, engaged in catering business. In 1990-91, sales turnover of departmental catering was Rs.203.98 crore over realisation of another Rs.213.51 crore as licence fees. As of December, 2012, the Railway transported over 25 million passengers daily, most of which are from economically weaker sections. These people are habitual of consuming Indian food items like *puri, roti-sabji/dal, rice-sabji/dal*, etc. But, the Railway Ministry is systematically making changes in the menu and introducing pizza, burgers, etc., at the instance of corporate houses. Earlier, the Railways used to supply uncooked *dal/sabji* to the commissioned vendors who, in turn, used to cook the same and sell to the passengers on payment. But, suddenly, vide order no. 23AC/Ctg/Menu & Rate/2013, dated 31st July, 2013, Senior Divisional Manager has revised the rate of 300 grams rice without *dal/sabji* to Rs.10/- and stopped supplying uncooked *dal/sabji* to commissioned vendors. So, the passengers are being compelled to bring cooked *dal/sabji* from their own kitchens and thus get frustrated on opting for pizza and burgers instead.

While demanding immediate withdrawal of the irrational order dated 31st July, 2013, and restoration of supply of previous menu to passengers on payment, I urge upon the Government to institute a high-level independent enquiry to unearth the nexus between a section of Railway officials down to the level of C.I.C. and corporate houses engaged in catering business in the Railways.

Unabated deaths of tribal children in Attappadi in Palakkad District of Kerala

>... (06.10):

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. lady Member is speaking. Let her speak.

>... ..

... ..

[شری منور سلیم (اترپردیش): میں اس سے اپنے آپ کو سمبھ کرتا ہوں۔]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Dr. Heptulla. ... (Interruptions)...

Slaughtering of milch animals

[MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): There is a Zero Hour notice. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, our issue has been. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ... (Interruptions) ... Dr. Heptulla has been called. ... (Interruptions) ... Please.

[MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

[MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That clarification can be given separately. Hon. Members, we have a Statement by the hon. Prime Minister on the economic situation.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Current economic situation in the country

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the movement of the exchange rate of the Rupee recently has been a matter of concern to the Government and the public at large. It has depreciated sharply against the dollar since the last week of May. There are concerns, and justifiably so, of the impact this would have on our economy.

What triggered the sharp and sudden depreciation was the markets' reaction to certain unexpected external developments. On May 22, 2013, the US Federal Reserve Bank indicated that it would soon 'taper' its quantitative easing as the US economy was recovering. This led to a reversal of capital flows to emerging economies sharply pulling down not just the Rupee, but also the Brazilian Real, the Turkish Lira, the Indonesian Rupiah, the South African Rand and many other currencies.

While global factors such as tensions over Syria and the prospect of US Federal Reserve tapering its policy of quantitative easing have caused general weakness in emerging market currencies, the Rupee has been especially hit because of our large current account deficit and some other domestic factors. We intend to act to reduce the current account deficit and bring about a sustained improvement in our economy.

In 2010-11 and the years prior to it, our current account deficit was more modest and financing it was not difficult, even in the crisis year of 2008-09. Since then, there has been a deterioration, mainly on account of huge imports of gold, higher costs of crude oil imports and recently, of coal. On the export side, weak demand in major markets has kept our exports from growing. Exports have been further hit by a collapse in iron ore exports. Taken together, these factors have made our current account deficit unsustainably large.

Clearly, Mr. Chairman, we need to reduce our appetite for gold, economise in the use of petroleum products and take steps to increase our exports.

We have taken measures to reduce the current account deficit. The Finance Minister has indicated that it will be below 70 billion dollars, and we will take all

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

possible steps to go below that. These are already showing results with a declining trade deficit in both June and July. The Government is confident that we will be able to lower our current account deficit to 70 billion dollars this year. Our medium term objective is to reduce the current account deficit to 2.5 per cent of our GDP. Our short term objective is to finance the current account deficit in an orderly fashion. We will make every effort to maintain a macro economic framework friendly to foreign capital inflows to enable orderly financing of the current account deficit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, coming back to the effects of the Rupee depreciation, we must realise that part of this depreciation was merely a needed adjustment. Inflation in India has been much higher than in advanced economies. Therefore, it is natural that there has to be a correction in the exchange rate to account for this difference. To some extent, depreciation can be good for the economy as this will help to increase our export competitiveness and discourage unnecessary imports. There are many sectors which are regaining competitiveness in export markets as a result of the fall in the exchange rate. Over the next few months, I expect the effects of this to be felt more strongly, both in exports and in the financial position of exporting sectors. This in itself would correct the current account deficit to some extent.

However, foreign exchange markets have a notorious history of overshooting. Unfortunately, this is what is happening not only in relation to the rupee but also other currencies.

The Reserve Bank of India and the Government have taken a number of steps to stabilize the Rupee. Some measures have given rise to doubts in some quarters that capital controls are on the horizon. I would like to assure the House and the world at large that the Government is not contemplating any such measures. The last two decades have seen India grow as an open economy and benefit from it. There is no question of reversing these policies just because there is some turbulence in capital and currency markets. The sudden decline in the exchange rate is certainly a shock, but we will address this through other measures, not through capital controls or by reversing reforms. The Finance Minister has clarified this, and I take this opportunity to reaffirm our position.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, ultimately, the value of the Rupee is determined by the fundamentals of our economy. While we have taken a number of actions to strengthen those fundamentals, we intend to do more.

Growth has slowed in recent quarters. I expect growth in the first quarter of 2013-14 to be relatively flat, but as the effects of the good monsoon kick in, I expect it to pick up.

There are many reasons for this optimism. The decisions of the Cabinet Committee on Investment in reviving stalled projects will start bearing fruit in the second half of this year. The full effect of the growth-friendly measures that have been taken over the last six months, such as liberalizing norms for Foreign Direct Investment inflows, resolution of some tax issues of concern to industry and fuel subsidy reform will come into play over the year resulting in higher growth particularly in the field of manufacturing. Exports are also starting to look up as the growth performance of the rest of the world is showing signs of improvement. So, I believe growth will pick up in the second half of the fiscal year barring extreme unforeseen eventualities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are questions about the size of the fiscal deficit. The Government will do whatever is necessary to contain the fiscal deficit to 4.8 per cent this year. The most growth-friendly way to contain the deficit is to spend carefully, especially on subsidies that do not reach the poor, and we will take effective steps to that end.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, inflation measured by the Wholesale Price Index has been coming down, even though inflation measured by the Consumer Price Index is still too high. The depreciation of the Rupee and rise in Dollar prices of petroleum products will no doubt lead to some further upward pressure on prices. The Reserve Bank of India will therefore continue to focus on bringing down inflation. The favourable monsoon and the anticipated good harvest will help bring down food prices and ease the task of controlling inflation. All in all, Mr. Chairman, Sir, the macro-stabilization process which should support the value of the Rupee is underway. I expect that as the fruits of our efforts materialize, currency markets will recover.

Sir, even while we go about doing what is necessary, it is important to recognize that the fundamentals of the Indian economy continue to be strong. India's overall public-debt to GDP ratio has been on a declining trend from 73.2 per cent of GDP in 2006-07 to 66 per cent in 2012-13. Similarly, India's external debt is only 21.2 per cent of GDP and while short-term debt has risen, it stands at 5.2 per cent of GDP. Our foreign exchange reserves stand at US\$278 billion, and are more than sufficient to meet India's external financing requirements.

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

Sir, many foreign analysts worry about banking problems that may arise in the wake of the currency crisis. The Indian banking sector has seen some rise in bad debts. The question that needs to be asked is whether there is a liquidity problem or a solvency problem for the borrowers. My belief is that there is a liquidity problem. Many of the projects are not unviable but only delayed, in contrast to the overbuilding that has characterized the banking sector problems in many other countries. As these projects come on stream, they will generate revenue and repay loans. Fortunately, our banks are well capitalized much above the Basel norms and they have the capacity to provide for any non-performing assets until those assets are turned around.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the easy reforms of the past have been done. We have the more difficult reforms to do such as reduction of subsidies, insurance and pension sector reforms, elimination of bureaucratic red tape and implementing Goods and Services Tax. These are not low hanging fruits and they need active political consensus.

It is here that I urge hon. Members across the political spectrum to reflect on the need of the hour. Many laws that are necessary are held up for lack of political consensus. Reforms such as the Goods and Services Tax, which everyone agrees is essential to restore growth and to boost revenue, require States to come to an agreement. We need to forge consensus on such issues. I urge political parties to work towards this end and to join in the Government's efforts to put the economy back on the path of stable sustainable growth.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there may be short term shocks to our economy and we need to face them. That is the reality of operating in a globalised economy, whose benefits we have reaped in the past 15 to 20 years. We will need to ensure that the fundamentals remain strong so that India continues to grow at a healthy rate for many, many years to come. That we will ensure. We are faced with challenges, but we have the capacity to address them. It is at times like these that the nation shows what it is truly capable of.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, hon. Leader of the Opposition. I have a number of names. We will go one by one.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, we are extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister that he has finally spoken on an issue which is of the utmost concern to this country. When the hon. Members of the

Treasury Benches were clapping and cheering over the statement, I thought that good news was in the offing. The financial data for the recent months is to be announced today, I understand that it has been deferred; and it will be announced only in the evening. But the Prime Minister who has more authentic information than any of us on the subject has given an indication that the growth in the first quarter is likely to be more flat.

Sir, this country has survived many economic crises in the past. We survived the East Asian Economic crisis in the late 90's, the slowdown of the earlier part of the last decade; to some extent we tried to survive even the global financial crisis, or, the Lehman crisis of the last decade. But there is one fundamental difference. Today, the situation appears to be far gloomy, and the ability of the Government and its political leadership to handle this crisis itself has lost confidence, not only in the country, but is also losing the confidence of the investors' community. This has happened over the last few years.

Let me start with the last point which the Prime Minister has made. He has emphasised the need for a larger consensus on the economic issues; of course, it is necessary. But then consensus on economic issues emerges out of a political environment. If the political environment for consensus is not built up by the Government, on the contrary, it is regularly fractured by the Government of the day then to expect consensus only on economic issues itself will be a daunting and a challenging task. No Government can say I want consultation, I want to be very democratic, but I am a democrat only when in distress. That seems to be the attitude of this Government. Therefore, I think, it is a lesson for all of us, particularly for this Government, that in a course of its relationship with State Governments, with political parties, its conduct in this House while conducting the affairs and the conduct of its investigating agencies must reach a level of fairness and political acceptability, then, despite differences on crucial matters of national interest, there could be consensus and we welcome a consensus on such matters. But if the Government regularly breaks and fractures that consensus, then, it may be very challenging for it to expect a consensus when in isolation. Sir, this Government has lost confidence and it is for the hon. Prime Minister to reply to my question. You blame the global practice for it. You blame various other factors which have come in. But has the Prime Minister realised that the whole world was warning us, it was global financial media which was warning us, it was global investors which was warning us that there was a spate of policy paralysis going on in India. This has been the criticism for the last four or five years.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is very unfair.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: The whole world warned us. It was a fair comment that the world was making. It was not a comment made by us. We did not invent this phrase. Never has this phrase been used for economic policy direction in India as much as it has been used in the last few years. This has been used by responsible international observers. Why did we lose the trust of the international investors? Why did we lose the trust of the domestic investors? Instead of somebody investing in India, even on the Current Account Deficit you had a reverse flow of investment from India going to outside; and that had an impact. People started saying that India may no longer be the best place to do business. From 1991 onwards till today, under Governments of different political complexions, we as a nation, succeeded in showcasing India as an economic destination. In the last few years that image was lost. Kindly see the impact, hon. Prime Minister, that corruption had. The Finance Minister has recently made a statement indicating the blame on certain other institutions. Let us take the case of Spectrum allocation and see the spiral effect. It was a case of * corruption. CAG came out with a Report. CAG gave some numbers on which we may have different views. The Court acted because it was apparently a case of corruption. Sir, may I just request you that this is a very important issue?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know. But there are many Members who wish to seek clarifications. ...(*Interruptions*)... I leave it to your judgement. I leave it to the judgement of the hon. LoP.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I will try and be as brief as possible. Finally, you had a situation besides prosecutions, you had licenses being terminated, investments being confiscated. Now this was a spiral effect of * corruption. We became a country where investments could be confiscated, licenses could be cancelled.

As for coal, the Government speaks of essential imports. Oil is an essential import; edible oils are essential imports. But we have coal reserves. What has happened in the last six-seven years because of coal? Essentially, because of *corruption, you have today a situation where we have to import almost 20 billion dollars of coal. The global prices are going up. The result of which is current account deficit. As for Iron ore, corruption both by a section of the industry as also by our system, including agencies in the*, you have a situation that our exports have come to a standstill. All these factors are contributing to the current

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

account deficit. Now we can say that the courts are responsible; CAG is responsible. But the root cause is in what we did, and this was a spiral effect of what corruption took place within our system; the spiral effect of which was that people started losing confidence, as far as we were concerned.

As for policy decision, here leadership was required not only for policy directives. You can indicate that some difficult decisions took place during 2009 and 2011, but when some fiscal suggestions were made, including suggestions for retrospective taxation, the Prime Minister should have, as an eminent economist and leader of the Government, applied himself as to what the long-term impact of this was going to be. In each of these decisions, you lost the trust of global investors; you lost the trust of domestic investors. Therefore, merely to say that there are global factors, there is a crisis in Syria, that others are also doing very badly, hon. Prime Minister, a failed candidate in a class always has this explanation that the whole class has failed this time; that is no explanation. We were amongst the fastest growing economies in the world. We have been showcased before the world. Today, agencies are indicating that our growth rate may fall even below 4 per cent this year. Now if this is to happen, you have to realize as to what is the priority of this Government. We would like to have a specific answer. You speak in terms of correcting the fiscal deficit. Look at the figures. There was a time when the going was good and for years together we had 8 to 9 per cent growth rate. We came down to 2.5 to 3 per cent fiscal deficit. Then electoral expenditure was undertaken. As a result of which, from 2.5, you have gone up to 6 per cent. Your revenue deficits went up. And you merely say that the periods of 2009 and 2011 were responsible because those in-charge at that time are not here to defend themselves. This is an exercise we started in 2007-08 keeping the last election in mind. Therefore, you now have to decide whether you want to go back to prudence or you want to give priority to populism, which I am afraid your Government is still doing. Because, if you continue to follow the course, then the legacy that you leave behind will not be the legacy that you left behind as Finance Minister. That legacy was different. The legacy then you will leave behind as Prime Minister is going to be, after me the deluge. The country cannot afford it. Therefore, we would like you to respond to these clarifications as though these domestic factors have also contributed to the mess in which the country has been landed up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have the names of a number of Members who wish to seek clarifications. I would request, for the benefit of all concerned, that clarifications should be confined to two or three minutes. Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we are thankful to the Prime Minister for giving an elaborate statement and the response to the current economic crisis, the current crisis of the country. It is good that the Prime Minister has acknowledged that inflation is high in India. In fact, the common people, the working people, are compelled to pay through their noses for all essential commodities which they buy. Sir, the Prime Minister takes some solace in comparing the Indian rupee with the Brazilian Real, the Turkish Lira, the Indonesian Rupiah, etc. But, according to economists, the Indian currency is the lowest in the world. That is what the Journals say. Presently, the value of the Indian rupee has gone down to the lowest, and the real value is almost one-third of what we are seeing today. This is what the economists say, and our economist Prime Minister should respond to that. Repeatedly, the Prime Minister has mentioned in his long statement that our fundamentals are strong. When he says, "fundamentals are strong", I would like to know what those fundamentals are. According to me, fundamentals are public sector undertakings, public sector banking industry and public sector insurance industry. When the Prime Minister talks about banking, the Indian banking sector has been raising bad loans. Let us be forthright. It is the NPA which has crossed Rs.2,50,000 crores in the country. And we are thinking of opening up the banking sector. In the insurance sector, we are thinking of increasing the FDI from 26 per cent to 49 per cent. Thus the Government is weakening the public sector financial institutions, public sector banking industry and the public sector insurance industry. Then, the Prime Minister is emphatic when he says that there is no question of reversing these policies just because there is some turbulence in capital and currency markets. I would humbly submit that the time has come for the Government to review the experience of the two decades of our pursuit of neo-liberal economic policies and see what our assessment of these policies are. And, the Prime Minister says that there is no question of reversing these policies. I, strongly, feel that the Government must review the present policies and it should go for post-correction. Otherwise, the country needs some alternative policies. The country needs a paradigm shift in our economic development. And with the present paradigm of economic development, we cannot get out of this crisis, and I do not see any hope for the revival of the Indian economy. You can blame it on global factor. I remember the Prime Minister, from the same seat, during the last discussion, saying that there was a crisis in America, there was a crisis in the European Union, but the Indian economy could withstand it because our fundamentals were strong. I repeat:

1.00 P.M.

What are those fundamentals? Do you have any different fundamentals? I am defining what these fundamentals are. But you are trying to weaken these fundamentals. And, how can you safeguard the economy and how can you expect that this economy will revive? That is where the Government should have an open mind to review some of the policies and go for post-corrections. I hope that the Prime Minister will respond to some of these issues.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): Sir, after listening to the hon. Prime Minister, I am, certainly, assured that India has neither gone into a funk, and much less, in any danger of becoming a junk. The commitment to rectify some of the mistakes, which we may have committed, is really assuring as we grapple with the challenges of growth.

I have three particular points to suggest for the Prime Minister's consideration. First, Sir, is in the context of the Prime Minister's forthcoming visit for the G-20 at St. Petersburg. Would the Prime Minister consider taking up with the Finance Ministers of G-20 that orchestrated action by Central bankers would enable a transition by the emerging markets in a manner which would not be particularly disruptive? I recognise that Central bankers are enjoined by their Charter and the mandate to act in their domestic interest, but, perhaps if along with the G-20 Finance Ministers the Central bankers were to orchestrate their action, some of the disruptions being caused, whose burden we are sharing in a somewhat disproportionate way, would be minimized. Second, Sir, is that following the crisis in Europe and following the crisis elsewhere and the experience which we have gathered in post-1991, the stigma attached by countries on coordinated multi-lateral action by important multi-lateral agencies would really result in a more coherent action on the key policy parameters which are necessary to put the country back on a high growth trajectory. Sir, I think, if we read newspapers, we see a laundry list of the number of key important reform measures which are to be undertaken, but perhaps a partnership with the key multi-lateral agencies would enable a more orchestrated reaction on the key important economic reforms necessary to put India back on high economic growth. Third, Sir, is while I recognise that there may be the need and necessity for ensuring social programmes in a country where the social security set up is so poor, it requires more expenditure. Would the Prime Minister

[Shri N.K. Singh]

consider responding in what manner a restructuring of our Expenditure Programme on subsidies etc. would be possible to sustain macro-economic stability in the context of the important challenges which we face?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Hon. the Prime Minister, in your Statement at page 2 at the bottom, you have rightly stated that the value of Indian rupee is determined by the fundamentals of Indian economy and being an economist and an economist administrator of vast experience you would surely realise that the only link between good economy and good politics is good governance, and the Leader of the Opposition has already indicated some of the reasons. How much of Indian economy and its fundamentals have come under strain and stress because of domestic reasons and do they impinge upon issues of Governance? You have talked of consensus which is quite welcome, hon. the Prime Minister. To be very precise, I want to mention one specific instance. Infrastructure set a development, it is political divide neutral. Now what has happened? Power sector is completely down because of governance issue, corruption. Real Estate is under severe strains because of the rise of abuse of authority for family connections. Thirdly, National Highway, a great growth area of NDA regime comes under severe stress because of strike, corruption in National Highway Authority and what not. Lastly, another area of growth, Telecommunications, is coming under serious strain because of 2G spectrum price. The question is, are these issues being addressed, hon. the Prime Minister? This is my first query. Honestly, the second query, hon. the Prime Minister is, you have rightly talked about certain decisions taken by the American Principal Bank. I can understand. But, hot money is hot money. What about Indian money and why the Indians are not investing in India? Why is manufacturing down? What are the reasons for that? All these we would like to know from you, hon. the Prime Minister, because those issues are, indeed, very important. Obviously, Indian economy cannot only be driven by foreign investments *per se* because they are hot money. They come and go. Hon. the Prime Minister, you talked about bad bank loans, rightly so, in your Statement. We would like to know as to how much of bad loans is involved in hundreds of projects which have come under clout because of corruption and because of a whole range of other issues impinging upon governance. My homework says, and I would like to be corrected, that only in gold, Rs. 1,20,000 crores of bank money is locked up because of this. The last point is – Sir, I am concluding – you have said on inflation that RBI will take steps to contain inflation. Hon. the Prime Minister, does the Government not have any role? And, we have seen the statement of the RBI Governor today and it indicates

that the RBI and the Government are not on the same page. If that is the situation, how is it that the RBI alone can contain inflation and what is the role of the Government?

These are the important issues. Obviously, Mr. Prime Minister, you have spoken today. We respect that. But, the country would like to know from you answers to these questions too. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will extend the time of the House beyond 10' clock.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Okay, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Sukhendu Sekhar Roy.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, through you, I have only two clarifications to seek from the hon. Prime Minister. Hon. Prime Minister stated, in his long statement, and I quote only one sentence. He said, "To some extent, depreciation can be good for the economy as this will help to increase our export competitiveness and discourage imports." I have no knowledge about the economy; I am an ordinary citizen of this country. I wish to seek a clarification whether we should take it that the country should continue with the prevailing depreciation of the rupee as it will be good for the economy and for export competitiveness as has been stated by the hon. Prime Minister in his statement.

The second point is this. I am sorry to say that only one line has been attributed to the existing food prices in the long statement made by the hon. Prime Minister. What is that? It says, "The favourable monsoon and anticipated good harvest will bring down food prices and control inflation." So, all the time we have to look at the horizon for a good harvest and favourable monsoon and to continue with such a situation. What administrative steps to be taken by the Government to curb the prices of essential goods, particularly onion which has risen from 112 per cent to 117 per cent when compared to last year's price? And, the price of rice, wheat, vegetable and all other food items are skyrocketing everyday without any measures being taken by the Government so far. Sir, a war-like situation is prevailing in the kitchen of common man. So, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Prime Minister what positive steps that the Government is going to take to arrest this unprecedented rise the price of essential commodities. Thank you.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, the hon. Prime Minister in his statement has said and I quote, "It is important to recognize that the fundamentals of the Indian economy continue to be strong." Yesterday, when I had raised the issue, he replied in negative my asking, 'Are we going back to the situation in 1991?' At that point of time, the then Finance Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, and today's hon. Prime Minister, in his Budget Speech had said and I quote, "We have no time to lose." And then, he outlined four parameters in 1991 by saying, "This is a worrying situation and we have to embark on this course of reforms."

The first one was on the Current Account deficit. He then said, in his own words, that it was 2.5 per cent of the GDP and, therefore, it was not acceptable. Today, it is 4.8 per cent of the GDP.

The second point I wish to quote of what he had said then. He said, "The debt service burden is estimated at about 21 per cent of the Current Account receipts." Today, Sir, that 21 per cent is 35.01 per cent according to the Budget papers.

The third parameter that he used was on the question of inflation which, today's hon. Prime Minister then said and I quote from his Budget Speech, "The major worrisome feature of inflation in 1990-91 is that it is concentrated in essential commodities." Today, in 2013, is there any difference?

The fourth one is about the foreign exchange reserves. At that time, in his Budget Speech, he had said that 'foreign exchange reserves were very meager and we can finance imports only for a few weeks.' Today, yes; we can finance imports for about six months. But, we have the reserves which is one of the lowest amongst all the BRIC countries. According to the data that has been furnished, some of them have 1/2 to 2 years of cushion. But, on all these four counts, Sir, today the situation is worse than what it was in 1991. These are the figures, Sir. I am just quoting the figures to you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Your interpretation is wrong.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I am yet to come to the interpretation. I am only saying that on the question of parameters of economic fundamentals, on all the four, the situation is worse. And then the worrisome thing here is the future reforms, about which the Prime Minister says, and I quote, "The most growth-friendly way

to contain the deficit is to spend carefully especially on subsidies that do not reach the poor." I have no problem with how you regulate and make efficient what does not reach the poor. But the point at issue is, when you talk about subsidies for the poor, please also talk about subsidies for the rich. The tax incentives that you are giving as incentives for growth have resulted in a minus 1.6 per cent fall in your index of industrial production. It has come down to minus two in June. In spite of all these incentives, you have a decline in production. So, there is my interpretation -- hon. Finance Minister has asked me; so I am giving my interpretation. What is the reason why foreign capital is also not coming? Though there are many factors, as the Leader of the Opposition has mentioned, Sir, capital does not flow because they like your face or my face; it does not flow because it is a nice environment or a bad environment; it flows on whether there is profit that they can earn. If there is no avenue for earning profit, what will the investment do? Your global market is shrinking; you can't export. Your domestic demand is shrinking because of price-rise and disposable incomes are not there. (Time-bell) Please permit me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Your domestic demand is declining. In that situation, what would investments do? Who is there to buy what you produce, unless you expand your domestic demand? That expansion of domestic demand can only come, and this is what I urge the Prime Minister in the interest of the country's economy to please consider, when you stop these incentives which are working to the contrary, collect your taxes, invest in public investment to build our much-needed infrastructure, generate new employment. When employees spend the wages that you give them, domestic demand would grow, and that would be the basis for a sustainable growth trajectory. The alternative is there. This is the alternative I seriously urge you to consider, because unless you have such alternatives...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: The final point that I want to make is about the reason why there is the fall in the rupee. You have a rise in the price of gold. Obviously, there is money in this economy; people are buying gold. They are buying gold and that is why the price of gold has gone up. They are buying real estate. India is today the fastest-growing real estate market in the world. It has

[Shri Sitaram Yechury]

outstripped Rio de Janeiro by nearly 16 per cent in the real estate prices. Dollar is growing, but the rupee is falling. Why? That is because these are the only three avenues left for the rich to park their money. They cannot invest because they cannot sell what they produce. So, what will they do with the money? They are storing in gold, they are storing in real estate and they are storing in buying foreign currency. That is the reality. So, tap that surplus money, invest in public investments, generate jobs and expand the domestic demand. I urge the Prime Minister to consider this strategy seriously.

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... (transliterated text) ...

... (transliterated text) ...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I am not an economist. We have economists like the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Chidambaram, the Leader of

the Opposition, my colleague and neighbour, Shri N.K. Singh. But as a citizen, the issues which arise with respect to the economy, I would like to only have a few clarifications on the Statement of the hon. Prime Minister. The Statement says that the exports have fallen down. If the exports are falling down, then, we need to stop it. We need to export to get foreign currency and improve our economy. But what are the reasons behind fall in exports? I want to know whether some emergency policy decisions or some other immediate decisions are going to be taken to overcome this. Why the foreign investors, who were coming to this country *en bloc*, have suddenly stopped coming? They have not only stopped coming for investment over here and for establishing their industries but they have decided to take that back from India, which has resulted in unemployment, which has resulted in various repelling effects which come out once the industries stop and go back. What are the decisions which are being taken to encourage the domestic industries which are, in fact, closing down? Has any evaluation been done about the small industries, medium industries and big industries which are closing down? Even our own people who had established domestic industries in our country are running out of this country, and they are wanting to establish their industries in other countries. On the one hand, the pace of industrialization is decreasing, and its effect is on employment, price-rise; on the other hand, at the same time, we have various Acts coming everyday which are strangulating these industries. The Government is bringing in various stringent provisions in various Acts, like the Income-tax Act, FERA, FEMA, etc. They are, in fact, improving these Acts and making them more stringent. We are adding Sections after Sections in various Acts to see as to how we can take something from them, and, in fact, have penal actions on them. As a result, people have even been sent to jail. So, they are afraid of going into the business, be it our own people or outside people. On this aspect, is some thinking being done? On environmental issues, I would like to say that yesterday we had a question here which could not be taken up because of the paucity of time, it was pointed out by the Minister that there are 328 projects for which environmental clearances are pending for the last several years. These are very major projects and out of which 100 relate to coal, nuclear, power, etc. On the one hand, we are strangulating these industries and not allowing them even to start. Even if they start running, you ensure how they are closed. How are we planning to go ahead in this regard? Is anything being thought on this aspect? What are the effects of court orders and court inferences in respect of all these matters because of which the persons who want to come into these fields, in fact,

[Shri Satish Chandra Misra]

from the very first day, decide not to come into this. Secondly, I would also like to know about measures to see the expenditures which are being done in various PSUs of which we now want to sell the shares. Are we having some measures to see that this expenditure is brought down? Are we still continuing with these expenditures? All the PSUs which we will name have off and on five start hotel dinners with liquor and all other enjoyments in various places throughout the country. There is complete mismanagement. After that we say that they are running into losses. If they are in profit, we decide to sell them. On this aspect also, I would like to know something. I am sure if there is mismanagement or wrong implementation of the policies or wrong enforcement, these effects, which we are noticing today, will come. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naresh Gujral. *...(Interruptions)...* He is the last speaker. I have a dozen requests. But it is not possible to accommodate all of them. I am sorry. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL (Maharashtra): Sir, I have a specific clarification to ask. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, the hon. Prime Minister has stated that current account deficit would be contained at 70 billion dollars for the year. If you look at the figure, in the first two months, we had touched 30 billion and thereafter our current deficit account hovers around 13 billion a month which means in the first five months, we have almost touched 70 billion dollars. The energy prices globally are going up and FDI seems to have said bye, bye to India. Our exports are really not doing well, especially the labour-intensive export industry. So, I would like the Prime Minister to kindly tell us what specific measures would be taken to boost the export of labour-intensive industry from India and whether some measures would be taken to control and contain import of luxury items such as alcohol which has zero per cent duty if hotels and restaurants are to import. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I have only one point to make. *...(Interruptions)...* It relates to the subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. *...(Interruptions)...* No. *...(Interruptions)...* It is not possible. *...(Interruptions)...* Mr. Goyal, it is not possible. *...(Interruptions)...* You please take your seat. *...(Interruptions)...* Please take your seat. *...(Interruptions)...* You may write to the Prime Minister. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I have a specific clarification to seek on current account deficit. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today is Friday. We cannot do away with the lunch-break. It is already 1.25. So, we have to have a lunch-break. If I allow you, I have a dozen requests. ...*(Interruptions)*... Not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have a dozen requests. ...*(Interruptions)*... Already your party has been represented by two Members. The hon. LoP has spoken. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Prime Minister may... ...*(Interruptions)*... You write to the Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, hon. Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... I hope the hon. Members would allow to extend the House till the hon. Prime Minister completes his reply.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I am very grateful to all the hon. Members who have raised questions and have asked me to clarify issues raised by them.

I respect the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Arun Jaitleyji. I am glad he has recognized that there is a need for consensus. Building a consensus is the responsibility of both, the Government and the principal Opposition party. I wish the conduct of the principal Opposition party was consistent with letting the ruling party govern, while the Opposition performs its task of opposing and criticizing wherever it is necessary. But, if the record of the last nine years is looked at, the principal Opposition party has never reconciled itself that it was voted out of power in 2004 as well as in 2009. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: We strongly protest that. ...*(Interruptions)*... We strongly protest that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): ...*(Interruptions)*...
 ...*(Interruptions)*...
 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, have you ever heard of a situation in a parliamentary system where the Prime Minister of the country is not allowed to introduce the Members of his Council of Ministers. ...*(Interruptions)*... That's what happened in 2004. ...*(Interruptions)*... Have you heard of any other country where the Members of the Opposition walk into the Well of the House, shouting 'श्री ० × ०' 'श्री ० × ०'. The type of things that have been said...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ० × ०: श्री ० × ०? 'श्री ० × ०'? ...*(Interruptions)*...

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MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Order please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Order; order. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Prime Minister, please tell us, have you heard of any democracy where the Prime Minister won a Vote of Confidence by* ? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Nominated): Sir, how can you allow this untruth to be placed on the record of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... I demand that it should be removed. ...*(Interruptions)*... How can this untruth be allowed to be placed on record? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please allow the hon. Prime Minister to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Mani Shankar, please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, let the hon. Prime Minister complete. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... In economics or politics, please be calm. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... The economics is always coupled with politics. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is both ways. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is both ways. ...*(Interruptions)*... You please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Prime Minister is on his legs. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Leader of the House is always heard in silence and so is the Leader of the Opposition. That is our tradition. Please keep it up.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Leader of the

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Opposition has talked about investors having lost confidence in our country. I don't think that is correct. But I would be the last person to deny that there are certain events and happenings in our country which are a source of concern to investors, both domestic and foreign. And, what are those conditions?

Parliament is the supreme body in our country. If Parliament is not allowed to function Session after Session... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, we heard their Leader without interruption. *...(Interruptions)...* They should hear the Prime Minister without interruption. *...(Interruptions)...* How can your people interrupt the Prime Minister?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your side also. *...(Interruptions)...* This side also, they should keep quiet. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You made political statements, but we heard you. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Both sides should keep quiet. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You made political statements, we heard you. We heard Mr. Jaitley's political statement. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: What political statements? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now both sides should hear in silence. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: He made political statements; we heard him. *...(Interruptions)...* You must hear the... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There will always be... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: We will hear the hon. Prime Minister without anybody disturbing the hon. Prime Minister. The Prime Minister is entitled to that respect. We would like to know what he intends to do for reviving the economy. We don't want to hear *alibi* for failure. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us hear the Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Prime Minister is not allowed to say whatever he wants to say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us listen to the Prime Minister. Both sides should not disturb. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am requesting both the sides.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not making a partisan point. But if you are worried about the investors' confidence, both the domestic investors' confidence and the foreign investors' confidence, the conduct of Parliament is an important factor which will ...*(Interruptions)*... influence the behaviour of the investors. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): The conduct of Ministers is also important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Who says no? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Therefore, Sir, I do recognise that there is a problem, that this problem can be resolved only if the Opposition Party does recognise its responsibility for the conduct of Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not something which can be done unilaterally; it takes two to clap and you have my assurance that our Party is very sincere in ensuring that essential legislation, which has a vital bearing on the fortunes of our country in the years to come, is passed by this Parliament with approval. Therefore, this is not an issue which should divide our country. There is a problem that domestic investors are also nervous; there is a problem that foreign investors also get a wrong signal; and, it is the responsibility of all Members of this House to send out a message that India remains a viable, bankable, credit-worthy proposition. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is an obligation, I invite all sections of the House, to respect ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has talked about corruption. Corruption is there and has been there. In recent years, the RTI and the activism of the various agencies of the Government has brought out certain things which are regrettable. But these corruption episodes do not have to be an occasion to disrupt Parliament in a manner that we cannot do our essential business. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री व. नारायणसामी: ...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What happened to you, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... Always shouting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: There are institutional arrangements in place, various Committees of Parliament; there are courts of the country which can grapple with these issues and let the guilty be booked. Our Government has no desire to protect any guilty person. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Files are missing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: No, I am not the custodian of the files of the Ministry of Coal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... V.P. Singhji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, you are the custodian of the country. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Maitreyan, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Therefore, Sir, I appeal to the hon. Leader of the Opposition and all Members of this august House to recognize that there is a collective responsibility. We owe it to our country to send out a message to investors, both domestic and foreign, that India remains a viable, bankable, credit-worthy proposition. ...*(Interruptions)*...

As I have pointed out in my statement, the fundamentals of our economy are eminently sound and we should build on our assets and try to deal with deficiencies. There are deficiencies. I do not wish to deny that. But we have a responsibility to act collectively to deal with this crisis of confidence of this sort.

Sir, Shri Raja has referred to inflation. I share the concern about inflation. Inflation hurts the poor. But we have ensured, in the last nine years, that the public sector agencies, which are in charge of public distribution, have not had to face any increase in prices. We have kept the prices of wheat and rice, being

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

distributed by the public sector agencies, at more or less the same level as remained in 2003. This is an important measure whose relevance is often not recognized, but I would urge the hon. Members that some rise in prices was inevitable to correct the adverse terms of trade against agriculture. Without agricultural growth, solid agricultural growth, we cannot bring about a healthy growth of the economy as a whole, and our experience was that our farmers needed better terms of trade but one consequence of that is that the farm prices had to be raised by an amount which was far in excess of what was done by any previous Government, and that structural inflation has got built into our economy. We have to grapple with it, we will grapple with it, and, fortunately, the fact that we are going to have a good harvest, as a result of a good favourable monsoon, provides an opportunity to deal with food inflation in a manner which was not possible before.

Shri N.K. Singh referred to the action by the Group of 20. I will participate in the Group of 20, and I may say that, whatever some Members of the House may say about me as the Prime Minister, I command a certain status, certain prestige, certain respect in the Council of the Group of 20. Therefore, it is quite clear today that the way the world economy is functioning, there is no adequate coordination of the macro economic policy, monetary and fiscal policy of developed countries and yet we recognize that in an increasingly interdependent world, whatever is done in the developed countries sends its tremors in the developing world. So, in a more equitable world order, it is only appropriate that the developed countries, in pursuing their fiscal and monetary policies, should take into account their repercussions on the health of the economies of the emerging countries and other developing countries. That is a concern that I have been voicing throughout my participation in the meetings of the Group of 20, and I will continue to do so.

Sir, Shri Rai asked how depreciation is good for the economy. I didn't say that depreciation is a universally beneficial phenomenon. It has pluses and it has minuses. It is a mechanism of adjustment in an economy, which has got out of balance its macro-economic fundamental, and, therefore, to some extent, it provides a corrective, but there are consequences. As I mentioned in my speech, the rise in the price of petroleum products, the rise in import prices, certainly has consequences in accentuating inflationary pressures, and to that extent, the pressures on monetary policy to take corrective measures also increases, which also, in turn, has consequences on what happens to the climate for investment in the country.

Onion prices are prices which rise and fall depending upon the seasonal trend in production. No Central Government can say that it can control all prices. And, certainly, as Shri Sharad Pawar has pointed out, some months ago, he, as the Agriculture Minister, had written to all State Governments to arrange for storage of onions and yet, no State Government took advantage of that. If they had taken advantage of that, in the lean season the prices would have been more stable than they were. As for Shri Yechury's comments that we are back to 1991, I say it with all emphasis at my disposal that we are not at that level. We will not go to that extent. We have no reason to believe that the Indian economy is today back to the 1991 situation. Our fundamentals are much stronger. We have, for example, an exchange rate which is market-determined. We have foreign exchange reserves which are equal to seven months of imports. Therefore, there is no reason for anybody to believe that we are going down the hill and that 1991 is on the horizon.

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav raised issues with regard to exchange rate adjustment. I have answered some of those issues in the text of my statement. As far as GDP is concerned, the fears that GDP growth in India may go down to three per cent is entirely unfounded. I sincerely believe that this year our growth rate will be about 5.5 per cent and that we have the ambition, we have the means and we have the resources and the will power to put the economy back on the rails of high, stable growth rate of six to eight per cent in two-three years to come.

Shri Satish Misra had asked why our exports were falling. Now, our exports are falling partly because of international factors -- the world economy is slowing down -- and partly because of the growing un-competitiveness of Indian exports. Fortunately, the recession of the Rupee provides an opportunity to, at least, put in place a partial corrective and I, therefore, sincerely hope that our exports will do better in the coming months. Why foreign investments are not coming? First of all, Foreign Direct Investment is not affected. As far as the speculative flows are concerned, speculators don't calculate what is in the long-term interest of the investor. They are short-term maximizers and, therefore, come and go. Speculators are not the best judges of the health of the economy. Lord Keynes once said, "Speculators are useful and healthy as bubbles on a steady stream of enterprise. But when the enterprise becomes the bubble in the hands of speculators, the job is likely to be undone." Therefore, I invite hon. Members not to be too much influenced by speculative inflows and speculative outflows, and trust the ability of our Government to tackle India's economic problem with all sincerity and with all conviction.

आज का सत्र दोपहर 12 बजे शुरू हुआ। सत्र शुरू होने के बाद ही सदन में अशांति फैली। सदन में अशांति फैली। सदन में अशांति फैली।

(श्री आर. जे. शुकला: सदन में अशांति फैली। सदन में अशांति फैली।)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at forty-seven minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-three minutes past two of the clock,

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up the Private Members' Resolutions. Resolution No.1 - Shri Shantaram Naik to move the Resolution...(Interruptions)...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, a lot of suicides are taking place. ...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, let them speak for a minute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, what do you want to say?

Re. Suicides in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, suicides are happening day in and day out because the Government is totally insensitive.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But, this is time for Private Members' Business.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: They have not taken any decision and they are not even bothered to respond.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: The Government has agreed.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: The Government has agreed, but it is not doing anything. How can they do this? Is it democratically correct? ...(Interruptions)...

They have to come forward. There is absolutely no Cabinet. What is the Central

Government doing? Can they leave Andhra Pradesh like that, just unattended? Is it not unfair? Is it the parliamentary procedure? The federal parliamentary system says that all issues have to be discussed, debated and deliberated and then a decision should be taken. But, how can they simply take a dictatorship decision? Sir, we demand some commitment from the Government. Sir, kindly permit Mr. C.M. Ramesh to say something.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No translation is there.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: I gave a letter, Sir. I gave a letter, Sir, in Andhra Pradesh students, Government employees and workers are agitating for the last 30 days.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not getting any translation. ...*(Interruptions)*... No translation is there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: I gave a letter, Sir. I gave a letter, Sir, But still there is no response from the Government. Yesterday, one MBA student committed suicide by coming under a train, protesting bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramesh, I do not know what you are speaking. That is my problem.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: That is not my problem, Sir. I gave a letter.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is for Zero Hour, not for. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: No, no. I gave a letter giving standing instructions that I will always speak in Telugu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But you should intimate when you are going to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... They do not know when you are going to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... I allowed you but they should know this.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, Telugu people are being humiliated everywhere and even in this House we are being humiliated.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you know Hindi, speak in Hindi. ...*(Interruptions)*...

*Hon. Member spoke in Telugu.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: No, Sir, I want to speak in Telugu only.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, that was for Zero Hour.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: I gave standing instructions that I will always speak in Telugu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is correct. But how do they know when you are going to speak?

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: That is not my problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But that is our problem.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: It is your management problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: My advice is...*(Interruptions)*..Listen, I am on my legs. See, the point is that you are saying something so that what you say gets recorded, and, what you say is understood by the Members and the country as well.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, call the translator. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Translator is there. I have already informed in the morning. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Listen, Mr. Ramesh ...*(Interruptions)*.. You are saying ...*(Interruptions)*.. Even though it is Private Members' time, I allowed you to speak, but if you do not speak in a language, which is either translated or which can be understood by others; there is no purpose of your speaking. You don't get anything. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: You are making a purposeful lecture, Sir, but I have a copy of the letter which I gave in the morning that I will always speak in Telugu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That was for Zero Hour.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: No, it was not for Zero Hour. I gave standing instructions. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you know Hindi, you speak in Hindi. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: I do not know. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You don't know English and Hindi!

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't tell such things here. I have heard you speaking.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, translator is there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, you speak anything. Nothing is going on record because nobody understands it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you understand? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, all the Government offices, educational institutes and courts are closed for the last 30 days. Even TTD temple in Tirupati is affected because of this strike and no devotee wants to go there. This is unprecedented in the history of India and Andhra Pradesh. People are protesting on streets for the last 30 days. We tried to express our views here but we were suspended by the Congress party and no sympathy was shown towards us.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That is enough. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: People of Andhra Pradesh are insulted and all forces against Congress will unite and dethrone Congress.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Shantaram Naik. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is alright. Now, take your seat, please.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: I walk out in protest.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: It is unfair, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, you are conducting the House...*(Interruptions)*... People are committing suicide there. How can you be insensitive? The Government has to... ...*(Interruptions)*... Can you take things so lightly if such things happen in your State? Is it fair? Where is the democracy? Ruling Party, whatever they think, cannot spoil a State like this. Is Andhra Pradesh not a part of the country? Can you ignore eight and a half crore people? You people are in the Government because of Andhra Pradesh MPs. Unfortunately, our MPs are not coming forward to resign and give a threat. I think, the day is not far...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this Congress Government and the UPA are going to get a big lesson. People will teach them a good lesson and there is

[Shri Y.S. Chowdary]

absolutely no doubt about it. They will undoubtedly be rooted out. But, in the meanwhile, we demand the present Government to come forward with some via-media decision, at least, to restore peace in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Our farmers, our schoolchildren, our High Court, our banks, nothing is moving. RTC buses are not plying. Can the largest democratic country's Parliament be so insensitive? It is a ...(*Interruptions*)... We will walk out on this.

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Shantaram Naik.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTIONS

Need to Amend Article 371 to enable Goa to enact legislation to regulate ownership and transfer of land and influx of migrants

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): I am moving following Resolution, Sir.

"Having regard to the fact that:—

- the land is becoming a scarce commodity more particularly in smaller States like Goa where the land mafias from foreign countries are landing with tons of money, buying huge areas and creating social and economic chaos as some of the parties are potential enough to buy a whole village;
- the persons in real estate in the country too are resorting to similar purchases disturbing the social fabric of the State;
- the State has to be empowered to enact appropriate legislations to bring in restrictions on transfer of land and other immoveable properties on the grounds of duration of residential requirement in the State, social and economic needs of the State, environment and public interest, as may be specified by the law;
- the State of Goa consists of hardly 3,702 sq. kilometers of land with a population of roughly 14 lakhs whereas the increasing number of migrant population has reached to an unmanageable proportion;
- while it is the fundamental right of every citizen under article 19 of the Constitution to move freely throughout the territory of India, it is also the fundamental right of others to live a decent life with basic amenities

provided by the State in order to safeguard the basic rights of those Goans and also non-Goans who are settled in Goa for a number of years and further inflow has to be regulated to avoid a virtual stampede in near future.

This House urges upon the Government to amend article 371-I of the Constitution as follows:—

"In the Article 371-1, after the words, "not less than thirty members" insert the following words -

Provided further that notwithstanding anything contained in any other part of this Constitution or in any law for the time being in force or in any judgment or order, the Legislative Assembly of Goa shall be competent to enact any legislation -

- (a) to regulate the ownership and transfer of land in public interest and in the interest and on grounds of duration of residential requirement in the State, social and economic needs of the State, environment and public interest, as may be specified by the State by law; and
- (b) to regulate influx of migrants considering available resources specially, land, water, power etc. and considering the sanitation and environmental aspects."

So, Sir, this is my Resolution. I would now recollect how it came into existence. It is Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru who, in spite of the pressure from the United States -- John F. Kennedy was the President of the United States -- sent military with the help of then Defence Minister, Mr. Menon, and Goa was liberated on 19th December, 1961. After liberation, when Nehruji came to Goa, he gave one important assurance to the people that identity of Goa shall be retained. These were his words. Yet, in spite of the fact that there was a clear assurance, unfortunately, we had to undergo an opinion poll. There was pressure from various sections whereby the Government of India had to enact a legislation, Parliament had to enact a legislation called 'Opinion Poll, 1966', under which an opinion poll was taken asking the Goans whether they would like to merge in Maharashtra or they would like to be a Union Territory. Similarly, the people of Daman and Diu were asked whether they would like to merge into Gujarat or to remain a Union Territory. The people overwhelmingly preferred to remain a Union Territory and that is why it remained a Union Territory. Now, what is Special Provision? There is a misunderstanding in the country, including Goa, as to what is called Special Status. I would say that there

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

is nothing called Special Status. You can enlighten me when you reply. There is nothing called Special Status in the Constitution. That is Special Provision under Article 371 and that is what is called as Special Category, which is given under the Executive Order. I will explain both the things. Special Provision is what I am demanding. Now who has got Special Provision so far? Maharashtra and Gujarat have got Special Provision for creating Special Development Boards. Now even Karnataka has got it for some purpose. Nagaland has got Special Provision for protecting ownership and transfer of land and its resources, and religious or social practices. For protecting these, Nagaland has got Special Provision. Assam has got Special Provision for creating Committees for Tribal Areas. Similarly, even Goa was included for Special Provision. Do you know why? Because the Constitution says that each Assembly shall consist of 60 Members minimum. We wanted 40 Members. So, a Special Provision was made to give Goa a 40-Member Assembly. We are also there at Article 371-I in the Constitution for this reason. There are many other States for various purposes. A number of States are included in the category of Special Provision under Article 371. The Goans' overwhelming demand, I will explain the reasons, is supported even by the BJP by passing a Resolution in the Assembly very recently. The BJP was unanimous in its Resolution. The Congress Members supported them by saying that Special Provision be made under Article 371 for Goa. This demand has been made by the Congress for many years. The BJP passed a Resolution in the Assembly. We also got strength by that Resolution.

I will divert for a moment to distinguish what is Special Status and what is Special Category. Special Provision is granted by amendment to the Constitution and Special Category is granted by an Executive Order. The National Advisory Council meets and includes certain States in the Special Category Status. As of today, there are eleven States which are there in the Special Category. They are: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. What do these States get when they are included in the Special Category States? They get additional finances. They get additional schemes. They get subsidies, loans, etc. They have to pay hardly anything to the Central Government. Those States, which are included in the Special Category States, get all the facilities. Right now, my Resolution is not for Special Category. We are not asking for special finances at this stage. We are asking for Special Provision under Article 371. Sometime back, I read a news item relating to Bihar asking for Special Status. I don't think any of these two things

have been given. It may have been for 'status'. That is a different thing. It is the third thing I am talking of. Two things which are known to us are 'Special Category' and 'Special provisions' therefore these aspects need to be understood.

Now, for the purpose of achieving the objective of what I am asking, it is not that the Goa Government did not make any attempt. The Goa Government made an attempt in its own way some years back by seeking an amendment to the Registration Act. There is the Registration Act under which properties are registered. Whether it is sale deed, purchase deed, gift deed or whatever it is, it is registered under the Registration Act. So, an amendment was made – States are also entitled to make amendment to the Central Act—whereby in public interest, the Government was authorised to give directions to the Sub-Registrar not to register a particular deed. The object was that when certain deeds were made in respect of hundreds of acres of land, there must be some curb on getting the deeds registered. But, this Bill was reserved for the consideration of the President of India and the President of India did not give assent to this Bill. It was said that there was a decision of the Supreme Court which goes against this concept and, therefore, the President of India did not give assent. Therefore, the only remedy that remains with us is a Constitutional amendment. That's why, my Resolution speaks of Constitutional amendment and I have given the text of the amendment and how we want it.

Now, imagine what is happening in Goa. Russians and Israelis are regularly coming there. They are doing business. They take partners. By taking partners, they grab land. There is a business called taxi business of motorcycles, which is very famous in Goa. You may be shocked to know that today in a village like Morjim and other areas, this taxi business is done by the Russians. If there are ten motorcycles on a taxi stand, there will be 5-6 motorcycles by Russians. All Russians residing nearby prefer these Russian bikes and they hire Russian motorcycles, thereby affecting the business of locals. This is how it is going on. Then, they enter into agreements with small hotel owners. As per agreement, they will sit on *gallas* and they will give certain money per year to the owner and run the business. If somebody asks questions, they say that they were working as manager and looking after the business to avoid provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act. So, in various ways, foreigners are intruding in the business activities of Goa. Apart from Delhi and Mumbai, moneyed people come with tonnes of money in bag to Goa. They are capable of buying village after village. So, we would like to prevent that. Please don't consider that we are narrow-minded. If we had a big area,

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

we would not have minded if some acres are purchased. We have a small area of 3700-odd square kilometres. If land goes, nothing will remain in the hills of Goa after 5-10 years. Therefore, we are concerned. If we had large land like Uttar Pradesh or Madhya Pradesh or Bihar, we would not have minded or if somebody purchased for development, there is nothing wrong in that. But, we don't have that much of land. Today people, even outsiders, think that buying a plot in Goa is very prestigious. If I have a plot in Goa, it is considered prestigious. It may be agricultural or residential. Everybody is coming to buy plots; everybody is coming to buy agricultural land. It may lie idle. They don't mind. That is how they consider it. Even if an industrial unit goes in loss, they don't mind. Industrialists take pride in the fact that they have got an industrial unit in Goa. That is why we are concerned. We oppose SEZs. Why are we opposing SEZs? In the name of SEZs, many industrialists demanded huge tracts of land which they were not needing. If they require 200 sq. meters of land, they would ask for 10,000 sq. meters of land. Therefore, we said we are not interested in SEZs. They were not willing to promise jobs for locals. So, what is the need of SEZs when they are not assuring jobs to locals? That is why we said that we are not interested in having SEZs in Goa. Therefore, unfortunately the case is pending in the Supreme Court. All the big industrialists went to the Supreme Court and obtained a stay. The Supreme Court gave orders to maintain *status quo*. Therefore, till today, the matter is lying there. But fortunately the huge chunk of land which would have gone into the hands of the industrialists, which they would have exploited for commercial purposes, has somehow remained. Therefore, we are asking for this. That is the reason why the Opposition party has also supported it. Otherwise, the Congress Party and the BJP are not on one wave length on any issue. But on this issue all have come together asking unanimously that we should have this thing.

Another related issue is migrants. We are interested in protecting interests of even non-Goans. There are lakhs of non-Goans who are staying in Goa. We would like to protect their interests also. But if we want to protect the interests of Goans and non-Goans with the infrastructure available, whatever electricity is available, then, we have to have some legislation to regulate the influx. This is again not a narrow mentality. It is pure and simple economics. Therefore, we would like the Goa Assembly to have power to enact legislation for this purpose.

In Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats which Rajivji conceived, it is the village panchayats which have to decide ultimate developmental issues. Therefore, in many village panchayats and in Gram Sabha meetings in Goa, they are of the unanimous

3.00 P.M.

view that Goa land should be protected. Therefore, meetings after meetings are held on this issue at length. In a small village, if you have 5-6 multi-storied buildings where from water will come. How will they get electricity supply? That was the question. Therefore, builders who are coming to small villages for constructing huge complexes are things which villagers will not tolerate. They have not tolerated.

Now, coupled with this, Sir, the issue of mining is there. About three lakhs of people today are unemployed. The economic situation is going down. The economic situation is very bad. I am sorry to say that schemes after schemes are being floated without any money in the coffers. On the one side, the State Government is begging with the Central Government to give some finance under some package or the other; and on the other, the State Government is floating schemes after schemes without looking into their financial capacity. This is purely criminal. Therefore, if they have got interest to protect the land of Goa, protect the economics of Goa, then, they should look into this matter.

As far as mining in Goa is concerned, ultimately who is regulating mines today? Is it the Environment Ministry? No. Nothing is in the hands of the Environment Ministry. It is the Empowered Committee on Environment constituted by the Supreme Court which is regulating the entire mining thing. Whatever be the decisions taken by the Empowered Committee, ultimately the Supreme Court passes the order; and that is being implemented. Till today no mines have started. I am not concerned about mine owners. They have got money. They can survive.

What about those who are depending upon this mining business? What about those nearly three lakh people who have taken loans for barges, for trucks from banks? They are in deep trouble. Therefore, something needs to be done. In such a situation, a person who cannot pay his child's school fees, a person who cannot buy ration, what sort of plot, will he be buying? If land is saved for future, at least, some Goans will be able to buy a small plot of land. If nothing is done, no land is protected, then we will be lost forever. Therefore, I urge upon this House to pass this Resolution unanimously. Thank you.

The question was proposed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING

(SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, before the Minister responds, I would like to intervene, not as a Minister but as a Member of Parliament. Goa is a very important tourist destination. All international tourists are attracted towards Goa. Any decision taken in regard to Goa must be a balanced decision. There should not be any parochial thought behind it. Goans easily mix up with the people of all cultures. Tourists from all over the world and people from every nook and corner of the country go to Goa every year. Now it has become an annual affair. Every month and every season, international conferences, national conferences and corporate conferences are held there. Everybody is going to Goa. If any decision is taken conservatively, I think, it will harm the economy of Goa. So, the economy of Goa is mostly dependent upon tourism. Tourism is fetching so much money and so much foreign exchange. The livelihood of Goans is far more vital. So, I would like to make a request to the Minister before he replies to this Resolution, which has been moved by my friend, Shri Shantaram Naik, who has cited a lot of valid issues, like the rights of Goans must be protected. I am also for that. But there has to be a fine balance between the two. It should not be that Goa becomes a place where nobody is allowed to do anything. After all, if international tourists are doing something there, or if some businessmen are going there, they must be having some kind of a partnership with the local people. Without that, they can't do anything. So, I think all these aspects should be kept in mind before taking any decision about the fate of Goa and about the land of Goa.

My second issue is in regard to mining, which is also very crucial and important, which Shri Shantaram has rightly pointed out. We have to get into the reasons. I believe mining has come to a complete standstill in Goa. Nothing is happening there. No mining activity is happening there. Not only Goans are losing huge money, the country is also losing foreign exchange. The current account deficit is increasing everyday. This morning the Prime Minister has also pointed it out and the Finance Minister has also been constantly talking about it. So, we are losing a huge foreign exchange because of this curb or ban on mining in Goa. That ban should immediately be lifted. I believe the Supreme Court is monitoring it. I would urge the Judiciary also to have a pragmatic, practical and feasible view about it because the country's economy is suffering. Keeping that in mind, mining should be allowed. If somebody is doing something wrong, you act against him. But it should not be that you don't act against him and at the same time the decision is delayed. Because of the delay in taking a decision, Goa is suffering and the country is also suffering. I would urge the Minister, before he makes his

observations and finally sums up the debate, to keep all these points in his mind. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, I also want to put a question. I am told that a large quantity of iron ore, which has already been mined, is lying in ports. When we have such a shortage of foreign exchange, what is the logic of keeping that iron ore there, and not exporting it, which has already been mined? Will you kindly examine as to whether such a big quantity is lying there and what is the reason for this? The Supreme Court has only directed that the mining should stop. But what about the huge quantities which have already been mined? You have to kindly look into it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): Sir, I will get back to you. I will ask the Minister of Mines about it. He will have a better knowledge of this. I will speak to the Minister of Mines and get back to you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When we have shortage of foreign exchange, that is what we should have in mind. Yes, now, Shri Narendra Kumar Kashyap.

श्री नरेंद्र कुमार काश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश): अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ। मैंने सुना है कि अनेक मात्रा में लौह अयस्क खनिकों द्वारा खनित हो चुका है, जो कि अब तक बंदरगाहों पर जमा हो चुका है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब हमारे पास विदेशी मुद्रा की कमी है, तो इस लौह अयस्क को निर्यात करने के बजाय बंदरगाह पर जमा क्यों रखा जा रहा है? क्या कोई कारण है कि ऐसा हो रहा है? सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के फैसले के अनुसार खनिकों को खनिकारी बंद कर देनी चाहिए, लेकिन क्या हम उन अनेक मात्रा में खनित हुए लौह अयस्क को निर्यात करने के बारे में सोच रहे हैं? मैं आपको यह सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप इस पर विचार करेंगे कि हमें क्या करना चाहिए?

श्री नरेंद्र कुमार काश्यप: मैंने सुना है कि अनेक मात्रा में लौह अयस्क खनिकों द्वारा खनित हो चुका है, जो कि अब तक बंदरगाहों पर जमा हो चुका है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब हमारे पास विदेशी मुद्रा की कमी है, तो इस लौह अयस्क को निर्यात करने के बजाय बंदरगाह पर जमा क्यों रखा जा रहा है? क्या कोई कारण है कि ऐसा हो रहा है? सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के फैसले के अनुसार खनिकों को खनिकारी बंद कर देनी चाहिए, लेकिन क्या हम उन अनेक मात्रा में खनित हुए लौह अयस्क को निर्यात करने के बारे में सोच रहे हैं? मैं आपको यह सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप इस पर विचार करेंगे कि हमें क्या करना चाहिए?

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[... ..]

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†† [اودھری منور سلیم (اٹر پردیش): اپ سبھا پتی مہودے، آدرنئے نائک صاحب کا درد، گوا کی سنسکرتی، وہاں کی آرٹھک سمسینائیں، وہاں کی عوام کا درد، اس پرستاؤ میں جھلکتا ہے۔ ہم سماجوادیوں کا گوا سے بڑا گہرا رشتہ ہے۔ ہندوستان کی آزادی، پورے ملک کی آزادی کے بعد گوا آزاد ہوا اور ہمارے نیناؤں کی آنکھیں تک اس میں گئیں، شری یمنہا پرساد شاستری لاٹھی چارج میں اندھے تک ہو گئے تھے۔ ہم سماجوادیوں نے جب وہاں فرنگیوں کے خلاف سنگہرش کیا، تو

††Transliteration in Urdu Script.

ہمارے نیتا شری راج نارائن جی کے پیر اس لاٹھی چارج میں ٹوٹ گئے تھے اور سورگئے مدھو لمیے جی نے لمبی جیل کاٹی تھی۔ اس طرح گوا سے سماجوا دیوں کا بڑا بھاوناتمک رشتہ ہے اور یہ پرستاؤ بھی بڑا بھاوناتمک ہے۔ میں نائک جی کے اس درد کو محسوس کر سکتا ہوں۔ ہندوستان کے وہ حصے، جن کی سنسکرتی، جن کی بھاشا، جن کے جینے کا انداز الگ الگ ہے، ان کی سنسکرتی کو بچایا جانا ضروری ہے اور ان کی زمین جائیداد کو بچایا جانا ضروری ہے۔ انہیں حالات کو مدنظر رکھتے ہوئے دھارا 370 کشمیر کو دی گئی تھی اور اس وقت مسلم بہل ہوتے ہوئے بھی کشمیر کے لوگوں نے اپنی سنسکرتی کے حق میں اور پاکستان کے ساتھ جانے سے انکار کر کے ایک بڑی ڈبیٹ شروع کی تھی اور ایک بڑا سیکولر امتحان دیا تھا اور مسلم بہل ہوتے ہوئے بھی یہ کہا تھا کہ ہم آزاد ہندوستان کے ساتھ رہنا چاہتے ہیں؛ لیکن اپنی سنسکرتی کو بچا کر۔ اس میں ہندو۔ مسلمان نہیں تھے، اس وقت راجہ کرن سنگھ صاحب کے والد نے دھارا 370 مانگی تھی، چونکہ وہ سنسکرتی کا سوال تھا۔ کچھ ایسا ہی سوال گوا کے سامنے بھی ہے۔ اس میں نائک صاحب نے اس درد کا احساس کیا ہے اور باہر کے لوگ گوا میں آکر زمین خرید رہے ہیں، جائیداد خرید رہے ہیں اور خود گوا و اسی مزدور بنتے جا رہے ہیں، وہ یہ کہنا چاہتے ہیں۔ یہ پہلو، درد کا پہلو ہے۔ گوا ہمارے ملک کا ایک خوبصورت حصہ ہے، جس کی سنسکرتی اور سبھیتا کو دنیا بھر کے لوگ دیکھنے کے لئے آتے ہیں اور ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ اس کی سنسکرتی کی حفاظت ہو، لیکن اس کے لئے دھارا 371 میں سنشودھن کو میں لازمی نہیں مانتا ہوں، کیوں کہ سنودھان نرمتاؤں نے بڑی بڑھی-متا میں سنودھان بنایا تھا اور ان کا راشٹر کے معاملے میں بڑا گہرا چنن تھا۔ راشٹریہ آندولن سے ان کا بڑا گہرا رشتہ تھا۔ میں نہیں چاہتا کہ دھارا 371 میں کوئی امینڈمنٹ آئے، لیکن میں اور میری

پارٹی ہمیشہ اس پکش میں رہے ہیں کہ گوا کی سنسکرتی اور سبھیتا کی حفاظت ہونی چاہئے اور گوا واسیوں کے سر پر، جو باہری لوگ وکاس کے نام پر مسلط ہو رہے ہیں، ان کے لئے کوئی نہ کوئی بیری-کیڈنگ ہونی چاہئے۔

مائنے اپ سبھا پتی مہودے، جب سے کھلی بازار ویوستھا کو دعوت دی گئی ہے، مائنے نرسمہاراؤ جی کے زمانے سے، تب سے آج تک جو گوا کا درد ہے، وہ میرے ملک کا درد ہے، یعنی باہر سے جو لوگ آ رہے ہیں، وہ میرے ملک کے ادھیوگوں کو، میرے ملک کے ادھیوگ-پتیوں کو، میرے ملک کے کسانوں کو پریشان کر رہے ہیں۔ یہ کھلے بازار ارتھ-ویوستھا کا ہی اثر ہے، جو گوا میں بوٹلنگ کے روپ میں اور پریٹن کے روپ میں دکھائی دے رہا ہے۔ میں اس بل پر اپنی سہمتی اس امید کے ساتھ ویکت کرتا ہوں کہ یہ سدن گوا کی سنسکرتی، گوا کی سبھیتا اور گوا کے لوگوں کی تکلیف کا احساس کر کے کوئی ایسا راستہ نکالے گا، جس سے سنودھان میں سنشودھن بھی نہیں کرنا پڑے گا اور میرے گوا کی سنسکرتی، سبھیتا اور ان کے ارتھک وکاس کے بھی راستے بنیں گے۔ اس امید کے ساتھ میں نائک جی کے درد میں شامل ہوتا ہوں، بہت بہت شکر یہ۔]

SHRI R.P.N SINGH: Sir, I rise to reply to the Resolution moved by my senior colleague, Shri Shantaram Naik.

First of all, I take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Naik, who has always been very active as far as the interests of Goa are concerned. Be it in the House or outside the House, he has always raised issues on how people of Goa should be protected. I would also like to thank Mr. Rajeev Shukla who spoke about keeping everything in perspective. I also thank my colleagues from Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Kashyap and Chaudhary Munavver Saleem who said that his Party has a very long association with Goa. I agree with him that his Party does have a very long association with Goa. I would not like to go into details further.

I would just like to bring to the notice of Mr. Shantaram Naik certain things. I can understand where Mr. Naik is speaking from. I have the highest regard for Goa

and the Goan people. It is my family's most favourite tourist destination. My children's favourite place is Goa. I can assure Mr. Naik that I have never wanted to buy any property there. I only go and enjoy hotels, roads and all kinds of facilities.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naik could invite us.

SHRI R. P. N SINGH: And he can invite all the other Members of this distinguished House including you, Mr. Deputy Chairman.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, he should not ignore the Chair!

SHRI R.P.N SINGH: I can imagine the emotion with which he speaks because, as I have said, I have been going to Goa for many, many years. I have seen a lot of development coming up. I know what a quiet place that State was. But that is a feeling we all get about whichever part of the country we come from. I come from a small place in Uttar Pradesh called Padrauna. I have seen the kind of changes that have taken place within a span of twenty years. It was a very small town. Today, it is the district headquarters. The infrastructure has become very constrained. So, I can understand what Mr. Naik is talking about when he feels about the whole issue. But there is a constitutional protection for all kinds of people in this country and I think that is what we need to talk about. Mr. Kashyap said that today the people who had gone to Maharashtra from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were being asked to move out of that State. That is why we have a provision for every citizen of this country. It is his country and he has the right to go anywhere. Let me come to the Resolution, Sir.

I would just like to bring to the notice of the House that article 19(1)(d) of the Indian Constitution guarantees to all citizens the right 'to move freely throughout the territory of India' and article 19(1)(e) supplements this right and states that all citizens shall have the right 'to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India'. Thus, as per article 19(1)(d), read with article 19(1)(e), it is the fundamental right of every citizen to move to any part of India from any part of India. The significance of the right of movement and residence anywhere in the country is that it underlines that India is one country. The division of India into States and Union Territories is only for the sake of political and administrative convenience. The right of citizens to move to any part of the country, to work in any part of the country, or to take up residence in any part of the country is the most fundamental attribute of nationhood. If different constituent units debar persons from other constituent units from moving into their territory, or taking up

[Shri R.P.N. Singh]

employment in their territory, or taking up residence in their territory, then, the entire concept of a single nation is undermined. Therefore, the Private Member's Resolution may be opposed in its present form.

I would like to respond to some other points which the hon. Member had raised. There is also the Regulation of Activities of Foreigners in India. He had mentioned that a lot of foreigners were coming to Goa and they were taking up all the business interests there, buying up whole villages and so on. According to the Regulation of Activities of Foreigners in India, our visa regime permits foreigners to do certain restrictive activities. It states, "Commercial activities are allowed only after clearance from the RBI. Any violation should be dealt with by the State Government."

The distinguished Member also mentioned some other States having special status. The Constitution of India does not permit any legislature to legislate any legislation by which the right of a citizen of India to settle in any part of the Union of India can be taken away except some of the legislatures which have certain special privileges under articles 371(h) and 372 of the Constitution. These are the States, namely, Jammu and Kashmir, Nagaland, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and certain Tribal Zones, which we have spoken about at length. I can understand where his emotions come from, I can understand what he talks about Goa and what Chaudhary Munavver Saleem talked about, he can understand his pain from where he talks about, the vast development that is taking place in Goa, I understand that emotion. But, as I have said earlier, it is the right of every citizen to travel and move around in this country if we are one nation. Hence, the Resolution moved by the hon. Member is not tenable, and I would request that the same may be withdrawn by him.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naik, would you like to say something?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you have the right to reply.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, my sentiments have not been understood in terms of the existing provisions of the Constitution. If there is a single State in the country, which has not been granted what I am asking for, I would say, I have no right. I would say that there are, at least, four or five States to which this very demand has been granted. I am not asking anything beyond that. The Assemblies

of those States have been granted the power to enact the legislation, which I am asking for. I am just saying, add me in that list. That is simple. If there is no State which has been granted that power, I will not ask. Therefore, I am hoping that the Government of India, if not today, will consider it appropriately. I have made a memorandum to the Prime Minister of India, and I have made a memorandum to the Congress President, and I am hopeful that one day we will get this demand satisfied. Therefore, I am withdrawing my Resolution.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Y.S. Chowdary, not here. Mr. Y.S. Chowdary has got a Resolution and he is not here! Then, Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz, not here. Now, Shri M. Rama Jois. Now, Mr. Rama Jois, first you move the Resolution and then speak.

Need to Constitute National Reconciliation Adalat for amicable settlement of disputes and establishment of communal riots free India

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Sir, I move the following Resolution:—

"Having regard to the fact that –

- (i) the communal riots take place in different parts of the country on several occasions between Hindus and Muslims causing colossal loss of life and property to both;
- (ii) more than that the people of India get divided on communal lines which is disastrous to the unity of the Nation and feeling of fraternity which is one of the objectives of the Constitution;
- (iii) in the larger interest of the Nation, it is necessary to take steps towards establishing Communal Riots free India;
- (iv) all that is done on such occasions when a riot takes place is to appeal for peace, hold public meetings or to pay compensation to the victims and forget it and repeat the same after another riot takes place and in the meanwhile indulge in making mutual allegations;
- (v) this state-of-affairs should not be allowed to continue as Hindus and Muslims have to live in this Country for all times to come with peace and harmony;

[Shri M. Rama Jois]

- (vi) it is necessary to diagnose the root causes of communal riots and remove them in order to strengthen the feeling of fraternity;

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) in the Chair]

- (vii) it is a matter of common knowledge that the opposition:
 - (a) to the enacting of uniform law in the matter of marriage and divorce;
 - (b) to a total ban on cow slaughter though it is a mandate of article 48 of the Constitution; and
 - (c) to restore the three of the most sacred places at Ayodhya, Mathura and Kashi to Hindus;

is the root causes of disharmony between Hindus and Muslims and an earnest effort to settle these issues amicably, is in the interest of the Nation;

- (viii) Mahatma Gandhi in his book 'My Picture of Free India, at page 214-215 has stated that –

"We Indians of whatever religion, have to live together. We are of the same soil, we are nursed by the selfsame Mother and we cannot go on killing each other if India is to live. Let all of us Hindus, Mussalmans, Parsis, Sikhs, Christians, live amicably as Indians, pledged to live as the children of the same Mother, retaining our individual faiths and yet being one, like the countless leaves of one tree.

Hindus, Muslims, Parsis, Christians and others are equally the sons and daughters of India and have equal rights of citizenship";

- (ix) the Supreme Court in the *Ayodhya Case* (1994 (6) SCC 360 para - 89) has observed that:—

"The hearing left us wondering why the dispute cannot be resolved in the same manner and in the same spirit in which the matter was argued, particularly, when some of the participants are common and are in a position to negotiate and resolve the dispute. We do hope this hearing has been the commencement of the process which will ensure an amicable resolution to the dispute and it will not end with the hearing of this matter. This is a matter suited essentially to resolution by negotiations which does not end in a winner and a loser while

adjudication leads to that end, it is in the national interest that there is no loser as the final outcome does not leave behind any rancour in any one. This can be achieved by a negotiated solution on the basis of which a decree can be obtained in terms of such solution in these suits. Unless a solution is found which leaves every one happy, there cannot be the beginning for continued harmony between "we the people of India";

- (x) what the Supreme Court has observed regarding Ayodhya applies equally to other disputes;
- (xi) that a recent judgment of the Allahabad High Court in Ayodhya case has narrowed the controversy and has brightened the scope for full and final settlement of the dispute amicably; and
- (xii) the national interest demands the necessity of bringing about national reconciliation between the Hindus and the Muslims for a harmonious living;

this House, therefore, urges upon the Government to constitute by law, a National Reconciliation *Adalat* presided over by a retired Chief Justice of India and one or two retired judges of the Supreme Court and a few reputed and respectable saints or leading personalities of both the communities as members empowering that *Adalat* to bring about amicable settlement of the disputes once and for all for establishing a COMMUNAL RIOT FREE INDIA".

Madam, though it is mandatory to secure gender justice and equality to Muslim women, and in view of article 15 read with article 44 and article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is like this: "Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marriage and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution". Further, the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in Shah Bano case has expressed that unless article 44 is implemented, the Constitution of India would be a dead letter. (b) to a total ban on cow slaughter though it is a mandate of article 48 of the Constitution; and (c) to restore the three of the most sacred places at Ayodhya, Mathura and Kashi to Hindus which were occupied or destroyed during the Muslim rule. (d) for playing of music in front of mosques on public roads by Hindu religious processions are the root of disharmony between Hindus and

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Muslims and an earnest effort to settle these issues amicably, is in the interest of the Nation. Mahatma Gandhi in his book 'My Picture of Free India, which is not generally available in the market, he says, "We Indians of whatever religion, have to live together. We are of the same soil, we are nursed by the selfsame Mother and we cannot go on killing each other if India is to live. Let all of us Hindus, Mussalmans, Parsis, Sikhs, Christians, live amicably as Indians, pledged to live as the children of the same Mother, retaining our individual faiths and yet being one, like the countless leaves of one tree. Hindus, Muslims, Parsis, Christians and others are equally the sons and daughters of India and have equal rights of citizenship.'

In the Ayodhya case, the Supreme Court has stated, "The hearing left us wondering why the dispute cannot be resolved in the same manner and in the same spirit in which the matter was argued, particularly, when some of the participants are common and are in a position to negotiate and resolve the dispute. We do hope this hearing has been the commencement of the process which will ensure an amicable resolution to the dispute and it will not end with the hearing of this matter.' It is Justice J.S. Verma's will, unfortunately, he died very recently. 'This is a matter suited essentially to resolution by negotiations which does not end in a winner and a loser while adjudication leads to that end, it is in the national interest that there is no loser as the final outcome does not leave behind any rancour in any one. This can be achieved by a negotiated solution on the basis of which a decree can be obtained in terms of such solution in these suits. Unless a solution is found which leaves every one happy, there cannot be the beginning for continued harmony between we the people of India.' What the Supreme Court has observed regarding Ayodhya applies equally to other disputes. A recent judgment of the Allahabad High Court in Ayodhya case has narrowed the controversy and has brightened the scope for full and final settlement of the dispute amicably. The national interest demands the necessity of bringing about national reconciliation between the Hindus and the Muslims for a harmonious living. This House, therefore, urges upon the Government to constitute by law, a National Reconciliation *Adalat* presided over by a retired Chief Justice of India and one or two retired judges of the Supreme Court and a few reputed and respectable saints or leading personalities of both the communities as members empowering that *Adalat* to bring about an amicable settlement of the disputes once and for all for establishing a communal riot free India. Sir, this is the resolution. Under the Constitution, we the people of India, are all one people. And right from beginning, it has been described in our Puranas: ~ c0, uE p0VE A0' (q) Wp0 > E u00; ð ; "00 ð W0P0' E. 3000E Y0=H 300, W0'E 000 300, W0B

भारत आदि..... The country which lies to the north of the seas and south of the Himalaya is Bharat and the people of this country are Bhartiyas. So, we are children of the same soil. That is what Mahatma Gandhi has said. Therefore, article 15 clearly says that there shall be no discrimination on ground of religion, race, caste or birth. Article 44 of the Constitution is also the basis of secularism. There shall be a uniform Civil Code for all the citizens. In fact, I remember, when the Hindu Code Bill was drafted in 1955, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the then President of India had sent a note to Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru that why he was making the Hindu Code Bill because that itself was anti-secular because that was being done for one section of the people. So, it is necessary to cover all the people by a common law. There is an international Agreement also that a law shall be made which is equal to both, men and women; for all in that, there should be uniform Civil Code. Unfortunately, because of this dispute, there is a hatred between the two communities. It has not been possible. In such a big nation with varied cultures, elderly people should sit together and decide all the disputes once and for all, so that there are no communal riots at all? Just think how many people have been killed, how much property has destroyed during these six decades. In the interest of the nation, there should be a Reconciliation *Adalat*, as we have got *Lok Adalats*. This is not a dispute as between a plaintiff and a defendant which can be decided by the courts. This matter concerns the entire nation. Therefore, this matter should be resolved by sitting together. And, as I suggested, a former Chief Justice of India can be acceptable to both the communities, can be appointed as the head of that *Lok Adalat*. You can also take a few retired judges and other leading members of the community and, then, sit together and decide. Why can't this be done? In fact, I remember, in Kerala, whenever music bands were taken before a mosque, there used to be a fight between the two communities. Then, Krishna Iyer, the then Law Minister, had suggested, "Have two sets of bands. One is from and another at the end and that one set can stop at mosque and the other set can go on. But, for this small reason, there should not be communal riots." I come from a village, called Mandagadde, Shimoga District, where one street consists of all the Muslims and another of Hindus. But, there has never been any communal riot. They are living in complete harmony.

What is *dharma*? Many people understand *dharma* means religion. *Dharma* has nothing to do with religion. I remember a small anecdote. Justice Verma was once hearing a case. I told that my father was a teacher. A Muslim agriculturist was coming on the road. My father asked him why he had not gone to the fields for

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agricultural works. He said, "Sir, today is Monday, and on Monday, It is not dharma to engage the bullocks to work." So, this is the culture that has been accepted by everyone. A Muslim agriculturist says even engaging bullocks for work on Mondays is violation of *dharma*. The word *dharma* has totally been misunderstood. *Dharma* is a code of righteous conduct for all human beings. **आर्था** **३०१०६ आर्था**, all should be happy. In the Supreme Court of India, I argued before Justice Verma and pointed out that in the emblem of the Supreme Court it is inscribed as 'धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः', means, dharma will lead to triumph. But we have always misunderstood *dharma* as anti-secular. *Dharma* is secular par excellence. I can quote Dr. L.M. Singhvi, the father of Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, a Member of this House. Dr. L.M. Singhvi was also a Member of Parliament. He has written a book titled 'Freedom on Trial'. In that book, he has said, "The translation of secularism as '*dharma Nirpekshita*' used in the Preamble was struck down by him". When the translation was sent to him for correction by the then Prime Minister. He has said, "If you translate secularism as *Dharma Nirpekshita* that means, 'Secular' means bereft of moral. It is not like that. It is full of morals. Therefore, he said, in our Constitutional vocabulary, we are using the word, '*Dharma Nirpekshita* as the meaning of secularism. That is not correct. '*Dharma*' is secularism par excellence. For example, Ayodhya. From my childhood, my father had taught me,

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That is, these are the seven 'mokshapuris'. Just as Mecca is sacred for Muslims, so is Ayodhya is sacred for Hindus. On this, dispute now judgement has been delivered by the Allahabad High Court. The matter is before the Supreme Court. What Justice Verma says is that these things cannot be settled in court. Take for example, Cauvery dispute. In Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Cauvery water is used. Cauvery dispute is very sensitive in Karnataka, Ayodhya dispute is thousand times more sensitive than that of Cauvery dispute. You cannot ask the court to decide such issues. Therefore, a national reconciliation adalat is required. They will know all the facts, they will hear all the people and come to a judgement. Whatever judgement those elders give, we must accept it. Unless we have the tendency or discipline to accept such a decision by the highest authority, then, we cannot survive as a nation. How long can we go on fighting with each other, Hindus and Muslims? This must come to an end. There should be a riot-free India. For example, cow. I have read the Constituent Assembly debates. Article 48 was

introduced in the Constitution which says that there shall be a total ban on cow slaughter. Not a single Muslim opposed it in the Constituent Assembly. All the Muslim leaders in the Constituent Assembly said, "We may not have the same feeling for cows as that of Hindus". But as far as Hindus are concerned, they consider *gau as maata*. Respecting some other's sentiments, that is of overwhelming majority of the people, itself is secularism. Therefore, Muslims said, for *gau* we have no such feeling as Hindus have. But we have no objection for inclusion of article 48 in the Constitution. Now, unfortunately, article 48 is not being implemented. Recently, Karnataka Legislature passed a law for total ban on cow slaughter. That was sent to President. But it never reached the President. Then, a Press report said, "The Bill sent by Karnataka to President is missing." Then, recently, another Bill was passed and sent to Governor. Governor kept it without giving his assent for long. Now, the Government has changed. Just last week, bill banning ban on cow slaughter has been withdrawn by present congress Government. Agitation is going on there. As far as cow is concerned, the feeling is,

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The meaning of it is, cow eats dry grass somewhere and drinks water in some tank and then gives us milk. That is why, we consider it as mother. A mother gives milk for about a few months, but a cow gives milk for whole life. Therefore, probably, there is no country in the world which has elevated an animal to the level of mother—*Gaumata*. At one occasion, somebody objected to this saying, and said "What is special about cow slaughter? It is a fact of life that some are vegetarians and some are non-vegetarians. What is special about cow so long as non-vegetarians eat animals flesh." Then, I said, "there is a difference between cow and other animals. I pointed out that Excreta or *malamutra* of all animals, including that of *Mahapurushas*, is *tyajya* whereas *malamutra* of cow is *pujya* and that shows the difference. In fact, it is a matter of common knowledge that cow is first taken to a new house when there is *griha pravasha*, and if *malmutra* of cow falls on the floor of the house, it is considered as sacred. But no other animal's or even human being's *malamutra* is considered as such. It is *tyaja*, rejectable and cow's is *pujya*. It is such a feeling, and that is why Muslims respected this sentiment of Hindus in the Constituent Assembly. But, unfortunately, after six decades, the Constitution after the Government of – I say with all pain and responsibility that in the place of constitutional supremacy, political supremacy is prevailing. That is the

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problem of our country. Whatever fetches vote is being done. That is why the constitutional supremacy has been displaced by political supremacy. Justice Chandrachud in Shah Bano case said, 'So long as Article 44 is not implemented, the Constitution is a dead letter.' You can look at the Supreme Court judgment and this is what has been said by the Supreme Court. Cow is most respected as Gomata. Likewise गायत्री, वैश्वदेव, कर्मण्ये वासुदेव, सुहृत्, सुमित्र, तृणमूल, धृष्ट are the seven *puris* that are considered as sacred by Hindus. I have got many Muslim friends. They also say, 'On certain matters, they will certainly respect the Hindu sentiments.' And, that is what has been said in the Constitution also. Unfortunately, dispute is there and communal riots are there. But by giving compensation, after communal riots takes place, is the problem going to be solved? What is the root cause? Now, who is a good doctor? A good doctor is one who makes a correct diagnosis. Once a diagnosis is made correctly, any medicine-shopkeeper can give medicine. Now, the diagnosis is, opposition to putting a ban on cow slaughter, opposition to restoration of Ayodhya and objections for playing music in front of mosque are the causes for the communal riots. I come from Shimoga. In big bazaar, there is a mosque, and that is the only main street where the Hindu religious procession goes through. When Hindu procession takes place there, with music, the Muslims oppose that. There are a number of judgments on holding that there is right to citizen for taking processions in public streets. We even have got a fundamental right to take out the procession. In 1948, a procession was going on and a riot took place in which one Shiv Murti was murdered, and therefore it is called Shiv Murti circle. Even now, some disruption takes place; but after that murder, every year, this annual affair of communal riot is not there. These things can be easily settled. There are persons. I will quote 'Election Law by Chawla.' In the Supplement of Election Law by Chawla, Justice V.S. Deshpande, who was the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court has written, 'Thousands of temples have been destroyed.' It is a matter of history. We should not suppress the history. But the present-day Muslims are not responsible for that. Those persons who came from outside were responsible for that. But there are three temples which are of national character – Ayodhya, Mathura and Kashi. Thousands of temples have been destroyed. Nobody worries now about them. This Ayodhya matter had happened in 1528, and, for last 500 years, this dispute is going on. Even now, the problem is, a few politicians feel that 'if Hindu and Muslim unite, where shall we go for vote?' This is the problem. They don't want it. ... This is the problem.

... () ...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: There should be total respect for culture. As I said, as per the culture, which I quoted in the Supreme Court, 'A Muslim in my village considers engaging a bullock on a Monday is against our culture.' Muslims in my village say, a boy who does not look after his father and mother is doing *adharmā*. Therefore, *dharma* is a cultural aspect. We must live as human beings with mutual respect and love. Is it not possible for our leaders to sit and decide on this? Probably, they don't want to do this. As somebody said, they have vested interests in the continuance of this dispute so that they can make political capital out of it. This situation must go and Hindus and Muslims, as Mahatma Gandhi has said, should live together happily. I would read it again: "We Indians, of whatever religion, have to live together. We are of the same soil. We are nursed by the same mother. We cannot go on killing each other if India is to live. Let all of us Hindus, Muslims, Parsis, Sikhs and Christians live amicably as Indians." We would like to live as children of the same mother, retaining individual faces and yet being one of the countless leaves of one tree.

The first time I came here, in June, 2008, while entering this Rajya Sabha, I found a shloka from the Bhagavad Gita at the gate which read, "आर्था आर्था उच्यते... आर्था उच्यते...". It means, discharge your duty and you would be successful in life. That is the entire essence of the Bhagwat Geeta; if we go through all the 700 verses. If we discharge our duty, we would be successful in life.

At the next gate I found, the shloka:

"तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु, यत्तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु...
 त्वं श्रेयः कुरु यत्तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु..."

Now, if the entire world is one family, can't the Hindus and Muslims live as one family? At yet another gate I found the shloka:

"आर्था आर्था आर्था, आर्था आर्था श्रेयः कुरु...
 आर्था श्रेयः कुरु यत्तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु..."

It means, all should live happily. Nobody should suffer from grief.

Then, Sir, Kautilya's Arthashastra was written in 320 B.C. That is the constitutional law of ancient India. One shloka out of that has also been put up in the hall. It reads:

"तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु, यत्तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु...
 त्वं श्रेयः कुरु यत्तुमुं श्रेयः कुरु..."

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It means, it is the *raj dharma* of the ruler that the happiness of all the people is regarded as the happiness of the ruler. †0•0 ^»™0 A00 Y000 A00 happiness of the ruler is regarded as the happiness of the people. That is not correct."0•0A000 A000 0•0, 0•0000 "0 A000 A000."-- The happiness and goodness of the people must be considered as that of the ruler. "00 0•000 A000 0•0"-- There should be no selfishness at all. But, unfortunately, today selfishness prevails. During the freedom struggle, people sacrificed everything for the sake of getting Mother India free of shackles. But today, for the sake of selfish ends they are prepared to sacrifice the interest of the nation. That is the unfortunate situation.

Therefore, I make an appeal to the House. I am not saying that the matter should be decided this way or that way. It is a matter to be decided by the elders, the former Chief Justice, and others. Once they decide, we must have the discipline of obeying it. Then we would have complete peace and tranquility in the entire country. In fact, if the Constitution had been correctly implemented, there should have been no column in any Government or other application asking for the caste and religion of a person. Why is it necessary to know the caste or religion of a person? In fact, I had proposed in a letter to Mr. T.N. Seshan that the Election Commission should ban the reports on the basis of caste and religion. If you take up any report during elections, it says, 'if there are six candidates. This man is a Muslim. This man is a Gowda. This man is a Lingayat. This man is a Brahmin', and so on and then the number of voters is calculated. And this is called secularism! The first political activity starts with counting the caste and religion of people in the voters list. All this must go. We are all children of *Bharat Mata*. We are all brothers and sisters. That is why, we have started the Raksha Bandhan Movement. It was inaugurated by Justice Venkatachalaiah, the former Chief Justice of India. There is an object behind this. We celebrate so many religious functions. That will unite only a certain class of people. But *raksha bandhan* is a function which is applicable to all citizens. So, mutual love and affection should be the basis. That is the basis of *raksha bandhan*. And the main slogan is, 'Let patriotism be our only religion.' Therefore, patriotism should be the only religion. We should keep all other religions in our houses. If patriotism is the only religion, then there will be no dispute. With these submissions, I appeal to the House, at least, to arrange for constitution of a National Reconciliation *Adalat* and settle these matters once and for all. Let us live happily for all times to come.

The question was proposed.

†[چودھری منور سلیم (اٹر پردیش) : مائے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودیه، آدرنیے جوئس صاحب کا جو پرستاؤ ہے، وہ کہیں سچ اور کہیں سیاست سے ہو کر گزرا ہے اور جسے میں نے سنا ہے۔ جب سچ سے ہو کر گزرا تو میرا سینہ پھول گیا کہ اس طرف سے محبت کی ہوائیں آ رہی ہیں۔ ترون بھائی بھی بول رہے ہوں اور جب سیاست سے ہو کر گزرا، تو میرا دل پھر بیٹھ گیا۔ چونکہ وہ بہت امپورٹینٹ پرستاؤ ہے اس لئے بولنا ضروری ہے۔ ہمارے یہاں سامپردانک سدبھاؤ اور دنگوں کو لے کر شبندوں کی جادوگری ہوتی ہے۔ سنسد میں بھی اور سڑک پھر بھی۔ ہمیں یتھارتھ کے آئینے میں جانا ہوگا۔ بل میں ایک بات کہی گئی ہے کہ دنگا-مکت بھارت چاہئے۔ میں اس کو سو فیصدی نہیں ایک سو دس فیصدی سپورٹ کرتا ہوں، محبت کا پیغام دینے والے کا یہ مشن ہونا چاہئے۔

بل میں دوسری بات یہ کہی گئی ہے کہ گنو-ودھ پر پورن پرتی-بندھ لگنا چاہئے۔ جسٹس جوئس صاحب تھوڑا کہہ کر رک گئے، میں اور آگے جا کر کہتا ہوں۔ میں کہتا ہوں کہ گانے اس ملک میں 90 کروڑ لوگوں کی ماں ہے، اس کے چمڑے کا استعمال بھی بند ہونا چاہئے، اس کے سینگ کا استعمال بھی بند ہونا چاہئے، اس کی کھری کا استعمال بھی بند ہونا چاہئے، اس کی ہڈی کا استعمال بھی بند ہونا چاہئے۔ یہ ہم لوگوں کے لئے ایک بدقسمتی کا پہلو ہے کہ جس کو ہم ماں کہہ کر پوجتے ہیں، جس کی ایک ایک چیز پوجنے کے قابل ہے اور ہم اس کے انگوں کے استعمال پر پابندی لگانے کی بات نہیں کرتے ہیں۔ میں سوچتا ہوں کہ آئندہ جوئس صاحب جب کسی پرائیویٹ پرستاؤ کو لائیں گے، تو اس کو اور آگے لے کر جائیں گے۔ آرٹیکل-48 میں یہ بات کہی گئی ہے اور یہ بات ورشوں پہلے

ہمارے نیتا ڈاکٹر لوپیا نے ہندوستان کی سندس میں بلراج مذھوک جی کے ایک پرائیویٹ بل کے پرستاؤ کے سندربھہ میں بولتے ہوئے کہی تھی۔

ماننے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودیہ، میں بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہندوستان محبت کا ملک ہے۔ یہ ایسی ویسی محبت کا ملک نہیں ہے۔ ہندوستان کا ایک بادشاہ ہمایوں تھا جو دکشن کے مورچے پر جنگ لڑ رہا تھا۔ رانی کرن-وتی کی راکھی لے کر ایک قاصد اس کے پاس پہنچا اور کہا کہ یہ راکھی بہن ہونے کا پیغام ہے اور میری عزت خطرے میں ہے، چٹوڑ کی رانی کی عزت خطرے میں ہے، تم چلے جاؤ۔ وہ اپنی جنگ چھوڑ کر چلا آیا، یہ ہندوستان کے اتھاس-کار لکھتے ہیں۔ دریائے جمبل چڑھا ہوا تھا، فوجیوں نے منع کر دیا۔ کہا کہ ہم نہیں جا سکتے، دریائے جمبل تیز بہ رہا ہے، ہم تھکے ہوئے ہیں۔ ہمایوں نے وہاں تقریر کری، تاریخ اس بات کی گواہ ہے اور کہا کہ "میں اکیلا بھی جاؤں گا، چونکہ اس وقت ایک بہن کی حفاظت کا سوال ہے" اور ہمایوں دریائے جمبل میں کود گیا۔ یہ بدقسمتی تھی کہ رانی کرن-وتی جوہر کر چکی تھی۔ یہ سیکڑوں سال کی محبت کا اتھاس ہے۔ اس اتھاس کو کوئی سیاسی پارٹی، کوئی سیاسی نیتا اگر چکناچور بھی کرنا چاہے تو وہ چکنا چور نہیں ہو سکتا۔ جنہیں عید اچھی نہیں لگتی، وہ بھی عید کی مبارکباد دیتے ہیں، جنہیں ہولی اچھی نہیں لگتی، وہ بھی ہولی کی مبارکباد دیتے ہیں۔

ماننے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودیہ، میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہندوستان کے مسلمانوں کے سندربھہ میں ایک بات جسٹس جونس صاحب نے کہی کہ وہ اداروادی ہوکر مٹھرا، کاشی اور ایودھیا کے سمبندھ میں فیصلہ لیں۔

میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ جب 15 اگست، 1947 کو ملک آزاد ہوا، تو ہندوستانی مسلمانوں سے یہ پوچھا گیا تھا کہ تم ٹوپی والے جناح کے ساتھ جاؤ گے یا چوٹی والے گاندھی جی کے ساتھ رہو گے؟ ہم وہ لوگ ہیں، جنہوں نے راشٹرواد کی وہ

اگنی-پریکشا دی اور ہمارے باپ-دادا نے ٹوپی والے جناح کو بابائے قوم اور راشٹریتا ماننے سے انکار کر دیا اور چوٹی والے گاندھی کو ہم نے 'بابائے قوم' مانا۔ ہم نے محبت کی تاریخ لکھی ہے، لیکن مائے اپ سہبا ادھیکش مہودیہ، بھاونائوں سے ملک نہیں چلتا ہے، ملک چلانے کے لئے ایک قانون کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے۔ قانون کی بھی ایسی ضرورت ہوتی ہے کہ قانون پر وشواس کرنا ہوتا ہے۔ ایسا نہیں ہوتا ہے کہ فیصلہ ہمارے پکش میں آئے گا تو قانون مانا جائے گا، عدالت کا سمان ہوگا، اس کے فیصلے کا سمان ہوگا اور اگر فیصلہ ورودھہ میں آئے گا تو یہ بھاونائوں کا سوال ہے، ہم اس سوال کو عدالت کے اندر طے نہیں کریں گے۔ یہ سوال دوہری بات کرنے سے حل نہیں ہوگا۔ ہمیں محبت کا ماحول بنانا ہے اور ایک ایسا ماحول بنانا ہے، جس میں انسانیت کی مہک ہو۔ میں مانتا ہوں کہ دنیا کے سارے مذہب انسانیت کی چھت کے نیچے جیتے ہیں۔ جب انسانیت بے-رحم ہو جاتی ہے، تو ٹھیک نہیں رہتا ہے۔ دریودھن مسلمان نہیں تھا۔ جب شری کرشن نے دریودھن کے خلاف دھرم یدھہ کیا تو وہ بھی ہندو تھے اور وہ بھی ہندو تھا۔ بھگوان رام نے جب لنکیش کے خلاف یدھہ کیا تو وہ بھی ہندو تھا اور وہ بھی ہندو تھے۔ جب حسین نے یزید کے خلاف یدھہ کیا تو وہ بھی مسلمان تھے اور وہ بھی مسلمان تھا۔ بات صرف دھرم کی نہیں ہے، بات تو سچ اور جھوٹ کی ہے۔ جو یہ پرائیویٹ بل شری ایم۔راما جوئس جی نے پیش کیا ہے، یہ کئی جگہ سچائی کے راستوں سے گزرا ہے۔ میں اس کے لئے ان کو سلام کرتا ہوں، لیکن جب کئی جگہ سیاست کے راستوں سے گزرتا ہوا دکھائی دیا تو میں کہتا ہوں کہ سنودھان نرماتائوں نے بھارتی راشٹر آندولن میں اپنے آپ کو آہوت کرتے ہندوستان کو ہندو پرسنل لاء، مسلم پرسنل لاء، دھارا-370 وغیرہ وغیرہ دی تھیں، اس لئے ان کی بھاونائوں، ان کی بھاشا اور ان کی

سوچ کو ہم اتنی آسانی سے چیلنج نہیں کر سکتے۔ میری یہ بہاونا ہے کہ ہندوستان میں یہ ماحول بنے،

سارے جہاں سے اچھا ہندوستان، ہمارا
ہم بلبلیں ہی اس کی ہتھکڑیاں ہمارا

اور ہمیں ایک اکھنڈ بھارت ملے گا، جو درہ خیبر سے یعنی افغانستان سے شروع ہوگا اور لنکا تک جائے گا۔ میں اسی امید کے ساتھ اپنی بات کو یہیں ختم کرتا ہوں۔ آپ کا بہت بہت شکریہ، آپ نے مجھے بولنے کا موقع دیا۔]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Thank you very much. Now, the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): Before I reply to the Resolution of Mr. Rama Jois, I would just like to say... A very wise king... communal harmony... The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri R.P.N. Singh) has responded to the resolution of Mr. Rama Jois regarding the situation in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. He has expressed his appreciation for the wisdom of the King and the importance of communal harmony. He has also mentioned the role of the government in maintaining peace and stability in the region. The Minister has stated that the government is committed to the development and progress of the state and will continue to work towards the well-being of its people. He has also mentioned the importance of the state's economy and the need for the government to take steps to improve it. The Minister has concluded his response by expressing his confidence in the government's ability to handle the situation and ensure the peace and stability of the state.

[Shri R.P.N. Singh]

ଆଠ ଦିନ ଯାଏଁ ଯେଉଁଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯାଉଛନ୍ତି ତାହା ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଯାଏ ତେବେ ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଯାଏ ତେବେ ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଯାଏ ତେବେ ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ ।

Madam Vice-Chairperson, I would just like to reply to the questions and points raised by the Mover of the Resolution, Shri Rama Jois. He urged upon the Government to constitute by law, a National Reconciliation Adalat presided over by a retired Chief Justice of India and one or two retired judges of the Supreme Court and a few reputed and respectable saints or leading personalities of both the communities as members empowering that Adalat to bring about amicable settlement of the disputes once and for all for establishing a communal riot free India.

The hon. Member has referred to communal riots in various parts of the country, communal divide, the need for all communities to live in peace and harmony and need to diagnose the root cause of communal riots. He has specifically mentioned about the uniform laws in the matter of marriage and divorce, ban on cow slaughtering and restoration of the sacred places of Ayodhya, Mathura and Kasi to the Hindus.

ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଯାଏ ତେବେ ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଯାଏ ତେବେ ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଯାଏ ତେବେ ସେହିଠି ଯିବାକୁ ଯିବାର ଅଟେ ।

While his concern for communal divide and the need for all the communities to live in peace and harmony is appreciated, there are number of causative factors behind the communal incidents. An analysis of the communal incidents in terms of causative factors indicates that only 25 per cent of the disputes are attributable to religious factors. Only 25 per cent of the incidents of communal tensions in this country are because of religious problem. I can give the whole list of the incidents. In 2010, there were 651 communal incidents, out of which only 23 per cent were only because of religious problem. The rest are due to marriages among different communities, miscellaneous things, fights among boys. If you see the communal incidents that took place only 23 per cent in 2010, in 2011 there were 25 per cent. The maximum number of communal incidents is not because of any religious disputes. Trivial and petty issues like road rage, scuffle between children, passing remarks against a particular religion on social media, desecration of religious places have often found to have led to tension and communal riots.

For Central Government, communal harmony has remained a necessary and absolute objective and the Central Government has strived along with State Governments. The Central Government have been assisting the State/Union Territory in a variety of ways like sharing of intelligence, sending advisories, deploying Central Armed Police Forces including Composite Rapid Action Forces created specifically for communal situation in the State on the request and also in the modernisation of State Police Forces. In other words, there has been no failing on the part of the Central Government in assisting the State Governments in maintaining communal harmony. The Central Government has issued detailed guidelines of communal harmony in June, 2008 suggesting preventive measures, administrative measures, stakeholders' participation, enforcement and monitoring, and finally relief and rehabilitation. As the hon. Member is aware, the issue of Ram Janam Bhoomi is *sub judice* before the Supreme Court. As regards legislative action, the Government has moved a Bill called the Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2005 in Rajya Sabha in December, 2005 to address all the aspects of communal violence. However, the Bill could not be taken up so far. The Government is also examining a draft Bill sent by the National Advisory Council entitled 'the Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence (Access to Justice and Repatriation) Bill, 2011'.

In the light of various actions and mechanisms in place to deal with communal situation and myriad nature of causative factors, the Central Government

[Shri R.P.N. Singh]

is of the opinion that the constitution of National Reconciliation Adalat will not be the best fit to give solution to every type of communal violence, and, therefore, there may not be any need to set up such an Adalat. India already has a robust judicial system recourse to which can be taken by anyone including the persons affected by communal violence. In view of the above, the hon. Member is requested to please withdraw his Resolution.

AOB YOBPO XOBQOB OEBEpm, O OOB OOB OOB ZOBCE AOB QOB YOBUE AOEUVVO AOB TOU OeOB ZOB
 UOB OB AU XOU AOECE QOB AO=OB OOB ZOBPOUTe ODe ZOBEO +""B YOBUE AOB AO O=OB AU. O UOBBO
 XDe ZOBCE OUEEBO "OUEBO... OUI YOBCE MUEU AO O=OB "OUEB XOU TOPOU Oe AO QO Oe YOB Oe ZOU
 Oe EpO ±U.UO MUEU EDe. AOB AOCEO OB AEUOE PMO OUE XOU... OPO QOB AEP=AYO OUI O
 TOU UOB XOU ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU Oe OUEO Oe OBO-TO=OB XOU UE OOB TOU YOB O
 QOB AO OUI TO O AOB TO OUI XOB OOB OOB YOBUE ZOBUE EDe YOB AOB AO QO ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU
 OUI EpO ±U.UO EOB. OOB OOB OeOB ±U.AO Oe AOCEO OUEEBO O=BO AU XOU TO OOB ZOBCE AOE
 AEU XOU OUE AEUOE ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU Oe AOCEO ±BOUE OUE XOU... O MUEU XOU OUE AOB XOU
 Oe OYVO AOB OUE AU XOU MUEU OUE AOB=U Oe ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU OUI OUE XOU OB AU MO
 OUE OYVO OB AU. O ±AO OUE OUI MUEU OUEEBO "OUEBO XOU 1857 OOB Oe ZOBPO OUE TO O
 AOB OUE EpO OUE OUI Oe. XOU AOB Oe MUEU OUE OUE EOB XOU ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU Oe OB O O AU TOU
 AUO AOB AOCEO OUE XOU Oe TOU AUO TO O OB AOB OUE MUEU OUE OUE AU. 1857 OOB ZOBPO OUE
 TO O AOB Oe Oe OB EOB O XOB O OUE... AUO XOU YOBCE TO O OUE OUE OUE Oe MUEU OB OUE ZOBCE
 AU XOU ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU Oe OUE Oe XOU OUE Oe OUE Oe OUE Oe TOU AOECE EpO XOU EOB...
 O ZOBCE OUEU TO O, TO O OB AO O O TO O OUE OUE TO O. TO O MUEU OUE OUE OUE ZOBCE OUE
 AOB OUE AO OUE OB XOU OUE AU YOBCE OeOB TO O AOB MUEU YOBCE XOU AU XOU TO O YOB Oe ZOU Oe
 ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU OUI OUE ±U.UO AU AOB OUE XOU OUE OUE OUE OUE OUE TOU TO O
 ZOBCE=QUOUEU OUEU OUI OUI OUI OUE ZOBPO OOB AOB OUE Oe OB AOE OYVO OUE OUE...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Rama Joisji, are you withdrawing the Resolution or shall I put it to vote?

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Madam, I want a statement on behalf of the Government that they will consider the matter in the spirit of the Resolution. Otherwise, it will mean that they stand for communal riots and I am opposing communal riots.

SHRI R.P.N. SINGH: Madam, I would just like to clarify it. I cannot understand from which point of view do I stand for communal riots. In my whole reply, if I stand for communal riots, maybe, I have not been able to explain my ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Madam, all that I want is, the Government should consider the matter in the light of the Resolution.

SHRI R.P.N. SINGH: Madam, the hon. Member is a very learned Member.

~ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): <ಉತ್ತರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ...>

> ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ, ಇದು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು...>

ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ, ಇದು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು...>

~ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ...>

> ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ...>

~ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ...>

> ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ...>

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು (ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಸಹಾಯಕರು): ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ...>

SHRI R.P.N. SINGH: Madam, I have taken note of the suggestions of the hon. Member. He had been an esteemed Chief Justice, as Tarun Vijayji, in his opening remarks, mentioned. We will, definitely, take note of his suggestions because he, exactly, knows the working of the Courts. Obviously, the Government will take note of his suggestions. But I would just request him very humbly to withdraw his Resolution.

Need to make proper arrangements of food and water for wild animals and birds in ridge areas of Delhi

SHRI SUDHAKAR (Delhi): Madam, the ridge areas of Delhi are very important for the survival of wild animals and birds. These areas are being encroached upon by the construction of roads and buildings. This is causing a lot of damage to the environment. The government should take steps to protect these areas and provide proper arrangements for the food and water of the wild animals and birds. The government should also take steps to create artificial habitats for these animals and birds. This will help them to survive in the ridge areas of Delhi.

The government should also take steps to create artificial habitats for these animals and birds. This will help them to survive in the ridge areas of Delhi.

Need to take steps for prevention of transgression into Indian borders in Arunachal Pradesh by China

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Madam, it is reported on the front page of "Deccan Herald", dated Thursday, the 22nd August, 2013, that Chinese troops transgressed into the Indian territory at least twice in the last two weeks in Eastern Arunachal Pradesh where they stayed put in tents for a couple of days before returning to their bases.

It is further stated that first transgression by 20-odd Chinese troops took place at Chong Loh Gam, and the second transgression nearby altitude pass on August 19-20, and that establishment at New Delhi remained tightlipped about these latest infusions.

Defending the territory of the Nation is the foremost duty of the Union Government. Therefore, the attention of Union Government is drawn to the aforesaid transgressions, and, I urge upon the Union Government to prevent such transgressions and to protect every inch of Indian Territory.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Madam, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri M. Rama Jois.

ریلوے اسٹیشن کی اور سرکار کا دھیان اکرشت کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ یہ وہ رامپور شہر ہے، جہاں مولانا محمد علی جوہر جیسے جنگ آزادی کے یوڈھا پیدا ہوئے تھے۔ رامپور ریلوے اسٹیشن آج بھی جرجر حالت میں برٹش سامراجیہ کے بنے ہوئے رقبہ میں استہت ہے۔ وہاں پر بری حالت میں مسافر خانہ، پلیٹ فارم، پلیٹ فارم شیڈ، زررویشن کاؤنٹرس آوکست ریلوے اسٹیشن کی پہچان بنے ہوئے ہیں۔

مائنے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودیہ، ٹھیک اسی طرح مدھیہ پردیش کے ودیشا ضلع کا سرونج-انچل ہے، جہاں سے دیش کی راجنیتی چلانے والے بڑے بڑے نیتا جیت کر آتے رہے ہیں۔ لیکن، آج بھی سرونج-انچل کے بچے ٹیلی ویژن پر ہی ریل دیکھ پاتے ہیں۔ میری پرزور مانگ ہے کہ سرکار رامپور (اتر پردیش) ریلوے اسٹیشن کو جدید بنانے کا تتکال اعلان کرے، جو رامپور کا جائز حق ہے۔ اس کے ساتھ ساتھ، سرکار سرونج تحصیل کو گنا-ودیشا اتھوا گنا-ببنا ریل لائن سے جوڑ کر آوکست سرونج کو وکاس کی دھارا سے جوڑ کر سرونج-واسیوں کو نیائے دے۔

مائنے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودیہ، وکاس شیل بھارت میں ریل وبھاگ کی ترقی کا جو الیکھ میں نے آپ کے سامنے پیش کیا ہے، وہ دیش چلانے والوں کے لئے ایک پرشن ہے۔ میں امید کرتا ہوں کہ میرے ذریعے اٹھائے گئے ان سوالوں کو سرکار 20 کروڑ بھارت-واسیوں کا درد مان کر ریل محکمے کو ترقی کی راہوں سے جوڑے گی۔
تھینک یو۔]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 A.M. on Monday, the 2nd September, 2013.

The House then adjourned at forty-nine minutes past four of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 2nd September, 2013.