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24 Phalguna, 1934 (Saka)

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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 15th March, 2013/24th Phalguna, 1934 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow...
...(Interruptions)... जस्ट वन मिनट, ओबिचूएरी रेफ्रेन्स है।

Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Tindivanam G. Venkataraman and Shri C.O. Poulouse, former Members of this House.

Shri Tindivanam G. Venkataraman passed away on the 21st of February, 2013, at the age of 82 years.

Born in February, 1931 in South Arcot District of Tamil Nadu, Shri Venkataraman was educated at the American Arcot Mission High School, Tindivanam, Annamalai University, Chidambaram and Law College, Madras.

A lawyer by profession, Shri Venkataraman was President of the Tindivanam Bar Association from 1981 to 1982. He was associated with various social welfare activities for the downtrodden sections of society. He was also a sports lover.

Shri Venkataraman represented the State of Tamil Nadu in this House from July, 1989 to July, 1995. He was also a Member of the Eleventh Lok Sabha and served as Minister of Surface Transport from June, 1996 to March, 1998 and as Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment from November to December, 1997 in the Union Council of Ministers.

In the passing away of Shri Venkataraman, the country has lost an able administrator and a distinguished parliamentarian.

Shri C.O. Poulouse passed away on the 12th of March, 2013, at the age of 75 years.

Born in April, 1937 in Thrissur District of Kerala, Shri Poulouse was educated at R.M.H.S. Peringanam and Government Training School, Kozhikode.

A social worker, Shri Poulouse began his career as a teacher and gave up his job to become a full time trade unionist. He served as President of the District Cooperative Bank, Thrissur, from 1997 to 1998.

Shri Poullose represented the State of Kerala in this House from April, 1998 to April, 2003.

In the passing away of Shri Poullose, the country has lost a noted trade unionist and an able parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Tindivanam G. Venkataraman and Shri C.O. Poullose.

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 families our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

Terrorist attack on a paramilitary camp in Srinagar

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is with utmost grief and sorrow that I refer to the killing of five paramilitary personnel in a deadly attack on a paramilitary camp in Srinagar on the 13th March, 2013. Six CRPF officials and four civilians were also injured.

This attack on the security personnel is deplorable and deserves to be condemned in the strongest terms.

I am sure the whole House will join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the bereaved families and pray for the early recovery of the injured. This House strongly condemns the attack and reiterates its resolve that such acts must be confronted with determination and firmness.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of those who lost their lives in this incident.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 261. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAd (Bihar): Sir, before this, the Leader of the Opposition wants to say something. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**RE. DEMAND TO CONDEMN RESOLUTION OF PAKISTAN PARLIAMENT
WITH REGARD TO EXECUTION OF AFZAL GURU**

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I am extremely grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. Yesterday a very serious development has taken place from India's national point of view that the Parliament in Pakistan has passed a resolution condemning the execution of a person who has been convicted for an attack on Indian Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*... Besides being interference in India's internal affairs, it is an official statement which comes from the combined polity of Pakistan. So far we had wondered who was really in control of the state, their army, their ISI, a civilian government or non-state actors. But with yesterday's resolution, all these distinctions have been obliterated. It is an official stamp of approval on one of the worst terrorist attacks that took place in India. So far we have always alleged and there was evidence to suggest that for an attack on Indian Parliament planning was done across the border but yesterday's resolution seems to have confirmed our worst fears because the polity of the country unambiguously condones that action by actually condemning our action in sentencing through a rule of law the person who was involved in this. Sir, the beheading of our soldiers, the bomb blasts in Hyderabad, the attack on the CRPF camp in Srinagar finally have culminated into this resolution. This now clearly shows what the intention of Pakistan in this matter seems to be. The Government will now seriously have to consider how to deal with Pakistan in this situation. The hon. Prime Minister has in the past been very magnanimous to say that he is willing to walk an extra mile. After a series of these provocations, we would like to urge him that forget a mile, he should now forget walking even an extra yard. Pakistan does not deserve this. As long as this resolution remains, the question of a continued dialogue with Pakistan which is approving of showing sympathy for terrorist attacks in India, I think, we should seriously forget discussing any serious issue with them through a structured dialogue. Therefore, Pakistan will now have to walk extra two miles rather than our Prime Minister wanting to walk an extra mile. If we want to normalise relations, with these kinds of resolutions, normalisation of relations will not be possible. Sir, this comes in the backdrop of a serious situation which our country is facing, whether it is Male or it is Rome or it is Islamabad, I think we seriously need to discuss our foreign policy and where it is leading us, because if India can be kicked around in this

4 *Re. Demand to condemn Parliament with regard to* [RAJYA SABHA] *Resolution of Pakistan execution of Afzal Guru*

manner internationally, then there is something seriously wrong in the manner in which we are managing our external affairs. So, I would urge you to kindly fix a date so that the hon. Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister are here, make a statement and this House gets an opportunity to discuss this issue at length. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): We should also pass a resolution condemning it. ...*(Interruptions)*... They should take an initiative to pass a resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): सभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती स्मृति जुबिन ईरानी (गुजरात): सभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venkaiahji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Tiruchi Siva, do you want to say something? ...*(Interruptions)*...

योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजीव शुक्ल): सर, पाकिस्तान नेशनल असेम्बली ने जो रिजोलुशन पास किया है, नेता विपक्ष ने उस पर अपनी चिन्ता व्यक्त की है। मुझे नहीं लगता कि इस पूरे हाउस में किसी को इस पर कोई एतराज है। सब इस बात से सहमत हैं कि इस तरह की बात पाकिस्तान नेशनल असेम्बली में नहीं होनी चाहिए। हम पूरी तरह से इस बात के साथ हैं। पाकिस्तान नेशनल असेम्बली ने जो किया, हम उसकी कड़े शब्दों में निन्दा करते हैं। उनका सुझाव है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु: आप एक प्रस्ताव लाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट, ठहर जाइए। देखिए, एलओपी अपनी बात कह चुके हैं, ...*(व्यवधान)*... अब आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सुन तो लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... नेता विपक्ष ने एक सुझाव और दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, would you like to walk an extra mile or Pakistan will have to walk two miles? That is the issue raised by the Leader of the Opposition.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: नेता विपक्ष ने एक बात और कही है कि विदेश नीति पर एक बहस हो जाए। आप इसके लिए जब टाइम तय करेंगे, हम लोग तैयार हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Siva. Please be as brief as you can.

RE. AGITATION BY STUDENTS IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is a very serious issue. The students, who are dynamic in whatever they get involved, are in the streets for the past one week. They are undergoing fast unto death and almost all the colleges across Tamil Nadu are closed. Even then, the students are refusing to go back to their residences. They are all in the streets. Their demand is that the Government of India should itself move a resolution in the UNHRC. If it is not possible, it should support the UN Resolution to condemn the war crimes of the President Rajapaksa and to institute an impartial international inquiry into the human rights violations that have happened in Sri Lanka and also to restore peace in Sri Lanka. Sir, State of Tamil Nadu is burning. Sir, if even a smallest shake in the Northern part is realised by the Government, this serious issue has also to be understood by the Government. I want the Government to give a categorical reply which would appease the students and make them soft. Otherwise, Sir, any event that may happen in the future may be untoward and everything will be at stake. So, I request the Government of India to give a categorical reply and the stand it is going to take in Geneva to appease the students who are agitating in the streets in Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Maitreya, do you wish to say something?

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the agitation which is going on now by the student community in Tamil Nadu—as the March 22nd deadline nears, the next week—is likely to intensify further. Already, there are disturbing information that the UN Resolution is not enough. Efforts are on to dilute that Resolution and even to indirectly praise Sri Lanka for whatever actions they have been taking. If that is the case, I don't think the people of Tamil Nadu will accept any sort of compromise on that. Sir, it is not only a question of blindly backing a UN Resolution, but they should also see to it that the UN Resolution is strengthened and augmented, so that the genocide is condemned and international investigation takes place. I would like to remind only one thing, Sir. A similar agitation by the

student community in the early 60's against the imposition of Hindi saw the Congress being unseated from power.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't go into the political history of
...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: If this agitation is allowed to continue, it will uproot the Congress from Tamil Nadu.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, he is on the same issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. What do you wish to say, Mr. Rangarajan?

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the students' agitation in Tamil Nadu started from Loyola College, then, it went to St. Joseph College, and now it has spread to all over Tamil Nadu. My request to the Central Government is that they should give some assurance to the student community, jointly with the State Government. State Government is also there; nearer to the students.

Both, the Central and the State Governments, should call the students and pacify them. India should take a positive stand and make Sri Lanka conduct a genuine inquiry into the atrocities done in 2009. With this, I request that the Government should do everything in consultation with the State Government.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. This was not a part of the arrangement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, we are equally concerned about the issue which has been raised by the hon. Members, that is, with regard to the students' agitation. The Government is looking into it. I will convey the feelings of the Members to the hon. Minister of External Affairs, and if he wishes to make any statement in the House, I will let you know.

RE. DENIAL OF PERMISSION TO MEET MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT IN JAIL

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति (हरियाणा): सभापति जी, धन्यवाद। सर, चौधरी ओम प्रकाश चौटाला जी और श्री अजय सिंह चौटाला जी, दोनों ही इस सदन के सदस्य रहे हैं। चौधरी

ओम प्रकाश चौटाला जी चार बार हरियाणा के मुख्य मंत्री भी रहे हैं, लेकिन आज ये दोनों जेल में हैं। मैं इस बात पर नहीं जाऊंगा कि सीबीआई ने उनके साथ क्या किया अथवा कोर्ट ने क्या किया, वह ज्यूडीशियरी का मामला है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति: सर, उनके साथ जब मैम्बर्स ऑफ पार्लियामेंट या कोई दूसरे नेता मिलने जाते हैं, उनको मिलने भी नहीं दिया जा रहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, All right. All right.

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति: चाहे इस सदन के मैम्बर्स हों या लोक सभा के, अनेक नेता उनके मित्र हैं। वे हमारी पार्टी के लीडर हैं। मुझे भी उनसे मिलने के लिए जाना होता है, लेकिन, सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, one person only. Please stick to ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति: पंजाब के मुख्यमंत्री सरदार प्रकाश सिंह बादल जी भी उनसे मिलने के लिए गए थे, लेकिन जेल से उनको वापिस भेज दिया गया और उन्हें उनसे मिलने नहीं दिया गया।

श्री सभापति: अब आप बैठ जाइए, आपने अपनी बात कह दी है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति: सर, मैं आपसे यह कहना चाहता हूँ, क्या हम विदेश के अन्दर हैं या हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर हैं?

श्री सभापति: अब आप बैठ जाइए, आपकी बात हो गई है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति: दूसरे कैदियों को तो मिलने दिया जाता है ...(व्यवधान)... लेकिन हमारे जो सांसद हैं, चाहे वे लोक सभा के हों या राज्य सभा के, उनको उनसे मिलने नहीं दिया जा रहा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: अब आप बैठेंगे या नहीं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति: मैं आपसे रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा कि लोक सभा और राज्य सभा के सदस्यों को उनसे मिलने दिया जाए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you wish to say, Mr. Gupta? What do you wish to say? सिर्फ एक सदस्य बोलें ...(व्यवधान)... आप बताइए कि आप क्या कहना चाहते हैं?

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता (बिहार): सर, यह सांसदों के अधिकार का हनन है। अगर कोई सांसद किसी से मिलने जाता है और उसको मिलने का समय नहीं दिया जाता है, यह बड़ी दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण स्थिति है। कोर्ट ने अपना फैसला लिया और उसके लिए वे अन्दर हैं, लेकिन

इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि कोई किसी से मिलने नहीं देगा। यह बहुत दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण स्थिति है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इसके बारे में अपना रुख साफ करे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*261. [The questioner (Dr. Janardhan Waghmare) was absent]

Safety audit of railway stations

*261. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Safety Audit Team of the Northern Railway has recently conducted safety audit of the New Delhi Railway Station;
- (b) if so, the details of the report submitted by the said Team;
- (c) whether Government has since examined the recommendations of the Team;
- (d) if so, what further action Government proposes to take on its recommendations;
- (e) whether safety audit of other railway stations would also be conducted;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and by when; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) have constituted 2 separate Fire Safety Audit Teams A and B. The mandate of Team A is to identify areas requiring further upgradation to match the latest fire safety norms to international standards and Team B is to conduct checks at stations, coaching depots, workshops etc., for assessment of compliance of RDSO and Board's instructions regarding fire safety. In this direction, Fire Safety Audit Team B conducted an

inspection at New Delhi Railway Station on 08.01.2013 and found some fire extinguishers, CCTV Cameras and baggage scanners had some problems. On the basis of interim observations, Delhi Division of the Railways has initiated corrective action as required.

(e) to (g) Fire Safety Audit Team B also conducted inspections at Mumbai Central Railway Station on 21.01.2013, at Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus station on 22.01.2013, at Udaipur Station of North Western Railway on 12.02.2013. Deficiencies found at these stations are being attended to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member is not present. Let the answer be given. Any supplementaries? Yes, Mr. Khanna.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सर, इसमें जो उत्तर दिया गया है, उसके अनुसार दिल्ली और मुम्बई, जो हमारे मेन स्टेशंस हैं, वहां इनकी टीम ने विज़िट किया और सिक्योरिटी इंस्ट्रुमेंट्स में कुछ प्रॉब्लम्स पाई गईं। प्रॉब्लम्स कहां पाई गईं, जो आग बुझाने के यंत्र हैं, उनमें पाई गईं, जो सीसीटीवी कैमरे लगे हैं, उनमें पाई गईं या जो स्कैनिंग मशीनें हैं, उनमें पाई गईं।

सर, सिक्योरिटी चेकिंग के लिए तीन ही तो इम्पोर्टेंट चीज़ें हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि इन इंस्ट्रुमेंट्स का कोई पिरिऑडिकल इंस्पेक्शन होना चाहिए। इसके लिए कोई समय निश्चित करने की व्यवस्था की जाए, ताकि यह पता चल सके कि ये इंस्ट्रुमेंट्स फंक्शन कर रहे हैं और इनसे सिक्योरिटी का काम हो रहा है।

सर, इन बातों से यह पता चलता है कि रेलवे, सिक्योरिटी और सेफ्टी के लिए कितनी रिस्पांसिबल है।

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल क्या है?

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सर, मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि रेलवे सिक्योरिटी के लिए ये जो इम्पोर्टेंट इंस्ट्रुमेंट्स हैं, ये लगातार फंक्शन करते रहें, चलते रहें, इसके लिए सरकार क्या उपाय कर रही है? क्या इसके लिए इंस्पेक्शन का कोई पीरियड तय किया जाता है या नहीं?

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: महोदय, पहले तो मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि रेलवे ने सिक्योरिटी चेकिंग के लिए ये जो दो टीमस नियुक्त कीं, यह एक जो प्रो-एक्टिव ऐक्शन था, इस चीज़ को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि आगे भी हमसे कहीं कोई कोताही नहीं रह जाए, सुरक्षा के मसलों की अनदेखी नहीं हो और वक्त पर उनका पूरा ध्यान रखा जा सके। इसी के तहत जब टीम बी नई दिल्ली रेलवे स्टेशन, मुम्बई के दो रेलवे स्टेशंस और उदयपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर गई, वहां उन्होंने कुछ खामियां महसूस कीं। उन खामियों पर बहुत गम्भीरता के साथ विचार किया गया और उसके लिए हिदायतें दी गईं। अभी फायर एक्सटिंग्विशर की बात

की गई, उनकी रीफिलिंग समय पर होनी चाहिए थी, जो नहीं हुई। ऐसा नहीं था कि वे काम नहीं कर रहे थे, लेकिन उनकी रीफिलिंग, जो एक वर्ष में होनी चाहिए थी, वह नहीं हुई थी। इसके लिए हिदायतें दे दी गई हैं और उन्हें ठीक करवा दिया गया है। आगे के लिए वह हिदायत भी उन्हें दे दी गई है कि रीफिलिंग के समय पहले उनको खाली किया जाए, ऐसा न हो कि पहले की चीज़ को ही फिर से इस्तेमाल कर लिया जाए और उसी को फिर से भर दिया जाए। पहले उसे खाली किया जाए और फिर नये सिरे से भर कर ही उसको इस्तेमाल किया जाए। इसके अलावा, आपने जो बताया कि समय-समय पर फिर से उनकी इंस्पेक्शन होनी चाहिए, निरीक्षण होना चाहिए, तो उसके लिए भी हिदायतें हैं। मैं विभाग के लिए इस बात को अनिवार्य कर रहा हूँ कि आगे से वह इनका पालन सही ढंग से और सख्ती के साथ करता रहे।

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, safety and comfort of the passengers should be the first priority for the Railway Minister and the Ministry of Railways. To look into safety issues, Indian Railways had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Kakodkar. This Committee had recommended that the Indian Railways need more than one lakh crore rupees to implement safety measures. By imposing high tariff on the passengers, it is not possible to get this kind of money. Therefore, internal resource mobilization is also required by the Railway Ministry. Also, budgetary support from the Government of India should be increased.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question does not relate to this at all.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, this is relevant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you make a speech before asking a question?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, I would like to know, in the light of the recommendations made for safety reasons, how does the Ministry of Railways propose to mobilize resources internally?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, the Kakodkar Committee had made as many as 106 recommendations, the implementation of which entails an expenditure of Rs.1,00,000 crore. The entire House would agree with me that it is an extremely difficult task. If I were to talk about the financial implications of the recommendations made, this Rs.1,00,000 crore would mean Rs.20,000 crore a year. Further, the Committee had suggested something else. Now, the House has to take a decision, and I would be extremely happy and grateful to the House if the

House agrees with that recommendation of the Committee, which talks about a non-lapsable fund generated through a Safety Cess on passengers of different classes, in a graded manner, to raise funds to the tune of Rs.5,000 crore per annum. Now, is the House willing to sanction that? The small amount which I had raised in the form of forces has been objected to by different quarters. I know, you had lent your open support to that. Further, it says that the payment of dividends should be stopped. Then, a road cess of Rs. 1,000 per crore would not be enough and, therefore, we must have another Rs.4000 crores per annum for this. This is an uphill task. But we are at it. We are certainly determined that as many recommendations as possible would be implemented. Sir, there is another recommendation which I may, incidentally, like to point out in this case. The Kakodkar Committee has also suggested that no new train should be introduced without adequate capacity for operation and maintenance. Now, you can very well understand what my plight is when there is a demand for introduction of more trains and when we are not able to take full care of the maintenance facilities and make provisions for all that is required on the trains. Nevertheless, Sir, the Railways are determined and we shall continue to do our best as far as this provision of safety is concerned as also comfort. Now, comfort is not really related to the main question today, but that is also important for us. As far as the questions of security and safety are concerned, we have been taking measures and we will continue to take measures.

DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Sir, in the city of Mumbai, which is so densely populated, the suburban trains run for about 30-40 kilometres along crowded lanes. There is no proper fencing done. Two or three casualties every day is not even considered as a news item worth reading. My question is, why don't you have proper fencing all the way, when a train passes through crowded places? Secondly, people cross the tracks, especially children returning from schools who are tempted to rush to their homes across the tracks. At such times, the minimum that can be done is to have adequate Police presence there. The Police could stop people from crossing the railway tracks.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, the provision of fencing on the sides of the tracks is not the minimum, but the desired thing. If I were to have a holistic approach to the matter, we have 64,000 route kilometers, and it is well-nigh impossible to fence the tracks on both the sides, which means the double of that.

Now, we have begun this exercise on the Agra side. The Railways traverse the length and breadth of the country passing through very thickly populated areas where there is persistent demand to open more level crossings, whereas the Kakodkar Committee has suggested that no more level crossings should be permitted. So, we are in that predicament. On one hand, there is a demand for more level crossings and, on the other hand, we have to take care of the safety measures. It was in that regard that I had suggested in my Budget Speech that we must really be able to get more from the Central Road Cess for the purposes of constructing the road over bridges.

Central Board of Fisheries

*262. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the Central Board of Fisheries (CBF);
- (b) when the CBF was constituted;
- (c) the efforts CBF has made, since its constitution, for the welfare and well being of fishermen in the country;
- (d) whether it was disbanded in between;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) in the light of (d) above, how Government is looking after the welfare of fishermen in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (f) The Central Board of Fisheries (CBF) was established in 1958-59 under the chairmanship of Union Agriculture Minister in order to coordinate and integrate the activities in the field of fisheries development and research in the country. The CBF discussed national problems on fisheries development and recommended measures for optimum growth of the sector and conservation of fishery resources etc. from time to time. Government of India launched the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) in 2006 as a Special Purpose Vehicle with the

objective of giving focused attention to activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture, to achieve sustainable management and conservation of aquatic resources, generate employment and to enhance production and productivity of fish through its programmes and schemes. Besides development oriented activities, NFDB also focuses on Human Resource development of the fishers. Since the Governing Body of NFDB under the chairmanship of Union Agriculture Minister has all State Ministers in charge of Fisheries as members, it has effectively replaced the CBF.

Government is implementing various central sector and centrally sponsored schemes for development of fisheries and welfare of fishermen, such as (i) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture; (ii) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations; (iii) Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information Systems of Fisheries Sector; (iv) National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen and (v) NFDB etc. States can also avail funding under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for taking up various initiatives for development of fisheries.

SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the aims and objectives of the Fishermen Welfare Fund. How much amount is there in the Fund? What welfare measures are undertaken by the Government from this Fund, particularly for the fishermen of Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Sir, through a Centrally-sponsored scheme, that is, National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen, the Government is providing the following support to fishermen: (a) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fisherman providing an insurance cover of Rs.1 lakh and Rs.50,000 against death or permanent total disability and for partial disability respectively; (b) Fishermen Housing: a sum of Rs.50,000 is provided for the construction of houses for eligible fishermen, drinking and community hall facilities are also provided in cluster housing; (c) Saving-cum Relief: a sum of Rs.1800 in three instalments of Rs.600 each is provided to fishermen belonging to below poverty line during the lean fishing period and (d) Training and Extension, this is for building the capacity of fishermen and fish farmers so that they can obtain better returns from their vocation. Sir, NFDB supplements these efforts further through training of fishermen and they have so far provided training to nearly 70,000 fishermen. The Government is also framing programmes for alternative livelihood for fishermen to supplement their income and protect their livelihood.

SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Sir, there is a demand not only from Andhra Pradesh but also from various parts of the country that reconstitution of National Fishermen Welfare Board is required. In so far as looking after the fishermen of the country is concerned, what action has the Ministry taken so far?

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, since the Central Board of Fisheries did not have any scheme or programme and was performing only an advisory role, the Government of India decided to replace the CBF with NFDB. The NFDB is a Special Purpose Vehicle having its own organization, staff and budget. It is also implementing a number of schemes for development of fisheries and aqua-culture. Therefore, it has emerged as a more effective body. All the States are represented in the Governing body of NFDB through Ministers, related Central Ministers, Departments and representatives of the Association of Fishermen and Aqua-culture.

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी: सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि 1958 में मत्स्य विकास एवं अनुसंधान बोर्ड बनाया गया, जबकि अभी भी मछुआरे भुखमरी के कगार पर हैं। मंत्री महोदय, अभी आपने अपने जवाब में कहा कि इसमें परम्परागत मछुआरों के प्रतिनिधि भी आते हैं, जबकि हम लोगों की जानकारी यह है कि इसमें अभी तक परम्परागत मछुआरों का कोई प्रतिनिधि नहीं है। अगर इसमें परम्परागत मछुआरों के प्रतिनिधि हैं, तो आप उनके नाम बताने की कृपा करें और यह भी बताएं कि उस बोर्ड में कौन लोग हैं?

आपने जो आवास वाली बात कही है, उसके बारे में हमको यह कहना है कि हमारे बिहार में जितने मछुआरे हैं, उनके लिए अभी तक यह सिर्फ कागज़ों पर हुआ है, लेकिन उनके लिए आवास बना नहीं है। इसके बनने की क्या प्रक्रिया है और अभी तक कितने आवास बन चुके हैं, इस संबंध में भी आप हमें जानकारी देने की कृपा करें।

श्री तारिक अनवर: चेयरमैन सर, जहां तक मछुआरों के लिए कल्याणकारी कदम उठाने की बात है, तो सरकार की ओर से इसके लिए लगातार प्रयास होते रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... खास तौर पर, जो मछुआरे हैं, उनकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिति में लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है। इसका अंदाजा इस बात से लगाया जा सकता है कि पिछले पांच सालों में, यानी 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो प्रगति हुई है, अगर उसकी स्टेटिस्टिक्स को देखा जाए, तो यह पता चलता है कि the total fish production in 2011-12 was 8.67 million tonnes, जो कि लगभग दोगुना प्रोडक्शन है। The share of inland fishery in total fish production is 64 per cent. The total fish production has increased by eleven times since Independence. The exports have increased from 6,12,000 tonnes in 2006-07 to 8,62,000 tonnes.

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी: मछुआरे, जो कि भुखमरी के कगार पर हैं, उनके बारे में बताइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: पहले आप सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री तारिक अनवर: मछुआरों की हालत पहले से बेहतर है। हमने अभी सप्लिमेंट्री जवाब में यह बात बतायी थी कि सरकार और फिशरीज़ डेवलपमेंट बोर्ड वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था भी कर रही है। जो मछुआरे हैं, उनको ट्रेनिंग दी जा रही है, ताकि वे अपनी आमदनी दूसरे ढंग से भी बढ़ा सकें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी: सर, हमारे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं आ रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बिहार का होने पर भी बिहार की बात नहीं बता रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। आप पहले इनकी बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री तारिक अनवर: मेरे पास अभी बिहार के फीगर्स नहीं हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sahani, you cannot do this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री तारिक अनवर: सर, मेरे पास बिहार के फीगर्स अभी मौजूद नहीं हैं। मैं माननीय सदस्य को वह लिखित रूप में भेज दूंगा, ताकि उन्हें इस बात की पूरी जानकारी हो जाए।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा।

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी: महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं आया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या उस बोर्ड में मछुआरों का कोई प्रतिनिधि है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री तारिक अनवर: उसमें मेम्बर है और उसकी जानकारी भी आपको दे दी जाएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप उत्तराखंड राज्य में निर्मित बाँधों में मत्स्य पालन हेतु कोई योजना बनाने पर विचार करेंगे, ताकि वहां से हो रहे पलायन को रोका जा सके?

श्री तारिक अनवर: सर, हम बिल्कुल इस पर विचार करेंगे। सरकार हर वह कदम उठाएगी, जिससे लोगों का पलायन रुक सके। सभापति महोदय, फिशरीज़ हमारे एग्रीकल्चर का एक महत्वपूर्ण अंग है, इसलिए हम लोगों का पूरा ध्यान इस बात पर है कि फिशरीज़ के जरिए भी लोगों को इम्प्लॉइमेंट मिले और उससे उनका जीवन-यापन हो सके।

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN: Thank you, Sir. The Government had appointed Dr. Murari Committee to enquire and suggest measures to safeguard the interests of

the fishermen and their welfare. The Government had also accepted its recommendations. One of the main recommendations was to stop giving licence to big vessels for deep sea fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone of our country. But, unfortunately, the Government is now giving licence, renewing licence and permitting the Indian and foreign vessels to venture in deep sea in the Exclusive Economic Zone of our country. The fishermen are not able to catch fish. So, if the Government is genuinely interested in safeguarding the interests of the fishermen of this country, they have to ban deep sea fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone of our country.

श्री तारिक अनवर: सर, यह मूल क्वेश्चन से अलग हटकर माननीय सदस्य ने सवाल किया है। मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि जो उन्होंने सुझाव दिया है, उस पर हम लोग विचार कर सकते हैं और उसके बाद माननीय सदस्य को इसकी जानकारी दे दी जाएगी।

*263. [The questioner (Shri Ram Jethmalani) was absent].

बी.टी. कॉटन की उत्पादन-दर

*263. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बी.टी. कॉटन की उत्पादन दर वर्ष 2007-08 से वर्ष 2012-13 के बीच लगातार कम हो रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं;

(ग) वर्ष 2007-08 और वर्ष 2012-13 में बी.टी. कॉटन की प्रति हेक्टेयर उत्पादन-दर कितनी-कितनी थी; और

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि बी.टी. कॉटन के उत्पादन में कमी आने के साथ-साथ उसकी उत्पादन लागत में भी वृद्धि हो गयी है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. चरण दास महन्त): (क) से (घ) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (घ) बीटी कपास की उत्पादन दर (पैदावार) संबंधी आंकड़ों का रख-रखाव पृथक रूप से नहीं रखा जाता है। तथापि, देश में कुल कपास क्षेत्र का 90 प्रतिशत से भी अधिक क्षेत्र अब बीटी कपास के अंतर्गत है तथा देश में कपास की वर्षवार पैदावार का विवरण इस प्रकार है:

वर्ष	पैदावार/ (कि.ग्रा./हेक्टेयर)
2007-08	467
2008-09	403
2009-10	403
2010-11	499
2011-12	491
2012-13*	488

* दूसरे अग्रिम अनुमान।

यह देखा गया है कि देश में कपास की पैदावार 2007-08 में 467 कि.ग्रा. प्रति हेक्टेयर से बढ़कर 2012-13 में (दूसरे अग्रिम अनुमान) 488 कि.ग्रा. प्रति हेक्टेयर हो गई है। कपास की उत्पादन लागत 2007-08 में 2110.53 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल से बढ़कर 2012-13 में 2772.16 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल हो गयी है।

Production rate of Bt. Cotton

†*263. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that the production rate of Bt. Cotton is constantly decreasing since 2007-08 to 2012-13;
- if so, the facts in this regard;
- the details of production rate of Bt. Cotton per hectare in 2007-08 and 2012-13; and
- whether it is also a fact that along with the decline in yield, its production cost has also increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The data on production rate (yield) of Bt. Cotton is not maintained separately. However, more than 90% of total cotton area in the country is now under Bt. Cotton and year-wise yield of cotton in the country is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Yield (Kg/Hectare)
2007-08	467
2008-09	403
2009-10	403
2010-11	499
2011-12	491
2012-13*	488

*2nd Advance Estimates.

It may be observed that the yield of cotton in the country has increased from 467 Kg/hectare in 2007-08 to 488 kg/hectare in 2012-13 (2nd advance estimates). The cost of production of cotton has increased from Rs. 2110.53 per quintal in 2007-08 to Rs. 2772.16 per quintal in 2012-13.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question 263. Questioner is not present. Let the answer be given.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि पैदावार 2007-08 में 467 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर से बढ़कर 2012-13 में 488 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर हो गई। दूसरी तरफ इनका कहना है कि उत्पादन लागत 2007-08 में 2110.53 रुपए से बढ़कर 2012-13 में 2772.16 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल हो गई है। तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि 2007-08 में किसानों ने जो कॉटन बेचा, तो उनको कितने रुपए प्रति क्विंटल का भाव मिला और 2012-13 में उनको प्रति क्विंटल कितनी कीमत मिली? माननीय मंत्री जी, जरा इसको स्पष्ट करें, ताकि यह पता चल सके कि जो लागत बढ़ा है, जो इनपुट्स की कॉस्ट बढ़ी है, उसकी उनको उतनी कीमत मिल रही है या नहीं?

डा. चरण दास महन्त: माननीय सभापति महोदय, विभाग ने जो जानकारी दी है, उनके सामने यहां रख दी गई है। आगे मैं कुछ जवाब दूँ इससे पहले मैं आपसे गुजारिश करना चाहता हूँ कि बी.टी. कॉटन के संबंध में एक रिट पीटिशन सुप्रीम कोर्ट में विचाराधीन है। इस परिस्थिति में क्या यहां विचार करना या बहस करना उचित होगा, यह मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: यह तो जवाब में दिया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए, आपका सवाल बाद में आ रहा है, अभी नहीं है।
...(व्यवधान)... बैठ जाइए। It is not your turn. Yes, Mr. Roy. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: माननीय मंत्री जी जो बतला रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आपने न सवाल पूछा और न उन्होंने आपको जवाब दिया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: मगर क्यू में मैं भी बैठा हूँ, सर। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: अगर आपको जवाब से कोई कठिनाई है तो आप लिखित में दीजिए।

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: सर, हम आपसे संरक्षण चाहते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी बतला रहे हैं कि यह मामला कोर्ट में है। कोर्ट में यह कोई मसला नहीं है। आखिर, जवाब आपने दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: अगर मसला कोर्ट में है तो माननीय मंत्री जी ने यहां जवाब कैसे दिया? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: अगर कोर्ट में मामला है तो यहां जवाब कैसे दिया?
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to amplify?

डा. चरण दास महन्त: सर, मैंने यह निवेदन किया है कि जो विभागीय जानकारी हमारे पास है, वह हमने इनको दे दी है। बाकी बी.टी. कॉटन जी.एम. स्टॉक के बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट में एक रिट याचिका विचाराधीन है। यदि आप चाहते हैं कि उसके बावजूद भी यहां बहस हो, तो हम करने के लिए तैयार हैं।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, the question was what price they got ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: जस्ट, वन मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: What price they got compared to the input. ...(Interruptions).... This is the question. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने केवल यह जानना चाहा है कि 2008 में किसानों को क्या कीमत मिल रही थी और 2013 में क्या कीमत मिल रही है। इसका कोर्ट में चलने वाले मसले से संबंध नहीं है।

श्रीमान्, इससे कोर्ट में चलने वाले मसले का सम्बन्ध नहीं है। इससे किसानों को लाभ हुआ है या हानि, वह यह जानना चाह रहे हैं।

डा. चरण दास महन्त: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैंने जानकारी देने से इंकार नहीं किया है। मैं माननीय चतुर्वेदी जी को बताना चाहता हूँ कि वर्ष 2006-2007 में बाजार में किसानों के लिए जो एमएसपी निर्धारित की गयी थी, वह 1770 रुपए थी और वर्ष 2012-2013 में 3600 रुपए है।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: एमएसपी नहीं पूछी थी, बाजार में किसान को मिलने वाले भाव के बारे में पूछा था।

डा. चरण दास महन्त: निश्चित रूप से बाजार में उसी भाव पर मिल रहा था। बाजार में भाव में कोई कमी नहीं थी।

श्री सभापति: आप जवाब बाद में दे दीजिएगा। Let it be treated as an assurance.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue is multinationals are exploiting the Indian farmers. Keeping that in mind, please postpone it to Monday. Let him reply to it on Monday. It is a very larger issue. We have no difficulty. We should not have any objection.

श्री सभापति: आप मंडे को यह जवाब दे सकते हैं?

डा. चरण दास महन्त: सर, मैं अभी भी जवाब दे सकता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: दीजिए।

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु: किसान कोर्ट में जाएं, यह अच्छी बात नहीं है।

श्री सभापति: वेंकैया जी, एक मिनट, रूपाला जी, प्लीज ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: आपको किसान से क्या लेना-देना? अरे, थारे को किसान से क्या लेना-देना? ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Telecommunication services in villages

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number of villages with a population of more than 5000 where BSNL has provided telecommunication services, State-wise;

(b) the number of such villages yet to be provided with these services, State-wise; and

(c) the number of villages where 3G service is available?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Telecom Circle wise details of number of villages with a population of more than 5000 where BSNL has provided telecommunication services and where these services are yet to be provided are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) BSNL has started 3G services only in cities/towns. As on 31.12.2012, 3G Services have been launched by BSNL in 1200 cities/towns. However, some of the villages may be getting 3G incidental coverage from some nearby city/town Base Transceiver Station (BTS).

Statement

*No. of villages where services of BSNL are provided
and yet to be provided*

Sl. No.	Telecom Circle	No. of villages (population > 5000) where BSNL has provided telecommunication services)		No. of villages (population > 5000) where telecommunication services of BSNL are yet to be provided	
		Village Public Telephone (VPT) facilities	Mobile Services	Village Public Telephone (VPT)	Mobile Services
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	2	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	2286	2286	0	0
3	Assam	173	204	31	0

22		[RAJYA SABHA]		<i>Starred Questions</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Bihar	2941	2294	0	642
5	Jharkhand	364	322	0	42
6	Gujarat	975	975	0	0
7	Haryana	602	602	0	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	9	9	0	0
9	Jammu and Kashmir	143	134	1	13
10	Karnataka	835	835	0	0
11	Kerala	1280	1280	0	0
12	Madhya Pradesh	381	354	0	28
13	Chhattisgarh	90	86	0	0
14	Maharashtra (including Goa)	1317	1272	0	24
15	North East-I (Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura)	132	132	8	8
16	North East-II (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur)	123	123	24	24
17	Odisha	182	159	0	26
18	Punjab	305	308	0	0
19	Rajasthan	761	748	0	13
20	Tamil Nadu	1444	1368	0	0
21	Chennai	76	76	0	0
22	Uttar Pradesh (East)	1545	1545	0	0
23	Uttar Pradesh (West)	1017	743	0	274

<i>Written Answers to</i>		[15 March, 2013]	<i>Starred Questions</i>		23
1	2	3	4	5	6
24	Uttarakhand	80	80	2	2
25	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	1870	1503	20	387
26	Kolkata	44	44	0	0
TOTAL		18977	17484	86	1483

Note: BSNL maintains Telecom Circle wise information.

Central-State Farm in Madhya Pradesh

*265. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up a Central-State Farm in each district of Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a large area of land acquired for the purpose in Madhya Pradesh is lying unutilised;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor, district-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government for proper utilisation of the said land?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Price rise of onion

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge gap between the wholesale price and the retail price of onion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that common man is suffering due to high retail price of onion;

(d) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to bring down the prices of onion; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The gap between retail and wholesale prices of onion for the period April, 2012 to February, 2013 for four Metros is shown below.

Difference between Wholesale and Retail Prices of Onion from April, 2012 to February, 2013

(Rs./Kg)

Month	Bangalore			Mumbai			Delhi			Chennai		
	WP	RP	Diff.	WP	RP	Diff.	WP	RP	Diff.	WP	RP	Diff.
April, 12	7	10	3	5	10	5	7	12	5	6	10	4
May, 12	7	13	6	6	10	4	7	12	5	7	11	4
June,12	8	13	5	6	10	4	8	15	7	9	12	3
July, 12	9	14	5	7	12	5	8	15	7	11	14	3
August,12	10	13	3	8	12	4	8	16	8	10	14	4
Sept.,12	9	13	4	7	12	5	8	16	8	12	16	4
October, 12	16	19	3	9	16	7	11	17	6	15	20	5
Nov., 12	17	24	7	13	18	5	15	20	5	22	28	6
Dec., 12	17	22	5	14	18	4	11	20	9	18	24	6
Jan., 13	18	24	6	14	18	4	18	30	12	22	28	6
Feb.,13	15	20	5	15	22	7	11	25	14	20	26	6

Note: WP = Wholesale Price, RP = Retail Price.

The gap between wholesale and retail prices depends on the local demand-supply conditions and market imperfections including distance from production centres. Since onion is an important ingredient of the food basket of the common man, its price rise impacts adversely on household budgets.

Onion is a highly perishable commodity and is difficult to be stored over long periods. Therefore, onion prices tend to increase in the lean season before arrival of the next crop. Government has, through National Research Centre (NRC) on Onion and Garlic and National Horticulture Research Development Foundation (NHRDF), undertaken research on development of new varieties with longer shelf life, modern storage structures to reduce losses, etc., which would help stabilize prices of onion. Assistance is also provided by Government for creation of infrastructure for storage and marketing of fruits and vegetables, including onion.

Assistance to farmers in drought-hit Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has declared 230 Mandals as drought-hit recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) the manner in which the Ministry is helping farmers in the above Mandals under its various schemes, such as, Diesel Subsidy Scheme, Enhancement for Subsidy on Seeds, etc.;

(d) whether any additional wage employment is proposed under MGNREGA; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) Government of Andhra Pradesh *vide* its notification dated 9th January, 2013 has declared 234 mandals in 9 districts of the State as drought affected during Kharif, 2012. District-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

State Government is empowered to initiate appropriate relief measures in the wake of loss/damage to crops due to natural calamities from funds readily available under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, can be provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), upon receipt of detailed 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.

In view of rainfall deficit in some parts of the country during Kharif-2012, Govt. of India introduced several schemes such as (i) diesel subsidy scheme (for providing protective irrigation in rainfall deficient areas), (ii) enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidies (to partially recompense farmers for re-sowing/purchasing drought tolerant varieties of seeds), (iii) up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed and fodder, (iv) waiver of import duty on oil cakes, (v) additional allocation under Accelerated Fodder Development Programme (AFDP), (vi) providing assistance for feed and fodder supplements under National Mission for Protein Supplements (NMPS), (vii) introducing drought impact mitigating interventions for perennial horticulture crops and (viii) reducing interest on rescheduled crop loans to mitigate drought conditions.

Besides, interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and fast tracking release of installments under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc. were also announced by Central Government as drought relief measures.

Central Government has also approved additional wage employment upto 50 days per household beyond 100 days under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in drought notified areas.

Government of India has so far approved 91.53 lakh additional man days under MGNREGS, over and above the approved labour budget, in drought affected mandals in Andhra Pradesh. Details of additional employment, district-wise, as reported by Government of Andhra Pradesh are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

No. of Mandals declared as drought affected

Sl. No.	District	No. of Mandals declared as Drought affected
1	2	3
1	Anantapur	63
2	YSR Kadapa	43
3	Kurnool	36
4	Prakasam	35
5	Chittoor	28

1	2	3
6	Nalgonda	11
7	SPS Nellore	9
8	Mahabubnagar	5
9	Guntur	4
TOTAL		234

(Source: Government of Andhra Pradesh).

Statement-II

District-wise Additional Employment over and above 100 days upto 150 days

Sl. No.	District Name	Households	Person-days	Expenditure (In crores)
1	Anantapur	50541	1298413	15.91
2	Chittoor	16532	469974	5.70
3	Guntur	928	33787	0.46
4	Kadapa	15521	361247	3.97
5	Kurnool	23290	642331	6.77
6	Mahabubnagar	2358	69968	0.71
7	Nalgonda	11327	321794	3.23
8	Prakasam	21848	544725	5.07
9	S.P.S Nellore	2626	44643	0.49
TOTAL		1,44,971	37,86,882	42.31

(Source: Government of Andhra Pradesh).

Decline in the production of cotton

†*268. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of cotton produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether production of cotton is declining continuously;
- (c) if so, the main reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures being taken by Government for increasing the production of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Details of cotton production in the country during the last three years are as under:

Year	Production (Million Bales of 170 kg each)
2009-10	24.02
2010-11	33.00
2011-12	35.20

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) To improve production, productivity and quality of cotton, assistance is provided to farmers under Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) for seeds, agriculture implements, water-saving devices, bio-agents/bio-pesticides, integrated pest management, demonstrations, training, etc. Further, All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Cotton is being implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to develop new high yielding varieties/hybrids and production technologies in cotton. Central Institute for Cotton Research at Nagpur is also conducting basic and strategic research on cotton.

Speeding up the trains

*269. SHRI JAIPRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are focusing on speeding up the trains at a high speed in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the maximum speed of trains in the country and whether it is very slow as compared to countries like Korea, Japan and China; and

(d) the steps being contemplated to speed up the trains by upgrading technology and improving the tracks?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways in consultation with State Governments has selected seven corridors for carrying out prefeasibility studies for introduction of High Speed Passenger trains. Present status of prefeasibility studies on these seven High Speed Rail Corridors is as under:

- (i) **Pune-Mumbai-Ahmedabad - 650 km** - Prefeasibility study has been completed and the Final Report submitted by the Consultant has been accepted by the Ministry of Railways.
- (ii) **Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi-Patna - 991 km** - Prefeasibility study has been completed. The Consultant has submitted the Final Report.
- (iii) **Howrah-Haldia - 135 km** - Prefeasibility study has been completed. The Consultant has submitted the Final Report.
- (iv) **Hyderabad-Dornakal-Vijaywada-Chennai - 664 km** - The study is in progress. The consultant has submitted Inception Report, Interim Report I & II and Draft Final Report.
- (v) **Chennai-Bangalore-Coimbatore-Ernakulam-Thiruvananthapuram - 850 km** - The study is in progress. The Consultant has submitted Inception Report and Interim Report No.I and II and Draft Final Report.
- (vi) **Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur - 591 km** - No consultant has been finalized.
- (vii) **Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar- 450 km** - The work of carrying out prefeasibility study on this corridor has been entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).

(c) The maximum speed of trains in the country is 150 kmph as compared to other countries like Korea, Japan and China, where maximum speed is upto 350 kmph.

(d) For High Speed trains, totally new railway tracks will have to be laid. It is not feasible to achieve speed of 300-350 kmph on Indian Railway existing tracks by upgrading technology and other improvements.

Setting up of electronic telephone exchanges in Tamil Nadu

*270. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges set up in Tamil Nadu as on 31st December, 2012, capacity-wise;
- (b) whether all these exchanges have been provided with STD facility;
- (c) the districts where such exchanges have not been set up so far; and
- (d) the time by when such exchanges with STD facility are likely to be set up in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The number of telephone exchanges set up in Tamil Nadu Licensing Service Area (including Pondicherry) as on 31.12.12 is as below:

Sl. No.	Type of exchange (Mobile/Landline)	Number of Exchanges installed	Capacity of such exchanges
1.	Landline	4068	6149314 lines
2.	Mobile	181	3684200 Erlangs

(b) All of these exchanges are provided with STD facility.

(c) All the districts in Tamil Nadu are provided with Electronic Exchanges (landline), and all are provided with STD facility. The STD facility is extended to the subscriber as per their request.

With regard to mobile services, they are also available in all districts of Tamil Nadu and the subscribers are provided with STD facility as per their requests.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Accidents at unmanned railway crossings

*271. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that accidents at unmanned railway crossings are on the rise across the country;

(b) the total number of accidents at unmanned railway crossings reported during the last six months;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many State Governments have demanded to convert unmanned level crossings into manned level crossings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No, Sir. The number of consequential incidents at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users has come down from 51 to 46 in the current year during April, 2012 to February, 2013 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) During the last six months *i.e.* September, 2012 to February, 2013, 23 consequential incidents at unmanned level crossings have taken place on Indian Railways.

(c) and (d) It has emerged from the analysis 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. Accordingly, Railways have decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:

Closure - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/Negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU).

Merger - Merger of unmanned level crossing gates to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUB) or Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road.

Provision of Subways/RUBs

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 crossings and undertaking to maintain road and drainage in future for subways.

Guidelines for use of social media in Government organisations

*272. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated certain guidelines for use of social media in Government organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure effective citizen engagement and communication with all stakeholders using various offline and online channels including social media and also to check the propagation of unverified facts and rumours with respect to Government policies, by social media?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) In order to help Government organisations engage appropriately with social media platforms, Government has notified "Framework and Guidelines for Use of Social media by Government Organisations" in September, 2012. This Framework has been created to enable Government agencies to use these platforms effectively, reach out to their stakeholders and understand their concerns.

(c) In order to enhance citizen engagement with all stakeholders, Government has notified Citizen Engagement Framework for e-Governance projects. The framework includes various online and offline methodologies of citizen engagement. The scheme for citizen engagement provides for development of a citizen engagement toolkit for use by various Central Ministries and State Departments to enhance and deepen their citizen engagement efforts and awareness and sensitization workshops to build the capacities of Ministries and Departments.

Government does not regulate the contents of website. However, Government, on 11.4.2011, has notified Information Technology (intermediaries guidelines) Rules, 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The Rules provide for the intermediaries, which includes social networking websites, to observe due diligence and guidelines.

Separate toilet facilities for girls in schools

*273. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of separate toilet facilities for girls in schools in urban as well as rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of such shortage in urban and rural schools, State-wise;

(c) whether due to this problem, a large number of girls of adolescent age drop out every year; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to address this problem, particularly after implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, and whether any deadline has been fixed to provide this facility in all schools in each State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) and (b) As per District Education System for Education (DISE) 2011-12 (provisional) 65% rural and 71% urban government elementary schools have girls toilets. A state-wise statement of percentage of schools with separate toilets for girls in rural and urban areas is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) From data available in the DISE 2011-12 it is clear that share of girls' enrolment at primary and upper primary level has risen from 43.7% and 40.9% in 2000-01 to 48.35% and 48.63 % in 2011-12 which is in consonance with their share in population. Opening of schools in the neighbourhood has improved the access of girls to schools, and provisions *inter-alia*, of free textbooks, free uniforms, separate toilets for girls, the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas residential upper primary schools and the Mid Day Meal programme have further encouraged participation of girls in elementary education.

(d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides a time-frame of three years from the commencement of the Act for completion of school infrastructure. All new school buildings under SSA are sanctioned as composite buildings with toilets for girls and funds are also provided for existing urban schools which do not have toilets. Under SSA a total of 4.49 lakh girls' toilets have been sanctioned so far. In existing rural schools/lacking toilets, such facilities are provided in convergence with the schemes of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Statement

*State-wise details of percentage of schools with separate
toilets for girls in rural and urban areas*

Sl. No.	State	Percentage of schools with girls' toilets	
		Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	47.58	59.65
2	Arunachal Pradesh	30.15	53.50

1	2	3	4
3	Assam	51.75	61.86
4	Bihar	51.22	45.01
5	Chhattisgarh	42.87	43.59
6	Goa	68.06	72.73
7	Gujarat	70.93	86.14
8	Haryana	89.34	88.53
9	Himachal Pradesh	82.16	82.59
10	Jammu and Kashmir	23.02	31.36
11	Jharkhand	68.13	65.80
12	Karnataka	98.01	98.31
13	Kerala	87.36	87.52
14	Madhya Pradesh	70.93	79.47
15	Maharashtra	71.03	79.12
16	Manipur	100.00	99.66
17	Meghalaya	36.42	51.34
18	Mizoram	50.96	72.05
19	Nagaland	63.37	68.48
20	Odisha	38.60	39.98
21	Punjab	86.69	89.51
22	Rajasthan	75.98	68.36
23	Sikkim	83.37	100.00
24	Tamil Nadu	62.24	78.31
25	Tripura	46.01	67.66
26	Uttar Pradesh	81.52	73.87

1	2	3	4
27	Uttarakhand	79.36	76.77
28	West Bengal	50.89	63.82
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	80.13	100.00
30	Chandigarh	100.00	100.00
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	61.72	84.21
32	Daman and Diu	93.94	100.00
33	Delhi	99.30	99.49
34	Lakshadweep	75.00	90.00
35	Puducherry	97.95	94.76
TOTAL		64.90	71.01

Source: District Information System for Education (DISE) 2011-12 (provisional).

Proposals under the market intervention scheme

*274. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) during each of the last five years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of the proposals cleared and pending with the Government; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to clear all the proposals to protect farmers from distress sale in each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The details of proposals received from the State Governments and approved under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) are given in the Statement (*See* below). Scheme is pending at present.

Statement*Procurement under MIS implemented from 2008-09 to 2012-2013*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the Commodity under MIS	Year	Procurement Price (MIP) approved (Rs. per Qtl.)	Procurement quantity approved (in MTs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Potato	2008-09 (08.04.2008 to 07.05.2008)	250	1,00,000
2.	Mizoram	Chilli	2008-09 (21.4.08 to 21.5.08)	2800	1810
3.	West Bengal	Potato	2008-09 (12.5.08 to 11.6.08)	230	1,00,000
4.	Mizoram	Passion Fruit	2008-09 (10.7.2008 to 10.8.2008)	700	9000
5.	Uttarakhand	Apples 'C' grade	2008-09 (1.8.2008 to 31.8.2008)	450	1500
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Apples 'C' grade	2008-09 (01.8.2008 to 30.9.2008)	450	38,000
7.	Uttarakhand	Malta 'C' grade	2008-09 (1.11.2008 to 31.12.2008)	525	1600
8.	Mizoram	Chow Chow (Iskut)	2008-09 (15.10.2008 to 15.12.2008)	450	6450
9.	Nagaland	Ginger	2008-09 (03.2.2009. to 2.3.2009)	500	15000

10.	Andhra Pradesh	Oil palm	2009-10 (01.3.2009 to 30.4.2009)	500	30,000
11.	Karnataka	Areca nut	2009-10 (01.3.2009 to 30.4.2009)	6900 (W) 8900 (R)	6000 (W) 4000 (R)
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Potato	2009-10 (25.3.2009. to 24.4.2009)	285	1,00,000
13.	Nagaland	Orange	2009-10 (25.3.2009. to 24.4.2009)	510	16000
14.	Karnataka	Oil palm	2009-10 (25.3.2009 to 24.4.2009)	500	800
15.	Karnataka	Areca nut	2009-10 (19.1.2010 to 25.3.2010)	6900	6000
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Potato	2010-11 (22.3.2010 to 30.4.2010)	300	1,00,000
17.	West Bengal	Potato	2010-11 (17.3.2010 to 15.4.2010)	300	9,00,000
18.	Andhra Pradesh	Oil Palm	2010-11 (1.9.2010 to 31.10.2010)	500	47,500
19.	Himachal Pradesh	Apple C grade	2010-11 (1.9.2010 to 31.10.2010)	515	61,000
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Potato	2011-12 (12.3.2011 to 11.4.2011)	305	1,00,000
21.	Karnataka	Areca nut	2011-12 (06.04.2011 to 31.5.2011)	7,590 (White) 9,790 (red)	8,000 (white) 4,000 (red)
22.	Himachal Pradesh	Apple C grade	2011-12 (15.8.2011 to 15.10.2011)	525	50,600

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Karnataka	Onion	2011-12 (14.12.2011 to 14.01.2012)	600	54,000
24.	Karnataka	Turmeric	2012-13 (10.02.2012 to 30.04.2012)	4,092	12,400
25.	Uttar Pradesh	Potato	2012-13 (10.02.2012 to 10.03.2012)	328	1,00,000
26.	Andhra Pradesh	Turmeric	2012-13 (20.03.2012 to 20.05.2012)	4,000	54,000
27.	Himachal Pradesh	Apple 'C' Grade	2012-13 (20.07.2012 to 31.10.2012)	Not approved as the information required as per the MIS guidelines wets not given	
28.	Rajasthan	Garlic	2012-13 (06.06.2012 to 06.07.2012)	1,700	6,000
29.	Andhra Pradesh	Chilli	2012-13 (25.05.2012 to 25.06.2012)	4,000	52,000
30.	Tamil Nadu	Turmeric	2012-13 (01.06.2012 to 12.07.2012)	4,000	35,000
31.	Mizoram	Iskut (Choyate)	2012-13 (01.12.2012 to 31.12.2012)	560	4,000
32.	Andhra Pradesh	Oil Palm (FFB)	2012-13 (01.01.2013 to 31.03.2013)	572	90,000
33.	Uttar Pradesh	Potato	2012-13 (05.03.2013 to 05.04.2013)	358	1,00,000

Cost of J&K National Railway Link Project

*275. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) National Railway Link Project has gone up to six times of the original estimated cost; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The cost of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project in Jammu and Kashmir which was initially assessed as Rs. 3077 crore as per Detailed Project Report (DPR) is now estimated to be Rs. 19565 crore.

(b) The Project was initially taken up on the basis of aerial & topographical survey and actual cost of construction could be assessed only after thorough detailed Final Location Survey and geotechnical/geological investigation. The work on Udhampur-Katra and Katra-Banihal sections of the project have been delayed due to various factors leading to prolonged gestation period and resultant increase in project cost. However, apart from general escalation, the cost of the project has also increased due to various other factors like geological uncertainties, increase in tunnelling scope, increase in prices of cement and steel, enhancement in security provisions due to adverse law and order situation and introduction of new items like electrification, access roads and approach roads for stations which were not envisaged initially.

Status of pisciculture

*276. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to consider Pisciculture as an integral part within the wider definition of Agriculture;

(b) if so, whether Government would agree to the same; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider to treat Pisciculture at par with Agriculture to provide all incentives like low interest rates, debt relief and all kinds of subsidies?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Some State Governments and Associations of Aquaculture sector have suggested that Pisciculture/aquaculture be treated at par with agriculture so that the subsidy, income tax benefits and other incentives available to agriculture could be extended to Pisciculture. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture had requested the Ministry of Finance to consider these suggestions. The Ministry of Finance has informed that the income from fisheries does not qualify as agricultural income under the Income Tax Act, 1961 and hence is subject to income tax. However, some incentives are available for cooperatives and enterprises for fisheries activities under section 80P, 80-IB (11A) and 35 AD of the Income Tax Act, 1961. In respect of provision of loans at low interest rates, it has been clarified that the provision of interest subvention is available for crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakhs to the farmers. Loans for the purpose of fisheries sector are not covered under this scheme at present.

Modernisation of new unit at BVFCL

*277. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the functioning of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Unit at Namrup in Assam; and

(b) the details of the status of modernisation and extension of the new unit in the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) BVFCL has two operating units— Namrup-II and Namrup-III. As their performance was below par, an in-depth internal study of the plants was carried out for improvement of the plant performance by removing bottlenecks causing limitation in production. Based on the study of the plants, schemes were drawn to carry out for renovation of the plants. The fund to carry out the renovation jobs was provided by the Government of India in phased manner during Eleventh Five year plan period. On implementation of the major schemes, performance of plants has improved. Both Namrup-II and Namrup-III Plants have achieved record production during current financial year 2012-13 with Namrup-III Plant achieving over 102% capacity utilization.

Following table shows performance of BVFCL during the current year against last three years:

Parameter	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (Provisional)
Production in Lakhs MT				
Namrup-II	0.79	0.86	1.02	1.08
Namrup-III	2.30	1.99	1.77	2.78
Capacity Utilization %				
Namrup-II *	65.96	71.77	85.22	90.46
Namrup-III *	85.34	73.71	65.42	102.96
Gross Sales in Rs. Cr	261.79	401.13	407.1	557.11
Operating Profit (PBIDT) Rs. Cr	14.90	38.03	38.60	86.88
Net Profit/Loss in Rs. Cr	-27.86	-85.09	-128.81	-49.60

* Considering operating capacity of 1.20 Lakh MT for Namrup-II and 2.70 Lakh MT for Namrup-III.

The company is incurring net losses due to high interest burden on Government of India Loan. However, functioning of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) has improved during current financial year 2012-13.

(b) BVFCL is in the process of establishment of State-of-Art brown field Ammonia-Urea plant based on modern technology with high capacity and energy efficiency. Total cost of the project has been projected to be Rs. 3311.09 crore with equity component of Rs. 815.67 crores. The plant would be capable of producing 8.64 LMTPA with specific energy consumption of 5.2 G.Cal/MT of urea. Feasibility Study has been based on availability of 1.72 MMSCMD of Natural Gas. Planning Commission has accorded 'in-principle' approval for the said project through open bidding and Expression of Interest (EoI) for equity participation from private sector companies. M/s. Price Waterhouse Coopers Pvt. Ltd. has been appointed as consultant for analysis of the options and suggesting most suitable option.

Per capita income of farmers of Karnataka

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

- (a) the per capita income of farmers in Karnataka;

(b) how this compares with other southern States and at the national level; and

(c) the action Government proposes to take to increase the per capita income of farmers of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) In 2002-03, the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted Situation Assessment Survey covering, *inter alia* level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness and access to modern technology, resource availability, indebtedness etc. in the rural areas. The average monthly income per farmer household from all sources - cultivation, wages, farming of animals, non-farm business etc. during the year 2002-03 in Karnataka, other southern States and at all India level was found as under:

States	Average Monthly Income (Rs.) per Farmer Household from different Sources during 2002-03.
Karnataka	2616
Andhra Pradesh	1634
Kerala	4004
Tamil Nadu	2072
ALL INDIA	2115

(c) Government has taken several steps to revitalize agriculture sector and improve condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension, marketing etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily on expansion of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages. Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include

enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in credit flow to agriculture sector, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, etc.

Demand for telephone towers and landline phones

*279. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge demand for telephone towers and landline phones from customers;

(b) whether Government is facing problem in meeting these demands for best communication services; and

(c) by when, Government would fulfill these demands?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Sir, mobile phone towers are deployed by the Telecom Service Providers as per the Radio Frequency (RF) Network planning based on various parameters such as quantum of spectrum used, type of network, geography/terrain of the area, population density of the mobile users etc.

Cellular mobile connections are available on demand in the area of operation. At present there is no waiting list of GSM mobile customers in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) network.

Demand for landline phones is not huge as the average waiting list for the landline phones is only 0.2 % in BSNL by the end of January, 2013. Demand for the same is met by BSNL based on techno commercial viability and feasibility for best communication. To augment the mobile network, BSNL has concluded the tendering process for adding a capacity of 14.37 Million GSM lines. The landline telephones are mostly available on demand in the area of operation of MTNL.

Demand for telecom services are met by the telecom service providers including BSNL and MTNL. However, the areas where the services of telecom service providers are not available, the Government is providing support through Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) schemes for provision of telecom services.

Student union elections in Central Universities

*280. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central Universities where elections to student union were conducted during 2012-13 session;

(b) the details of the Central Universities where these elections have not been conducted during the current session, so far, along with the reasons therefor, University-wise;

(c) whether Government has received representations from students of Jamia Millia Islamia, Banaras Hindu University and Allahabad University for revival of student union and conduct of student union elections during the 2013-14 session;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken thereon by Government, representation-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Elections to Students' Body held in Central Universities in 2012-13 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Central Universities where elections to Students' Body have not been held in 2012-13 and the reasons thereof is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) As per available information in the Ministry, no such representation has been received from Jamia Millia Islamia, Banaras Hindu University and Allahabad University.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Statement-I

Central Universities where election to Students' Body has been held in 2012-13

Sl. No.	Name of the University
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1	2
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1.	University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
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2.	Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad.
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1	2
3.	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar.
4.	Assam University, Silchar.
5.	University of Delhi, Delhi.
6.	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
7.	Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.
8.	Central University of Kerala, Trivandrum.
9.	North Eastern Hill University, Shillong.
10.	Mizoram University, Aizawl.
11.	Nagaland University, Kohima.
12.	Pondicherry University, Pondicherry.
13.	Central University of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
14.	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
15.	University of Allahabad, Allahabad.
16.	Hemawati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar.

Statement-II

*Central Universities where elections to Students' Body
have not been held in 2012-13*

Sl. No	Name of the University	Reasons for elections to Students' Body not held
1	2	3
1.	Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha	There is no provision for the constitution of Students' Body in the Act and Statutes of the University.
2.	Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal	There is no provision for election of Students' Body in the University's Act and Statutes. However, there is a Students' Body consisting of students on the basis of academic performance.

1	2	3
3.	Tripura University, Agartala	There is no provision for election of Students' Body in the University's Act and Statutes.
4.	Tezpur University, Tezpur	There is no provision in the Act and Statutes of the University to conduct election to the Students' Council. However, Students' Council has been constituted with students of the various academic departments and those who have excelled in sports, cultural activities etc..
5.	Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi	Being an open university imparting education through distance mode, the IGNOU Act does not provide for such students' body.
6.	Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur.	The university has constituted a students' council which provides for 20 students elected representatives and 20 other nominated by the Academic Council.
7.	Central University of Karnataka, Gulbarga	Students' Council has been constituted through nomination. However, the University has initiated action to prepare an Ordinance for election to Students' Union.
8.	Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar	A Students' Council has been constituted as per the Act of 2009, which provides for representation by nomination .
9.	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi	Elections to the Students' Union have not been held due to a continuous law and order problem. However, a representative body of students 'Subject Association' at

1	2	3
		the level of the departments/centres has been constituted with elected representatives of students as well as by nomination.
10.	Manipur University, Imphal	Due to continuous violence in the election to the Students' Union, election to the union has been suspended.
11.	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	Due to litigations, election scheduled in 2012-13 could not be held. On the directions of the Supreme Court, the University has redrafted Ordinance for the constitution of the Students' Council, for approval of Academic Council and Executive Council.
12.	Central University of Bihar, Patna	As the university in its early phase with limited programmes of student and students strength, it has not conducted the election.
13.	Central University of Haryana, Karnal	As the university is in its nascent stage with less number of students, therefore, election to the Students' Council has not been held. Students' Coordinator has been assigned for the purpose of grievances resolutions of students.
14.	Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Kangra	The university is in its nascent stage with very less number of students; therefore, no elected students' body has been constituted. The university is in the process of framing Statutes for the constitution of a Students' Council.
15.	Central University of Jammu	As it's a new university, it is in the process of evolving itself and therefore Students' Body has not been constituted.

1	2	3
16.	Central University of Kashmir, Srinagar.	As the university in its nascent stage with very less number of students, no election has been held.
17.	Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi	As the university in its nascent stage with very less number of students and infrastructure is also not sufficient, no election has been held.
18.	Central University of Orissa, Bhubaneswar	The university is in nascent stage with only enrolment of 300 students, thus a Students' Union has not been constituted.
19.	Sikkim University, Gangtok.	The university is in nascent stage with very less number of students and there is not sufficient infrastructure; therefore, it has not constituted a Students' Body.
20.	Central University of Tamil Nadu, Tiruvarur.	The university is in nascent stage with an enrolment of only 294 students; therefore, it has not constituted a Students' Body.
21.	Central University of Punjab, Bhatinda.	The students' body has been constituted through a process of nomination.
22.	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow.	Action has been initiated by the university to constitute a Students' Body.
23.	Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak	The university has initiated to constitute a Students' Body.
24.	English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad.	Election could not be held as the university is amending the constitution of the Students' Body.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Regulation of cotton seeds prices

2016. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bringing cotton seeds under ECA and Government's intention to deregulate its prices will only help private seeds companies to take undue advantage of the situation;

(b) whether Government is willing to make rules to regulate the prices of cotton seeds under provision of ECA;

(c) whether re-introduction of cotton seeds under ECA is not against the policies of reforms, liberalization and market-led economy and WTO obligations; and

(d) whether Government would consider empowering States to regulate the Bt. Cotton seeds prices if it is not regulating them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Cotton seed has been brought under the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to protect the interest of cotton producing farmers by regulating the production, supply, distribution and quality of cotton seeds.

(b) At present, there is no proposal with the Government to make rules to regulate the prices of seeds including cotton seeds.

(c) Re-introduction of cotton seeds under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is only to regulate production, supply, distribution and quality of cotton seeds and not to regulate the prices of cotton seeds.

(d) There is no such proposal before the Government at present.

Implementation of BGREI Scheme

2017. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made under the 'Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India' (BGREI) scheme, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of the increase in agricultural production in the States covered under the BGREI scheme, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether Government is proposing any additional measures to increase the agricultural output in the Eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) The programme of Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) is a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) being implemented in seven eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh (Eastern) and West Bengal since 2010-11. The details of State-wise and year-wise allocation of funds made under the programme are as under:

(Rupees in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Funds Allocated During the Year		
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	Assam	35.00	33.32	95.50
2	Bihar	63.94	55.33	119.25
3	Chhattisgarh	67.15	55.21	131.50
4	Jharkhand	29.60	31.68	59.00
5	Odisha	79.67	62.62	217.25
6	Uttar Pradesh (Eastern)	57.27	85.66	105.50
7	West Bengal	102.37	72.20	269.00
	TOTAL STATES	435.00	396.02	997.00

(b) State-wise and year-wise production of Rice of BGREI States from 2009-10 to 2012-13, are as under:

(in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	State	2009-10 (Base year)	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 2nd Advance Estimates	Increase in production during 2012-13 over 2009-10
1.	Assam	43.36	47.37	45.16	47.68	4.32
2.	Bihar	35.99	31.02	71.63	67.68	31.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Chhattisgarh	41.10	61.59	60.28	62.46	21.36
4.	Jharkhand	15.38	11.10	31.31	34.84	19.46
5.	Odisha	69.18	68.28	58.07	75.61	6.43
6.	Uttar Pradesh	108.07	119.92	140.22	135.55	27.48
7.	West Bengal	143.41	130.46	146.06	132.39	(-) 11.02
TOTAL (for Seven States)		456.49	469.74	552.73	556.21	99.72

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the enthusiastic results of the implementation of BGREI programme, an allocation of Rs. 1,000 crore has been announced for the programme in the Budget Speech for the year 2013-14. In addition, National Food security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. are also being implemented in BGREI States for increasing agricultural output.

International seminar on hybrid rice

2018. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has organized any international seminar on hybrid rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last four years and the outcome thereof, particularly in Hyderabad; and

(c) the implementation of such outcome?

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

(b) The 6th International Symposium on hybrid rice was held at Hyderabad during September 10-12, 2012. It was jointly organized by the International Rice Research Institute, Philippines; Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi and Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Hyderabad. This symposium is held once in four years and the previous one *i.e.* 5th symposium was held in China in 2008.

Following major recommendations emerged during the 6th International Hybrid Rice Symposium held in Hyderabad:

1. Development of heterotic gene pools from tropical japonica and diverse germplasm.
 2. Establishment of National centre for Hybrid Rice with a team of 50 scientists to tackle all the issues related to hybrid rice research.
 3. Strengthening the hybrid rice seed production network in the public sector as well as public-private partnership (PPP) mode.
 4. Identification of other hybrid rice seed production zones in line to Special Economic Zones (SEZ).
 5. Policy interventions by Government for acceptability of hybrid rice by millers.
- (c) For each outcome following action has been taken:
- Development of heterotic gene pools from diverse germplasm is vigorously undertaken at DRR, Hyderabad and Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwa vidyalaya, Jabalpur.
 - Indian Council of Agricultural Research has initiated a research platform on "Hybrids" including Hybrid Rice to tackle all the issues related to hybrid rice research during Twelfth plan.
 - MOUs have been signed by public institutions with private companies under PPP mode to produce seeds of hybrid rice. Further, a consortium of hybrid rice is also contemplated to promote public-private partnership.
 - Search for new areas for hybrid seed production has been initiated in states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
 - It has been decided to involve millers and traders in decision making about release of hybrids.

Implementation of Dr. Swaminathan Commission Report

†2019. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps so far to implement the report of Dr. Swaminathan Commission on Agriculture; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan submitted five reports to the Government over a period of time starting from December, 2004.

The Commission submitted its fifth and final report on 4.10.2006. Along with the final report, the Commission also submitted 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' containing important recommendations made by it.

Based on 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', and after consultation with State Governments, National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007, was finalized and approved by Government and was laid on Table of Rajya Sabha on 23.11.2007. An inter-ministerial committee finalized Plan of Action for Operationalisation of NPF, 2007 which was circulated to all State Governments as well as Central Ministries/ Departments concerned for appropriate action.

Enhancement of agricultural production levels

2020. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scope to further enhance production levels in agriculture by bridging huge "yield gaps" and "regional imbalances";

(b) if so, how;

(c) the details of measures taken in this regard; and

(d) the manner in which this issue has been addressed in the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing research programmes on basic and strategic research on various aspects of crop improvement, crop production and crop protection in different areas at 20 commodity based research institutes through the National Agricultural Research

System of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The information so generated is used by 20 crops specific All India Coordinated Research Projects, mostly situated in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) to develop location specific/State wise varieties and technologies. Several improved varieties/hybrids for high yields and tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses, as well as trait specific varieties in different crops for non-traditional regions have been developed.

The technologies are being demonstrated by the State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) and Minikit Programmes to enhance production and productivity of various crops.

Based on the scientific results, the Government of India has been implementing various Crop Development Schemes through State Governments for bridging yield gaps and reducing regional imbalances, *viz.*, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP), Accelerated Fodder Development Programme (AFDP), Special Programme on Oil Palm Area Expansion (OPAE), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), etc.

Activities like demonstration on high yielding varieties/hybrids, distribution of seed of improved varieties/hybrids, need based plant and soil management, resource conservation techniques/energy management, efficient water application tools, and cropping system based trainings, are being taken-up to enhance agricultural production.

(d) The Government of India proposes to continue Crop Development Programmes like National Food Security Mission including coarse cereals, Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm and National Horticulture Mission, etc. in Twelfth Five Year Plan for bridging yield gaps and reducing regional imbalances to achieve higher agriculture production in the country.

Huge stock of skimmed milk powder

2021. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dairy industry in the country is saddled with huge stocks of skimmed milk powder, and a weak export demand;

(b) if so, the reasons for the consumer prices remaining firm and showing no sign of declining; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to reduce the prices of milk in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has not received any report relating to the huge stock of skimmed milk powder (SMP) and weak export demand. As per the information received from National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) there is a stock of about 1,00,000 MT of SMP, which is about 0.8 percent of the country's milk production and export demand has firmed up as about 60,000 MT equivalent of SMP(SMP + Casein) has been exported in the first 9 months of 2012-13.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply at (a). However, consumer prices are remaining firm as the producer prices are also remaining firm due to increase in feed and fodder and other input costs.

(c) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries does not control prices of milk.

Impact of unprecedented climatic conditions on agriculture

2022. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by the Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forests and State Governments to combat the impacts of unprecedented climatic conditions on our agriculture sector; and

(b) whether the Ministry in coordination with the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and State Governments is going to evolve a mechanism to intimate the farmers in advance about probable climatic conditions as due to lack of any mechanism in this regard our farming community is suffering sizable economical losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Agriculture has formulated National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) under the aegis of National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) in consultation with line Ministries including Ministry of Environment and Forests and State Governments for promoting sustainable agriculture growth in the context of Climate Change. NMSA aims at transforming agriculture into a sustainable and climate resilient production systems by incorporating appropriate climate change adaptation measures onto ongoing and future programmatic/schematic interventions in key dimensions namely, improved crop seeds, livestock and fish cultures, water use efficiency, pest management, improved farm practices, nutrient management, agricultural insurance, credit support, markets, access to information and livelihood diversification.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is implementing a network project on "National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture" (NICRA) for enhancing resilience of Indian agriculture through strategic research, technology demonstrations, and capacity building, etc. Central Research Institute for Dry land Agriculture (CRIDA), ICAR has developed detailed contingency plans for 400 districts to provide a broad advisory to farmers, prescribing alternate strategies in the event of climatic variability, by factoring in crops/livestock/aquaculture practices/pattern, soil characteristics, infrastructural facilities, etc.

(b) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing Scheme on Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension for providing agriculture related information including weather conditions to the farming community through network of Doordarshan Kendras and Rural FM Radio Stations of All India Radio. Automatic weather stations have been established in 100 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) located in vulnerable districts to improve the agro-advisory services to the farmers.

Under "Integrated Agromet Advisory Services (IAAS) in the country" of India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, agromet advisories and weather based contingency plans are issued to combat the impact of unprecedented climatic conditions/extreme weather events. Mobile technology is extensively used to disseminate the advisories.

Setting up of DMR in Andhra Pradesh

2023. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agriculture Research is setting up Directorate of Maize Research (DMR) for the purpose of research on maize in southern States particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when such DMR will be set up in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such plan as already two centres under All India Coordinated Research Programme (Maize) of Indian Council of Agriculture Research, one at Hyderabad and second at Karimnagar, are working for development of suitable varieties, production technologies and other related aspects of maize cultivation in Andhra Pradesh.

Establishment of Board for Gaushalas in J & K

204. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government will direct the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to establish a Board for providing assistance to Gaushalas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) State has already constituted Jammu and Kashmir State Implementing Agency (J&K SIA) to take up all the activities related to cattle and buffalo development and for Implementation of National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding in the State.

Assistance to Gaushalas

205. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has prepared any scheme to give assistance to Gaushalas;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details the Gaushalas in the country, State-wise;
- (d) the details of funds provided to States in this regard during the last three years, State-wise;
- (e) whether any Board has been constituted in Jammu and Kashmir at State-level for assistance to Gaushalas; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) There are no schemes to provide assistance to Gaushalas. However, Ministry of Environment and Forests through Animal Welfare Board of India is providing assistance for setting up of Shelter Houses for stray or ownerless animals including cows in the country. This Ministry also provides opportunities to Livestock Development Boards to take up breeding programme in Gaushalas if same is recommended by the State Governments.

(c) Details of Gaushalas in the country, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) and (f) No Sir. However, State has constituted Jammu and Kashmir State Implementing Agency (J&K SIA) for Implementation of National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

Statement

State-wise details of Gaushalas in the country

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of Gaushalas under	
		AH Deptt.	Others
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	48
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
3	Assam	0	10

1	2	3	4
4	Bihar	86	-
5	Chhattisgarh	-	63
6	Goa	-	1
7	Gujarat	2	495
8	Haryana	1	252
9	Himachal Pradesh	-	57
10	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-
11	Jharkhand	2	27
12	Karnataka	-	79
13	Kerala	-	1
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	1077
15	Maharashtra	-	130
16	Manipur	-	-
17	Meghalaya	-	-
18	Mizoram	-	-
19	Nagaland	-	-
20	Odisha	1	29
21	Punjab	-	212
22	Rajasthan	1218	-
23	Sikkim	-	-
24	Tamil Nadu	-	-
25	Tripura	-	-
26	Uttarakhand	0	141

60	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
1	2	3	4
27	Uttar Pradesh	7	406
28	West Bengal	-	-
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-
30	Chandigarh	-	-
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-
32	Daman and Diu	-	-
33	Delhi	5	-
34	Lakshadweep	-	-
35	Puducherry	-	2
TOTAL		1322	3030

Soil health cards for farmers

2026. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether soil health is deteriorating day by day;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the measures taken to improve the same;
- (d) the details of Soil Testing Laboratories, State-wise;
- (e) whether Soil Health Cards for farmers is still a distant dream; and
- (f) how many such Cards have been issued, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Indiscriminate and imbalanced use of agrochemical and chemical fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years may result into micronutrient deficiencies and deterioration of soil health.

(c) National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility (NPMSH&F) was launched during 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious

use of fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity. NPMSH&F provides assistance for setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories, trainings, demonstration on balanced use of fertilisers and promoting use of organic manures, soil amendments and micronutrients.

In addition, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (compost, manures, bio-fertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients to sustain sound soil health. Growing leguminous crops and use of resource conservation technologies are also being advocated. ICAR also imparts training, organizes front line demonstrations to educate farmers on these aspects.

(d) Details of State-wise soil testing laboratories is given in the Statement (See below).

(e) and (f) Soil health cards are issued to the farmers by State Government. As per information provided by States, the State-wise details of soil health cards issued is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise number of Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) in the country

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of STLs
1	2	3
I South Zone		
1	Andhra Pradesh	118
2	Karnataka	28
3	Kerala	24
4	Tamil Nadu	48
5	Puducherry	1
6	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
TOTAL		221
II West Zone		
7	Gujarat	130

1	2	3
8	Madhya Pradesh	78
9	Maharashtra	36
10	Rajasthan	48
11	Chhattisgarh	9
12	Goa	2
TOTAL		303
III	North Zone	
13	Haryana	34
14	Punjab	70
15	Uttarakhand	15
16	Uttar Pradesh	283
17	Himachal Pradesh	15
18	Jammu and Kashmir	20
19	Delhi	1
TOTAL		438
IV	East Zone	
20	Bihar	39
21	Jharkhand	8
22	Odisha	11
23	West Bengal	20
TOTAL		78
V	NE Zone	
24	Assam	11
25	Tripura	6

1	2	3
26	Manipur	5
27	Meghalaya	6
28	Nagaland	3
29	Arunachal Pradesh	6
30	Sikkim	4
31	Mizoram	6
TOTAL		47
GRAND TOTAL		1087

Statement-II*State-wise distribution of Soil Health Cards to the Farmers*

State/UTs	Soil health cards issued (Till March, 2012) (in lakhs)
1	2
South Zone	
Andhra Pradesh	42.08
Karnataka	59.12
Kerala	18.63
Tamil Nadu	39.84
Puducherry	0.23
Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.03
S ZONE TOTAL	159.93
West Zone	
Gujarat	44.73
Madhya Pradesh	20.93

1	2
Maharashtra	27.18
Rajasthan	24.77
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.05
Chhattisgarh	4.72
Goa	2.18
W ZONE TOTAL	124.56
North Zone	
Haryana	15.17
Punjab	25.29
Uttarakhand	2.29
Uttar Pradesh	118.27
Himachal Pradesh	10.46
Jammu and Kashmir	1.45
Delhi	0.07
N ZONE TOTAL	173.01
East Zone	
Bihar	8.11
Jharkhand	1.66
Odisha	21.22
West Bengal	3.08
E ZONE TOTAL	34.07
North East Zone	
Assam	5.72
Tripura	1.16

1	2
Manipur	1.54
Meghalaya	0.84
Nagaland	0.37
Arunachal Pradesh	1.75
Sikkim	0.64
Mizoram	1.42
NE ZONE TOTAL	13.44
GRAND TOTAL	505.01

Cold storage facilities

2027. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is not only the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world, but also the leader in the production of mango, banana, sapota, aonla, papaya, arecanut, okra and peas;

(b) the quantities of fruits and vegetables lost due to lack of cold storage facilities;

(c) the share of the country in export/world trade of fruits and vegetables; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the above scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) As per FAO data for 2011-12. India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world, and the leading producer of mango, banana, papaya, okra and arecanut. India is second in green pea production after China. However, country-wise data on production of Sapota and aonla is not available.

(b) As per the study conducted by All India Coordinated Research Project on Post Harvest Technology (ICAR) entitled "Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Livestock Produce in India" (published in September, 2012), the

harvest and post harvest losses in selected fruits and vegetables are in the range of 5.8% to 18%, which includes losses due to lack of cold storage facilities.

(c) As per United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (UNCOMTRADE) data for 2011, India had a share of 0.48% in world trade in export of fruits and vegetables in the world in value terms while the share in overall trade in fruits and vegetables was 0.40%.

(d) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce is implementing various programme for promoting export of fruits and vegetables. Under its various schemes, financial assistance is provided to exporters as follows:

- (i) Scheme for Market Promotion: for brand publicity through advertisement, packaging, participation in international trade fairs etc.
- (ii) Scheme for Infrastructure Development: for setting up sorting/grading facilities, pack houses, effluent treatment plants, water softening plants, intermediate storage sheds etc. During Eleventh Plan period APEDA has provided assistance to State Government agencies for setting up of integrated post harvest facilities such as Centres for Perishable Cargo (CPCs), Integrated post harvest facilities etc.
- (iii) Scheme for Quality Development: for purchase of laboratory testing equipment, implementation of quality management systems like International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)/British Retail Consortium (BRC)/ Total Quality Management (TQM), reimbursement of testing charges for analysis of water, soil, residues of pesticides etc.
- (iv) Scheme for Research and Development: for getting export oriented need based research conducted.
- (v) Transport Assistance Scheme: to subsidize freight so as to make the produce cost competitive in global market.

Suicide by farmers

†2028. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether incidents of suicide by farmers are taking place in the country as agriculture is a non-beneficial profession;
- (b) if so, Government's response thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that farmers have committed suicides in the recent months of the current year too;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (e) the details of steps decided to be taken by Government to make agriculture a remunerative profession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) Reasons of suicide by farmers, as reported by State Governments and mentioned in various studies, are manifold which, *inter-alia*, include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons. No State Government has so far reported any case of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons during 2013.

(e) Government approved National Policy for Farmers (NPF) 2007, which lays emphasis on making farming activity more viable and improving economic condition of farmers on sustainable basis. NPF focuses on increased productivity, profitability, institutional support, improvement of land, water and support services, appropriate price policy, risk mitigation etc., for the benefit of farmers in the country. Various programmes/schemes *viz.*, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Mission on Micro-Irrigation etc., are being implemented by Government in accordance with this policy with a view to increasing investment, productivity, production and income in agriculture and allied sectors. Government has decided to restructure the existing 51 schemes for development of agriculture into 5 Missions, 5 Central Sector Schemes and 1 State Plan Scheme for implementation during Twelfth Five Year Plan in order to have a more focused approach and avoid overlap.

Schemes for development of agriculture and ancillary industries

†2029. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is funding and operating various schemes at national level for expansion and development of agriculture and other ancillary industries in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the names of those schemes and when each of those schemes was started; and

(c) the details of funds spent upon each of these schemes till March, 2012 through annual budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Details showing names of major schemes under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, year of commencement and funds spent during Eleventh Plan upto March, 2012 in these schemes is given in the Statement.

Statement

Major schemes under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Year of commencement	Total during XI Plan (2007-2012) up to March, 2012
1	2	3	4
1	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana	2007-08	22405.76
2	National Food Security Mission	2007-08	4857.24
3	National Horticulture Mission	2005-06	4750.53
4	National Mission on Micro Irrigation	2005-06	3582.16
5	Integrated Oilseeds, Oil Palm, Pulses and Maize Development (ISOPOM)	2004-05	2519.5
6	Technology Mission on Horticulture for North East Region	2001-02	1831.99
7	Support to States Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms	2005-06	1201.61
8	Macro Management of Agriculture	2000-01	4624.89
9	National Bamboo Mission	2006-07	424.16

1	2	3	4
10	Technology Mission on Cotton	2000-01	207.58
11	Development and Strengthening of infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds	2005-06	1826.13
12	Technology Mission on Jute	2006-07	26.79
13	National Horticulture Board	2000-01	682.33

Decline in productivity of foodgrains

2030. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether productivity of foodgrains has decreased during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps Government has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) The productivity of foodgrains during the last three years has increased from 1798 kg/hectare in 2009-10 to 2079 kg/hectare in 2011-12.

(c) In order to increase production and productivity of foodgrains in the country on sustainable basis, Government has been implementing several Crop Development Scheme/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), etc. Under these schemes, funds are provided to States for implementation of State specific agricultural strategies including incentives to farmers for production/use of quality seeds, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), farm mechanization.

Further, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is implementing research programmes in different crop specific research institutes in the country. These research institutes take up the basic and strategic research programmes related to crop improvement, production and protection technologies which form a base for applied research in foodgrains crops.

Cooperation with Canada in agriculture sector

2031. SHRI NAND KUMAR SA1: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of the Province of Manitoba, Canada has held a meeting with the Union Minister in the recent past;

(b) if so, whether both the countries have proposed an enduring collaboration in all spheres of agriculture:

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the status of MoU signed between the two countries in 2009 for co-operation in agriculture and allied sector;

(e) the details of Indian agricultural exports to Canada during 2011-12 and 2012-13 so far; and

(f) the details of agricultural items imported and exported from India during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. A delegation of the Province of Manitoba, Canada led by Mr. Greg Sellinger, Premier had held a meeting with Shri Tariq Anwar, Union Minister of State (Agriculture and Food Processing Industries) on 5th February, 2013 in New Delhi.

(b) and (c) During the meeting, issues for collaboration/cooperation which *inter-alia* included agri-business, joint research activities, Post-Harvest and Processing Technology and Food Safety, Drought Management, adaptation and mitigation to climate change, development of appropriate variety of seeds, dry land farming, water harvesting, macro irrigation etc. were discussed.

(d) So far two meetings of the JWG have been conducted under the MoU signed with Canada in 2009 to cooperate in the areas of (i) knowledge Exchange on emerging technologies; (ii) Agricultural Marketing; and (iii) Animal Development. 3rd meeting of JWG is scheduled to be held in April, 2013 in India.

(e) and (f) As per information provided by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics under Department of Commerce, details of Indian agricultural exports to Canada, agricultural items imported and exported from India during 2011-12 and 2012-13 are given in the Statement-I, II and III respectively.

Statement-I
India's Agricultural Export to Canada

Sl. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Values in US \$ Million	
			2011-2012	2012-2013 (April-December)
1	2	3	4	5
1	306	Crstens W/N Inshl, Live, Frsh, Chld, Frzn, Drdsitd/ In Brine; Crstcns, In Shl, Ckd By Stmg or Boilling, W/N Chld, Frzn, Drd, Sltid/ In Brine	63.53	45.4
2	1302	Veg Saps and Extrcts; Pectc Substnes Pectnat spectts; Agar-Agr and Othr Mucilgs and Thckeners W/N Modified Derived From Vegetbl Prdcts	48.2	81.47
3	1006	Rice	38.69	24.92
4	904	Pepper of The Genus Piper; Dried or Crushed or Ground Fruits of The Genus Capsicum or of The Genus Pimenta Pepper	9.39	5.74
5	2001	Veg Fruts Nuts and Othr Edbl Prts of Plnts Prpd/Prsvd By Vinegar/Acetic Acid	8.88	6.26
6	902	Tea	8.25	4.43
7	801	Coconuts, Brazil Nuts and Cashew Nuts, Fresh or Dried, whether or not Shelled or Peeled	7.87	4.09

1	2	3	4	5
8	2106	Other Food Preprms N.E.S.	7.81	7.16
9	910	Ginger, Saffron, Turmeric (Curcuma), Thyme, Bay Leaves, Curry and Other Spices	7.35	5.07
10	1207	Other Oil Seeds and Oleaginous Fruits, whether or not Broken	7.12	6.57
		India's Total Agricultural Export to Canada	282.24	247.68

Statement-II*India's Agricultural Import*

Sl. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Values In US\$ Million	
			2011-2012	2012-2013 (April-December)
1	2	3	4	5
1	1511	Palm Oil and its fractions, whether or not Refined, but not Chemically Modified	7,210.26	6,142.20
2	713	Dried Leguminous Veg Shld W/N Skinned/Split	1,961.34	1,830.74
3	1507	Soya Bean Oil & its Fractns W/N Refind but not Chemically Modified	1,150.61	1,168.93
4	801	Coconuts, Brazil Nuts and Cashew Nuts, Fresh or Dried, whether or not Shelled or Peeled	1,144.77	802.45

5	1512	Sunflower Seed, Safflower or Cotton Seed Oil and Their fractions Thereof, whether or not Refined, but not Chemically Modified	1,034.19	1,009.87
6	802	Other Nuts, Fresh or Dried, whether or not Shelled or Peeled	494.05	414.23
7	5201	Cotton, not Carded or Combed	219.42	386.32
8	808	Apples, Pears and Quinces, Fresh	212.06	155.3
9	2309	Preparations of A Kind Used In Animal Feeding	205.34	179.6
10	1513	Coconut (Copra), Palm Kernel or Babassu Oil and fractions thereof, whether or not Refined, but not Chemically Modified	203.64	151.65
		India's Total Agricultural Import	16462.17	44556.97

Statement-III*India's Agricultural Export*

Sl. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Values In US\$ Million		
			2011-2012	2012-2013 (Apr-Dec)	
1	2	3	4	5	
1	1006	Rice	4,940.36	4,347.96	
2	1302	Veg Saps & Exctrcts; Pectc Substncs Pectnatnspectts; Agar-Agr & Othr Mucilgs & Thickeners W/N Modified Derived From Vegetable Products	3,533.34	4,651.54	

1	2	3	4	5
3	202	Meat of Bovine Animals, Frozen	2,789.49	2,153.13
4	2304	Oil-Cake and Other Solid Residues whether or not Ground or in the form of Pellets, Resulting from the Extraction of Soyabean	2,028.54	1,503.04
5	1701	Cane/Beet Suger Chmclly Pure Sucrose in Solid	1,835.95	1,437.56
6	306	Crstns W/N Inshl, Live, Frsh, Chld, Frzn, Drdsltld/In Brine; Crstns, In Shl, Ckd By Strng or Boiling, W/N Chld, Frzn, Drd, Sltld/In Brine	1,753.97	1,428.74
7	1202	Ground-Nuts, not Roasted or Otherwise Cooked, whether or not Shelled or Broken	1,093.05	582.86
8	1005	Maize (Corn)	1,058.86	803.35
9	801	Coconuts, Brazil Nuts and Cashew Nuts, Fresh or Dried, whether or not Shelled or Peeled	959.65	586.77
10	1515	Other Fixed Vegetable Fats and Oils (Including Jojoba Oil) and Their fractions, whether or not Refined, but not Chemical	928.62	544.7
		India's Total Agricultural Export	36949.03	29731.47

Increase in production of wheat and rice

†2032. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of wheat has increased ten times during the last 50 years but rice production has increased only four times; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to enhance the production of rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) During the last 50 years, *i.e.*, 1962-63 to 2011-12, the production of rice has gone up from 33.21 million tonnes to 105.31 million tonnes *i.e.* about 3 times whereas production of wheat has increased from 10.78 million tonnes to 94.88 million tonnes, *i.e.*, around 9 times.

(b) To increase the production of rice in the country, the Government is implementing various crop development schemes namely; National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice) and Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Rice (ICDP-Rice) under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana) etc. Further, to increase the productivity of rice in the country, the Indian Council Agricultural Research (ICAR) has also undertaken Research Programmes for high yielding, pest resistant varieties etc.

Research to increase yield of pulses

2033. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each of the project undertaken by ICAR to strengthen the basic research in pulses for development of location-specific pulses in the country in the last ten years, year-wise and the results of each project so undertaken;

(b) the result of other schemes/programmes being undertaken by Government to increase the yield of pulses;

(c) whether Government has studied the production pattern of France, USA, UK where production of pulses is five times in France and UK and nearly three times in USA; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, details thereof and how Government is planning to replicate the same in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has undertaken several projects to strengthen basic and strategic research at Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur and the details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The information so developed is being utilized by four All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) on Pulses to develop location specific climate resilient crop varieties and production technologies.

(b) A total of 236 high yielding varieties of different pulse crops were released during last 10 years ending 2012 and the details are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). In order to popularize improved varieties and production technologies, a large number of block demonstrations were conducted at farmers' fields in major pulse growing states through various schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Accelerated Pulse Production Programme (A3P). As a result of these measures taken by the Government, the total production of pulses in India has increased from 13.13 million tonnes in 2004-05 to highest ever 18.24 million tonnes in 2010-11 and 17.21 million tonnes in 2011-12. The productivity has also increased from 589 kg/ha in 2004-05 to 699 kg/ha in 2011-12.

(c) The productivity of pulses in the country is less as compared to France, USA and UK. However, per day productivity of pulses in India is higher than world average and comparable to referred countries. The low productivity of pulses cannot be attributed to the non-availability of improved technologies but several factors such as short growing seasons, varied agro-climatic conditions, diversity in diseases and pests, weather extremities, larger area under pulses in rainfed and harsh environments etc., which accounted for non realization of productivity potential of improved technologies. However, the pulses in referred countries are largely grown in high input management conditions of long growing period without any stress (moisture, temperature, diseases and pests).

(d) The average productivity of pulses in India is 699 kg/ha as compared to the world productivity of 869 kg/ha and average productivity of 1777, 1914 and 2580 kg/ha, respectively in USA, Canada, and France. Efforts have been made for developing production and protection technologies which can lead to increased productivity of pulses. Besides, Government of India has started a programme on climate resilient agriculture which is aimed at developing varieties and technologies adjusting to weather extremities.

Statement-I

*Research projects on pulses being implemented by Indian
Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur*

Sl. No.	Name of the project
1	2
1.	Development of pod borer resistant transgenic chickpea and Pigeonpea
2.	Functional Genomics in Chickpea
3.	Construction of a linkage map and tagging of resistance to MYMV and powdery mildew in urdbean (<i>Vigna mungo</i> (L.) Hepper)
4.	Improving heat tolerance in chickpea for enhancing its productivity in warm growing conditions and mitigating impact of climate change
5.	Deployment of molecular markers in chickpea breeding for developing superior cultivars with enhanced disease resistance
6.	Pre-breeding and genetic enhancement in breaking yield barriers in Kabuli Chickpea and Lentil through DAC-ICARDA-ICAR collaborations
7.	National Initiative on climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA)
8.	Centre of Excellence for High Throughput Allele Determination for Molecular Breeding
9.	Evaluation and production of cytoplasmic genetic male sterility (CGMS) based hybrids for enhancement of productivity and stability of yield in pigeonpea
10.	Selection and utilization of water logging tolerant cultivars in pigeonpea
11.	Enhancing yield and stability of pigeonpea through heterosis breeding.
12.	Pigeonpea genomics initiative
13.	To develop MYMV resistant transgenics legumes by incorporating hairpin ribozyme gene targeted to viral rep mRNA

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14. Improving tropical legume productivity for marginal environments in sub Saharan Africa and South Asia. (Tropical Legumes-I)
 15. Tagging gene for resistance to wilt in lentil
 16. Shuttle breeding for development and identification of high yielding varieties of pulses for sustainable agriculture in South Asia
 17. Understanding plant nematode interactions using RNAi
 18. Mitigating abiotic stresses and enhancing resource-use efficiency in pulses in rice fallows through innovative resource conservation practices
 19. Efficient management of water and nutrients for enhancing productivity of pigeonpea through drip-fertigation
 20. Outreach programme on "Phytophthora, Fusarium and *Ralstonia* diseases of horticultural and field crops" – Fusarium wilt of pigeonpea and chickpea
 21. Outreach Programme on Diagnosis and management of leaf spot diseases of field and horticultural crops - *Cercospora* leaf spot of mungbean & urdbean.
 22. Studies on the variability in *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *ciceri* for identification of race-specific donors for resistance to chickpea wilt and its management
 23. Development and validation of PCR based diagnostic for major viral diseases of some important pulses crops
 24. Taxonomy, distribution and biology of entomopathogenic nematodes infesting insect pests of pulses in Uttar Pradesh
 25. Scale up production and development of cost effective formulation of entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) based bio-pesticides for the pod borer of chickpea
 26. Molecular characterization and sequences diversity of tospoviruses associated with fabaceous and solanaceous crop
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Statement-II*List of varieties of pulses released during last 10 years (2003-2012)*

Crop	No.	Varieties
1	2	3
2003		
Chickpea	6	Vihar Phule (G-95311), Jawahar Gram Kabuli-1 (JKG-2337), PDG-4, Gujarat Gram-2, GNG-1292, CSJD-884 (AKASH)
Pigeonpea	3	Malviya Vikash (MA 6), Pusa 992, LRG-38
Mung bean	7	Malviya Janchetna (HUM-12), Kamadeva (OUM-11-5), OBG-52, SML 668, RMG 492, GM-4, MGG-344 (Bhandari)
Urd bean	1	Banda Polish (LBG 645)
Lentil	1	LL-699
Moth bean	1	RMO-423
Rice bean	1	RBL-6
2004		
Chickpea	3	Haryana Kabuli chana – 2 (HK 94-134) Anuradha (WBG-39/2), PBG-5
Pigeonpea	3	MALAVIYA CHAMATKAR (MAL 13), GT-101, WRP-1

1	2	3
Mung bean	4	ML818, Muskan (MH 96-1), Pant Mung -5, Sukeki
Urd bean	3	Azad Urd-3 (KU96-3), Goutam (WBU-105), Shekhar-3 (KU-309)
Field pea	1	ADARSH (IPF 99-25)
Lentil	1	Azad Masoor-1 (KLS-218)
Moth bean	2	CAZRI MOTH-2 (CZM-45), CAZRI Moth-3(CZM-99)
Rice bean	1	BIHDAN RICEBEAN-2 (KRB-4)
Horse Gram	1	Pratap Kulthi-1 (AK-42)
Cluster bean	1	HSG-563
Rajmash	1	Kailash
		2005
Chickpea	8	AADHAR (RSG-963), Asha (RSG 9450), PGC-1 (Pratap chana-1), Arpita (RSG - 895), Pusa 1103, Pusa 1105, Pusa 1088, Haryana Channa-5 (H 96-99)
Pigeonpea	2	CO (RG) -7 (CORG-9701), Pusa-991
Mung bean	4	COGG-912, TMB-37(TM 99-37), Shalimar Mung-1, Pusa-9972 (Pusa Ratna)
Urd bean	1	VBN (Bg)- 4

Field pea	2	Vikas (IPFD 99-33), Pusa Mukta (DDR-55)
Lentil	2	Malaviya Vishwanath (HUL-57), Shalimar Masoor-1
Rajmash	4	Utkarsh (IPR 98-5), Shalimar french bean - 1, Shalimar Rajmash - 01, ANKUR (RSJ-178)
Cowpea	2	Shalimar cowpea-1, V 578 (Pusa 578)
2006		
Chickpea	10	Pusa-547 (BGM-547), Himachal Channa-2, Abha (RSG-973), Abhar (RSG - 807), Digvijay, Akash (BDNG-797), JAKI -9218, Pusa Kabuli Gram-128, Rajas, Pusa -1108
Pigeonpea	6	CORE - 9701, VBN (Rg) 3, BRG-1, Pusa-2001, Amol (BDN-708), Vipula
Mung bean	3	Malaviya Jankalyani (HUM-16), Ganga - 1 (Jamnotri), BM-2002-1
Urd bean	4	Gujarat Urd-1, Ujala (OBG-17), MASH-1008, AKU-15
Field pea	6	Prakash (IPFD 1-10), Hariyal, VL Matar - 42 (VL 42), Paras, Pant P-14, VL Matar -42
Lentil	4	VL Masoor -507 (VL-507), VL Masoor -126 (VL-126), Haryana Masoor - I(LH-89-48), VL-Masoor-125, Pusa Masoor -5 (L-4594)
Horse Gram	2	VL Gahat - 8, VL Gahat - 10
Rajmash	2	Gujarat rajma-1

1	2	3
		2007
Chickpea	9	Gangaur, Lam Shanaga, JGK-2 (JGK-19), Jawahar Gram-226, GNG-1499 (Gauri), GNG-1488 (Sangam), RSG-991 (Apama), RSG-896 (Arpan), RSG-902 (Aruna)
Pigeonpea	8	TT401, Narendra Arhar-2 (NDA-98-1), Lam 41, Jawahar Tur, JKM-189, VL Arhar -1, IC-550413, Palemkhandi (PRG-158)
Mung bean	4	SATTYA (MH-2-15), Pant mung -6 (UPM 02-17), Trombay Pesara (TM 96-2), Trombay Jawahar Mung-3 (TJM-3)
Urd bean	1	Lam-709
Fieldpea	2	Tirupati Field Bean-1, Pant Pea -25
Lentil	1	IPL-406
Rajmash	1	Arun (IPR-98-3-1)
Mothbean	2	TMV (Mb)1, Rajasthan Moth-257 (RMO -257)
Cowpea	1	Khalleshwari
		2008
Chickpea	4	Pusa 2024, Jawahar Gram- 6 (JG-6), JG-14, GNG-1581
Pigeon Pea	2	Pusa 2002, BRG-2

Mungbean	2	WBM-29, WBM-4-34-1-1
Urdbean	4	Rashmi (LB-625), Sulata (WBU 109), Prasad, VBN (Bg) 5
Field pea	3	HFP-9426, Plant Pea -42, Shweta (KM-2241)
Lentil	3	Shekhar Massor-2 (KLB -303), Shekhar Massor-3 (KL -320), MOITREE (WBL-77)
Cow pea	1	IT-38 9561-1
Latharus	1	Mahateora
Cluster bean	1	Rajasthan Guar-1038 (RGC-1038)
		2009
Chickpea	3	Shubhra (IPCK 2002-29), BGD-103, Pant Kabuli Chana-1
Pigeonpea	3	TJT 501, Pant Arhar-291 (PA-291), Surya (MRG-1004)
Mung bean	7	IPM 02-3, Pusa 0672, KKM-3, Madhira Pesara 347, Piary Mung, MH-125, Pant Mung-5
Urd bean	3	IPU 02-43, Madhira Minumu - 207, Lam Minumu 752
Field Bean	1	HA-4
Lentil	3	Pant Lentil 6 (PL 02), Pant Lentil 7 (PL 024), VL Masoor 129
Cowpea	2	Pant Lobia-1, KM-5

1	2	3
		2010
Chickpea	7	Ujjawal, Gujarat Junagadh Gram-3, Kripa, GPF 2, RSG-974, PKV KABULI-4, MNK-1
Pigeonpea	1	Rajeevlochan
Mung bean	3	VBN(Gg) 3, PKV GREEN GOLD, PKV AKM-4 (AKM-9904)
Urtd bean	4	Mash 114, UPU 00-31(Himachal Mash 1), Mash 479 (KUG 479), Mash 391 (LU 391)
Field pea	3	Aman (IPF 5-19), GOMATI (TRCP-8), Dantiwada Fieldpea 1 (SKNP 04-09)
Lentil	2	Pant Lentil-8 (Pant L-063), Pant Lentil-7 (Pant L-024)
Cowpea	3	Hissar Cowpea-46 (HC 98-46), C 519 (Himachal Lobiya 11), Hidrudaya
Indian Bean	1	Gujarat Wal-2
Cluster Bean	4	HG 870, GUAR KUNJAL (RGC-1033), HG 884, HG 2-20
Rajmash	1	Gujarat Rajmash-1 (DPR 88-1-2)
Horse Gram	1	CRIDALATHA (CRHG-4)
		2011
Chickpea	2	Raj Vijay Kabuli gram 101 (JSC 42), Raj Vijay gram 201 (JSC 40)
Pigeon Pea	1	TS-3R
Mungbean	1	IPM 02-14

Urdbean	2	Co6 (COBG 653), VBN (Bg) 7 (VBG04-008)
Field Pea	2	IPF 4-9, VL Matar 47 (VL 47)
Lentil	3	VL Masoor 514 (VL 514), LL931, VL Masoor 133 (VL 133)
Horse Gram	1	Indira Kulthi-1 (IKGH-05-01)
2012		
Chickpea	4	HK-4 (HK 05-169), PKV Harita (AKG 9303-12), Raj Vijay Gram 203 (RVG 203), L-555 (GLK- 26155)
Pigeon pea	2	Anand Grain Tur-2 (AGT-2), BDN 711 (BDN 2004-3)
Green gram	3	KM 2195 (Swati), MH-421, BM 2003-2
Black gram	5	Vishwas (NUL-7), VBN 6, UH-1 (UH 04-06), DU-1, TU 40
Field Pea	2	HFP 529, GOMATI (TRCP - 8)
Lentil	1	IPL-316
Horse gram	1	Gujarat Dantiwada Horsegram-1 (GHG-5)
Cowpea	1	MFC-08-14

Conversion of barren land into fertile land

‡2034. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any corrective steps to make barren land fertile in Uttar Pradesh to make it cultivable;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial efforts made by Government to promote bio-fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) According to definition of land uses barren land includes all land covered by mountains, deserts, etc. which cannot be brought under cultivation except at an exorbitant cost and is classified as unculturable land located in isolated blocks or within cultivable holding. In view of this, there is no comprehensive scheme/programme for development of barren land into cultivable land.

(c) Government is promoting bio-fertilizers in the country including Uttar Pradesh through National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF). Under this scheme, financial assistance upto 25% of the financial outlay with a ceiling of Rs. 40.00 lakh is being provided through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as back ended subsidy for establishment of bio-fertilizers production units under Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) of National Project on Organic Farming.

Demand for hike in MSP for wheat

2035. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various varieties of wheat announced by Government for the 2012-13 season;

(b) whether Government has received any demand from wheat growing farmers of certain States especially Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh for adequate hike in the MSP of wheat;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat for 2012-13 season has been fixed at Rs.1350 per quintal. The MSP of wheat is not fixed variety-wise.

(b) to (d) Representations were received from various states for higher MSP of wheat. Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in its Report on Price Policy for Rabi Crops of 2012-13 Season has indicated that major wheat growing States have demanded a higher MSP of wheat in the range of Rs. 1650/- quintal to Rs.2200/- quintal.

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) while formulating its recommendation on price policy considers a number of import factors including the views of the State Governments.

The Government fixes MSPs for major agricultural commodities including wheat, *inter-alia*, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the view of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments.

The MSP of wheat fixed at Rs.1350/- per quintal provides adequate return over the All India Weighted Average paid out cost of production including family labour estimated by CACP at Rs.716/- per quintal.

The Government ensures MSP through procurement operations undertaken by the Central, State and cooperative agencies in the states. However, farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market if it offers a higher price.

Funds to NGOs working in agriculture sector

2036. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has provided any financial assistance to NGOs working for agriculture sector in the country including Haryana;
- (b) if so, the details of funds given to such NGOs during the last three years, State-wise and NGO-wise, particularly Haryana;
- (c) whether the work done by such NGOs has been assessed by Government from time to time;

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Normally, assistance to NGOs working in the field of Agriculture is not provided directly by the Government of India. The States are free to provide such assistance as permitted under some Schemes and Programmes. However, Indian Council of Agricultural Research provides funds to NGOs for running Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

(b) Assistance provided to the NGOs under different Schemes of the Ministry of Agriculture includes the details given in the Statement (*See* below).

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The details of assessment include the following:
- (i) Funds released under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) Scheme to the Horticultural Research & Development Foundation (NHRDF) is subject to annual audit as per the Extant Financial Rules. Joint Inspection Teams comprising NHM, State Horticulture Mission and other authorities undertake field visits periodically to verify the status of work as per the approved action plan.
- (ii) The work done by the KVKs including those run by NGOs is reviewed on a regular basis by holding Scientific Advisory Committees, Review Workshops, Field Visits etc.
- (e) Not applicable.

Statement

Assistance provided to the NGOs in different areas of Agriculture

1. Financial Assistance provided to NHRDF under NHM

Year	Release (Rs. in lakh)
2009 - 10	819.05
2010 - 11	897.65
2011 - 12	977.80
2012 - 13	756.00

(as on 7th March, 2013)

2. Grants-in-Aid to NGOs for setting up of Bio-Control Laboratory during last three years

Sl. No.	State	Name & Address of NGOs	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Uttar Pradesh	M/s. Yash Krishi Takniki Evam Vigyan Kendra, Allahabad	0.00	3.0095	0.00	0.00

(Rs. in lakh)

3. Details of Financial Assistance provided to NGOs for running KVKs

Sl. No.	State	No of KVKs	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
1	Haryana	Rewari, Ambala (2)	125.95	196.82	154.67	477.44
2	Bihar	Jamui, Kaimur, Madhubani, Nawada, Sitamarhi, (5)	215.88	531.93	311.97	1059.78
3	Jharkhand	Deochar, Godda, Gumla, Hazaribag, Ranchi (5)	268.46	583.67	299.25	1151.38
4	West Bengal	Purulia, South 24 Parganas, West Midnapore (3)	176.37	414.48	183.65	774.5
5	Manipur	Bishnupur, Senapati (2)	101.35	372.39	249.66	723.4
6	Tripura	West Tripura (1)	46.60	133.19	85.10	264.89
7	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur, Gonda, Chitrakoot, Pratapgarh, Unnao, Gazipur, Sitapur-I, Kaushambi, auraiya, Sitapur-II (10)	489.15	980.76	867.62	2337.53

(Rs. in Lakh)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor, Guntur, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Mahaboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Vishakapatnam (8)		394.64	909.33	580.89	1884.86
9	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Amravati (D), Amravati (G), Beed, Buldhana, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Nanded, Nandurbar, Parbhani, Pune, Sangli, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Thane, Washim, Pune (Narayanagaon), Akola (Udegaon), Nashik (Malegaon), Nanded (Sagroli), Ahmednagar (D), Aurangabad (G) (26)		940.07	2143.73	2077.50	5161.3
10	Rajasthan	Barmer, Udaipur, Jaipur Hanumangarh (4)		212.40	515.34	385.75	1113.49
11	Gujarat	Patan, Kutch, Vadodara, Bharuch, Mehsana, Junagadh, Bhavnagar (7)		311.21	635.66	533.55	1480.42
12	Madhya Pradesh	Burhanpur, Indore, Raisen, Ratlam, satna, Sehore, Vidisha(*) (=KVK-Vidisha at present not functional (7)		303.81	539.99	474.42	1318.22
13	Karnataka	Belgam, Belgam-A, Davangere, Gadag, Mysore (5)		209.70	583.33	416.90	1209.93
14	Tamil Nadu	Ariyalur, Erode, Karur, Krishnagiri, Nilgiris, Perambalur, Thanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Tiruvannamalai, Tuticorin (11)		567.75	1344.39	935.62	2847.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15	Kerala	Idukki, Pathanamthitta, Trivandrum (3)	150.05	359.72	261.51	771.28
		GRAND TOTAL	4247.44	9538.50	7989.80	21775.74
4. Details of Financial Assistance provided to NGOs for by Haryana						
Sl. No.	Name of NGOs		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	(Rs. in lakh)
1.	J.K. Trust (For the project on Artificial Inseminations.		284.00	1151.00	1359.00	
2.	S.M. Sehgal Foundation (For setting up a Community Radio Station)		-	-	14.55	

Gap between MSP and market price of agricultural produce

†2037. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap between the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the market price of agricultural produce but the farmers are not getting the benefits of increasing prices;

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

(c) the steps taken during the last three years to provide remunerative prices to farmers and to improve their living conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) The price agricultural produce by and large, are governed by the market forces of demand and supply which, among other reasons, depends on prevailing weather conditions, role of middlemen, speculation on impending shortage of food items due to drought situation and rising demand due to increasing incomes, urbanization etc.

To ensure remunerative price to the farmers the Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for major agricultural commodities, *inter-alia*, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACCP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/ Departments. The MSPs fixed for major agricultural commodities during the last three years is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The Government offers to procure the agricultural produce at MSP through procurement by the designated Central, State and cooperative agencies in the States if the market prices fall below that level. However, farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market if it offers a higher price.

In addition, a model Act on agricultural marketing has been formulated and circulated in 2003 for its adoption by States/UTs. The model Act provides for direct marketing, contract farming and setting up of markets in private and cooperative sector etc. It also provides for setting up of farmers/consumers markets, special commodity markets etc.

To provide direct sale of produce by farmers to the consumers, different State Governments have set up farmers market which facilities direct sales at remunerative prices by the producer.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement
Minimum Support Prices

		(Rs. per quintal)		
Commodity	Variety	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Paddy	Common	1000	1080	1250
	Grade A	1030	1110	1280
Jowar	Hybrid	880	980	1500
	Maldandi	900	1000	1520
Bajra		880	980	1175
Maize		880	980	1175
Arhar (Tur)		3000 &	3200 &	3850
Moong		3170 &	3500 &	4400
Urad		2900 &	3300 &	4300
Cotton	Medium Staple	2500	2800	3600
	Long Staple	3000	3300	3900
Groundnut in shell		2300	2700	3700
Soyabean	Black	1400	1650	2200
	Yellow	1440	1690	2240
Wheat		1120 \$	1285	1350
Gram		2100	2800	3000
Masur (Lenntil)		2250	2800	2900
Rapeseed/Mustard		1850	2500	3000

& Additional incentive of Rs. 500 per quintal payable in respect of kharif pulses sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

\$ An additional incentive of Rs. 50 per quintal over the MSP was payable.

Loss of livestock and crops due to drought and heavy rains

†2038. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss to agriculture resulted due to heavy rains and hailstorm in certain areas of the country at the end of February;

(b) whether there has been a heavy loss of livestock and agriculture due to severe drought in certain areas of Maharashtra; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to compensate this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) As per available information, rabi crops in an estimated area

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of 3.24 lakh hectare (ha) in Madhya Pradesh, 3.80 lakh ha in Rajasthan and 1.48 lakh ha in Andhra Pradesh are likely to have suffered damages due to heavy rains and hailstorms during the month of February, 2013.

(b) and (c) In the wake of rainfall deficit conditions during South West Monsoon (2012), an estimated 30.5 lakh hectare (ha) had suffered crop damage of 50% and above in 125 drought notified talukas of Maharashtra During Kharif - 2012. Based on the assessment of Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) and recommendation of Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG), Government of India has approved a central assistance of Rs.778.09 crore to Maharashtra from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for mitigating the situation.

During Rabi-2012/13, Government of Maharashtra has reported that an estimated 15.5 lakh ha to have suffered crop damages of 50% and above in 3905 drought notified villages. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has visited the State and assessed the situation

Shortage of agriculture universities and agriculture research institutions

2039. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of Agriculture Universities and Agriculture Research Institutions in the country due to which research work in agriculture sector is being adversely affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

Schemes for development of agriculture

2040. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 51 schemes for development of agriculture are running currently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to restructure these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is currently implementing schemes. These schemes would be continued in the restructured form of five missions, five central sector schemes and one state plan scheme in order to have focused approach and to avoid overlap. Details are given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of schemes for development of Agriculture*

Sl. No.	Name of the existing Mission/ Schemes implemented during Eleventh Plan	Sl. No.	Details of Missions/Schemes proposed to be merged/restructured in Twelfth Plan
1	2	3	4
1	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	1	National Food Security Mission (NFSM) (CSS)
2	Technology Mission on Cotton (CS)		
3	Technology Mission on Jute (CS)		
4	National Horticulture Mission	2	National Horticulture Mission (CSS)
5	Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States		
6	National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade		
7	Grants for replanting and rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens (CS)		
8	National Horticulture Board		
9	Coconut Development Board including Technology Mission on Coconut (CS)		
10	Central Institute of Horticulture in Nagaland (CS)		

1	2	3	4
11	Integrated Oilseeds, Oil Palm, Pulses and Maize Development (ISOPOM) (CSS)	3	National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) (CSS)
12	Tree borne oilseeds and bio diesel (CS)		
13	National Mission on Micro Irrigation (CSS)		National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) including Micro Irrigation (CSS)
14	National Project on Mananagement of Soil and Health Fertility (CSS)	4	
	TOTAL (CSS)		
15	National Project on Promotion of Organic Farming (CS)		
16	Soil and Land Use Survey of India (CS)		
17	Support to States Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms	5	National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (CSS) Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension
18	Mass Media use in Agr. Ext.	5.1	
19	Agri-Clinics/Agri-Business Centres		
20	Extension Support to Central Institutes of DOE		
21	National e-Governance Plan Agriculture		Sub-Mission on Information Technology

22	Strengthening of IT apparatus in Agriculture and Cooperation (HQ) including Early Warning System	5.2	
23	Development and Strengthening of infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds	5.3	Sub-Mission National Mission on Seeds and Planting Material (NMSPM) (CSS)
24	Implementation of PVP Legislation		
25	Strengthening of Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes	5.4	Sub-Mission National Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (NMAM) (CSS)
26	Post Harvest Tech. and Management		
27	Strengthening and Modernisation of Plant Quarantine facilities in India		Sub-Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (New)
28	Strengthening and Modernisation of Pest Management in the country	5.5	
29	Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level		
30	National Institute of Plant Health Management		
31	National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)		Integrated Scheme for Farmers Income Security (ISFIS) (CS) (New)
32	Pilot modified National Agriculture Insurance		
33	Whether-based Crop Insurance		

1	2	3	4
34	Investment in Debentures of State Land Development Banks (SLDBs)		
35	Grants to CDB for Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme		
36	Agriculture Census (CS)	7	Integrated Scheme on Agri. Census and Statistics (New)
37	Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers (CS)		
38	Studies in Agricultural Economic Policy and Development (CS)		
39	Improvement of Agriculture Statistics (CS)		
40	Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agro-Meteorology and Land based observation (FASAL) (CS)		
41	National Center for Crops Statistics (CS)		
42	Development of Market Infrastructure, Grading and Standardisation (CS)	8	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing (New)
43	Construction of Rural Godowns (CS)		
44	Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) (CS)		

45	Grant in aid to National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) (CS)			
46	Strengthening Agmark Grading and Export Quality Control (CS)			
47	Marketing Research Surveys and Marketing Information Network (CS)			
48	Assistance to NCDC for development of cooperatives (CS)	9		Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation (New)
49	Cooperative Education and Training (CS)			
50	Secretariat Economic Service (CS)		10	Secretariat Economic Service (CS)
51	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (40: 40: 20)		11	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (State Plan Scheme)

Scheme Macro Management of Agriculture will discontinue from 2013-14.

Decline in productivity of Bt. Cotton

2041. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the recent data released by the Cotton Advisory Board under Ministry of Textiles, there is a sharp decline in the productivity of Bt. Cotton after 2006 and increase in its cost of production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor and the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) whether Government is aware that genetically modified seeds have failed in the country and have led to suicide by farmers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The productivity of cotton in the country has increased from 421 kg/hectare in 2006-07 to 488 kg/hectare in 2012-13 (2nd Advance Estimates). During the above period, cost of production of cotton projected by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has increased from Rs. 2124.54 per quintal to Rs. 2772.16 per quintal.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. As reported by State Governments and mentioned in various studies, reasons of suicide by farmers are manifold which, *inter-alia* include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons.

Implementation of Grameen Bhandaran Yojana in Tamil Nadu

2042. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns constructed under the Grameen Bhandaran Yojana in Tamil Nadu;

(b) how much is the local credit facility extended to framers in this financial year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to enlighten the farmers about scientific storage facility, credit facilities and effective marketing system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) 1548 godowns have been sanctioned as on January, 2013 under Grameen Bhandaran Yojana in the State of Tamil Nadu. Credit linked subsidy is provided under the scheme. Rs. 16303.8 lakhs of subsidy have been released in the country under the scheme during current financial year till January, 2013. State-wise details of subsidy released are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The general awareness programmes on Grameen Bhandaran Yojana for farmers and the training programmes for the entrepreneurs are conducted by National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur in collaboration with other institutes which include topics about scientific storage facility, credit facilities and effective marketing system.

Statement

State-wise details of subsidy released

Sl. No.	State	Subsidy released in (Rs. Lakh) 2012-13 (upto January, 2013)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	607.5439
2	Assam	849.1859
3	Bihar	370.586
4	Chhattisgarh	487.839
5	Gujarat	1781.097
6	Haryana	3258.047
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.6914
8	Jammu and Kashmir	5.91

102	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
1	2		3
9	Jharkhand		1.367
10	Karnataka		1059.681
11	Kerala		11.7411
12	Madhya Pradesh		197.2112
13	Maharashtra		234.081
14	Odisha		212.069
15	Punjab		4810.384
16	Rajasthan		110.2209
17	Tamil Nadu		167.5706
18	Uttar Pradesh		1492.972
19	Uttarakhand		593.641
20	West Bengal		52.0358
	TOTAL		160303.8

Promotion of organic farming

2043. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds spent by the Ministry to promote organic farming;

(b) the total exchequer Government earns through export of organic products; and

(c) the steps taken to promote organic farming in the country especially in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) The total financial assistance provided by Government through various schemes is Rs. 35179.74 lakh during 2011-12.

(b) As per information provided by APEDA, the export of organic products was Rs. 1866.33 crores for the year 2011-12.

(c) Government is taking steps for promoting organic farming in the country including Tamil Nadu through various schemes viz. National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Under NHM financial assistance is provided for setting up of vermi-compost units @50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary; funds are also provided @ 50% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs. 10,000 per hectare for a maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary or adoption of organic farming. Similar norms of assistance are applicable for assistance given under RKVY. Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), financial assistance is also provided as back ended subsidy through NABARD for setting up/strengthening of existing Bio-fertilizer and /or Bio-pesticide Production Units, assistance upto @ 25% of total financial outlay or Rs. 40.00 lakh, whichever is less; and for setting up of Fruit and Vegetables Wastes/Agro-Wastes Compost Production Units @ 33% of total financial outlay or Rs. 60.00 lakh, whichever is less.

Decline in fertility of soil

†2044. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that quality of soil in Uttarakhand and other parts of the country is falling down day by day;

(b) if so, whether Government would establish Central Government laboratories in each district of these States including Uttarakhand to check the quality of soil;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reasons for which farmers in Uttarakhand are not able to grow ginger and soyabeen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Indiscriminate and imbalanced use of agrochemical and chemical fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years may

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

result into micronutrient deficiencies and deterioration of soil health in the country including Uttarakhand. As per information received from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Soil fertility status of Uttarakhand showed 33 percent of districts low in available nitrogen and 75 per cent of districts low in phosphorus and potassium.

(b) and (c) Uttarakhand already has soil testing laboratories in all the 13 districts. As per available details there are 1087 soil testing laboratories in all States of the country.

(d) As per statical data of 2011-12, Ginger and soybean are already grown by farmers in suitable areas of Uttarakhand in 2087 ha. and 12279 ha. respectively.

MSP for Soya

2045. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to review the MSP for Soya;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is proposing schemes to encourage farmers to grow Soya;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of the production of Soya, State-wise; and
- (f) the details of the total amount of Soya imported/exported along with the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for agricultural commodities including Soyabean on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. Government has already announced the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Soyabean for the 2012-13 season. The MSP of Soyabean has been increased for the Black variety from Rs.1650 per quintal in 2011-12 to Rs.2200 per quintal for 2012-13. Similarly for Yellow variety it has been increased from Rs.1690 per quintal in 2011-12 to Rs.2240 per quintal for 2012-13.

(c) and (d) To increase production of oilseeds including soyabean in the country, the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing States. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to farmers for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of micro nutrients and improved agriculture implements, supply of rhizobium culture/ phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity, etc. including free distribution of seed minikits of oilseeds and maize to encourage all type of farmers including small and marginal farmers to grow these crops. Further, in order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through ICAR.

(e) The State-wise details of the production of Soyabean for 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as under:

(In 000 Tonnes)			
S.No.	States	2011-12	2012-13*
1	Andhra Pradesh	210.0	291.0
2	Chhattisgarh	75.6	128.1
3	Gujarat	33.0	84.0
4	Karnataka	172.0	192.0
5	Madhya Pradesh	6280.6	7113.9
6	Maharashtra	3969.0	3710.4
7	Rajasthan	1385.2	1340.3
8	Uttar Pradesh	22.0	23.0
9	Uttarakhand	18.0	17.0
10	Others	48.1	57.3
11	ALL INDIA	12213.5	12957.0

*2nd Advance Estimates for 2012-13.

(f) The data regarding export and import of Soyabean are as under:

Year	Export			Import		
	Quantity (in MT)	In value (US\$ Million)	Unit Export Value (US\$/MT)	Quantity (in MT)	In Value (US\$ Million)	Unit Import Value (US\$/MT)
2010-11	15375.56	8.52	554.13	4.58	0.01	2183.41
2011-12	37902.97	22.89	603.91	121	0.10	826.45
2012-13 (April-Dec.)	33509.22	25.23	752.93	837	0.62	740.74

Reasonable price to farmers of their produce

2046. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken to provide reasonable price of the produce of farmers directly to them;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that although there are certain policies but farmers are still not getting actual price of their produce; and

(c) if so, the effective steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (c) To ensure remunerative prices to farmers, the Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities, *inter-alia*, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments. The Government offers to procure the agricultural produce at MSP through procurement by the designated central, state and cooperative agencies in the States if the market prices fall below that level. However, farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market if it offers a higher price.

A model Act on agricultural marketing has been formulated and circulated in 2003 for its adoption by States/UTs. The model Act provides for direct marketing,

contract farming and setting up of markets in private and cooperative sector etc. It also provides for setting up of farmers/consumers markets, special commodity markets etc.

Grameen Bhandaran Yojana

2047. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount sanctioned and spent under 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana';
- (b) the total storage capacity created and godowns set up, under the scheme;
- (c) whether Government is considering to increase the capacity of these godowns; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Under 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana' an amount of Rs.1203.95 crore has been sanctioned to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) as on January, 2013, out of which they have utilized Rs. 1131.48 crore.

(b) Under the scheme, 30574 godowns with a capacity of 383.62 lakh tonnes have been sanctioned as on January, 2013.

(c) and (d) During 2011-12, Rs. 190.74 crore was sanctioned by the Government for storage capacity of 33.92 lakh metric tonnes under the scheme, which has been increased to Rs. 240.95 crore in 2012-13 for storage capacity of 66.44 lakh metric tonnes. Further, during 2013-14, Rs. 350.00 crore has been allocated for the scheme.

Veterinary universities

2048. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of veterinary universities have been set up in the Eleventh Five Year Plan in the country;

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

(c) the details of number of students getting education from those universities; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for development of veterinary universities already set up?

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

(b) The State-wise details of the Universities set-up during the Eleventh Plan period are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The number of students getting education from these veterinary universities (for the year 2011-12) is given in the Statement-II (*See* below) (Source; data available on NISAGENET)

(d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) provides support to the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) including veterinary universities under its Plan scheme, 'Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India' for Educational quality and reforms, Infrastructure development in order to improve Human Resource Development through faculty development, faculty exchange, scholarships and personality development etc.

Statement-I

State-wise details of universities set up during the Eleventh Plan

Sl. No.	University	Establishment Year	State
1.	Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur	2012	Chhattisgarh
2.	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hissar	2010	Haryana
3.	Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu-Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur	2009	Madhya Pradesh
4.	RAJUVAS, Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner	2010	Rajasthan
5.	Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (KVASU), Thiruvananthapuram	2010	Kerala

Statement-II

Details for the year 2011-12 of the number of students getting education from these veterinary Universities established based on the data available on NISAGENET.

Sl. No.	University	Intake capacity			
		UG	PG	Doctoral	Total
1.	Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur	79	41	21	141
2.	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hisar	82	79	26	187
3.	Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu- Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur	154	131	0	285
4.	RAJUVAS, Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner	555	140	29	724
5.	Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (KVASU), Thiruvananthapuram	145	86	31	262

Use of fertilizers in agriculture sector

2049. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has the statistics of the fertilizers, quantities-wise, used by the Farming sector during the last ten years;

(b) whether Government has analyzed the reasons of the increase or decrease of hectare-wise fertilizer usage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) The use (consumption) of major fertilizers namely Urea,

Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP), Complexes and Single Super Phosphate (SSP) fertilizers during the last ten years *i.e.* 2002-03 to 2011-12 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The better extension activities, improved soil testing facilities etc. have enhanced the awareness among the farmers about the balanced use of fertilizers, requirement of nutrients for better crop productivity. This has generally resulted in the increase in the consumption of fertilizers, which has led to increase in the foodgrain production in the country. However, the consumption of DAP and MOP fertilizers had decreased in year 2011-12 due to increase in their prices in comparison to Urea.

Statement

Statistics of fertilizers used by the farming sector

(Figures in Lakh Metric Tonnes)

Year	Urea	DAP	MOP	Complexes	SSP	Total Consumption
2002-03	199.17	54.73	19.12	48.10	24.99	346.11
2003-04	197.67	56.25	18.41	47.57	25.44	345.34
2004-05	206.65	62.56	24.06	55.08	24.59	372.94
2005-06	222.97	67.24	27.31	66.94	27.56	412.02
2006-07	243.38	73.81	25.86	67.99	29.10	440.14
2007-08	259.63	74.97	28.81	65.71	22.88	452.00
2008-09	266.49	92.31	40.77	68.05	26.17	493.79
2009-10	266.73	104.92	46.34	80.25	26.51	524.75
2010-11	281.12	108.70	39.32	97.64	38.25	565.03
2011-12	295.65	101.91	30.29	103.95	47.46	579.26

Source: State Government.

Reservation policy in ASRB

2050. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board (ASRB) is not following the reservation policy while recruiting scientists;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the recruitment of Agriculture scientists made by the ASRB during the last three years, post-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The details of recruitments made during the last three years are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of recruitment made during the last three years

(A) Recruitment of agricultural scientists (Entry level) made through 'ARS Examination' during the last three years

General	OBC	SC	ST	PH	Total
327	200	127	88	13	755

(B) Recruitment of agricultural scientists under direct recruitment* made during the last three years

Sl. No.	Post	Total
1	2	3
1	Deputy Director Generals	03
2	National Director	01
3	Directors of ICAR Institute of Deemed University Status	02
4	Assistant Director Generals	09
5	Directors of ICAR Institutes	40
6	Project Directors	09

1	2	3
7	Zonal Project Directors	03
8	Joint Directors of ICAR Institutes of Deemed University Status	05
9	Joint Directors of ICAR Institute	03
10	Project Coordinators	16
11	Head of Divisions/Head of Regional Stations	122
12	Principal Scientists	91
13	Senior Scientists	189
14	Programme Coordinators	12
TOTAL		505

* Senior Scientific Positions have been exempted from the purview of reservation orders in terms of Department of Personnel and Training Office Memorandum dated 23.06.1975.

Contribution of agriculture in GDP

2051. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether contribution of agriculture to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is declining;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme for investment in agriculture to augment its contribution to the GDP; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) As per the First Revised Estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on 31st January, 2013, the contribution of Agriculture and Allied 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. Further, as per the Advance Estimates released by CSO on 7th February, 2013, contribution of agriculture to the GDP is likely to decline to 13.7% in 2012-13. The decline in contribution of agriculture to GDP is on account of comparatively higher growth in GDP of non-agriculture sectors.

(c) and (d) Government has launched several schemes to augment investment in agriculture such as, the 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), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana etc. in the country.

Decline in production of foodgrains

2052. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after a record production of foodgrains in the two consecutive years, the production is likely to decline this year;

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

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) and (b) Details of production of foodgrains during the last two years and the current year are as under:

Year	Production (Million Tonnes)
2010-11	244.49
2011-12	259.32
2012-13*	250.14

*2nd Advance Estimates.

Total production of foodgrains during the current year has been lower due to decline in kharif production on account of delayed/deficient rainfall during monsoon season.

(c) To overcome the shortfall in agricultural production during 2012-13, the States were suggested to prepare district-wise Contingency Plans based on the Contingency Agriculture Plan prepared by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. States were advised to take into account districts-specific Crop Contingent Plans developed by Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Further, the States were also advised to achieve higher Rabi production through additional area coverage in the major crop producing States of the country.

Support price to farmers

‡2053. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of price hike for chemical fertilizers during the last five years;

(b) whether farmers are not getting remunerative price of their produce owing to price hike of manure, fertilizers and pesticides due to which they are indebted and forced to commit suicide; and

(c) the reasons for not giving support price of crops to farmers according to cost incurred by them in case Government is unable to control price hike in chemicals and fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) The annual average of the Index Number of Wholesale Prices (Base 2004-05=100) for fertilizers, for the agriculture years (July to June) from 2007-08 to 2011-12 and for 2012-13 (July to January) are given as under:

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (upto Jan 2013)
Fertilizers	106.6	106.9	110.0	119.2	137.2	150.6

(b) and (c) The effect of rising input cost of cultivation is balanced by way of Minimum Support Price (MSP) that help the farmers to receive adequate returns on their investment. Central Government agencies and State level bodies through their procurement operations in the market help the farmers sell their produce at MSP especially when market prices rule below MSP for that commodity. Government also promotes various technologies and agronomic practices like Integrated Pest Management, Integrated nutrient Management, Mechanization, water conservation etc. to improve agricultural production and productivity and thereby bring down the cost of production. Moreover, Government also improves the economic viability of farming through assistance to farmers under several programmes such as National Horticulture Mission, National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Setback to commercialisation of GM cotton crop

2054. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's first attempt to commercialise a GM crop namely BNbt, also known as BNLA 106 ended in a disaster because the said seed was substantially the same as the Monsanto cotton seed commercially known as MDN 531; and

(b) if so, the penal actions initiated against those 'specialists' who had attempted a deception on the cotton farming community and also tarnished the fair name of ICAR which is the main research organization of the country in the field of agronomical sciences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) GM cotton crop BNbt (BNLA 106 event) was developed by University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad and commercialised through Central institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur in May, 2009. It reached to about 8000 hectares, which is about 0.08% of the total cotton area in the country. Due to non-satisfactory performance of the variety in the field and reported presence of Monsanto's MON 531 event, further commercial cultivation was stopped by end of 2009.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K. Sopory to look into various aspects of development of BNbt. Cotton variety. The report that has been submitted by the Committee is being looked into for way forward and bringing about further stringent guidelines in research of genetically modified crops. Appropriate action will be taken for any wrongdoing. ICAR is continuing research on cotton improvement including high density cotton cultivation, organic and desi cotton cultivation besides transgenes pyramiding.

Criteria for allocation of fund under NDRF

†2055. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allocation of fund under National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF);

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the manner in which the damage of crops of farmers is assessed;
- (c) the year since when this method of assessment is going on; and
- (d) whether in view of the present conditions, the method of assessment would be changed and compensation for damage would be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) to (d) Allocation of fund to States from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) is based on the assessment of Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) and recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG).

State Governments assess damage caused to crops in the wake of natural calamities for administering relief from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). IMCT is deputed for making on the spot assessment of the damages upon receipt of a detailed memorandum from the State Governments indicating sector-wise damages caused due to natural calamities and requirement of additional central assistance.

Financial assistance from NDRF/SDRF is provided towards relief and is not to be construed as compensation for crop loss. The objective of NDRF/SDRF is to assist affected farmers to commence farming operation by way of providing agriculture input subsidy etc. Expenditure from NDRF/SDRF is to be incurred in accordance with the items and norms of assistance as approved by the Government of India.

**Re-distribution of funds under additional State
levy to fertilizer units**

2056. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KODABHAI RUPALA:

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

(a) the action taken by the Ministry for timely re-distribution of funds under the scheme of additional State levy to fertilizer units within stipulated time period, as they are depositing collected fund timely but it is not re-distributed to them timely;

(b) how much additional State levies have been paid to State Governments by fertilizer units from 1 April, 2012 to till date and how much has been re-distributed to them, unit-wise; and

(c) under the scheme of additional State levy, how much fund has been collected by fertilizer units from Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh *w.e.f.* 1 April, 2012 to till date, unit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The funds collected by the companies and deposited with FICC office, as per the scheme of ACTN policy notified by the Department of Fertilizers on 29.03.2011 for reimbursement of additional taxation levied by State Government on input of urea production, are re-distributed regularly.

(b) Urea manufacturing units have paid Rs. 309.94 crore to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat towards additional VAT. FICC has reimbursed Rs. 135.73 crore till date to urea units. Unit-wise details for the period from 01-04-2012 to 28.02.2013 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) An amount of Rs. 256.29 in total has been collected by various units on sale of urea and deposited with FICC office for the period from 01.04.2012 to 12.03.2013, details are given in the above Statement.

Statement

*Additional VAT incurred by unit, ACTN reimbursed to unit and
ACTN collected by unit and deposited with FICC*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Unit	Amount paid	Amount reimbursed	Amount collected
		by unit to State Govt.	to unit by FICC on the basis of actual production.	by urea unit on sale of urea and deposited with FICC
	Period	From April, 12 to February, 13	From April, 12 to September, 12	From April, 12 to March, 13
1	2	3	4	5
A	Gujarat			
1	KRIBHCO	26.12	8.22	20.82
2	Kalol	0.17	0.17	4.58

1	2	3	4	5
3	GSFC	8.97	2.15	9.25
4	GNVFC	24.27	12.02	11.15
TOTAL A		59.53	22.56	45.80
B Uttar Pradesh				
1	Aonla unit	52.61	24.62	45.10
2	Phulpur unit	110.42	53.85	20.27
3	TCL	13.13	10.09	18.61
4	KSFL	14.82	11.21	19.11
5	Indogulf	59.43	13.40	22.28
TOTAL B		250.41	113.17	125.37
C	Others not producing urea in UP & Gujarat	0.00	0.00	85.12
TOTAL A+B+C		309.94	135.73	256.29

Funds disbursed to FACT

2057. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given any compensation for naphtha to Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) during the last three years;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether the compensation has been reviewed and the amount has been increased recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how much funds have been distributed to FACT under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND

FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Under the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy being implemented with effect from 1.4.2010, the Government has provided a separate additional subsidy to the indigenous manufacturers (MFL, GNFC and FACT) for higher cost of captive Ammonia produced through Naphtha/FO/LSHS for a period of 2 years (*i.e.* upto 31.3.2012) during which period units were expected to convert to gas or use imported Ammonia.

The Government has allowed additional continuation of compensation to FACT for using Naphtha as feedstock for production of NPK fertilizers upto 30.6.2013.

Though, the quantum of additional subsidy is yet to be finalized by Department of Fertilizers in consultation with Department of Expenditure, based on study and recommendations by the Tariff Commission, the Department has been providing additional compensation to these units on provisional basis. The provisional rate of additional compensation is as under:

Company	Grade of fertilizers	Rate of Additional compensation (ad hoc) (Rs/MT)	Additional compensation applicable for the period	
			From	To
MFL	17.17.17	4640	1.4.2010	31.3.2012
	20.20.0.13	5434	1.4.2010	31.3.2012
FACT	20.20.0.13	3121	1.4.2010	30.6.2013
	AS20.6.0.0.23	3658	1.4.2010	30.6.2013
GNFC	20.20.0.0	2534	1.4.2010	31.3.2012

(e) The total amount of compensation provided to FACT for use of Naphtha during the last three years as under:

2010-11: Rs 283.452 crore

2011-12: Rs 346.862 crore.

Appointment of consultants in NIPER, Mohali

2058. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Consultants hired by the National Institute of Pharmaceuticals Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the policy approved by the Board of Governors (BoG) NIPER, for hiring retired persons/faculty on ad hoc basis without advertisement/competitive selection and financial clearances;

(c) whether full salary/contract amount and pension amount is being subjected to deduction of Tax deducted at source as per the Income Tax rules and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action, Board of Governors has taken in the matter against violation of various laws; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali has reported that seven Consultants were hired as per provisions contained in the General Financial Rules, 2005. The appointment of consultants is reported to Board of Governors (BoG) for information ratification. Details indicating names of consultants hired and other relevant information are given in the Statement.

Statement*Details indicating names of consultants hired and other information*

Sl. No.	Name of Consultant	Designation	Term	Remuneration in Rs. per month	Total tax deducted at source from the date of joining to 28.02.2013	Reported/ratified by BoG	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	
2010-11							
No Consultant was hired							
2011-12							
			From	To			
1	Sh. A. C. Ahuja, Retd. CMD, IFCI Venture Capital Funds Limited.	Financial Consultant	01.6.11	30.11.11	25000/-	0.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012.
2	Sh. R. K. Bhatti, Retd. Deputy Accountant General, AG, Punjab	Consultant (Audit)	08.6.11	7.6.13	40000/-	83157.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
3	Sh. Avtar Singh, Retd., Executive Engineer, NIPER	Consultant (Engineering)	15.6.11	40000/-	22953.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012
4	Sh. Harimohan, Retd. Controller of Administration from CSIO, Chandigarh (CSIR Lab)	Consultant (Admn.)	15.6.11	40000/-	83157.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012
2012-13						
5	Sh. H. C. Sehgal, Retd. Sr. PPS.	Consultant to assist Chairman BoG	06.8.12	30000/-	0.00	To be reported in the ensuing 59th BoG meeting scheduled for 23rd March, 2013 for ratification.
6	Dr. A. S. Bhatia, Retd. Asstt. Professor NIPER	Consultant	10.9.12	60000/-	42686.00	To be reported in the ensuing 59th BoG meeting scheduled for 23rd March, 2013 for ratification.
7	Dr. Naresh Kumar, Retd. head HRDC Ghaziabad (under CSIR)	Consultant with reference to Budgeting, Planning, industry liaisoning, business development etc.	14.9.12	90000/-	130100.00	To be reported in the ensuing 59th BoG meeting scheduled for 23rd March, 2013 for ratification.

Appointment of Consultants in NIPER, Mohali

2059. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of consultants hired by the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali after January, 2010 along with their names;

(b) whether these consultants were hired in competitive manner and after advertisement in national newspapers as per Government of India rules/guidelines; and

(c) the total tenure, amount paid and financial clearances of the Board of Governors of NIPER approved to these consultants along with appointment letter or multiple appointment letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali has reported that seven Consultants were hired as per provisions contained in General Financial Rules, 2005. The appointment of consultants is reported to Board of Governors (BoG) for information and ratification. Details indicating names of consultants hired after January, 2010 and other relevant information are given in the Statement.

Statement
Details indicating names of consultants hired after January, 2010 and other information

Sl. No.	Name of Consultant	Designation	Term	Remuneration in Rs. per month	Total tax deducted at source from the date of joining to 28.02.2013	Reported/ratified by BoG
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
			From			
			To			
1	Sh. Harimohan, Retd. Controller of Administration from CSIO, Chandigarh (CSIR Lab)	Consultant (Admn.)	15.6.11	40000/-	83157.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012
2	Sh. R. K. Bhatti, Retd. Deputy Accountant General, AG, Punjab	Consultant (Audit)	08.6.11	40000/-	83157.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012
3	Sh. Avtar Singh, Retd., Executive Engineer, NIPER	Consultant (Engineering)	15.6.11	40000/-	22953.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012

4	Dr. Naresh Kumar, Retd. head HRDC Ghaziabad (under CSIR)	Consultant w.r.t Budgeting, Planning, industry liaisoning, business development etc.	14.9.12	13.9.13	90000/-	130100.00	To be reported in the ensuing 59th BoG meeting scheduled for 23rd March, 2013 for ratification.
5	Dr. A. S. Bhatia, Retd. Asstt. Professor NIPER	Consultant	10.9.12	9.9.13	60000/-	42686.00	To be reported in the ensuing 59th BoG meeting scheduled for 23rd March, 2013 for ratification.
6	Sh. A. C. Ahuja, Retd. CMD, IFCI Venture Capital Funds Limited.	Financial Consultant	01.6.11	30.11.11	25000/-	0.00	Reported/ratified by BoG in its 54th meeting held on 2nd August, 2012.
7	Sh. H. C. Sehgal, Retd. Sr. PPS.	Consultant to assist Chairman BoG	06.8.12	25.9.12	30000/-	0.00	To be reported in the ensuing 59th BoG meeting scheduled for 23rd March, 2013 for ratification.

Production of fertilizers in the country

†2060. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers are getting fertilizers in adequate quantity at present;
- (b) whether fertilizers are being produced in the country as per the demand of farmers;
- (c) if not, names of the countries from where fertilizers are being imported, quantity-wise; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to produce fertilizers in adequate quantity in the country itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir. Details showing requirement, availability and sales of fertilizers from April, 2012 to February, 2013, is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) There is gap between the fertilizers being produced in the country *vis-a-vis* the demand (requirement) of fertilizers. The indigenous production of fertilizers is less than the annual demand (requirement) of fertilizers. The statement showing annual demand (requirement) and indigenous production of fertilizer is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The statement in respect of country-wise quantity of fertilizers imported during the last three years and current year (upto February, 2013) is given in the Statement-III, IV and V respectively.

(d) The Government is fully aware that country is dependent on imports of fertilizers. In case of Urea, the country is import dependent to the extent of about 25% of its total requirement. In potash sector, the country is fully import dependent as there are no known reserves of Potash within the country. In Phosphatic sector, country is import dependent to the extent of 90%, either in the form of finished fertilizers or its raw material, as there are very limited reserves of rock phosphates.

The gap between requirement and domestic availability of fertilizers is being met through imports. In order to reduce import dependence, the fertilizer companies are encouraged to form Joint Ventures (JV) abroad in resource rich countries. Such JVs may be in the form of investment in production facilities with long term buy back arrangement. The Government is also encouraging its Public Sector Undertakings for acquisition of fertilizer mineral assets abroad.

In Urea Sector, at the behest of the Government, a JV namely OMIFCO (Oman India Fertilizers Company) has been formed in Oman with long term off-take agreement of 16.5 LMT of Urea and 2.4 LMT of Ammonia at a fixed price.

In order to attract new domestic investment in Urea Sector, Government has notified a New Investment Policy on 2nd January, 2013. The policy also encourages JVs abroad and offtake arrangements from such JVs in countries rich in natural gas.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I
Requirement, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during the year 2012 (April, 2012 to February, 2013) along with Stock Pre-Positioned

States	UREA			DAP			MOP			NPK		
	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	31.50	27.73	27.16	11.80	7.51	5.67	6.45	3.65	2.76	21.75	20.00	16.12
Karnataka	14.20	13.05	12.76	8.50	5.72	3.34	5.25	2.88	2.31	13.40	10.76	7.77
Kerala	1.97	1.29	1.29	0.44	0.29	0.22	1.84	1.00	0.85	2.44	1.67	1.47
Tamil Nadu	10.99	8.83	8.76	4.36	2.33	2.14	5.17	2.29	2.11	6.49	6.39	5.21
Gujarat	22.65	18.16	17.52	8.40	4.93	3.18	1.90	0.81	0.74	5.25	5.56	3.83
Madhya Pradesh	18.42	19.54	18.04	11.48	13.73	9.55	1.40	1.01	0.73	4.34	2.90	2.18
Chhattisgarh	6.80	6.84	5.69	3.07	3.00	1.92	1.18	0.98	0.61	1.70	1.32	0.94
Maharashtra	26.25	21.45	20.61	14.87	8.73	6.03	5.85	3.45	2.93	18.01	14.92	11.15
Rajasthan	16.61	17.93	17.34	7.18	7.08	5.56	0.48	0.15	0.12	1.55	0.85	0.81

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Haryana	19.75	20.42	18.94	7.00	8.65	6.17	0.71	0.21	0.19	0.93	0.26	0.24
Punjab	25.70	28.94	26.11	7.95	10.19	8.52	1.01	0.43	0.33	1.45	0.48	0.39
Himachal Pradesh	0.63	0.68	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.45	0.23	0.17
Jammu and Kashmir	1.42	1.37	1.00	0.83	0.58	0.43	0.34	0.15	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	59.00	62.29	56.78	18.05	24.99	19.75	3.40	1.54	1.25	11.28	7.70	6.46
Uttarakhand	2.36	2.39	2.28	0.33	0.33	0.24	0.08	0.05	0.04	0.55	0.39	0.31
Bihar	20.60	19.48	18.91	4.90	5.95	4.97	2.25	1.51	1.05	3.60	3.47	2.66
Jharkhand	2.64	1.94	1.78	1.23	0.59	0.49	0.32	0.07	0.03	1.24	0.26	0.26
Orissa	6.00	5.02	4.70	2.70	1.35	1.24	1.88	0.75	0.71	3.89	2.40	1.91
West Bengal	12.28	13.25	11.55	4.93	4.72	3.75	3.63	2.85	1.99	7.61	8.35	7.43
Assam	2.94	2.37	2.32	0.60	0.33	0.27	1.36	0.71	0.53	0.21	0.06	0.05
ALL INDIA	304.30	293.72	274.90	119.83	111.07	83.53	45.03	24.66	19.55	106.69	88.14	69.49

Statement-II*Requirement and production of fertilizers during the year 2012-13 (Upto February)*

(Figures in LMT)

Product	Requirement	Production
Urea	304.28	204.96
DAP	119.83	33.32
MOP	40.31	0
NPK	106.71	59.08

Statement-III*Country-wise details of Import of Urea*

Country Name	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Bahrain	1.59	1.42	0.88	0
Bangladesh	0.26	0	0	0
China	5.34	25.07	12.8	37.67
CIS	9.45	2.93	11.08	7.07
Egypt	0.45	0	0	0
Indonesia	0.57	1.24	1.06	0.62
Iran	2.76	11.12	19.97	15.77
Kuwait	0.78	0	1.02	0
Lithuania	0.46	0	0.44	0
Malaysia	0.55	0	0.15	0
Oman*	23.38	23.65	24.15	17.10
Qatar	2.99	0	1.33	0
Romania	0.51	0	0.94	0
Russia	0	0	1.95	0
Saudi-Arabia	3.01	0.43	1.17	0
UAE	0	0.24	0.47	0
Vietnam	0	0	0.93	0.41
GRAND TOTAL	52.1	66.1	78.34	78.64

* including urea imported from Sur, Oman under Long Term Urea Off Take Agreement.

Statement-IV*Country-wise import of fertilizers year 2009 to 2012-13 (till February)**DAP, MAP, TSP, NPK (Qty. in LMTS.)*

Sl. No.	Country of Origin	2009-10			2010-11		
		DAP	MAP	TSP	DAP	MAP	TSP
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Australia	-	-	-	0.84	-	-
2	Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	China	1.02	-	0.87	25.25	0.34	0.72
3	Estonia	-	0.36	-	-	-	-
4	CIS	1.04	-	-	0.23	-	-
5	Germany	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Israel	-	-	-	-	-	0.26
8	Korea	-	-	-	0.51	-	-
9	Mexico	0.10	-	-	1.96	-	-
10	South Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Tallin	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Thailand	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Saudi Arabia	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Tunisia	0.94	-	-	1.32	-	-
15	Ukraine	.	-	-	0.53	-	-
16	Turkey	0.27	-	-	0.25	-	-
17	USA	30.20	-	-	24.30	-	-
18	Vietnam	-	-	-	0.11	-	-
19	Dubai	-	-	-	0.03	-	-
20	Lithuania	-	-	-	2.24	-	-
21	Jordan	13.90	-	-	6.06	-	-
22	Russia	11.42	1.57	-	7.03	1.37	-
23	Iran	-	-	-	-	0.01	-
24	Indonesia	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25	Morocco	-	-	-	3.45	-	-
26	Philippines	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Uzbekistan	-	-	-	-	0.16	-
TOTAL		58.89	1.93	0.87	74.11	1.88	0.98

Statement-V*Country-wise MoP import during 2009 to 2012-2013 (till February) (Qty. in LMTS.)*

Sl. No.	Country	2009-10			2010-11		
		Industrial Use	Direct	Total	Industrial Use	Direct	Total
1	Canada	1.47	4.98	6.44	3.89	5.96	9.86
2	Chile	0.36	0.02	0.38	-	-	-
3	China	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	CIS + Belarus	3.83	11.42	15.25	4.74	11.04	15.77
5	Germany	0.44	0.59	1.03	0.63	0.80	1.43
6	Israel	2.45	13.99	16.44	2.97	10.97	13.94
7	Jordan	3.19	4.89	8.08	4.23	5.46	9.69
8	Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Lithuania	-	-	-	0.38	1.61	1.99
10	Russia	0.36	2.93	3.29	1.66	8.01	9.67
11	Saudi Arabia	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Singapore	-	-	-	-	0.41	0.41
13	Spain	-	0.25	0.25	0.07	0.74	0.81
14	UK	-	0.23	0.23	-	-	-
15	Ukraine	-	0.90	0.90	-	-	-
16	USA	-	0.22	0.22	-	-	-
17	Ventspils	-	0.36	0.36	-	-	-
TOTAL		12.10	40.77	52.86	18.57	45.00	63.57

9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
-	6.09	-	-	-	6.22	-	-	-
0.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.81	69.05	4.94	1.60	36.73	55.79	1.52	-	4.05

Statement-V

Country-wise MoP import during 2009 to 2012-2013 (till February)

(Qty. in LMTS.)

	2011-12		2012-13 (Till February)			
	Industrial Use	Direct	Total	Industrial Use	Direct	Total
	2.69	2.90	5.59	0.69	1.70	2.39
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0.48	0.36	0.84	-	-	-
	1.11	2.26	3.37	0.25	0.85	1.10
	-	1.10	1.10	0.28	0.61	0.89
	2.16	6.77	8.93	1.80	3.45	5.25
	3.14	0.82	3.96	0.30	2.05	2.14
	0.40	1.87	2.27	-	-	-
	1.06	0.34	1.40	-	0.34	0.34
	1.53	9.53	11.06	1.71	8.20	9.91
	-	-	-	-	0.67	0.67
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	0.25	0.25	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0.33	0.74	1.07	-	0.27	0.27
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	12.91	26.94	39.85	5.02	18.14	22.95

Essential medicines under price control mechanism

2061. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total number of essential medicines covered under the price control mechanism so far;

(b) whether Government has any proposal to bring in all the essential medicines under the price control regime to protect the interests of patients; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) the prices of 74 bulk drugs as listed in its First Schedule and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. There is no classification as "essential medicines" in the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995.

(b) and (c) The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012) has been notified on 7th December, 2012. As per provisions of NPPP-2012, all the medicines as specified under National List of Essential Medicines-2011 (NLEM-2011) shall be under price control. NLEM contains 614 formulations of specified strengths and dosage forms, spread over 27 therapeutic categories and satisfy the priority healthcare needs of majority of the population of the country.

Legislation for price control and monitoring of drugs

2062. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to bring in a new legislation for price control and monitoring of drugs replacing the existing regulatory frame work, Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) to meet the requirements of the new Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) will be implementing authority for the new policy and the new DPCO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) To implement the provisions of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012, the process of finalising a new Drug (Price Control) Order has started.

(c) and (d) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority is the implementation authority of existing Drug (Price Control) Order the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 and the new Drugs (Prices Control) Order.

Promotion of low cost generic drugs

2063. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether differences have been found at large scale in the prices of essential medicines in the country;

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

(c) the share of generic and non-generic medicines in the total medicine sale in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether Government is taking any steps to control the prices of drugs and to promote the use of low-cost generic drugs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) There is no classification as "essential medicines" in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. However, under the provisions of the DPCO, 1995 the prices of 74 bulk drugs as listed in its First Schedule and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. No one is authorized to sell any scheduled drug/ formulation at a price higher than the price fixed by NPPA. Therefore, in the case of scheduled medicines based on same chemical combinations, there may be bare minimum difference in prices among different brands.

In respect of drugs-not covered under the DPCO, 1995 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers fix the launch prices themselves without seeking the approval of Government/NPPA. There is no control over the launch price of non-scheduled medicines. Therefore, differences in prices among different brands of medicine based on same chemical combinations in non-scheduled category are not ruled out.

(c) The information on the share of generic and non-generic medicines in the total medicine sale in the country is not maintained centrally.

(d) and (e) The prices of scheduled drugs/ formulations are controlled and fixed/revised by NPPA as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. As a part of price-monitoring activity, NPPA also regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% in a period of one year on moving basis is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest.

In order to provide relief to the common man in the area of healthcare, a countrywide campaign in the name of 'Jan Aushadhi Campaign' has been initiated by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India, in collaboration with the State Governments, by way of opening up of Jan Aushadhi Generic Stores in the Government Hospitals by way of supply of generic medicines through Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings, to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all. So far, 149 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in different States/UTs in the country as on 28.2.2013.

Further, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012) notified by the Government on 7th December, 2012 has the provision of bringing the medicines under National List of Essential Medicines-2011 (NLEM-2011) under price control.

Decline in manufacturing capacity of telecommunication PSUs

2064. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of manufacturing industries in the telecommunication PSUs of the country has declined constantly in the last few years;

(b) if so, the annual turnover in this sector during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(c) whether the share of utilization of imported equipments in the Telecommunication industry is increasing *vis-a-vis* the domestically manufactured equipments;

(d) if so, the percentage utilization separately of imported and indigenously manufactured equipments in this regard; and

(e) the action taken by Government to check the imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Telecommunications PSU M/s. ITI Limited has not been able to upgrade its manufacturing infrastructure to keep pace with changes in the manufacturing technology and hence its capacity to manufacture latest technology products has been affected.

(b) The total sales turnover of M/s. ITI Limited during the past 3 years and current year is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Total Sales Turnover (in Rs. crores)
1	2009-2010	4660
2	2010-2011	2139
3	2011-2012	922
4	2012-2013 (provisional upto February, 2013)	623

(c) and (d) Presently, wireless equipment with sufficient value addition are not being manufactured in the country. The import of telecom equipment, mobile phone and their parts for past 3 years and current year is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(e) To promote telecom equipment manufacturing within the country, following steps have been taken:

(i) The National Telecom Policy-2012 (NTP-2012), *inter-alia*, has following objectives on promoting Telecom Equipment Manufacturing:

- Create a corpus to promote indigenous R&D, IPR creation, entrepreneurship, manufacturing, commercialisation and deployment of state-of-the-art telecom products and services during the Twelfth Five Year plan period.
 - Promote the ecosystem for design, Research and Development, IPR creation, testing, standardization and manufacturing *i.e.* complete value chain for domestic production of telecommunication equipment to meet Indian telecom sector demand to the extent of 60% and 80% with a minimum value addition of 45% and 65% by the year 2017 and 2020 respectively.
 - Provide preference to domestically manufactured telecommunication products, in procurement of those telecommunication products which have security implications for the country and in Government procurement for its own use, consistent with our World Trade Organization (WTO) commitments.
- (ii) With a view to increasing share of domestically manufactured electronic products which includes telecom equipment also, the Government vide Notification No. 8(78)/2010-IPHW dated 10th February 2012 laid down the policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products in procurement. In line with Notification, Department of Telecommunications has notified telecom products to be procured by all the Ministries or Departments (except the Ministry of Defence) of Government and for all Government funded telecom projects *vide* notification No. 18-07/2012-IP dated 5th October, 2012. In order to further extend applicability of preferential market access on Licensed Services Providers for many domestically manufactured telecom products having security implications, a Committee in Department of Telecommunications after having stakeholders' consultation has given recommendations along with list of security sensitive telecom products, which is under inter-ministerial consultations.

Statement
Import of Telecom Equipment during last 3 years and current year

Sl.No.	HS Code	Commodity	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013 (Apr-Dec)
			(Values in Rs. lakhs)			
1	851711	Line Telphon Set with Cordless . Hand Sets	20,448	20,165	24,927	19,825
2	851712	Telephones for Cellular Networks or for Other Wireless Networks:	15,27,590	24,90,190	27,71,583	18,63,579
3	851718	Other:	23,166	22,675	25,213	24,849
4	851761	Base Stations	1,97,924	1,78,562	77,234	18,856
5	851762	Machines for the Reception, Conversion and Transmission or Regeneration of Voice, Images or Other Data, Including Switching	9,29,501	6,40,676	5,82,378	4,27,178
6	851769	Other:	3,14,197	3,31,420	4,40,108	3,93,329
7	851770	Parts:	9,42,374	14,10,842	12,86,940	12,17,899
8	852560	Transmission apparatus incorporating reception apparatus:	74,775	51,532	35,740	16,545
		TOTAL	40,29,975	51,46,061	52,44,123	39,82,060

Source: DGFT

Farmers selling kidneys to pay off debts

2065. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that indebted farmers in Andhra Pradesh have been found to be selling their kidneys in order to pay off debts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken to address the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) The question does not arise.

National Electronics Mission

2066. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

- (a) whether Government is working on a list of electronic hardware that private sector can't import due to security concerns;
- (b) if so, the details of the list;
- (c) whether Government is mulling to set up a National Electronics Mission; and
- (d) if so, by when and the benefits thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The National Policy on Electronics - 2012 inter-alia provides for setting up a National Electronics Mission with industry participation to evolve programmes in pursuit of the laid down policies and also to create institutional mechanisms to advance the implementation of various programmes

aimed at achieving the objectives enumerated in this policy and to promote India as an Electronic Hardware Manufacturing Hub and suitably market "Brand India" in Electronics.

Telecommunication services in villages

†2067. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages where BSNL is providing telecommunication services;
- (b) the number of villages where these facilities are not yet available, State-wise;
- (c) whether all the villages are targeted to be covered by the services; and
- (d) if so, by when this target would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHRIMATI KILLI KRUPARANI): (a) The number of villages where BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) is providing telecommunication services is given below:

Number of villages where BSNL is providing telecommunication services	Villages Public Telephones (VPTs)	Cellular Service
	577524	403997

(b) The details of villages in the country not connected with Village Public Telephone (VPT) facility are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The State/Service area-wise number of villages in the country not connected with mobile services, as per the survey carried out by Department of Telecommunication are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The target in respect of providing VPTs in remaining villages deemed feasible by BSNL is likely to be achieved by September, 2013. With respect to mobile services, a scheme would be envisaged after receiving the report from C-DoT (Centre for Development of Telematics) for extending financial support from USO (Universal Service Obligation) Fund for provisioning mobile communication services in balance inhabited uncovered villages of the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

State/Circle-wise numbers of Uncovered Villages yet to be provided with VPT facility as on 31.01.2013

Name of the State/Circle	No. of Uncovered Villages yet to be provided with VPT facilities
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	149
Andhra Pradesh	1511
Assam	445
Bihar	100
Jharkhand	547
Gujarat	108
Haryana	86
Himachal Pradesh	87
Jammu and Kashmir	33
Karnataka	32
Kerala	0
Madhya Pradesh	131
Chhattisgarh	1552
Maharashtra	797
Meghalaya (NE-I)	676
Mizoram (NE-I)	3
Tripura (NE-I)	0
Arunachal Pradesh (NE-II)	1089
Manipur (NE-II)	144
Nagaland (NE-II)	15

1	2
Odisha	2588
Punjab	236
Rajasthan	185
Tamil Nadu (TN Circle)	0
Chennai Metro	0
Uttar Pradesh	200
Uttarakhand	395
West Bengal (WB Circle)	581
Kolkata Metro	280
Sikkim (WB Circle)	21
TOTAL	11,991

NE : North East.

TN : Tamil Nadu.

WB : West Bengal.

Statement-II

State/Service Area-wise Summary of Uncovered Villages yet to be provided with Mobile Services as per the survey carried out by DoT

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Service Area	No. of uncovered villages yet to be provided with Mobile Services
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	3786
2	Assam	2976
3	Bihar	271
4	Jharkhand	5308

1	2	3
5	Gujarat	1938
6	Haryana	32
7	Himachal Pradesh	1997
8	Jammu and Kashmir	636
9	Karnataka	1197
10	Kerala	0
11	Madhya Pradesh	1771
12	Chhattisgarh	5460
13	Maharashtra	5394
14	Meghalaya	3257
15	Mizoram	584
16	Tripura	180
17	Arunachal Pradesh	2382
18	Nagaland	451
19	Manipur	1040
20	Odisha	6734
21	Punjab	100
22	Rajasthan	3153
23	Tamil Nadu	197
24	Uttar Pradesh	5014
25	Uttarakhand	1419
26	West Bengal	886
27	Sikkim	13
28	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	221
TOTAL		56,397

Press release for spectrum allocation in 2008

2068. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the press release inviting applications for spectrum allocation in 2008 was altered by the then Minister before it was issued;

(b) if so, the text of application approved by the Attorney General, and the press release altered by the Minister; and

(c) the reasons for altering the press release?

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 will be laid on the Table of the House.

Roaming charges

†2069. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on removing the roaming charges;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) whether Government/private companies are reducing their call rates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) National Telecom Policy-2012 (NTP-2012) envisages "One Nation – Free Roaming". This is a new policy initiative of the Government. Being a predominantly tariff related issue, as a first step, TRAI has floated a pre-consultation paper for public consultation. It has now been followed by a consultation paper on which comments have been invited upto 25.03.2013.

(c) and (d) As per the current tariff framework, tariff for mobile services is under forbearance except for national roaming where ceiling tariff has been specified. Mobile operators have the flexibility to offer different tariffs depending on the market conditions and other commercial considerations. Tariff for mobile services are

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

offered as bouquet consisting of various components. The revisions carried out by mobile operators may be in one or more of the price items and the same may be different operators and for different service areas. Recently, some telecom access service providers altered certain components of mobile tariff. In many cases, the change is in the nature of concessions, free minutes and/or validity in Special Tariff Vouchers. Such hikes, however, have not substantially altered the average outgo per outgoing minutes.

The Service Providers are required to report to the Authority any new tariff/ changes in the tariff within 7 days after its implementation for information and record of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) after conducting a self check to ensure that the tariff plans are consistent with the regulatory principles in all respects which *inter-alia*, include non-discrimination, non-predation and Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) compliance.

Guidelines for allocation of excess spectrum

2070. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the licences issued for 2G services till 2008 provided for GSM spectrum of 6.2 MHz and CDMA spectrum of 5 MHz as the contracted spectrum;

(b) whether the excess spectrum beyond these limits had been allocated to various operators upto 2009;

(c) whether any guidelines were issued for allocation of additional spectrum prior to 1.2.2002 and from 1 February, 2002 to 29 March, 2006;

(d) if so, the details of guidelines including date on which these were issued; and

(e) if not, the basis on which additional spectrum was allocated prior to 1 February, 2002 and between 1 February, 2002 to 29 March, 2006?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Initial/Start up spectrum of 4.4 + 4.4 MHz (GSM) and 2.5 + 2.5 MHz (CDMA) has been allotted to the telecom service providers, based on the provisions of the respective Service Licenses. Additional spectrum beyond the initial/start up spectrum has also been allotted to the operators, based on their request, justification and guidelines and subscriber based criteria applicable at the time of such allotments.

Further it was decided in November 2001 that the new Cellular Licensees may be assigned 4.4 +4.4 in 1800 MHz band straightway for complete service area under the license. While allotting this spectrum of 4.4 MHz, the operators may be given an option to seek allotment of additional 1.8+1.8 MHz in the beginning itself subject to payment of additional 1% of revenue as license fee.

(c) to (e) In the beginning, when the telecom sector was in a nascent stage, additional spectrum up to 6.2 MHz, beyond the initial 4.4 + 4.4 MHz spectrum was allotted to telecom service providers, based on their request, justification and subject to availability of spectrum.

Subscriber Linked Criteria (SLC) was first formulated on 1.2.2002 for allotment of additional spectrum of 1.8 MHz beyond 6.2 MHz to the service providers and details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Allotment of additional spectrum beyond 8 MHz was made during 2003 and after, as per the recommendations of the Lalwani Committee accepted by the Government.

Based on studies carried out by Telecom Engineering Center, criteria for allotment of additional spectrum beyond initial 4.4 + 4.4 MHz (GSM) and beyond 2.5 + 2.5 MHz (CDMA) were revised on 29th March, 2006 are given in the Statement-II and III respectively.

Statement-I

*Details regarding allocation of additional spectrum
to CMTS providers*

**Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
WPC Wing**

No. L-14041/06/2000-NTG

Dated: 01.02.2002

ORDER

**Subject: Allocation of additional Cellular Radio Frequency Spectrum
to the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Providers**

In order to meet the requirements of growth of subscribers, it has been decided to assign additional spectrum upto 1.8 Mhz + 1.8 Mhz to the CMTS

operators. Any operator may apply for allotment of additional spectrum after reaching a customer base of 4 Lakh or more under a license in a service area, after which the process of allotment would be initiated however, actual assignment of the spectrum would be made, subject to availability and coordination on case to case basis, after a consumer base of 5 Lakh or more has been reached in the service area. This additional assignment will be beyond already allocated spectrum of 6.2 Mhz + 6.2 Mhz. The additional spectrum of 1.8 Mhz + 1.8 Mhz would be assigned in 1800 Mhz Band.

2. The cellular licensees are to pay spectrum charge with effect from 1.8.99 on revenue share basis at the rate of 2% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for spectrum upto 4.4 Mhz + 4.4 Mhz and 3% of AGR for spectrum upto 6.2 Mhz + 6.2 Mhz.

3. Further, for this additional spectrum of 1.8 Mhz + 1.8 Mhz, if assigned for any one or more places in a Service Area, beyond 6.2 Mhz + 6.2 Mhz, an additional charge of 1% of AGR will be levied. Thus, the total spectrum charge to be paid by such operators would be 4% of AGR from the Service in the respective Service Area. This spectrum charge of 4% of AGR would also cover allocation of further spectrum, which may become possible to allocate in future subject to availability, to add up to a total spectrum allocation not exceeding 10 Mhz + 10 Mhz per operator in a Service Area. Such additional allocation could be considered only after a suitable subscriber base, as may be prescribed, is reached.

4. This order is issued in partial modification to the order of even number dated 22nd September, 2001; other terms and conditions of the said order shall remain unchanged.

Sd/-

(R. K. Srivastava)

Engineer

Copy to:

1. All concerned
2. Cellular Operators Associations of India (COAI)
3. Cellular Service Providers

Statement-II

*Details of Allotment of additional spectrum beyond
initial 4.4 + 4.4 Mhz (GSM)*

No. J-14025/200(17)/2004-NT (GSM)

Government of India

Ministry of Communications & I.T.

Department of Telecommunication (WPC Wing)

Sanchar Bhavan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-1

Dated the 29th March, 2006

ORDER

In suppression of all existing orders relating to subscriber base criteria for allotment of GSM spectrum, the following subscriber based criteria-shall be followed:

Service Area		Minimum subscriber base (in Lakh) required for allotment of different amounts of GSU spectrum					
		4.4 MHz	6.2 MHz	8 MHz	10 MHz	12.4 MHz	15 MHz
Metro Service Area Delhi and Mumbai	No criteria*	3	6	10	16	21	
Chennai and Kolkata	No criteria*	2	4	6	10	13	
Telecom Circles as Service Area							
Category 'A' circle	No criteria*	4	8	14	20	26	
Category 'B' circle	No criteria*	3	6	10	16	21	
Category 'C' circle	No criteria*	2	4	6	9	12	

* Initial allotment for roll-out of the network.

- The spectrum allotment is subject to availability of spectrum.
- The active subscribers and peak traffic averaged over a month (for a minimum of 40 mEriangs per subscriber) in the Visitor Locator Register (VLR) would be taken into account for this purpose.

4. The enhanced revenue share for spectrum charges, as per orders in this regard would apply for the AGR for subscribers in the complete service area.
5. This comes into force with immediate effect.

(Sukhpal Singh)

Assistant Wireless adviser
to the Government of India.
T.No. 23359562 Fax: 23716111

- (1) All concerned.
- (2) Cellular Service providers.
- (3) COAI

Statement-III

*Details of allotment of additional spectrum beyond
initial 2.5 + 2.5 Mhz (CDMA)*

No. J-14025/200(17)/2004-NT (CDMA)

Government of India

Ministry of Communications & I.T.

Department of Telecommunication (WPC Wing)

Sanchar Bhavan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-1

Dated the 29th March, 2006

ORDER

In continuation of this Ministry's Order of even number dated 10th December 2004 regarding subscriber based criteria for allotment of 3rd and 4th CDMA carriers for CDMA spectrum, the following subscriber based criteria shall be followed for the allotment of 5th and 6th CDMA carriers:

Service Area	Minimum subscriber base (In Lakh) required for allotment of CDMA carriers of nominal 1.25 MHz bandwidth each	
	5th Carrier	6th Carrier
1	2	3
Metro Service Area		
Delhi and Mumbai	16	21
Chennai and Kolkata	10	13

1	2	3
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**Telecom Circles as
Service Area**

Category 'A' circle	20	26
Category 'B' circle	16	21
Category 'C' circle	9	12

2. The subscriber based criteria for the allotment of 3rd and 4th carrier for CDMA spectrum shall continue to be as per Order No. J-14025/200 (17)/2004-NT dated 10th December, 2004.
3. The spectrum allotment is subject to availability of spectrum.
4. The active subscribers and peak traffic averaged over a month (for a minimum of 40 mErlangs per subscriber) in the Visitor Locator Register (VLR) would be taken into account, for this purpose.
5. The enhanced revenue share for spectrum charges, as per orders in this regard would apply for the AGR for subscribers in the complete service area.
6. This comes into force with immediate effect.

Sd/-

(Sukhpal Singh)

Assistant Wireless Adviser to the Government of India.

T.No. 23359562 Fax: 23716111

- (1) All concerned.
- (2) Unified Access Service Providers/ Basic Service Providers.
- (3) AUSPI

Roaming charges

2071. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to abolish roaming charges in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

- (c) the response of the private operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) National Telecom Policy-2012 (NTP-2012) envisages "One Nation – Free Roaming". This is a new policy initiative of the Government. Being a predominantly tariff related issue, as a first step, TRAI has floated a pre-consultation paper for public consultation. It has now been followed by a consultation paper on which comments have been invited upto 25.03.2013.

Weak signals of mobile telephone towers in Uttar Pradesh

2072. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of places in Uttar Pradesh where signals of mobile telephone towers are not strong enough to cover the areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that complaints in this regard were received from MPs and members of the public in the recent past but the problem has not been solved till date;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to streamline the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Telecom Service Providers are obliged to roll out their services in 50% of the total districts of their own choice by covering the District Head Quarter (DHQ) or any other town in lieu of DHQ. Further expansion of network beyond roll out obligations is to be done by the TSPs as per their techno-commercial interests. As such all the districts in Uttar Pradesh are covered by major Mobile Service Providers in general. However, as per the recent survey done approx 5000 villages in Uttar Pradesh (villages as per census 2001) do not have mobile service coverage.

(b) to (d) Complaints have been received from Hon'ble MP regarding non availability of BSNL's mobile signal in village Bareng, P.O. Chandapur, Distt. Shahjahanpur (UP) and Mainassi Sarraiya, Distt. Sitapur (UP). It has been reported that aerial distance of village Bareng is only 2 km from village Amaura where a new BTS tower is already proposed under phase VII plan. Thus installation of a

new BTS tower in village Bareng is not techno economical for BSNL. In respect of Mainassi Sarraiya village it has been reported that BTS tower installed and working at Ramkot is situated at a radial distance of about 2 Kms from Mainassi Sarraiya. Further, a new BTS tower has recently been installed at Newada Mansoorpur which is at a distance of 900 meters only from Mainassi Sarraiya after commissioning of which there will be improved coverage in Vill-Mainassi Sarraiya.

Apart from this TRAI has recently implemented web portal www.tccms.gov.in for facilitating consumers to lodge their complaints with their service providers. The individual consumer complaints received in TRAI are forwarded online through this web portal to the concerned service provider for redressal. As per the details available in this web portal, during the period 01.08.2012 to 12.03.2013, sixteen complaints and twenty one complaints were receded from customers of UP(W) and UP(E) service areas respectively, relating to poor mobile signal.

TRAI has been taking various steps to ensure quality of service by Cellular Mobile Service providers. Some of these steps are given below:

- (i) TRAI has been monitoring the performance of Cellular Mobile Service against the benchmarks given for the various parameters laid in Quality of Service Regulations through Quarterly and Monthly Performance Monitoring Reports. In addition, POI congestion is also being monitored on monthly basis.
- (ii) TRAI also undertakes objective assessment of the Quality of Service of Cellular Mobile Services through an independent agency. A customer satisfaction survey is also conducted quarterly through this agency. The results of these audit and survey were widely published for public/ Stakeholders knowledge.
- (iii) TRAI has been following up with the Service Providers for addressing deficiencies in meeting the Quality of Service benchmarks.

Import of technological items devices

2073. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the increase in import of technological items and devices in the recent years, and the details thereof;

- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to address the situation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) The import of Electronic Goods during the last three years has increased as given below:

Year	Value (Rs. crore)
2009-10	99418.61
2010-11	121017.19
2011-12	156503.62

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. To promote manufacturing of electronic goods indigenously and reduce dependence on imports, Government has notified the National Policy on Electronics (NPE) 2012 for the promotion the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector in the country. The Policy envisions creating a globally competitive ESDM industry to meet the country's needs and serve the international market. Several Schemes including Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) to offset disability and attract investments in ESDM industries; Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme to provide world-class infrastructure for the ESDM Sector; Policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products, in procurement of those electronic products which have security implications for the country and in Government procurement; and Scheme for mandatory registration of identified electronic products for meeting specified safety standards have already been approved.

- (d) Does not arise.

Proposal to set up telecom finance corporation

2074. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up a Telecom Finance Corporation;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the proposed Telecom Finance Corporation will provide long and short term loans to telecom companies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) has recommended that Telecom Finance Corporation may be created as a vehicle to access funds at competitive rates to facilitate the funding needs to the Telecom Sector, in case of requirement.

The National Telecom Policy-2012 has also envisaged the creation of Telecom Finance Corporation as a vehicle to mobilize and channelize financing for telecom projects.

(c) and (d) The Telecom Finance Corporation proposes to facilitate investments in the sector. It would be a financing agency to provide funds including long and short term loans to Telecom Companies such as telecom infrastructure providers, service providers, equipment manufacturers, internet service providers etc.

Hacking of Government networks by Chinese hackers

2075 SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chinese hackers are targeting Government and private networks bearing important data concerned with national security;
- (b) if so, the latest report in this regard; and
- (c) the strategy Government has planned to control such hackers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) There have been attempts from time to time to penetrate cyber networks operating in Government. These attacks have been observed to be originating from the cyber space of a number of countries including China. It has been observed that the attackers are compromising computer systems located in different parts of the world and use masquerading techniques to hide the identity of actual system from which the attacks are being launched.

(c) The Government has adopted an integrated, multi pronged strategy covering aspects such as technical, administrative, legal and people steps to protect the cyber space. The government has taken the following specific measures to protect important networks against hackers:

- (i) Department of Information Technology and Electronics has circulated Computer Security Guidelines and Cyber Security Policy to all the Ministries/ Departments on taking steps to prevent, detect and mitigate cyber attacks.
- (ii) All Central Government Ministries/Departments and State/Union Territory Governments have been advised to conduct security auditing of entire Information Technology infrastructure including websites periodically to discover gaps with respect to security practices and take appropriate corrective actions.
- (iii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) tracks latest cyber threats and issues advisories and alerts to organizations suggesting measures to prevent and respond to the cyber security incidents. CERT-In regularly publishes Security Guidelines and advisories for safeguarding computer systems including Websites from hacking and these are widely circulated.
- (iv) The "Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism" was prepared and circulated for implementation by all Ministries/Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors. As part of best practices, user awareness is being created by conducting workshops and training.
- (v) Strict exclusion between Internet and official networks is being maintained by organisations involved in strategic activities.
- (vi) The Information Technology Act, 2000 as amended by the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 has been enforced on 27.10.2009. The Act provides legal framework to address the issues connected with security breaches of information technology infrastructure.

- (vii) National Informatics Centre (NIC) managing Government websites and providing e-mail services is implementing measures to secure the Government IT infrastructure from cyber attacks.
- (viii) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been directed not to host web sites, which are not audited with respect to cyber security.

Mobile number portability

†2076. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of subscribers who applied for number portability after implementation of the Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 along with the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the details of applications submitted for Number Portability and location portability;
- (c) whether security deposit of subscriber is also transferred to that company for whom Number Portability is applied for; and
- (d) the number of private/public communication companies found neglecting the abovesaid regulations due to which subscribers are deprived of this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The service-area wise number of porting requests since the implementation of Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 are given in the Statement (*See* below). In the present framework mobile number portability is allowed within the same licensed service area wherein subscriber can port his mobile number.

(c) The security deposit of subscriber is not transferred to the company for whom Number Portability is applied for but the same is refunded by the Donor Operator to subscriber after successful port out.

(d) After implementation of the MNP Regulations, TRAI had received a number of complaints wherein the subscribers have reported that their porting requests have been rejected by the donor operators on various grounds. On examination, it was noted that rejection of porting requests of the subscribers done

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

by the service providers in several cases were not accordance with the regulation. TRAI has issued directions to service providers to ensure compliance of MNP regulations. In addition, TRAI has also issued Telecommunications Mobile Number Portability (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2012 dated 19th September, 2012 providing financial disincentives for unjustified rejection of porting request and for violation of timelines specified in the Regulations. These regulations came into force, sixty days from the date of publication in the official Gazette.

Statement

Service Area-wise MNP Status as on 28.02.2013

Sl. No.	Name of LSA	Number of Porting Requests
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	7,836,324
2	Assam	341,678
3	Bihar	1,731,697
4	Delhi	2,843,830
5	Gujarat	7,556,671
6	Haryana	3,117,632
7	Himachal Pradesh	323,090
8	Jammu and Kashmir	14,925
9	Karnataka	10,449,485
10	Kerala	3,619,041
11	Kolkata	1,965,931
12	Madhya Pradesh	5,131,575
13	Maharashtra	7,127,713
14	Mumbai	3,089,092
15	North East	153,704

1	2	3
16	Odisha	1,911,286
17	Punjab	2,811,661
18	Rajasthan	8,249,830
19	Tamil Nadu	5,093,366
20	Uttar Pradesh – East	5,248,290
21	Uttar Pradesh – West	5,066,739
22	West Bengal	3,147,469
	TOTAL	86831029

**Adoption of international norms on radiation from
towers and handsets**

2077. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any international norms have been adopted by DoT with regard to radiation from cellphone towers and handset;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken to enforce these norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, Government of India, in the year 2008, adopted the international radiation norms prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) in respect of mobile towers and mobile handsets.

Further, in respect of mobile towers, norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) has been reduced to 1/10 of the limits prescribed by ICNIRP with effect from 01.09.2012.

In respect of Mobile Handsets, the following directions have been issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) with effect from 01.09.2012 regarding Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) values:

- (i) SAR level for mobile handsets is limited to 1.6 Watt/Kg, average over a mass of 1 gram of human tissue.
- (ii) All the new design of mobile handsets shall comply with the SAR value of 1.6 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 1 gram tissue with effect from 1st September, 2012. However, the mobile handsets with existing designs, which are compliant with 2.0 Watt/Kg averaged over a mass of 10 gram tissue, may continue to co-exist upto 31st August, 2013.
- (iii) From 1st September, 2013, only the mobile handsets with revised SAR value of 1.6 Watt/Kg are permitted to be manufactured or imported in India for domestic market.

With the above measures, India now has one of the most stringent EMF exposure norms in the world.

(c) Telecom Service Providers submit the compliance to the prescribed radiation norms by way of submission of self-certificate to the respective Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cell of DoT. TERM Cells test upto 10% of Base Transmitting Station (BTS) sites randomly at its discretion. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints are also tested by TERM Cell. For non-compliance of radiation norms, there is a provision of levy of penalty of Rs. 5 lakh per BTS.

Strict monitoring and enforcement of revised radiation norms has been initiated by DoT. In 102 cases, where the Base Station Emissions were found to be higher than the prescribed norms, corrective actions have been taken immediately and necessary show cause notices/demand notices have been issued.

Messages of false prize money/lottery on mobile phones

†2078. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy to check the increasing number of fake messages of lottery, prize, etc. on mobile phones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of cases detected till now?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, the issue of receiving messages and calls relating to winning prizes, lottery etc and missed calls from international locations by telecom consumers had come to notice of TRAI through consumer complaints and also from news paper reports. In this regard, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had advised the service providers to take steps to address this menace so as to protect the interests of the consumers.

For addressing Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) including SMS being received by telecom consumers, TRAI has laid down the framework for controlling UCC through the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations (TCCCPR). These regulations came into force from 27.09.2011. TRAI has also issued a number of amendments to these regulations and directions to make the regulatory framework more stringent and effective. To control UCC messages being received by consumers, TRAI has prescribed penal provisions against telemarketers for violations of the provisions of the regulations. In case of violation by a registered telemarketer, amounts will be deducted from the security deposit of such telemarketer by the Access Provider and such amount will be deposited with TRAI. The regulations also provide for financial disincentive on service providers for violations of the provisions of the regulations. With the implementation of these measures, it is expected that the problem of unsolicited commercial messages will be addressed effectively and satisfactorily.

(c) No record about the number of such fake messages received by consumers are being maintained by TRAI/Government.

Termination charges for domestic and international calls

2079. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cost of termination charges for both domestic and international calls as per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) guidelines;

(b) whether TRAI is deviating from its established principle of termination charges on the basis of cost, to benefit certain selected operators;

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

(d) whether Government has asked TRAI to look into these aspects and frame a policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued "The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Tenth Amendment) Regulations, 2009 (2 of 2009) dated the 9th March, 2009" wherein the termination charge for domestic calls and international incoming calls has been fixed as 20 paise per minute and 40 paise per minute respectively.

To review the termination charges, TRAI issued Pre Consultation paper on 24.12.2010 and Consultation Paper titled 'Review of Interconnection Usage Charges' on 27.04.2011. Following elaborate Consultation process, a report was filed in Hon'ble Supreme court on 31.10.2011 in compliance with its order dated 29.07.2011 in Civil Appeal No. 271-281/2011.

TRAI has also filed Application seeking permission to notify the regulation relating to revised Interconnection Usage Charges. However Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 13.04.2012, declined to grant the permission. The larger bench was constituted in Supreme Court and matter along with other concerned matters was heard on 20.11.2012 to 22.11.2012 and on 04.12.2012 by the larger bench on the question of law involved that whether TDSAT has the power, competence and jurisdiction to exercise powers of judicial review, over the regulations framed under section 36(1) of the TRAI Act, 1997. Arguments have been completed and order is reserved.

(d) Section 11(1) (b) (iv) of TRAI (Amendment) Act 2000, inter-alia, provides that TRAI shall discharge the following function namely:

"regulate arrangement amongst service providers of sharing their revenue derived from providing telecommunications services."

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Internet services and devices industry

2080. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that internet services and devices industry has the potential to increase its contribution upto 3.3 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product by 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India with a user base of 120 million is the world's third largest Internet market and is poised to have upto 370 million users in 2015; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (d) The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) is not compiling any sectoral performance data. Such projections are being made by Global I.T. research and advisory companies. According to one of such recent global survey, the internet services and devices industry has the potential of contributing up to 3.3 per cent to India's gross domestic product (GDP) by 2015. India ranked third in terms of highest number of Internet users in the world, with a user base of about 137 million in June 2012, behind China and USA. As per the report, it is expected that Internet users in India would increase to 370 million in 2015.

Unauthorised ILD services

2081. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Singapore Telecommunications was selling unauthorized International Long Distance (ILD) services to Indian customers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has caused a loss of nearly Rs. 50 crore to Government;

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

(e) the details of the number of companies involved, the cases registered against the companies and the action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (e) Sir, during a

routine inspection carried out by Department of Telecommunications (DoT), it was found that an unlicensed foreign entity M/s. Singapore Telecommunications Limited (STL) was providing international Private Lease Circuits (IPLC) to the customers in India and issuing bills to the customers in India resulting into loss of revenue to the Government. M/s. STL had entered into an agreement with M/s. Bharti Airtel Limited (BAL and M/s. Tata Communications Limited (TCL), the International Long Distance (ILD) Service licensees, for providing the IPCL services to its customers.

A case against M/s. STL, a non-licensed entity, for violation of India Telegraph Act, 1885 has been filed with Economic Officers Wing of CBI. The case is under investigation by CBI.

For the violation of terms and conditions of the ILD license, a penalty of Rs. 50 crores was imposed on M/s. BAL and M/s. TCL each. However, both the licensees filed petitions against the imposition of above penalty and vide order dated 28.09.2012 Hon'ble Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) has set aside the impugned orders and allowed the Petitioners for an opportunity of being heard. DoT has decided to follow the said order of Hon'ble TDSAT.

Hacking of E-mail IDs

2082. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 10,000 e-mail IDs were hacked in a single day on July 12, 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is trying to prevent incidents like this in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) There have been attempts from time to time to penetrate cyber networks and e-mail IDs in the country. The hackers attempt different techniques to penetrate mail servers and IT infrastructure. However, no such incident occurred regarding hacking of over 10,000 e-mail IDs hosted on Government e-mail server in a single day on July 12, 2012.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken the following specific measures to prevent hacking incidents:

- (i) Security features on the Government e-mail servers managed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) have been significantly strengthened.
- (ii) Authorized users are allowed to login the e-mail servers through secured techniques and protocols. Alerts are issued from time to time on the failed login attempts.
- (iii) The users are advised to use strong passwords and change the passwords regularly for accessing e-mail services. Alerts in this regard are issued by NIC from time to time.
- (iv) The e-mail servers are upgraded with respect to anti-virus, anti-spam and anti-spyware software.
- (v) Department of Information Technology and Electronics has circulated Computer Security Guidelines and Cyber Security Policy to all the Ministries/ Departments on taking steps to prevent, detect and mitigate cyber attacks.
- (vi) NIC, which manage Govt, websites and providing e-mail services, is implementing measures to secure the Government. IT infrastructure from cyber attacks. NIC is conducting security audit of its IT infrastructure on a regular basis to detect the vulnerabilities and plugging them in a timely manner.

Requirement of godowns

2083. SHRI SABIR ALI:

SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of foodgrains produced during the last rabi crops in the country;
- (b) the quantum of foodgrains which are lying in the warehouses of the Central and State Government; and
- (c) the quantum of foodgrains for which godowns would be required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): (a) Estimated Production of foodgrains during Rabi 2011-12 stands at 128.05 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 1st February, 2013 including 23.26 million tonnes of rice procured up to 31st January, 2013 was 66.28 million tonnes. In addition to the above stock, the space will be required for remaining stock of rice being procured in the Kharif Marketing Season 2012-13 out of total anticipated procurement of 40.13 million tonnes during the season and anticipated procurement of 44.12 million tonnes of wheat during Rabi Marketing Season 2013-14.

Train from Jabalpur to Jagannath Puri

†2084. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from Government of Madhya Pradesh, for running a regular and direct train from Jabalpur to Jagannath Puri *via* Raigarh, is pending with Government for the last three years;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government, so far, on this proposal; and

(c) by when, the direct train services from Jabalpur to Jagannath Puri *via* Raigarh are likely to be commenced for the benefit of the people of this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Introduction of a train between Jabalpur and Puri (Jagannath Puri) *via* Raigarh has been examined but it has not been found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints. Besides, there is no commercial justification for introduction of a train between Jabalpur and Puri *via* Raigarh. However, presently the service of 22909/22910 Valsad-Puri Express (weekly) *via* Jabalpur-Katni-Champa-Jharsuguda-Sambalpur is available between Jabalpur and Puri.

Modernising cold storages

2085. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government has got any scheme to modernise cold storages in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the funds allocated and released for such schemes during the last two years, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to set up more cold storage facilities in villages of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (d) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation under Ministry of Agriculture is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM) scheme for development of Horticulture in the country which includes assistance for post harvest management. Under the component of post harvest management, 40% credit linked back ended subsidy in general areas and 55% in scheduled area is available for setting up of new cold storages and expansion of existing capacity. National Horticulture Board (NHB) is also implementing a scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" under which, Board is providing credit linked back-ended capital investment subsidy to the eligible organizations for creation/modernization/expansion of cold storages/CA storage @ 40% of the capital project cost in general areas and 55% in case of Hilly and scheduled areas for a maximum storage capacity of 5000 MT per project. The financial assistance for modernization of cold storages is provided for (i) upgradation of thermal insulation, (ii) upgradation of cooling system, refrigeration, air flow, electric installation, handling devices, safety devices etc.

The component of establishment of cold storage, expansion, modernization of existing cold storages is project based. The number of cold storage projects including modernization of existing cold storages under NHM scheme during last two years is given in the Statement-I (*See below*) and the number of cold storage projects including modernization of existing cold storages assisted by NHB is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*State-wise projects sanctioned under NHM during the last two years*

State	2011-12			2012-13 (upto 28.02.2013)		
	No. of Projects	Financial assistance (Rs. in lakh)	Capacity (MT)	No. of Projects	Financial assistance (Rs. in lakh)	Capacity (MT)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	21	2581.21	147434	14	1674	89024
Bihar	3	125.06	16000	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	1	105.84	4410	2	229	10000
Gujarat	29	3012.14	150879	8	690	42737
Haryana	7	663.82	28341	8	533	25182
Jharkhand	2	330	10000	1	113	4775
Karnataka	2	232.47	10315	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	14	1431.65	65595	6	548	23270
Maharashtra	2	123.04	6732	3	260	9320

Odisha	1	112.32	5000	1	20	5000
Punjab	29	2880.76	102890	28	2153	103663
Rajasthan	2	240	10000	2	112	5275
Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	1	109	6000
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	4	408	18266
West Bengal	4	266.40	17800	4	415	20900

Statement-II

State-wise projects sanctioned by National Horticulture Board (NHB) during the last two years

State	2011-12			2012-13 (upto 31.01.2013)		
	No. of Projects	Financial assistance (Rs. in lakh)	Capacity (MT)	No. of Projects	Financial assistance (Rs. in lakh)	Capacity (MT)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	5	785.35	26752	1	62.07	8934
Assam	1	36.66	5423	0	0	0
Bihar	3	89.75	9376	3	149.39	15996

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chhattisgarh	3	97.87	7092	1	50.00	6108
Gujarat	2	112.84	6537	1	0.50	111
Haryana	0	0	0	4	451.17	11282
Jammu and Kashmir	3	1324.95	11700	1	513.60	5000
Jharkhand	0	0	0	1	19.34	4631
Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kerala	1	48.75	5000	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	2	196.20	10608
Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0
Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0
Punjab	5	768.11	19296	14	395.00	39927
Rajasthan	1	100.00	5440	2	181.54	10948
Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	4	123.55	15514
Uttar Pradesh	63	2875.73	358711	29	492.48	250147
West Bengal	1	17.50	3500	1	24.33	2812

National mission on food processing

2086. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the National Mission on Food Processing;
- (b) to what extent the Mission would help in reducing the spoilage of fruits and vegetables; and
- (c) the details of new technologies that the Ministry is going to implement through the above Mission so as to increase country's share of processed food in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) had launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme – National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) during 2012-13 of Twelfth Five Year Plan. The basic objective of NMFP is decentralization of implementation of the schemes, leading to substantial participation of State Governments/UTs. NMFP is likely to improve significantly the Ministry's outreach in terms of planning, supervision and monitoring of various schemes.

The salient features of the National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) are:

- (i) to realize the Ministry's next leap forward in terms of ensuing requisite growth impetus and value addition to the sector;
- (ii) decentralized approach;
- (iii) greater role of State/UTs;
- (iv) better outreach and
- (v) effective supervision and monitoring.

The Major Programmes/Schemes covered under NMFP during 2012-13 are:

- (i) Scheme for Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries.
- (ii) Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticultural Products.

- (iii) 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)
- (iv) Scheme for Promotional Activities
 - a. Organizing Seminar/Workshops
 - b. Conducting Studies/Surveys
 - c. Support to Exhibitions/Fairs
 - d. Advertisement and Publicity.

(b) All the State Governments have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release of grant-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries under the NMFP. States also have flexibility in selection of location of projects as well as beneficiaries, to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material including fruits and vegetables. This initiative is likely to augment the capacity of the food processors for upscaling their operations by adoption of new technologies including skill upgradation.

The above initiative would help in reducing the spoilage of fruits and vegetables across all the States/UTs.

(c) In order to assist the entrepreneurs and domestic agro-processing industries for adoption of new technologies, the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries has been subsumed in the NMFP *w.e.f.* 1.4.2012 (2012-13). This scheme aims at creation of new processing capacity by adoption of new technologies and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities in sectors like Milk, Fruit and Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, fishery, wine, consumer items, oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse. Under the scheme, the Ministry extends financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and @33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in North-Eastern and difficult areas.

The adoption of new and latest technologies by the food processors by availing financial assistance under the above scheme of the Mission, may help in improving the quality of food products as per the national/international standards, thereby increasing countries share of process food in the world.

Setting up of new cold chains

2087. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to set up new cold chains in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any cold chains have been set up in Uttar Pradesh under the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas, and @ 75% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in difficult areas including North-Eastern states subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crore for strengthening and value addition of cold chain infrastructure. The scheme also provides for backward linkages in shape of collection centers at farm level with facilities for pre-cooling/storages/minimal processing. Other agencies of the Government like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.

(c) to (e) Details of integrated cold chain projects assisted by the Ministry in the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of the integrated cold chain projects approved with the financial assistance of Ministry of Food Processing Industries

Sl. No.	State	Name of the project	Project Cost	Grant approved	Status of Implementation	(Amount Rs. in lakh)	
						4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	M/s. Creamline Dairy Products Ltd.	2386.00	975.00	Commercial production started		
2	Andhra Pradesh	M/s. Synthite Industries Ltd.	2943.10	626.45	Under implementation		
3	Andhra Pradesh	M/s. Bhupati Agro Enterprises	1836.16	748.16	Under implementation		
4	Andhra Pradesh.	M/s. Dodla Dairy Ltd.	3200.00	600.00	Under implementation		
5	Arunachal Pradesh	M/s. Siang Fresh	1618.57	1000.00	Under implementation		
6	Assam	M/s. Global Entrade	1595.90	936.945	Under implementation		
7	Bihar	M/s. Ganga Dairy Ltd.	2260.00	1000.00	Commercial production started		
8	Chhattisgarh	M/s. L.L. Logistics Pvt. Ltd.	1868.33	733.93	Under implementation		
9	Chhattisgarh	M/s. Utsav Organic & Cold Chain	2065.00	607.31	Under implementation		

10	Gujarat	M/s. Hi-Tech Frozen Facilities Pvt. Ltd.	1683.00	719.00	Commercial production started
11	Gujarat	M/s. Sabarkanta District Co-op. Milk Producers Union Ltd.	2380.00	571.55	Commercial production started
12	Gujarat	M/s. Natural Frozen & Dehydrated Foods	1250.00	289.70	Commercial production started
13	Gujarat	M/s. Gayatri Dairy Products Pvt. Ltd.	1515.16	477.52	Under implementation
14	Haryana	M/s. Aligned Industries Ltd.	2202.18	730.28	Under implementation
15	Haryana	M/s. M J Logistic Services Ltd.	2138.07	1000.00	Under implementation
16	Haryana	M/s. Suri Agro Fresh Pvt. Ltd.	2352.00	984.00	Commercial production started
17	Himachal Pradesh	M/s. Canvas Integrated Cold Chain	1462.76	760.568	Under implementation
18	Himachal Pradesh	M/s. DevBhumi Cold Chain	1425.00	899.64	Commercial production started
19	Himachal Pradesh	M/s. Aromatrix Flora Pvt Ltd.	2000.00	983.355	Under implementation
20	Himachal Pradesh	M/s. Hillcrest Foods	1560.92	786.19	Commercial production started
21	Himachal Pradesh	M/s. Narwanis Cold Chain	1751.22	987.98	Under implementation
22	Karnataka	M/s. Atharvass Traders Pvt Ltd.	2861.00	1000.00	Under implementation
23	Karnataka	M/s. InnovaAgri Bio Park Ltd.	1400.00	336.25	Under implementation

1	2	3	4	5	6
24	Kerala	M/s. Inkal Ventures	2264.20	621.26	Under implementation
25	Kerala	M/s. Frozen Fruits & Vegetables	2533.57	716.88	Under implementation
26	Kerala	M/s. SH Cold Storage	2397.14	869.35	Under implementation
27	Madhya Pradesh	M/s. Om Agro Products	1722.44	447.866	Under implementation
28	Maharashtra	M/s. Freshrop Fruits Ltd.	3275.00	1000.00	Commercial production started
29	Maharashtra	M/s. I.G. International	2225.00	876.48	Under implementation
30	Maharashtra	M/s. Warana Dairy & Agro Industry	4331.00	1000.00	Commercial production started
31	Maharashtra	M/s. Saastha Warehousing Ltd	4281.22	1000.00	Under implementation
32	Maharashtra	M/s. Savla Foods & Cold Storage Pvt Ltd	2700.00	792.40	Commercial production started
33	Maharashtra	M/s. B. Y. Agro & Infra Pvt. Ltd.	2858.00	684.05	Under implementation
34	Maharashtra	M/s. Blue Fin Frozen Pvt. Ltd.	2545.60	644.79	Under implementation
35	Maharashtra	M/s. Cold Star Logistics Pvt. Ltd.	2326.40	1000.00	Under implementation
36	Maharashtra	M/s. MerrygoldBuildconPvt. Ltd.	3526.68	999.19	Under implementation
37	Maharashtra	M/s. Daulat Agro (India) Private Ltd.	2875.33	739.11	Under implementation

38	Maharashtra	M/s. Nath Bio-Genes (I) Ltd.	2759.25	617.50	Under implementation
39	Maharashtra	M/s. Haldiram Foods International Limited	2800.00	1000.00	Under implementation
40	Maharashtra	M/s. Western Hill Foods Limited	2096.00	786.04	Under implementation
41	Manipur	M/s. Associate Action for Progressive Dev. Society	1849.00	1000.00	Under implementation
42	Mizoram	M/s. Mizofa Fish Seed Farm	519.77	303.01	Under implementation
43	Mizoram	M/s. Zoram Fish Seeds Production Centre	1726.22	974.33	Under implementation
44	Odisha	M/s. Basantdevi Charitable Trust (BCT)	1696.90	591.60	Under implementation
45	Punjab	M/s. Alchemist Ltd.	4071.00	406.41	Under implementation
46	Punjab	M/s. B.D. Agro Foods	2263.91	984.49	Under implementation
47	Punjab	M/s. International Farm Fresh Products (India) Ltd.	2880.72	819.24	Under implementation
48	Rajasthan	M/s. Jhunsons Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	1773.00	733.00	Commercial production started
49	Tamil Nadu	M/s. Farm Fresh Banana	1554.00	605.7	Commercial production started

1	2	3	4	5	6
50	Tamil Nadu	M/s. Devraj Agro Industries Pvt. Ltd.	1324.00	478.00	Under implementation
51	Uttar Pradesh	M/s. Imperial Frozen Food	992.95	412.58	Commercial production started
52	Uttar Pradesh	M/s. Impartial Agrotech (P) Ltd.	1478.97	630.75	Under implementation
53	Uttar Pradesh	M/s. Rajshree Integrated Cold Chain Projects	2257.00	1000.00	Commercial production started
54	Uttar Pradesh	M/s. Akashdeep Cold storage	2706.00	773.88	Under implementation
55	Uttarakhand	M/s. Bio Life Foods Pvt. Ltd.	1771.00	981.00	Commercial production started
56	Uttarakhand	M/s. Brar Frozen Foods	1480.00	737.63	Commercial production started
57	Uttarakhand	M/s. ShardaAgri Foods (P) Ltd.	1740.39	1000.00	Under implementation
58	West Bengal	M/s. Ascon Agro Products Ltd.	2127.00	696.00	Commercial production started
59	West Bengal	M/s. Keventer Agro	3111.00	1000.00	Under implementation
60	West Bengal	M/s. Prime Cold Stores	2001.88	592.46	Under implementation
61	West Bengal	M/s. Basukinath Food Processors Pvt. Ltd	3392.00	620.695	Commercial production started
62	West Bengal	M/s. Shimla Horticulture	1480.42	569.29	Under implementation
63	West Bengal	M/s. Amicus Healthcare Services and Solution Pvt. Ltd.	1627.84	593.83	Under implementation

Investment in food processing sector

†2088. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to make heavy investment in food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) by when this investment is proposed to be made; and
- (d) the areas identified for such investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (d) Government has made a plan allocation of Rs. 5990 crores during the Twelfth Plan for Food Processing Sector to implement the Schemes of Infrastructure Development; Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, Quality Assurance, Codex Standard, R&D and other Promotional activities, Human Resource Development, National Mission on Food Processing and Strengthening of Institutions for promotion of food processing industries in the country.

Control on prices of food items

2089. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to control the steep rise in the prices of processed food items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Investment by private sector

2090. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) how much investment has been made by the private sector industries—small, medium and large in the food processing sector;
- (b) the obstacles in increasing this investment; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to overcome those obstacles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) As per the Annual Survey of Industries 2010-11 (provisional results), the total Investment (sum of Fixed capital and Physical working capital) in Registered Food Processing Units was of the order of Rs. 2,49,337 crore in the country.

(b) Supply Chain infrastructural gaps *i.e.* lack of processing, storage and distribution facilities is identified as the main constraint faced by the food processing sector.

(c) In order to address the problem of infrastructure gap in food processing sector, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing a scheme for infrastructural development which includes components like (i) Mega Food Parks; (ii) Cold Chain, Value addition and preservation infrastructure; and (iii) Modernization of Abattoirs. As a component of the centrally sponsored scheme of National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP), financial assistance by way of grant-in-aid is also extended to entrepreneurs for modernization, expansion and setting up of processing units for fruits and vegetables, meat, milk, fish, grain (oil mill; Rice, pulse and flour milling), consumer products (including bakery units) etc.

Survey to evaluate quality of higher education

2091. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey/study has been carried out recently to evaluate the quality of higher education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of higher education in the prevailing global scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No such study has been conducted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD).

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above,

(c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) which has the mandate for coordination and determination of standards in higher educational institutions has been implementing a number of schemes aimed at improvement of quality of higher education in Indian Universities and colleges. It has taken up various measures for educational reforms, such as introduction of Semester System, regular updating of curricula and Choice Based Credit Systems (CBCs) etc. The UGC has also issued Regulations on “Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2010” for improving the standards of teaching in Indian Universities. In order to improve quality of teachers and teaching, National Eligibility Test (NET) and State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) have been made compulsory requirements, only exception being those who have completed Ph.D in accordance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D Degree), Regulations 2009.

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), an autonomous body established by the UGC, accredits universities and colleges on various parameters of quality. The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) accredits programmes offered by the technical institutions. The Commission has also notified UGC (Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 which makes it mandatory for higher educational institutions to get themselves assessed and accredited by identified agencies.

The UGC has launched several schemes such as the scheme of Autonomous Colleges, Universities with Potential for Excellence, Colleges with Potential for Excellence, Centres with Potential for Excellence in Particular Areas, Special Assistance Programme (SAP) in Science and Humanities and Social Sciences, Instrumentation Maintenance Facility, Innovative Programmes and establishment of the Internal Quality Assurance Cells in Higher Educational Institutions in order to improve the standards of education in Universities and Colleges.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has framed various norms and standards to regulate the technical institutions in the country for maintaining quality in these institutions. These norms and standards are uniformly applicable to all the colleges. AICTE has various schemes for improvement of quality and standard of higher education in the country such as Research

Promotion Scheme (RPS), Research and Institutional Development (RID), Quality Improvement Programme (QIP), QIP Degree, DIP Polytechnics, Early Faculty Induction Scheme (EFIP), Emeritus Fellowship (EF), Visiting Professorship (VP), Career Awards etc.

Networking of teachers and students through EDUSAT

2092. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation, Ahmedabad has launched EDUSAT exclusively for educational purposes;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government has proposed to establish network in the State to facilitate school children and teachers especially of rural, tribal and remote areas; and

(c) whether the State has requested the Ministry to provide funds either from the ICT scheme or any other scheme for installation of Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) under EDUSAT scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal of the State of Maharashtra for financial assistance for installation of Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) in Maharashtra for EDUSAT received in this Ministry in August, 2008, is not covered under the two Schemes of the Ministry *i.e.* the “National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT)” which primarily focuses on higher education institutions or the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of “Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools”.

**Inclusion of Gandhian literature and spiritual matter
in syllabus of educational institutions**

2093. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Ministry is going to include more Gandhian literature and

spiritual matters in various educational syllabus to motivate and enhance mental power of students in consultation with State Governments;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a sharp rise in the mental stress among students; and

(c) if so, the remedial action taken by Central Governments in consultation with State Governments in this regard along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 lays stress on the teachings of Gandhi which *inter-alia* provides for commitment to democracy and the values of justice, freedom, secularism, right and respect for human dignity. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has already included the elements of Gandhian literature in its syllabus to motivate and enhance mental power of students.

(b) and (c) A survey on whether students were stressed or not was conducted by the CBSE in 2009. The survey conducted through focus group discussion in six different regions of the country and SMS surveys suggested that the students were stressed. To reduce level of the stress of the students, the CBSE has taken the following steps:

- (i) Introduction of the School Based Assessment in the year 2009
- (ii) Option for students to choose from school based assessment or external assessment in class X
- (iii) 15 minutes of additional time to relax and read the question paper
- (iv) One chance for improvement of performance in class X
- (v) Three chances to clear compartment examination in class XII
- (vi) Designing of question papers in such a way that these could be completed in 3 hours time.
- (vii) Launch of helpline every year in two phases i.e. the first phase in February-April during exams and the second phase during May-June at the time of declaration of results to provide psychological counselling.

Reforms in education system

2094. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has felt any necessity to bring in reforms in the entire education system, particularly after Class XII Board Examinations, so that there is no need to rely upon coaching classes for competitive examinations, which have become a profitable business for some entrepreneurs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Education reforms are a continuous process and the Government seek to carry them forward through expansion, inclusion and rapid improvement in quality through institutional and policy reforms and by enhancing public spending. Education, being in the concurrent list, is the responsibility of both Centre as well as the State Governments. Educational reforms are taking place after consultation with all stakeholders including State Governments and academics.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2010 has been enacted which envisages significant reforms in the Elementary Education sector. The Act makes it incumbent on Government to provide free and compulsory education to all children of 6-14 years of age; ensure compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by every child of the age of six to fourteen years. It also makes it mandatory for the States to ensure availability of neighborhood school within three years of the commencement of the Act. The Act stipulates that the State needs to provide infrastructure including school building, trained teaching staff and learning equipment as well as ensure good quality elementary education according to the standards and norms specified.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) follows a holistic approach to improve the quality of elementary education, and subject to certain norms, provides for opening of new primary schools, upgradation of primary schools to upper primary schools, construction of school buildings, construction of additional classrooms to improve the students classroom ratio, recruitment of additional teachers to improve the pupil teacher ratio, in-service training of the teachers and training of the teachers and training of untrained teachers, provision of text books, learning enhancement

programme, remedial teaching, school and teacher grant and regular academic support to the school through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres to improve the quality of classroom practices.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan was launched in March, 2009 with the objective to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality. The scheme aims to achieve an enrolment ratio of 75% for class IX and X within five years by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance of every habitation, to improve quality of education imparted at secondary level through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, to remove gender, socio-economic and disability barrier and universal access to secondary level education by 2017.

CBSE has taken number of steps for educational reforms which includes no Class X Board examination *w.e.f.* 2011 for students studying in CBSE's Senior Secondary Schools and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after Class X. The students studying in CBSE's Secondary Schools will, however, be required to appear in Board's external examination because they will be leaving the Secondary School after Class X. The Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation has been strengthened in all CBSE affiliated schools *w.e.f.* October, 2009 in Class IX. The new Grading System has been introduced at Secondary School Level (for Class IX and X) effective from 2009-10 academic session. During various meetings with stakeholders, survey etc. the Board has received overwhelming response in favour of these reforms.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken a number of steps and has written to all universities to implement academic reforms including introduction of semester system, choice based credit system, curriculum development, reforms in admission procedures, in examination and evaluation systems. UGC has also notified regulations specifying that qualifying National Eligibility Test (NET) or State-Level Eligibility Test (SLET) shall be the minimum eligibility criteria for appointment as Assistant Professor with exemption to those who have obtained a Ph.D. degree. UGC has also taken various steps for educational reforms which includes Quality Assessment Cell in Universities and Colleges, Regulations for Deemed Universities, Reform of College Affiliation System, Academic Reforms of Universities and College System, regulations for M.Phil. and Ph.D. admission, Faculty Development, Pay and Service conditions of Teachers, etc.

AICTE has taken initiatives for reforms which include permission to institutions under Section 25(g) of the Company Act, 1956 for setting up technical education institutions. Further, stand alone Post Graduate institutes are allowed to be set up for promoting research and development.

Representation of SCs and STs in teaching and non-teaching staff

2095. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is keeping a record of the number of teaching staff belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately in private and Government-aided schools and colleges;

(b) if so, the details of the percentage/fraction of teachers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes categories out of the total number of teachers and other non-teaching staff in private and Government-aided schools and colleges;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in teaching staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) As per the annual publication "Statistics of School Education" of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, the number of teachers in Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary schools in the country during 2010-11 (Provisional) is given below:

Type of school	Primary Schools	Upper Primary Schools	Secondary Schools	Senior Secondary Schools
Number of teachers	2100462	1887343	1244515	1255586

As per the District Information System for Education (DISE) data base brought out by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) for elementary education annually, in the year 2011-12 (provisional), SC teachers in government aided schools were 8.04% and ST teachers 7.57% while in the private schools the SC teachers were 9.37% and ST teachers 4.42%. Data on number of non-teaching staff is not maintained.

As per the annual publication "Statistics of Higher and Technical Education" of Ministry of Human Resource Development, the number of teachers in higher education in the country during 2009-10 (Provisional) is 652665. As per the provisional report on the All India Survey on Higher Education, the percentages of SC and ST teaching and non-teaching staff out of their total number during 2010-11 (Provisional) based on data collected up to 31st July, 2012 are given below:

	SC	ST
Teaching Staff	7.4	2.9
Non-Teaching Staff	12.2	4.0

The data on number of teachers is not maintained separately for Government-aided and private colleges.

(d) Majority of the government schools and colleges in the country are under the administrative control of State/UT Governments. Recruitment and appointment of teachers in these schools and colleges are done by the respective State/UT Governments as per their recruitment rules with the provision of reservation for SC/ST category teachers. Special recruitment drives for filling up of the posts of SCs and STs are launched by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyayalaya Samiti.

To improve the representation of SC and ST in universities and in their colleges, the Ministry has written to all Central Universities, established prior to 2008, to launch a special drive to fill up the backlog vacancies of SCs/STs followed by reminders from time to time. Minister of Human Resource Development has written to the Chairman, UGC to ensure filling up of the identified backlog vacancies for SC/ST and maintenance of requisite records. Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Government of India has also written to UGC and the Central Universities from time to time on this issue. UGC has, while approving the budget estimates for the year 2011-12, directed the Central Universities to fill up the vacant posts including that of SC/ST at the earliest.

Drop-out rate of SC and ST students in schools and colleges

2096. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is keeping a record of drop-out rates of students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately in private and Government-aided schools and colleges;

(b) if so, the details of the difference between drop-out rates of students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes categories and the rest of students in private and Government-aided schools and colleges;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to address the gap in drop-out rates between SC/ST and other category students, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) As per the annual publication "Statistics of School Education" of Ministry of Human Resource Development, the drop-out rate of Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and All Categories students for the Classes I-V, Classes I-VIII and Classes I-X in the country during 2010-11 (Provisional) is given below:

Class/Category	I-V	I-VIII	I-X
SC	26.7	43.3	56.0
ST	35.6	55.0	70.9
All Categories	27.0	40.6	49.3

Data on dropout rate is not maintained separately for private and Government-aided schools. Data on dropout rate is not maintained for higher education.

(d) The Government has been making consistent progress in meeting the goals of Universal Elementary Education through implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, which became operational with effect from 1st April, 2010, provides that every child in the 6 to 14 age- group shall have a right to free and compulsory education till the completion of elementary education. The SSA Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act 2009 and the SSA is being implemented in accordance with the norms and standards of the RTE Act to enhance enrolment and retention of children. SSA facilitates context- specific interventions for SC/ST students. A multi-pronged approach has been adopted for reducing dropout rates. This includes *inter-alia* strengthening of school infrastructure and facilities, residential hostel buildings for children in habitations not covered by regular schools, provisioning

for additional teachers, regular training of teachers, provision for text books and uniforms to children. The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme provides for setting up of residential upper primary schools for girls from SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities. The Mid Day Meal Scheme is also being implemented with a view to enhance enrolment and retention of children in school. Further, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) which has been launched for universal access to secondary education, aims at removing gender and socio-economic disparities in access to education. There is a provision for upgradation of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas to secondary' schools to enable girls to continue their education under RMSA. Enrolment drive in areas having concentration of SC and ST, special coaching/remedial teaching and sensitization programmes are some of the other measures undertaken under RMSA to reduce dropout rate.

In the higher education sector, reservation is being provided to the SCs, the STs and the OBCs under the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Admission) Act, 2006. In order to encourage students of SC/ST/lower income groups for pursuing higher education, the Government has introduced scholarship programmes for them to supplement the cost of education.

Pay scales of staff of hostel organisations of IITs

2097. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pay-scales of staff of hostel organizations of Indian Institutes of Technology, such as Caretakers, Assistant Caretakers are the same in all the IITs and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the reasons for not revising the pay bands of staff of hostel organization of I.I.T., Delhi, particularly Caretakers, Assistant Caretakers, etc., so far;

(c) whether the pay-scales of staff of hostel organization in Delhi are due for revision; and

(d) if so, the details of upward pay bands proposed to be granted to such staff and by when they are to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) In most of the older Indian Institutes

of Technology (IITs), the hostels/mess are managed or supervised by variously designated regular staff as Managers, Assistant Managers, Supervisors, Senior Assistants, Junior Assistants, etc, with pay-scales depending on their designations.

Under the Modified Recruitment and Career Progression Scheme (RCPS), introduced with effect from 01.05.1998, in respect of the non-teaching Groups B, C and D employees of all the IITs, including IIT-Delhi, the posts of Caretakers and Assistant Caretakers were re-designated as Senior Assistants (pre-revised pay-scale: Rs. 4500-7000) and Junior Assistants (pre-revised pay-scale: Rs. 3200-4900) respectively. The pay-scales of these posts were subsequently revised as per the recommendations of the VIth Central Pay Commission to the Pay-Band Rs. 5200-20200 with Grade Pays of Rs. 2800 and Rs. 2000 respectively.

In the case of new IITs, posts for hostel staff have not been sanctioned and the hostels are managed either by the project staff or through outsourcing agencies.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Funds for maintenance of Kendriya Vidyalayas

2098. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to provide additional funds to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) for maintenance of Kendriya Vidyalayas, in view of the miserable condition of these schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The maintenance of Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) buildings is a continuous process. The minor repairs and paint/whitewashing etc. are carried out by KVs locally from the Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi funds. The major repairs are carried out from allocations made under annual Non-

Plan grants. During 2012-13, a provision of Rs. 40 crore was made for maintenance and repairs.

- (c) Does not arise. .

Standard of education in schools

2099. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the standard of education in Government schools is much lower than the standard in private schools in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has conducted any survey for the provision of Central schools to cope up with the lower standards of education in State Government schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The pass percentages of Government schools do not reflect any such trend. The pass percentage in class X & XII for the schools of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) has been 99.49% and 94.15% respectively in the year 2012. The result of the schools of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (JNVS) in class X and XII is 99.58% and 95.96% respectively in the year 2012.

(c) and (d) No study has been conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education and the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in this regard. Education being a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution, and the majority of schools being under the jurisdiction of the State Governments, it is for the respective State Governments/Union Territories to take appropriate decisions in this matter. However, the CBSE has laid down benchmarks and guidelines in this regard.

Upgradation and delivery of Aakash tablet

†2100. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that there was advance booking on large scale for Aakash tablet and the students of colleges in Delhi have deposited advance amount for it, along with the details thereof;

(b) whether some faults have been detected in the manufacturing process of this tablet and the need for its upgradation has been felt;

(c) the details of its actual status at present; and

(d) whether the tablet would be provided to those who have booked it and the time likely to be taken for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Sir, neither advance booking has been done nor has advance deposit been taken from the students of the colleges by the Government.

It is intimated that under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) scheme, IIT Bombay is implementing a project only for achieving the following deliverables after acquiring the LCADs (Aakash 2) for teacher empowerment:

- (i) The acquisition and testing of low cost access cum computing devices; and
- (ii) The hardware & software optimization of low cost access cum computing devices.

In the first phase 1,00,000 tablets are being acquired for the purpose of testing by users all over India in different climatic and usage conditions. Since these tablets are for the purpose of testing, no criteria for the distribution of the tablets have been laid down.

After the launch on 5th October 2011, initial feedback showed the areas where improvements were required in the Aakash tablets. These were (i) heating of the device (ii) need for longer battery life (iii) need for capacitive instead of resistive touch screen (iv) need for better processor etc. The matter was taken up with the vendor and he agreed to make changes. The advanced version of low cost tablet called Aakash 2 was launched on 11th November, 2012 addressing the deficiencies in the original tablet. As compared with Aakash-1 launched in October, 2011, this advanced version has a processor which is about 3 times faster, memory

which is twice as large, improved battery life and capacitive touch screen as compared to resistive touch screen.

Promotion of community colleges and schools

2101. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Conference on Community Colleges was held in recent past;

(b) if so, whether during the conference it has been expressed that there has been a decline in quality of education due to mismatch between outdated syllabus and the changing needs of industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reaction of Government thereto;

(e) whether the US has offered their idea and experience for promotion of community schools;

(f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto; and

(g) the details of corrective steps taken by Government to improve quality of education in accordance with needs of the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (g) There is a great demand-supply mismatch in the country as the economy needs more 'skilled' workforce as also the managers and entrepreneurs than that produced annually. The skill oriented courses available in the market are not credible or fully acceptable to the employers in the fast changing environment of the needs of the industry. The traditional higher education system in the country is also rigid in terms of duration of courses, teaching-learning timings, place of study and choice of subjects. The demand-supply mismatch in the availability of industry-fit 'skilled' workforce is not only quantitative but also qualitative.

The Community Colleges model, which exists worldwide in various forms, appears to broadly address the above concerns. Such colleges by and large offer low cost and high quality education locally that encompasses both vocational skills development as well as more traditional coursework, thereby providing

opportunities of multiple entry and exit from the job market to the higher education sector and vice versa. It also caters to community-based life-long learning needs. Accepting the recommendations of the Committee of Education Ministers of 9 States, the Government of India has decided to set up 200 Community Colleges as an endeavour to bridge the demand-supply mismatch for 'skilled' workforce on pilot basis from existing colleges/polytechnics and to make them functional from the academic session 2013.

The community colleges would follow the National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) for level certification. In order to make the pass outs more industry-fit and employment oriented, the scheme stipulates association of industry, including business, service, agriculture and allied sector, at all level viz., design, development and delivery of curriculum, training of trainers/teachers, supply of adjunct faculty, 'hands on' practical training, evaluation and placement.

A number of national and regional level seminars/workshops were held to sensitise the stakeholders who have to play key role in the implementation of the Scheme. In pursuance of this capacity building exercise, a two-day international conference was organized in New Delhi on 6th and 7th February, 2013 to provide an opportunity to learn from the experiences of the managers of the CCs across the world, identify areas of collaboration and forge partnership for national and international collaboration. In this conference, the managers of the Community Colleges and high officials of the relevant industries from Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, UK and USA as well as from our own country participated.

Setting up of community colleges

2102. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a plan to start hundred community colleges on the US model within the next one year;
- (b) the details of proposals received in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) the locations selected for setting up of these colleges and the progress on implementation of the plan; and
- (d) the proposed locations in Jammu and Kashmir for setting up of such community colleges and expected date of their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The Government has decided to set up 200 community colleges (CCs) on pilot basis in the existing colleges/polytechnics in States/UTs to make them functional from the Academic Session 2013. These colleges would follow the National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) for level certification. Based on the population, the State/UT-wise allocation of CCs conveyed to them is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The details of the locations selected by the States/UTs for setting up of these colleges are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). Different States/UTs are at different stages of implementations.

The Government of Jammu and Kashmir have identified Govt. Degree College, Budgam and Government Degree College, Kishtwar for setting up of community colleges.

Statement-I

Proposed State/UT-wise Nos. of Community Colleges

Sl. No.	State/UT Name	Number of Community Colleges
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	12
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
4.	Assam	6
5.	Bihar	15
6.	Chandigarh	1
7.	Chhattisgarh	4
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
9.	Daman and Diu	1
10.	Delhi	2
11.	Goa	1
12.	Gujarat	9

1	2	3
13.	Haryana	4
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
16.	Jharkhand	5
17.	Karnataka	9
18.	Kerala	5
19.	Lakshadweep	1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	11
21.	Maharashtra	16
22.	Manipur	2
23.	Meghalaya	2
24.	Mizoram	2
25.	Nagaland	2
26.	Odisha	7
27.	Puducherry	1
28.	Punjab	4
29.	Rajashtan	9
30.	Sikkim	2
31.	Tamil Nadu	11
32.	Tripura	2
33.	Uttarakhand	2
34.	Uttar Pradesh	31
35.	West Bengal	13
TOTAL (INDIA)		200

Statement-II*Establishment of community colleges – polytechnics/colleges selected by States as Host Institutions*

State	Host	Institution - Polytechnic	Host	Institution - College
1	2	3	4	5
1. Uttar Pradesh	1.	Government Polytechnic, Kanpur	–	–
	2.	Government Polytechnic, Jhansi	–	–
	3.	Government Womens' Polytechnic, Jhansi	–	–
	4.	Government Polytechnic, Itawa	–	–
	5.	Shri R.R. Tripathi Women's Polytechnic, Kanpur.	–	–
	6.	Government Leather Institute, Kanpur	–	–
	7.	A.I.T.H., Kanpur	–	–
	8.	Government Womens' Polytechnic, Varanasi	–	–
	9.	Government Polytechnic, Mirzapur	–	–
	10.	Government Polytechnic, Gorakhpur	–	–

1	2	3	4	5
	11.	NRIPT, Allahabad	-	
	12.	IERT, Allahabad	-	
	13.	Feroze Gandhi Government Polytechnic, Raibareli	-	
	14.	Lucknow Polytechnic, Lucknow	-	
	15.	Government Polytechnic, Barabanki		
	16.	Government Womens' Polytechnic, Bareilly	-	
	17.	Government Polytechnic, Feizabad	-	
	18.	Government Womens' Polytechnic, Lucknow		
	19.	Government Polytechnic, Shahjahanpur	-	
	20.	Sanjay Gandhi Polytechnic, Jagdishpur	-	
	21.	Government Polytechnic, Unnav	-	
	22.	Government Polytechnic, Bareilly	-	
	23.	Hivet Polytechnic, Lucknow	-	

24.	Government Polytechnic, Muradabad	—
25.	Government Polytechnic, Ghaziabad	—
26.	Government Leather Institute, Agra	—
27.	Shri A.K. Government Womens' Polytechnic, Mathura	—
28.	Government Womens' Polytechnic, Muradabad	—
29.	P.M.V. Polytechnic, Mathura	—
30.	D.N. Polytechnic, Meerut	—
31.	B.R.E.I. Bichpuri, Agra	—
32.	Government Polytechnic, Saharanpur	—
2.	Maharashtra	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Government Polytechnic, Bandra, Mumbai 1. Sydenham Commerce and Economic College, Mumbai 2. Government Polytechnic, Ratnagiri, Distt. Ratnagiri 2. Symbiosis Community College, Pune 3. Government Polytechnic, Kolhapur, Distt. Kolhapur 3. Shivaji College, Barsi, Solapur 4. Government Polytechnic, Karad, Distt. Satara 4. Eklavya Sub-Centre, North Maharashtra University, Nandurbar

1	2	3	4	5
	5.	Government Polytechnic, Nasik, Distt Nasik	5.	Matsyodari University, Jalna
	6.	Government Polytechnic, Aurangabad, Distt. Aurangabad	6.	Shasakiya Vidharbha Gyan Vigyan Sanstha, Amravati
	7.	Government Polytechnic, Ambad Distt. Jalna	7.	Dr. Ambedkar-College,- Nagpur
	8.	Government Polytechnic, Khangaon, Distt. Buldana		—
	9.	Government Polytechnic, Sakoli, Distt. Bhandara		—
3.	Bihar			
			1.	Patna Women's College, Patna
			2.	A.N. College, Patna
			3.	R.K. College, Madhubani
			4.	Purnia College, Purnia
			5.	L.S. College, Muzaffarpur
			6.	J.D. Women's College, Patna
			7.	Gaya College, Gaya
			8.	Munshi Singh College, Motihari
			9.	Rajendra Mishra College, Saharsa

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|----|-----|--|
| – | 10. | CM Science College, Darbhanga |
| – | 11. | Govt. Women's College Gardambagh, Patna |
| – | 12. | Rajendra College, Chapra |
| – | 13. | RD & DJ College, Munger |
| – | 14. | Agriculture University, Pusa, Samastipur |
| – | 15. | Agriculture College, Sabour, Bhagalpur |
| 4. | 1. | City College, Kolkata |
| | 2. | Asansol BB College, Asansol |
| | 3. | Silda Chandra Sekhar College, Paschim Medinipur |
| | 4. | Mahishadal Raj College, Paschim Medinipur |
| | 5. | Derozo Memorial College, New Down, 24 Pgs (N) |
| | 6. | Moynaguri College, Jalpaiguri |
| | 1. | Government Degree College for Women, Begumpet, Hyderabad |
| 4. | 1. | BPC Institute of Technology, Nadia |
| | 2. | Cooch Behar Polytechnic, Cooch Behar |
| | 3. | Jalpaiguri Polytechnic Institute, Jalpaiguri |
| | 4. | Asansol Polytechnic, Burdwan |
| | 5. | Murshidabad Instt. of Technology, Murshidabad |
| | 6. | Malda Polytechnic, Malda |
| | 7. | Meghnad Saha Instt. of Technology, East Midnapore |
| 5. | 1. | Government Institute of Electronics, Secunderabad |
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1	2	3	4	5
	2.	Government Institute of Printing Technology, Secunderabad	2.	GG Degree College, Nizamabad
	3.	Government Polytechnic, Mahaboobnagar	3.	Kakatiya GDC, Warangal
	4.	Government Polytechnic, Vishakhapatnam	4.	PR GD(A), Kakinada
		Food Craft Institute, Vishakhapatnam	5.	DKGDC, Nellore
	5.	Government Polytechnic, Vijaywada		
	6.	Government Polytechnic for Women, Guntur		
	7.	Government Polytechnic, Anantapur		
6.	Madhya Pradesh		1.	Government PG College, Neemuch
			2.	Government Arts & Science College, Ratlam
			3.	Government College, Tikamgarh
			4.	Raja Bhoj Government College, Mandideep
			5.	Government BHEL College, Bhopal
			6.	Government PG College, Satna
			7.	Government (Boys) College, Singrauli
			8.	Government Science College, Jabalpur

9. Government. Adarsh Science College.
Gwalior
10. Government KPS College, Devas
11. Government College, Sironj
1. Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
2. Periyar University, Salem
3. Bharathiar University, Coimbatore
4. Alagappa University, Karaikudi
5. Mother Teresa Women's Univesity,
Kodaikanal
6. Manonmanium Sundaranar University,
Tirunelveli
7. Thiruvlluvar University, Vellore
8. Annamalai University, Chidambaram
9. Bharathidasan University, Trichirappalli
10. University of Madras, Chennai
11. Tamil Nadu Open University,
Chennai

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Gujarat	1. Government Polytechnic, Gandhinagar 2. Government Polytechnic, Valsad 3. Government Polytechnic, Palanpur 4. Government Polytechnic, Rajkot 5. Government Polytechnic, Porbandar 6. Government Polytechnic, Junagarh 7. Government Polytechnic, Jamnagar 8. S and S Gandhi Polytechnic, Surat 9. Government Polytechnic, Bhuj 10. KJ Poly, Bharuch		
9.	Karnataka	1. S.J. Government Polytechnic, Bangalore 2. Govt. Polytechnic, Bellary 3. Government Polytechnic, Gulbarga 4. Government Polytechnic, Tumkur	1. Govt. First Grade College Ramanagara 2. Canara First Grade College, Mangalore 3. Sugar institute run by Shee Renuka Sugar Ltd., Athani, Distt. Belgaum 4. Jss Banashankari Arts, Commerce S.K. Gubbi Science College, Vidyagiri, Dharwad	

5. Smt. VHD Central Institute of Home Science, Bangalore
 6. Lal Bahadur Arts, Science and S.B Solabanna Sheety Commerce College (Autonomous), Sagar
 7. B.L.D.E. Association, Bijapur
 8. Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwar College (Autonomous) Ujire
 1. Khalikote Auto. College, Berhampur
 2. Fakir Mohan Auto. College, Balasor
 3. Dharanidhar Auto. College, Keonijhar
 4. Vikramdev Auto. College, Jeypur
 5. Maharaja Puma Chandra Auto. College, Baripada
 6. Government Auto. College, Rourkela
 7. Government Auto. College, Bhawaniputna
 8. Government Auto. College, Angul
 9. Rajendra Auto. College, Bolangir
 10. Gangadhar Meher Auto. College, Sambalpur
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1	2	3	4	5
11. Assam	1. Dibrugarh Polytechnic, Dibrugarh 2. HRH The Prince of Wales Institute of Engg. & Tech., Jorhat 3. Bongaigaon Polytechnic, Bongaigaon 4. Silchar Polytechnic, Silchar 5. Girls' Polytechnic, Guwahati 6. Assam Engineering Institute, Guwahati			
12. Jharkhand			1. Doranda College, Doranda 2. Nilamber-Pitamber University, Palamu 3. A.S. College, Deoghar	
13. Kerala	1. Womens Polytechnic College, Kaimanam, Thiruvananthapuram 2. Government Polytechnic College, Kottayam 3. Government Polytechnic College, Kalamassery 4. Maharaja's Technical Institute, Thrissur 5. Government Polytechnic College, Perinthalmanna		1. Government Women's College, Thiruvananthapuram 2. Government College, Nattakom, Kottayam 3. Government College, Thripunithura 4. C. Achuthamenon Govt. College, Thrissur 5. PTM Govt. College, Perinthalmanna	

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| 14. Chhattisgarh | 1. Government Polytechnic College, Raigarh | 1. Govt. Dudhadhari Bajrang PG College for Women, Raipur |
| | 2. Government Girls Polytechnic College, Raipur | 2. Govt. Maharishi Balmiki College, Bhanupratappur, Distt. Kanker |
| 15. Haryana | 1. Govt. Polytechnic, Nilokheri (Karnal) | 1. YMCA University of Sc. of Tech., Faridabad |
| | 2. Govt. Polytechnic, Hissar | 2. Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Sc. &Tech., Murthan (Sonapat) |
| 16. Arunachal Pradesh | 1. Rajiv Gandhi Govt. Polytechnic, Itanagar | |
| 17. Himachal Pradesh | | 1. Government College, Nalagarh |
| | | 2. Government College, Paonta Sahib |
| | | 3. Government College, Nahan |
| | | 4. Government College, Daulatpur Chowk |
| | | 5. Government College, Amb |
| | | 6. Government College, Rampur |
| | | 7. Government College, Kullu |
| | | 8. Government College, Hamirpur |
| | | 9. Government College, Chamba |
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1	2	3	4	5
			10.	Government College, Dehri
			11.	Government College, Mandi
			12.	Government College, Dharamshala
18.	Jammu and Kashmir		1.	Government Degree College, Budgam
			2.	Government Degree College, Kishtwar
19.	Manipur		1.	D.M. College of Science, Imphal
			2.	Churachandpur College, Churachandpur
20.	Meghalaya	1.	Jowai Polytechnic	
		2.	Tura Polytechnic	
21.	Mizoram		1.	Govt. Hrangbana College, Aizwal
			2.	Govt. Hnahtial College, Hnahtial
22.	Nagaland	1.	Govt. Polytechnic, Kohima	
		2.	Khelhoshe Polytechnic, Atoizu	
		3.	ICIT, Mokokchung	
			1.	Kohima College, Kohima
			2.	Dimapur College
			3.	Fazl Ali College, Mokokchung
			4.	St. Joseph College, Jakhama

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23. Sikkim 1. Advanced Technical Training Centre, Bardang, East Sikkim
2. Centre for Computers and Communication Technology, Chisopani, South Sikkim
24. Tripura 1. Dhalai District Polytechnic 1. Santirbazar Government Degree College
25. Delhi 1. ITI, Jahangir Puri
2. ITI, Pusa
3. ITI, Shahdara
26. Goa 1. Government Polytechnic, Panaji
27. Andaman and Nicobar Islands 1. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology
28. Chandigarh 1. PG Government College, Sector-11, Chandigarh
29. Dadra and Nagar Haveli 1. Industrial Training Institute, Silwassa
30. Daman and Diu 1. Industrial Training Institute, Daman
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Opportunity for children to go to schools

†2103. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the time since when the Right to Education Act has been implemented;
- (b) whether it is a fact that large number of children in the age group of 5 to 14 years are not going to school even today;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the number of posts of teachers lying vacant in the country along with details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) the number of teachers appointed in the year 2011-12 and 2012-13; and
- (f) the steps being taken by Government in coordination with States so that all the children get opportunity to go to schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RrE) Act, 2009 become operative with effect from 1.4.2010.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As per District Information System for Education (DISE) 2011-12, enrolment at elementary level has increased from 18.79 crore in 2009-10 to 19.91 crore in 2011-12. The State-wise details of enrolment of children at elementary level are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(d) to (f) In order to meet the shortage of teachers in elementary schools, 19.82 lakh additional teachers posts have been sanctioned under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) upto 2012-13. Out of which, 12.94 lakh posts have been filled up till December, 2012. State-wise details of teacher posts sanctioned under SSA and recruited till December, 2012 is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

In order to ensure that all the children get opportunity to go to school, SSA supports States/UTs in opening of new neighbourhood schools, residential facilities for urban deprived children and in sparsely populated areas, special training for mainstreaming of out of school children and also transport/escort facility in exceptional cases.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I*State-wise details of enrolment of children at elementary level*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Enrolment (Elementary)	
		2009-10	2011-12
1	2	3	4
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	56565	53332
2	Andhra Pradesh	10851248	11251101
3	Arunachal Pradesh	334449	341311
4	Assam	5162100	5760967
5	Bihar	19007493	20852093
6	Chandigarh	142345	156869
7	Chhattisgarh	4515735	4742902
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	52290	59994
9	Daman and Diu	26435	26459
10	Delhi	2666589	2818457
11	Goa	178667	186005
12	Gujarat	7814391	8376967
13	Haryana	3336753	3724481
14	Himachal Pradesh	1036117	1005942
15	Jammu and Kashmir	1973294	1908230
16	Jharkhand	6523933	6660259
17	Karnataka	7636745	8424857
18	Kerala	3355998	3819863
19	Lakshadweep	10557	10165

1	2	3	4
20	Madhya Pradesh	15484989	15317828
21	Maharashtra	15854058	16185891
22	Manipur	470287	508064
23	Meghalaya	606327	705616
24	Mizoram	246609	258653
25	Nagaland	401411	414405
26	Odisha	5989512	6520130
27	Puducherry	183994	180992
28	Punjab	2908324	3989063
29	Rajasthan	12175129	12397172
30	Sikkim	124102	125618
31	Tamil Nadu	9924561	9776252
32	Tripura	663819	603580
33	Uttar Pradesh	31537647	35404745
34	Uttarakhand	1579729	1658918
35	West Bengal	15040794	14827957
	ALL INDIA	187872996	199055138

Statement-II

*State-wise details of teachers post sanctioned under SSA
and recruited till December, 2012*

Sl. No.	State	Sanctioned till 2012-13	Recruitment upto 31.12.2012
1	2	3	4
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	210	198
2	Andhra Pradesh	39189	27402

1	2	3	4
3	Arunachal Pradesh	7262	6153
4	Assam	48808	40756
5	Bihar	403413	198035
6	Chandigarh	1390	1060
7	Chhattisgarh	67507	57193
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	937	452
9	Daman and Diu	119	42
10	Delhi	7104	3136
11	Goa	169	179
12	Gujarat	58688	31430
13	Haryana	13435	11286
14	Himachal Pradesh	5856	3653
15	Jammu and Kashmir	43471	40501
16	Jharkhand	120396	81974
17	Karnataka	29055	24278
18	Kerala	2925	0
19	Lakshadweep	38	17
20	Madhya Pradesh	173855	94745
21	Maharashtra	42091	15387
22	Manipur	2871	2719
23	Meghalaya	13262	9050
24	Mizoram	2485	2175
25	Nagaland	3147	2936

1	2	3	4
26	Odisha	89901	79817
27	Puducherry	48	37
28	Punjab	14090	11488
29	Rajasthan	114132	100889
30	Sikkim	724	405
31	Tamil Nadu	33214	34526
32	Tripura	6980	6435
33	Uttar Pradesh	423553	264466
34	Uttarakhand	14316	5046
35	West Bengal	198253	136630
	TOTAL	1982894	1294496

Implementation of RTE in Andhra Pradesh

2104. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets set under Right to Education;
- (b) the details of targets achieved so far;
- (c) whether it is a fact that hiring of teachers and creating school infrastructure was aimed to be achieved by March, 2013;
- (d) if so, whether targets of (c) above have been achieved; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor, particularly with regard to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education for all children in the 6-14 age group. As per the District Information System for Education (DISE), 2011-12, 19.90 crore, children are enrolled in elementary education, which signifies near universal enrolment of children at elementary education level.

(c) to (e) The RTE Act provided a three year window period from date of enactment of the Act for achieving the norms and standards as laid down in the schedule to the RTE Act. All the States/UTs have made progress in this regard. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to ensure universal elementary education, 1,95,003 primary schools, 1,09,451 upper primary schools, 17,91,860 additional classrooms, 2,29,840 drinking water facilities, 8,53,624 toilets, and 19,82,904 teachers have been sanctioned since the inception of SSA. Of these 84.76% new primary schools, 89.66% new upper primary schools, 76.9% additional classrooms, 92.85% drinking water facilities, 63.59% toilets and the recruitment of 64.87% teachers have been completed till 31.12.2012.

Under the SSA, 8,143 primary schools, 1,940 upper primary schools, 1,03,337 additional classrooms, 9,041 drinking water facilities, 42,351 toilets and 39,189 teachers have been sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh since the inception of SSA. Against these sanctions, 94.42% new primary schools, 100% new upper primary schools, 79.61% additional classrooms, 100% drinking water facilities, 79.04% toilets and the recruitment of 69.92% teachers have been completed in Andhra Pradesh till 31.12.2012.

Implementation of Right to Education

2105. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry feels that implementation of Right to Education would get affected in view of cut in the Budget by Finance Ministry;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry perceives this and the steps taken to stop cut in the Budget; and

(c) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to achieve the target for school infrastructure and hiring of teachers before the deadline of March, 2013?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE), 2009 came into effect on 01.4.2010. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is a centrally sponsored scheme aligned to assist the State/UTs in meeting the objectives of the RTE Act, 2009, budgetary provision of Rs.19838.23 crore, Rs.21000.00 crore and Rs.23645.00 crore was provided in the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively, after the commencement of the RTE Act, 2009

in the Eleventh Plan period. For the Twelfth Plan period, Rs. 1,92,726 crore has been indicated as the outlay for the SSA programme.

Since enactment of RTE Act, 2009, 44,194 new schools, 7,00,475 additional teachers, 5,18,700 toilets and 31,678 drinking water facilities have been sanctioned under SSA to support the States/UTs in meeting RTE norms.

Proposal for setting up of SITs in Maharashtra

†2106. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal for setting up of 448 Satellite- Interactive Terminal (SIT) hubs and centres in the State for benefits of students and teachers in the field of education in the rural and densely populated areas of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Government has been asking for consideration of this proposal for the last four years but it has not been considered so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government would soon take up this proposal for consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (e) Ministry of Human Resource Development is mainly implementing:

(i) National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology which primarily focuses on higher education institutions; and

(ii) The Centrally sponsored scheme "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools" with the objectives of establishing an enabling environment to promote the usage of ICT in Government and Government aided Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools for imparting computer literacy and computer aided learning.

The request from the Government of Maharashtra seeking funds for Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) for the School Education Department is not covered

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

under the above mentioned two schemes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

GER in higher education

2107. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education at present and how does it compare with the developed countries in the world like USA, UK, Australia, China, etc.; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for increasing the level of GER in higher education including opening of more colleges/universities/institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As per "All India Survey on Higher Education" the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of the students enrolled in the higher education in India during 2010-11 (Provisional) is 18.8. As per "Global Education Digest (2012)" brought out by UNESCO Institute of Statistics, GERs of USA, UK, Australia, China, Iran, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are 95, 59, 80, 26, 43, 5 and 15 respectively for the year 2009-10.

(b) During Eleventh Five Year Plan, several new Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Technology, National Institutes of Technology, Polytechnics and other Institutions of Higher learning have been established to increase the GER in higher education. A new scheme has been approved by the Government under which central assistance on sharing basis is being provided to the State Governments/State Universities for setting up of a model degree college in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts, where GER for higher education is less than the national GER.

Gap between requirement and availability of infrastructure in education sector

†2108. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a wide gap between the requirement and the existing availability of infrastructure in education sector in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) the gap assessed between requirement and current availability of infrastructure in primary, middle, higher secondary and college and vocational education sector of the country; and

(d) whether any time-frame has been fixed to bridge this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan all new school buildings are sanctioned as composite buildings which include toilets for girls and boys; and drinking water facilities etc. For existing rural schools drinking water and toilet facilities are constructed in convergence with schemes of the Ministry of drinking water and sanitation. As per DISE 2011-12 (provisional), 94.3% Government elementary schools have drinking water facilities and 87.9% schools have toilets. The RTE Act, 2009 provides a time frame of three years from the commencement of the Act for completion of school infrastructure. Under SSA, 3.04 lakh school buildings, 17.92 lakh Additional Class Rooms(ACR), 8.53 lakh toilets and 2.29 lakh drinking water facilities have been sanctioned till 2012-13.

In order to fill the gap between the requirement and the existing infrastructure in the Government Secondary Schools, 34,311 Government Secondary School have been approved for strengthening of infrastructure under Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan since its inception in 2009. The infrastructure sanctioned for these schools include Additional Class Rooms (49,356), Science Labs (23,407), Lab Equipment (23,961), Computer Rooms (19,641), Art/Craft/Culture Rooms (28,969), Libraries (25,869), Toilets (19,401), Drinking Water facilities (12,370) and major repairs (9,228).

The Central Government has approved a scheme to assist State Governments to set up Model degree colleges in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts where the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education is less than the national GER.

A scheme of Sub-Mission of Polytechnics under Coordinated Action for Skill Development' has been initiated under which one time financial assistance up to Rs. 12.30 crore per polytechnic is provided to the State/UT Governments for setting up of new polytechnics in 300 un-served and under-served districts of the country.

Entry of foreign universities

†2109. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed profit oriented foreign universities to enter in the country;

(b) if so, whether common Indian students are getting affected from this decision; and

(c) whether Government proposes to provide necessary resources to Indian universities for value oriented higher education so that they may be included in the list of renowned universities of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No. Sir. As per Central Government's policy, education is not-for-profit activity in India.

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

(c) Yes, Sir. The University Grants Commission (UGC) provides financial assistance for conducting various courses under the scheme of Human Rights Education (HRE) at under-graduate and post-graduate level. HRE has three dimensions; moral, legal and contextual. The objectives of Human Rights Education Scheme are: Human Rights and Duties, Human Rights and Values and Human Rights and Human Development.

Shortage of teachers in Central Universities

†2110. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would launch a comprehensive drive to fulfil the shortage of teachers in order to improve the quality of education in Central Universities;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is aware that both the research and teaching are getting adversely affected due to acute shortage of teachers in the Central Universities; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps being taken by Government to resolve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) and (d) Teachers are key to quality teaching and research. Shortage of teachers does affect the both adversely. However, in order to mitigate the situation arising out of the shortage of teachers, the Government has taken the following measures, *inter alia*:

- (i) the age of superannuation for teachers in the Central Universities (CUs) has been enhanced to 65 years;
- (ii) teachers are eligible for re-employment on contract basis beyond the age of 65 years up to the age of 70 years;
- (iii) universities have been permitted to engage adjunct/guest/contractual faculty, to meet the shortfall;
- (iv) after the VI Pay Commission, the pay scale and promotional avenues of teachers in the Central Universities have been made one of the best;
- (v) the number of the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and the Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) and the fellowship amounts have been enhanced; and
- (vi) science based research and education in the university system have been strengthened.

Ministry of Human Resource Development and University Grants Commission (UGC) have been continuously monitoring the progress of filling the vacancies of teachers in the Central Universities. The issue was last discussed in the Conference of the Vice-Chancellors (VCs) of the Central Universities held on 5th February, 2013 under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble President of India in which the VCs were exhorted to fill-up the vacancies in a time- bound manner. As a follow-up, the Ministry has written to all the VCs to implement the decision on priority and to furnish the progress report on quarterly basis.

Reduction in campus recruitment in management schools

2111. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even though the number of MBA seats have increased from 4500 to 3.6 lacs in business management schools, there has been reduction in the campus recruitments of the graduates passing out of these management schools;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the reduction in the campus recruitment is due to lack of quality education, lack of quality faculty and out-dated courses not meeting the requirements of the industries; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The Ministry has not conducted any study regarding placement rate in business schools. However, the placement in Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) is quite satisfactory.

(b) and (c) Quality in Business Schools is monitored through the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) as applicable as per its Approval Process Handbook. The AICTE through its various schemes such as the 'Faculty Development Programme', the Industry Institute Partnership Cell, the Quality Improvement Programme, the Innovation Promotion Scheme and Finishing Schools for students, promotes quality in technical education. Additionally, the AICTE promotes industry interaction and collaboration with industry bodies like CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, NASSCOM etc. to bring quality in institutions. The Indian Institutes of Management are playing a significant role in building quality business education at par with global business schools. The IIMs are encouraged to increase overseas exposure for their students through the International Student Exchange programme and the International Business School Meet where a large number of foreign schools participate. There is also an international focus to the training material used in their programmes.

Requirement of new schools and teachers under RTE in Assam

2112. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has assessed the requirement of new schools and additional teachers for implementation of Right to Education in Assam;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has taken or proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Assam Government has not yet completed the exercise of mapping the requirement of new schools.

Since commencement of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE), 2009, Assam has been allocated 3,533 new schools, 40,364 girls' toilets and 45,736 teachers based on the States' proposals under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme.

Installation of SITs in Maharashtra

2113. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT:

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Maharashtra had requested the Central Government to make available Rs.14.47 crores from the ICT scheme or any other scheme deemed fit for installation of Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) in the State vide letter no. SIT 2008/(185/08)/PE-5, dated 23 July, 2008;

- (b) if so, the details of the present status of the request;
- (c) the reasons for the long delay in giving approval to this project; and
- (d) the details of the time-frame for giving approval to this project and release of the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Ministry of Human Resource Development is mainly implementing:

- (i) National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology which primarily focuses on higher education institutions; and
- (ii) The Centrally sponsored scheme "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools" with the objectives of establishing an enabling environment to promote the usage of ICT in Government and

Government aided Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools for imparting computer literacy and computer aided learning.

The request from the Government of Maharashtra seeking funds for Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) for the School Education Department is not covered under the above mentioned two schemes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Irregularities in giving UGC grants

2114. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds granted by UGC to various educational institutions during 2011 and 2012, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether irregularities have been reported in grants to various institutions by UGC;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether cheques regarding grants in crores of rupees have been issued to some institutes which have not applied for grants to UGC;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (f) whether some institutions have been granted funds by UGC on the basis of forged documents; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The statement showing the grants paid to Universities and Colleges during 2010-11 is available in the website of the University Grants Commission (UGC) at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/pub/annualreport>. Similar statement for 2011-12 is available in the Annual Report of UGC for 2011-12 that has been laid before the Parliament during the Budget Session, 2013.

(b) to (g) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the UGC, it has made payments of Rs. 40,00,000/- to Patel Memorial National College, Patiala, Punjab and

Rs. 54,00,000/- to Shri Baldev PG College, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh that appear to be unauthorized and irregular. These amounts have been refunded by both the institutions to the UGC. An enquiry committee has been constituted by the UGC to look into the matter, the findings of which have not been received yet. Simultaneously, two First Information Reports (FIRs) have been lodged in Indraprastha Estate Police Station, New Delhi against the above two cases.

Condition of rural education and rural schools

2115. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report released by the Ministry in January, 2013 the condition of rural education and rural schools is very bleak and there has been no improvement in rural education and rural schools during the last three years;

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

(c) whether as per the report 57 per cent of rural schools do not comply with the student- teacher ratio and 39 per cent of rural schools do not have playgrounds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), which is a cursory assessment brought out annually by PRATHAM, a non-governmental organization, expresses concern regarding learning levels of children in schools in rural areas. However, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which uses a rigorous research methodology, conducts very detailed periodic national surveys of the learning achievements of children in classes-III, V and VIII. Two rounds of these National Achievement Survey have been completed by the NCERT which have revealed improvements in the overall learning levels, even though achievements remain low. The findings of the third round conducted recently for class V also indicate that there is enhancement in the level of achievement in most States.

(c) and (d) As per the District Information System for Education (DISE)-2011-12 (Provisional), the position with regard to Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) and playground in elementary schools in rural areas, State-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement

PTR and playground in elementary schools in rural areas

Sl. No.	State/UT	% Schools complying with Student Teacher Ratio	% Schools with playground
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	96.7	42.34
2.	Andhra Pradesh	85.2	50.94
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	46.9	30.56
4.	Assam	57.6	23.74
5.	Bihar	14.4	52.83
6.	Chandigarh	44.8	100.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	74.6	50.45
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	30.8	36.23
9.	Daman and Diu	68.8	93.51
10.	Delhi	56.2	99.07
11.	Goa	65.8	74.71
12.	Gujarat	77.7	88.23
13.	Haryana	72.0	95.89
14.	Himachal Pradesh	90.7	50.73
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	86.3	25.84
16.	Jharkhand	36.9	23.54

1	2	3	4
17.	Karnataka	81.3	70.14
18.	Kerala	91.9	77.93
19.	Lakshadweep	100.0	41.67
20.	Madhya Pradesh	44.9	39.17
21.	Maharashtra	78.4	53.50
22.	Manipur	78.5	26.18
23.	Meghalaya	83.1	15.93
24.	Mizoram	86.1	55.23
25.	Nagaland	83.8	74.00
26.	Odisha	63.8	61.51
27.	Puducherry	96.8	91.64
28.	Punjab	75.1	96.78
29.	Rajasthan	60.9	77.73
30.	Sikkim	96.0	27.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	73.7	70.23
32.	Tripura	87.7	10.48
33.	Uttar Pradesh	37.2	58.75
34.	Uttarakhand	67.3	80.33
35.	West Bengal	64.0	31.20

Source: DISE 2011-12 (Provisional).

Vacancies in Delhi University and Banaras Hindu University

2116. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vacancies of teaching and non-teaching staff in Delhi University' and Banaras Hindu University, department-wise and category-wise, respectively;

(b) whether there are large number of vacancies of permanent teaching staff in Delhi University and no effort has been made to fill these permanent posts;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government would instruct the competent authorities to fill the permanent vacancies at the earliest in view of loss of education of students due to these vacancies;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The details of department-wise and category-wise vacancies of teaching staff and the category-wise vacancies of non-teaching staff in the University of Delhi are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See* below). The details of department-wise and category-wise vacancies of teaching staff and category-wise vacancies of non-teaching staff in Banaras Hindu University are given in the Statement-III and Statement-IV respectively (*See* below).

(b) and (c) As per the details enclosed, the permanent vacancies in the grade of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor in the University of Delhi as on 01.03.2013 are 410, 375 and 146, respectively. The University of Delhi has informed that 358 posts of Assistant Professor were advertised in January, 2012 and the recruitment process is underway. The interview for the post of Assistant Professor in three Departments was conducted in November- December, 2012 and that for two other Departments has been scheduled in March, 2013. Further, the screening of applications for 15 Departments is under process. As regards, filling

up of the posts of Associate Professor and Professor is concerned, the University has informed that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted a Committee to revisit the UGC Regulations (Minimum Qualification for appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the maintenance of Standards in Higher Education), 2010 and the University would undertake the recruitment in full measure on receiving the decision of the UGC on Regulations on Minimum Qualifications.

(d) to (f) The Ministry of Human Resource Development and the University Grants Commission have been continuously monitoring the vacancies of teachers in the Central Universities (CUs). The issue was also discussed in the conference of the Vice Chancellors (VCs) of the CUs held on 5th February, 2013 under the Chairmanship of the President of India, who is the Visitor of the CUs, in which the VCs were exhorted to fill up the vacancies in a time bound manner. As a follow up, the Ministry has written to all the VCs to implement the decision on priority and to furnish the progress report on quarterly basis.

(A) Details of vacancies of the teaching Posts, Department-wise and category-wise in the University of Delhi as on 01.03.2013

Name of the Department	Professor	Assoc. Professor	Assistant Professor				Total
			UR	SC	ST	OBC	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Arabic	1	2	2	-	-	1	3
African Studies	1	5	2	-	-	1	3
Anthropology	-	4	6	1	-	-	7
Adult Education	1	4	1	1	-	-	2
Buddhist Studies	2	7	5	1	1	2	9
Botany	5	4	-	-	-	1	1
BRAC	-	0	3	1	-	-	3
East Asian Studies	2	4	1	1	1	-	3
Commerce	7	14	8	1	1	4	14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Computer Science	1	3	4	1	-	1	6
Chemistry	2	15	5	1	-	5	11
Economics	9	10	9	-	1	3	13
English	3	3	6	1	-	2	9
Environmental Studies	-	2	4	-	1	1	6
Education	4	9	6	1	1	2	10
Geology	-	2	2	-	1	1	4
Geography	3	3	2	-	-	1	3
GRS	-	7	4	2	1	3	10
Hindi	1	4	11	3	-	4	18
History	2	6	1	1	1	1	4
Library & Info. Science	2	1	2	-	-	-	2
Linguistics	1	2	2	-	-	1	3
Law	29	87	62	18	10	10	100
MIL & LS	1	7	5	1	1	2	9
FMS	10	15	10	4	2	2	18
Mathematics	5	15	3	1	-	4	8
Statistics	3	3	3	1	-	-	4
Music	3	5	3	2	2	3	10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Operational Research	2	8	5	1	1	1	3
Punjabi	2	3	2	1	-	-	3
Political Science	7	15	3	2	1	1	7
TOTAL	109	269	182	46	26	57	311

(B)

Name of the Department	Professor	Assoc. Professor	Assistant Professor				Total
			UR	SC	ST	OBC	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Philosophy	4	10	5	1	1	1	8
Psychology	5	7	2	-	-	2	4
Persian	1	2	1	-	-	1	2
Physics & Astrophysics	3	18	3	3	2	8	16
Sanskrit	1	17	9	2	-	5	16
Slavonic & Finno	3	3	3	1	-	1	5
Sociology	2	4	2	-	-	1	3
Social Work	3	5	4	-	-	1	5
Urdu	2	3	3	-	-	1	4
Zoology	3	9	2	1	-	4	16
Business Economics	-	4	1	-	-	1	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bio-Physics	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
Bio-Chemistry	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
Electronic Science	2	7	2	1	-	2	5
Financial Studies	1	3	2	1	-	1	4
CIC	6	10	9	2	1	4	16
IIC	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
Microbiology	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Plant Molecular Biology	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
TOTAL	37	106	51	12	4	32	99
GRAND TOTAL (P1 + P2)	146	375	233	58	30	89	410

Statement-II

Vacancies of non-teaching employees in the University of Delhi

Sl. No.	Category	Details of vacancy				
		Gen.	SC	ST	OBC	Total
1.	Group A	41	10	6	18	75
2.	Group B	64	43	23	42	172
3.	Group C	437	116	57	172	782
4.	Group D (Now under Cat. C)	268	78	39	140	525
TOTAL VACANCIES		810	247	125	372	1554

Statement-III*Teaching Staff**Vacancies of Department-wise and Category-wise in Banaras Hindu University*

Faculty of Science	Professor				Department
	Gen.	SC	ST	TOTAL	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Faculty of Science					
Department					
Dept. of Physics	4	2	2	8	Dept. of Chemistry
Dept. of Zoology	1	2	1	4	Dept. of Botany
Dept. of Botany	2	1	2	5	Dept. of Physics
Dept. of Chemistry	0	1	1	2	Dept. of Geology
Dept. of Geography	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Zoology
Dept. of Geology	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Mathematics
Dept. of Mathematics	1	1	0	2	Dept. of Geography
Dept. of Geophysics	1	1	0	2	Dept. of Geophysics
Dept. of Statistics	0	0	1	1	Dept. of Statistics
Dept. of Computer Science	1	0	0	1	School of Biotechnology
Dept. of Moloecular and Human Gen.	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Biochemistry
School of Biotechnology	2	0	0	2	Dept. of Computer Science
Dept. of Biochemistry	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Moloecular & Human Gen.
Interdisciplinary School of Life Sciences (ISLS)	1	0	0	1	Interdisciplinary School of Life Sciences (ISLS)
TOTAL	14	10	7	31	TOTAL
Faculty of Medicine, IMS					
Department					
Dept.. of General Surgery	0	1	0	1	Dept. of General Surgery

Statement-III*Teaching Staff**Vacancies of Department-wise and Category-wise in Banaras Hindu University*

Associate Professor				Department	Assistant Professor				
Gen.	SC	ST	TOTAL		Gen.	SC	ST	OBC	TOTAL
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3	4	2	9	Dept. of Physics	6	1	1	5	13
3	4	1	8	Dept. of Chemistry	1	1	2	1	5
2	3	2	7	Dept. of Zoology	3	2	1	3	9
2	2	1	5	Dept. of Geology	4	2	1	3	10
2	2	1	5	Dept. of Geography	2	1	0	1	4
0	2	1	3	Dept. of Botany	3	1	1	2	7
0	1	1	2	Dept. of Mathematics	1	3	1	2	7
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Statistics	1	1	1	1	4
2	1	0	3	Dept. of Geophysics	0	2	1	1	4
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Computer Science	0	1	1	1	3
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Biochemistry	1	0	0	2	3
1	0	0	1	Interdisciplinary School of Life Sciences (ISLS)	4	1	0	2	7
1	0	0	1	School of Biotechnology	2	0	0	2	4
2	0	0	2	Dept. of Molecular & Human Gen.		0	0	1	1
18	20	9	47	TOTAL	28	16	10	27	81
2	2	1	5	Dept. of Anaesthesiology	2	0	1	2	5

1	2	3	4	5	6
Dept. of General Medicine	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Paediatrics
Dept. of Anaesthesiology	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Pathology
Dept. of Anatomy	1	1	0	2	Dept. of Anaesthesiology
Dept.. of Pathology	2	1	0	3	Dept. of Anatomy
Dept. of Community Medicine	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Orthopaedics
Dept. of Gastroenterology	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Community Medicine
Dept.. of Microbiology	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of General Medicine
Dept.. of Ophthalmology	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Microbiology
Dept. of Paediatrics	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Physiology
Dept. of Pharmacology	0	0	1	1	Dept. of Psychiatry
Dept. of Physiology	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
Dept. of Plastic Surgery	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Paediabic Surgery
Dept. of Psychiatry	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Pharmacology
Dept.. of Radiotherapy & Radiation Medicine	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Radiotherapy & Radiation Medicine
Dept.. of Biochemistry	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Biochemistry
Dept. of Biophysics	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Molecular Biology Unit
Dept. of Cardiology	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Neurology
Dept. of Endocrinology & Metabolism	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Ophthalmology
Dept. of Forensic Medicine	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
0	1	1	2	Dept. of General Surgery	2	1	1	3	7
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology	0	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	3	Dept. of Community Medicine	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	2	Dept. of Pathology	0	2	1	0	3
1	2	0	3	Dept. of General Medicine	1	0	0	0	1
0	1	1	2	Dept. of Paediatrics	1	1	1	1	4
1	1	1	3	Dept. of Physiology	0	1	1	1	3
1	1	1	3	Dept. of Radiodiagnosis & Imaging	0	0	1	1	2
1	1	0	2	Dept. of Orthopaedics	1	1	0	1	3
2	1	0	3	Dept. of Anatomy	1	0	1	1	3
2	1	0	3	Dept. of Ophthalmology	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Pharmacology	0	0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Biochemistry	0	1	0	1	2
1	1	0	2	Dept. of Microbiology	1	0	0	1	2
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Cardiology	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Cardiothoracic Surgery	0	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Psychiatry		0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	Dept. of T.B. & Chest	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	College of Nursing	1	1	1	1	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
Dept. of Molecular Biology Unit	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Radiodiagnosis & Imaging
Dept. of Nephrology	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Dermatrolgy & Venereology
Dept. of Neurology	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Biophysics
Dept. of Neuro-Surgery	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Dept. of Obstertrics & Gynaecology	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Endocrinology & Metabolism
Dept.. of Orthopaedics	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Forensic Medicine
Dept. of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Gastroenterology
Dept. of Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Nephrology
Dept.. of Radiodiagnosis & Imaging	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Neuro-Surgery
Dept.. of Dermatrolgy & Venereology	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Plastic Surgery
Dept.. of Surgical Oncology	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Surgical Oncology
Dept.. of T.B. & Chest	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of T.B. & Chest
Dept.. of Urology	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Urology
TOTAL	10	6	1	17	TOTAL
Faculty of Arts					
Department					
Dept. of AIHC & Archaeology	1	1	1	3	Dept. of Hindi

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Forensic Medicine	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Neurology		0	0		0
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	1	0	0		1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Paediatric Surgery	0	0	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Radiotherapy & Radiation Medicine		0	0		0
0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Dermatrolgy & Venereology		0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Surgical Oncology		0	0		0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Biophysics		0	0		0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Endocrinology & Metabolism	1	0	0		1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Gastroenterology		0	0		0
1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Nephrology		0	0		0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Neuro- Surgery	1	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Plastic Surgery	1	0	0	0	1
				Dept. of Urology		0	0		0
21	16	7	44	TOTAL	14	10	8	17	49
1	1	0	2	Dept. of Hindi	2	3	2	2	9

1	2	3	4	5	6
Dept. of English	0	1	0	1	Dept. of AIHC & Archaeology
Dept. of Hindi	1	0	0	1	Dept. of English
Dept. of Library & Information Sci.	1	0	1	2	Dept. of Philosophy & Religion
Dept.. of Foreign Language	1	1	0	2	Dept. of Sanskrit
Dept. of History of Art	1	0	1	2	Dept. of Bengali
Dept. of Philosophy & Religion	0	1	0	1	Dept.. of Foreign Language
Dept.. of Sanskrit	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Library & Information Sci.
Dept. of Arabic	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Physical Education
Dept.. of Bengali	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of French Studies
Dept.. of French Studies	1	0	0	1	Dept. of German Studies
Dept.. of German Studies	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of History of Art
Dept.. of Jon. & Mass Comm.	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Jon. & Mass Comm.
Dept.. of Linguistics	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Linguistics
Dept. of Pali & Buddhist	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Pali & Buddhist
Dept.. of Physical Education	1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Arabic
Dept.. of Telugu	0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Indian Language
Dept. of Urdu	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Marathi
TOTAL	11	4	3	18	TOTAL

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
0	3	1	4	Dept. of AIHC & Archaeology	3	1	1	3	8
0	2	1	3	Dept. of English	4	1	2	4	11
0	1	2	3	Dept. of Sanskrit	1	1	1	1	4
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Philosophy & Religion	2	1	0	1	4
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Foreign Language	2	2	1	3	8
1	1	0	2	Dept.. of Physical Education	0	2	1	0	3
1	1	0	2	Dept.. of History of Art	1	2	1	0	4
1	1	0	2	Dept. of Urdu	1	1	1	1	4
1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Jon. & Mass Comm.	2	1	0	1	4
0	0	0	0	Dept. of French Studies	0	1	1	0	2
0	0	0	0	Dept.. of German Studies	2	1	1	1	5
1	0	1	2	Dept.. of Linguistics	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Pali & Buddhist	0	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Bengali	1	1	0		2
1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Library & Information Sci.		0	1		1
0	0	0	0	Dept.. of Indian Language		0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	Dept.. of Persian		0	0	0	0
10	12	5	27	Dept.. of Arabic		0	0		0

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Institute of Agricultural Science
Department

Dept. of Farm Engineering	2	1	0	3	Dept. of Genetics & Plant Breeding
Dept. of Genetics & Plant Breeding	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Agronomy
Dept. of Soil Science & Agril. Chemistry	0	0	1	1	Dept. of Ento. & Agril. Zoology
Dept. of Agricultural Economics	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Mycology and Plant Pathology
Dept. of Agronomy	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Plant Physiology
Dept. of Ani. Husbandry & Dairying	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Soil Science & Agril. Chemistry
Dept. of Ento. & Agril. Zoology	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Extension Education
Dept. of Extension Education	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Horticulture

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
				Dept.. of Marathi		0	0	1	1
				Dept.. of Telugu		0	0		0
				Tourism Management section		0	0		0
				Faculty Position (Physical Edu.)		0	0		0
				Office Management	1	0	0		1
				Museology Section	1	0	0		1
				Tourism and Travel Managementl	1	0	0		1
TOTAL					24	20	13	20	77
2	2	1	5	Dept. of Agronomy	0	0	1	0	1
0	1	1	2	Dept. of Genetics & Plant Breeding	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	3	Dept. of Mycology and Plant Pathology	1	1	1	0	3
1	1	0	2	Dept. of Farm Engineering	0	0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Soil Science & Agril. Chemistry	0	0	0		0
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Ento.& Agril. Zoology	0	0	0		0
1	0	1	2	Dept. of Agricultural Economics	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	2	Dept. of Horticulture	0	1	0		1

1	2	3	4	5	6
Dept. of Horticulture	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Agricultural Economics
Dept. of Mycology and Plant Pathology	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Ani. Husbandry & Dairying
Dept. of Plant Physiology	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Farm Engineering
TOTAL	3	4	1	8	TOTAL

Faculty of Social Sciences**Department**

Dept. of Economics	2	1	1	4	Dept. of History
Dept. of Political Science	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Economics
Dept. of Psychology	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Political Science
Dept. of Sociology	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Psychology
Dept. of History	1	1	0	2	Dept. of Sociology
Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy	1	0	0	1	Centre for Study of Nepal and Inclusive Policy
Center for Women Studies	1	0	0	1	Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy
TOTAL	6	3	1	10	TOTAL

Faculty to S.V.D.V.**Department**

Dept. of Jyotish	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Vaidic Darshan
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Written Answers to [15 March, 2013] Unstarred Questions 243

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Ani. Husbandry & Dairying	0	0	0		0
1	0	0	1	Krishi Vigyan Kendra	0	0	0		0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Extension Education	1	0	0	0	1
8	7	4	19	Dept. of Plant Physiology	0	1	0		1
TOTAL					2	3	2	2	9

2	2	1	5	Dept. of History	2	1	1	1	5
1	2	1	4	Dept. of Psychology	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	2	Dept. of Sociology	0	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	2	Dept. of Political Science	2	1	0	3	6
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Economics		1	1	1	3
2	0	0	2	Malaviya Peace Centre	1	1	0	1	3
2	0	0	2	Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy	1	0	0	0	1
9	6	3	18	Centre for Study of Nepal	0	0	0	0	0
Center for Integrated Rural Development					1	0	0		1
TOTAL					7	4	3	6	20

0	0	0	0	Dept. of Sahitya	0	0	0	0	0
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1	2	3	4	5	6
Dept. of Dharmagam	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Vyakama
Dept. of Dharmashastra & Mimansa	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Dharmashastra & Mimansa
Dept. of Jain Buddh Darshan	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Jyotish
Dept. of Sahitya	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Dharmagam
Dept. of Vaidic Darshan	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Jain Buddh Darshan
Dept. of Veda	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Sahitya
Dept. of Vyakama	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Veda
TOTAL	3	1	0	4	TOTAL
Faculty to Ayurveda, IMS					
Department					
Dept. of Siddhant Darshan	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Kayachikitsa
Dept. of Dravyaguna	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Rasa-Shastra
Dept. of Kayachikitsa	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Rachana Sharir
Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Prasuti Tantra
Dept. of Prasuti Tantra	0	0	0	0	Dept. of Shalya Tantra
Dept. of Rasa-Shastra	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Dravyaguna
Dept. of Shalya Tantra	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry
TOTAL	2	1	0	3	Dept. of Kriya Sharir
					Dept. of Siddhant Darshan
					Dept. of Swasthavritta & Yoga
					Dept. of Shalakya Tantra
					Dept. of Sahmita & Sanskrit
					Dept. of Kumarbhrita & Bal Roga
					TOTAL

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
0	0	1	1	Dept. of Jyotish	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Vaidic Darshan	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Veda	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Dharmagam	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Dharmashastra & Mimansa	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Jain Buddh Darshan	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Vyakama	0	0	1	0	1
1	1	1	3	TOTAL	0	2	1	0	3
1	1	1	3	Dept. of Kayachikitsa	0	0	1	1	2
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Shalva Tantra	0	0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry	0	0	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Kriya Sharir	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Rachana Sharir	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Siddhant Darshan	0	0	1	0	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Sahmita & Sanskrit	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Dravyaguna	0	0	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Rasa-Shastra	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Swasthavritta & Yoga	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Vikriti Vigyan	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Prasuti Tantra	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Kuumarbhrita & Bal Roga	0	0	0	0	0
3	3	1	7	Dept. of Shalkya Tantra	0	0	0	0	0
				TOTAL	0	0	2	4	6

1	2	3	4	5	6
Faculty of Dental Sciences, IMS	1	1	2	4	Faculty of Dental Sciences, IMS
Faculty of Law	1	1	1	3	Faculty of Law
Faculty of Commerce	2	1	1	4	Faculty of Commerce
Faculty of Management Studies	0	1	0	1	Faculty of Management Studies
Faculty of Education	1	1	0	2	Faculty of Education
Institute of Environment Sciences & Sustainable Development IESD	0	0	0	0	Institute of Environment Sciences & Sustainable Development IESD
Faculty of Performing Arts					
Department					
Dept. of Musicology	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Instrumental Music
Dept. of Instrumental Music	0	1	0	1	Dept. of Vocal Music
Dept. of Vocal Music	1	0	0	1	Faculty of Performing Arts (Dance Section)
Dept. of Dance	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Musicology
TOTAL	3	1	0	4	TOTAL
Faculty of Visual Arts					
Department					
Dept. of Applied Arts	1	1	0	2	Dept. of Painting
Dept. of Painting	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Plastic Arts
Dept. of Plastic Arts	1	0	0	1	Dept. of Applied Arts
TOTAL	3	1	0	4	TOTAL

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3	1	1	5	Faculty of Dental Sciences, IMS	3	0	2	2	7
2	2	1	5	Faculty of Law	0	0	1	1	2
2	1	2	5	Faculty of Commerce	4	3	2	4	13
0	0	0	0	Faculty of Management Studies	0	1	0	1	2
0	1	1	2	Faculty of Education	2	0	1	2	5
2	0	0	2	Institute of Environment Sciences & Sustainable Development IESD	2	1	0	1	4
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Instrumental Music	1	0	1	1	3
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Vocal Music	1	0	0		1
0	0	1	1	Dept. of Musicology	0	0	1	0	1
0	0	0	0	Dept. of Dance	0	0	0		0
0	1	1	2	TOTAL	2	0	2	1	5
0	1	0	1	Dept. of Painting		1	1		2
2	0	0	2	Dept. of Applied Arts		1	0	1	2
1	0	0	1	Dept. of Plastic Arts	1	0	0	1	2
3	1	0	4	History of Arts Section	0	0	1	0	1
				TOTAL	1	2	2	2	7

Mahila Mahavidyalaya	Professor				Mahila Mahavidyalaya
Subject	Gen.	SC	ST	TOTAL	Subject
English	0	0	1	1	Home Sci.
History	1	0	0	1	Sanskrit
Home Science	1	0	0	1	AIHC & Arch.
Physics	1	0	0	1	Botany
TOTAL	3	0	1	4	Chemistry
					Economics
					English
					Geography
					Hindi
					Mathematics
					Philosophy & Religion
					Physics
					Pol. Science
					Psychology
					Sociology
					Zoology
					TOTAL

Associate Professor				Mahila Mahavidyalaya	Assistant Professor				
Gen.	SC	ST	TOTAL		Subject	Gen.	SC	ST	OBC
0	0	1	1	Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	2	Zoology	1	0	1	1	3
1	0	0	1	English	1	1	1	2	5
0	0	0	0	Botany	0	1	1	0	2
0	0	0	0	Physics	0	1	1	0	2
0	0	0	0	Hindi	1	0	1	1	3
1	0	0	1	Geography	1	1	0	0	2
0	0	0	0	Psychology	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Economics	0	1	0	1	2
0	0	0	0	History	1	0	0	1	2
0	0	0	0	Home Sci.	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	Sociology	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	AIHC & Arch.	1	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	Computer Science	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	Mathematics	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	Painting	0	0	1	1	2
5	1	2	8	Philosophy & Religion	0	1	0	0	1
				Pol. Science	1	0	0	1	2
				Statistics	0	1	0	0	1
				Bengali	0	0	0	0	1
				Bioinformatics	0	0	0	1	1
				Dance	0	0	0	0	0
				Education	0	0	0	0	0
				Geology	1	1	0	0	2
				Inst. Music	1	0	1	0	2
				Sanskrit	0	0	0	0	0
				Urdu	0	0	0	1	1
				Vocal Music	0	0	0	0	0
				History of Arts	1	0	0	0	1
				Music/Dance	0	0	0	0	0
				Physical Education	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL					10	9	7	11	38

Statement-IV*Details of vacancies of Non-teachine Staff in BHU*

Group wise	Gen.	SC	ST	OBC	Total
A	61	1	2	6	70
B	93	0	1	1	95
C	533	192	104	196	1025
D	433	54	121	156	764
	1120	247	228	359	1954

**Implementation of Pay Commission recommendations
in hospital under BHU**

2117. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission have been implemented in respect of the Nursing and Para-medical staff attached to Sir Sunder Lal Hospital run by the Banaras Hindu University (BHU);

(b) if not, the reasons for not implementing the same for certain section of staff of the university; and

(c) whether any measures have been taken by the Ministry to implement the same and if so, the time by when the same would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The Revised Pay Bands and Grade Pays as indicated in the Part- A of the first Schedule of the Central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules, 2008, which was notified by Ministry of Finance to execute the recommendations of the 6th Pay Commission as accepted by the Government, have been implemented in respect of the Nursing and Para-medical staff of Sir Sunder Lal Hospital run by the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) w.e.f. 01.01.2006. The revised pay scales mentioned in the part B of the first Schedule of the CCS (RP) Rules, 2008 for certain common categories of staff, which includes Nursing and Para-medical staff, have not been implemented.

(b) and (c) The UGC had constituted a Committee to examine and recommend the rationalisation of Cadre structure and the pay scales of various categories of employees of the Centrally funded institutions. As per the relevant instructions of Ministry of Finance, the implementation of pay Scales given in Part B is to be made in the autonomous organisations after taking an individual view in each case observing whether grant of the revised pay structure is justified on functional considerations. The recommendations made by UGC in this regard are under examination and would be decided in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

Reservation for poor children from nursery to eighth standard

†2118. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed 25 per cent quota from Class I to VIII in all schools, for poor children of six to fourteen years under the Right to Education;

(b) whether education of children starts from Nursery at the age of three years;

(c) whether admission in class I is difficult in case children are not admitted in Nursery;

(d) whether Government would reserve 25 per cent seats in educational institutions for poor children from three years to fourteen years starting from Nursery to class VIII, instead of class I;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years i.e. from Classes I to VIII. Section 12(l)(c) of the RTE Act provides that a specified category school and a private unaided school shall admit in class I to the extent of atleast 25% of the strength of that class children belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section from the neighbourhood and provide free and compulsory education till

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

completion of elementary education. It also provides that where such school starts at pre-primary level, the admission of children belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section will be at that level.

(d) to (f) Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act already provides for admission of 25% children in private unaided schools from the weaker section and disadvantaged group residing in its neighbourhood at its entry level which is Class I or pre-primary level.

Reservation for EWS category in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2119. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over one lakh students would be admitted in class I across 1,090 Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has decided to provide 25 per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections category as per the RTE Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The total number of students expected to be admitted in all Kendriya Vidyalaya (KVs) across the country and abroad in the academic year 2013-14, would be 97,920 based on 40 students each for 2448 sections for class-I.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As per the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009, KVs admit at least 25 per cent of the annual class-I intake from children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups.

Allocation and spending on education

2120. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations for education in 2010-11 and 2011-12 budgets and these amounts as percentage of GDP;

(b) the percentage of allocations for school and higher education spent during these years; and

(c) the percentage of children in the age group of 6-14 years enrolled as students during the admissions in 2012-13?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Plan allocation and expenditure of Ministry of Human Resource Development during 2010-11 and 2011-12 and its percentage is as under:

Budget Estimate/Allocation (Plan) and Expenditure (Plan)

(Rs. in crore)

Departments	2010-11			2011-12		
	Allocation	Expenditure	Percentage	Allocation	Expenditure	Percentage
Department of School Education and Literacy	31036.00	34156.22	110.05	38957.00	38122.50	97.86
Department of Higher Education	11000.00	9356.77	85.06	13103.00	12641.98	96.48
TOTAL	42036.00	43512.99	103.51	52060.00	50764.48	97.51

The allocation (Plan) for education as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is 0.58% and 0.62% during 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively.

(c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development compiles data on enrolment for different levels, based on admissions figures. As per District Information System of Education (DISE) data, the total enrolment for Classes I-VIII (covering age – group of 6-14 years) in 2011-12 is as around 19.91 crore.

ICT Mission

2121. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Mission in Schools has been implemented across all the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details about various schemes in operation under the ICT Mission; and

(d) the number of universities and colleges benefiting from the ICT Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary Education and Literacy is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Schools" across all the States. Under the ICT @ Schools Scheme financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs *inter-alia*, to procure computers, computer infrastructure along with a provision for internet connectivity, for the coverage of government and government aided secondary and higher secondary schools in the States/UTs. Details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) is being implemented by the Department of Higher Education as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to leverage the potential of ICT, in teaching and learning process. Under this Mission one Gigabyte per second (Gbps) optical fibre connectivity has been provided to 400 Universities/University level institutions. Similarly, upto 15-20 Virtual Private Network over Broad Band (VPNoBB) connection for 512 Kbps speed each (upto 10 Mbps) have been provided to nearly 19800 colleges.

Statement

		Number of schools covered under ICT@ Schools Scheme State-wise and Year-wise										
Name of State/UT		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	No. of Smart Schools approved	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Andamand and Nicobar Islands	-	-	12	-	14*	-	28	-	-	-	-	
Andhra Pradesh	500*	-	200	5000	2000	-	4031	-	-	05	-	
Arunachal Pradesh	-	154	-	35	-	55	24	-	-	-	-	
Assam	-	-	-	641	-	-	1240	969	-	-	-	
Bihar	-	180	-	1000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chandigarh	-	-	20	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chhattisgarh	-	-	100	200	800	1100	-	-	-	-	-	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	06	06	-	-	11	01	-	02	-	
Daman and Diu	-	15	-	22	-	-	06	-	-	02	-	
Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	594	1110	-	-	-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Goa	-	230*	-	432	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	-	-	-	1150	2500	2730	-	-	-	-
Haryana	-	100	-	500	1000*	1000	1617	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	628	-	618	848	-	05
Jammu and Kashmir	-	140*	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	-	-	-	1074	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	150*	480	-	2279	4396	-	-	-	-	-
Kerala	-	125	-	1016	3055 *	-	-	-	-	05
Lakshadweep	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	-	230	-	320	-	2000 *	-	2000	-	-
Maharashtra	-	-	200*	500	2500	-	-	5000	-	-
Manipur	-	-	-	65	-	-	260	-	-	04
Meghalaya	-	-	-	75*	75	100	241	164	-	04
Mizoram	-	60	-	-	100	-	37	181	-	04
Nagaland	-	53	147	284	-	-	82	-	121	04

Odisha	-	200	-	-	-	-	4000	-	2000	-
Puducherry	-	-	25	169	-	-	-	182	-	04
Punjab	-	200	-	-	2000	870	494	-	134	05
Rajasthan	-	100	-	2500	2000	-	2000	-	-	-
Sikkim	-	103	-	02	-	-	42	-	-	04
Tamil Nadu	-	125	-	400*	400*	1880	461	1999	-	05
Tripura	-	-	200*	400	282*	-	282	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	-	-	200*	2500	1500*	-	1500	1608	-	05
Uttarakhand	-	25	-	-	100	-	-	500	-	-
West Bengal	-	200	-	-	343	1400	-	2000	-	05
TOTAL	650	2720	1110	21080	24650	9935	19474	14062	2255	63

* Shifted to the following year.

Recruitment of B.P. Ed. holders as primary teachers

‡2122. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has banned the recruitment of Bachelor of Physical Education (B.P. Ed.) degree holders as primary teachers;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor, and
- (c) whether this order has been implemented in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) In pursuance of section 23 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has vide its Notification dated 23rd August, 2010 laid down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher from classes I-VIII. For primary classes the teacher education qualifications specified under the Notification are 2-year Diploma in Elementary Education, 4-year Bachelor in Elementary Education, and 1-year Bachelor in Elementary Education, under certain conditions, which prepare teachers to teach various subjects such as science, social science, mathematics, language etc. The B.P.Ed degree is not an eligible qualification for primary classes as the programme is designed to prepare teachers for physical education only and not for subject teaching.

(c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that its Recruitment Rules for primary school teachers have been aligned with the NCTE Notification dated 23rd August, 2010.

Starting of new CBSE schools

2123. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of CBSE schools in the country, State-wise; and
- (b) whether Government would take initiatives to start new CBSE schools in various States where there is an acute need?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) A list indicating the State-wise schools affiliated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The CBSE does not open any school. It grants affiliation to the schools after assessment of their fulfillment of mandatory requirement prescribed in the Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board.

Statement

Details of schools affiliated with CBSE

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of schools
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	344
2	Assam	199
3	Bihar	525
4	Gujarat	258
5	Haryana	1106
6	Himachal Pradesh	199
7	Jammu and Kashmir	113
8	Karnataka	537
9	Kerala	1040
10	Madhya Pradesh	773
11	Maharashtra	499
12	Manipur	57
13	Meghalaya	23
14	Nagaland	31
15	Odisha	239
16	Punjab	874
17	Rajasthan	645
18	Sikkim	189
19	Tamil Nadu	418

1	2	3
20	Tripura	33
21	Uttar Pradesh	1709
22	Arunachal Pradesh	270
23	Mizoram	11
24	West Bengal	200
25	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	106
26	Chandigarh	152
27	Delhi	1916
28	Goa	11
29	Puducherry	13
30	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	7
31	Daman and Diu	5
32	Lakshadweep	12
33	Chhattisgarh	400
34	Jharkhand	331
35	Uttarakhand	407
TOTAL		13652

Infrastructure facilities under SSA in schools in Jharkhand

2124. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the objectives under SSA is to provide infrastructure support in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of schools, at primary level, do not have proper sanitation facilities for girls;

(d) if so, whether this is resulting in an increase in drop-out rate for girls at primary level in Jharkhand; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides support for school infrastructure like school buildings, additional classrooms, separate toilets for girls and boys, drinking water facilities, ramps with railing etc.

(c) to (e) As per District Information System for Education (DISE) 2011-12, 60.1% primary schools have separate girls' toilets and 85.7% have a common toilet. In Jharkhand as per DISE 2011-12, 63.8% primary schools have a separate girls' toilet and 74.7% have common toilet. As per Statistics of School Education (SES) 2010-11, girls' drop-out rate in Jharkhand at primary level is 25.6%. Free text books, free uniform, mid day meal, special training for mainstreaming out of school children in regular schools and transport/escort facilities in exceptional cases, are *inter alia* provided under SSA, to improve girls' retention.

Implementation of OBC reservation in recruitments in educational institutions

2125. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission is not implementing the 27 per cent OBC reservation in Group-A academic/teaching posts, as per judgment of the Supreme Court in this regard; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government for proper implementation of the 27 per cent reservation for OBCs in the recruitments to Central educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No, Sir. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued instructions on 24.01.2007 to all Central Universities and Deemed to be Universities receiving grant-in-aid from the Central Government, to implement the reservation policy of the Government of India in respect of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) for filling up teaching posts at the level of Lecturers/ Assistant Professors.

(b) The Central Government has issued advisories to all Central Universities and Centrally Funded Technical Institutions from time to time to implement the OBC reservation policy in employment. UGC as well as Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) are reviewing the status of filling up of vacancies reserved for SCs, STs and OBC in all Centrally funded higher educational institutions from time to time.

Declining learning outcomes

2126. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the learning outcomes have actually declined over the last seven years, inspite of the enactment of the Right to Education Act and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any measures are being undertaken to remedy this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which uses a rigorous research methodology, conducts very detailed periodic national surveys of learning achievement of children in classes – III, V and VIII. Two rounds of National Learners' Achievement Surveys have been completed by NCERT which have revealed improvements in the overall learning levels, even though achievements remain low. The findings of the third round conducted recently for class V also indicate that there is enhancement in the level of achievement in most States.

(c) to (e) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for a system of continuous and comprehensive evaluation (CCE) of the child's understanding of knowledge and his/her ability to apply the same. The Act also places an obligation on the teacher to assess the learning ability of each child and provide additional instructions, if required. The NCERT has developed

guidance material on the CCE which has been shared with the States. As of now, 22 States/UTs have reported that they are implementing the system of CCE. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, the State Governments and UT Administrations are supported on several interventions to improve the quality of elementary education that include, *inter-alia*, regular in-service teacher training, distribution of free and improved textbooks, recruitment of additional teachers for better pupil-teacher ratios, academic support for schools and teachers through block and cluster resource centres, continuous and comprehensive evaluation system, teacher and school grants for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc.

Financial assistance to institutions by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan

†2127. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the institutions recognised as Model Sanskrit Colleges/ Research Institutions for providing financial assistance by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, State-wise;

(b) the norms adopted to grant recognition to these institutions for this purpose; and

(c) the amount of assistance provided to each of such institutions during the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The details of the 25 institutions recognized as the Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya (ASM)/Shodha Sansthans, State-wise, are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The norms for recognizing these institutions are given in Statement-II (*See* below). This may also be seen at the website www.sanskrit.nic.in of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan.

(c) The details of financial assistance provided to these institutions during last three years and current year are given in the Statement-I.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-1*Details of Institutions recognized as ASM/Shodha Sanssthan*

Sl. No.	Name of the Institutions	2009-2010 (Rs. in lakh)	2010-2011 (Rs. in lakh)	2011-2012 (Rs. in lakh)	2012-2013 as on date (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	Sanskrit Academy (Shodha Sanssthan), Osmania University, (Hyderabad) (ASS)	34.56	58.01	50.10	54.00
Bihar					
2	Raj Kumari Ganesh Sharma Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Kolhanta Patori, Darbhanga, (Bihar)	45.06	76.11	82.45	90.00
3	J.N.B. Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, P.O - Lagma, Darbhanga, (Bihar)	35.39	66.49	64.60	57.00
4	Dr. Ramji Mehta Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Malighat, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)	42.26	91.46	89.00	102.00
5	Swami Paramkusacharya Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Hulasganj, Gaya, (Bihar-804407)	53.06	131.80	95.00	97.00
6	Shri Ram Sundar Sanskrit Vishwa Vidya Pratishthan Laxminath Nagar, Ramauli- Belona, Via Beheda, District Darbhanga, (Bihar-847201)	17.39	32.08	36.81	74.00

Haryana							
7	Haryana Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Bhagola, Palwal, District Faridabad, (Haryana)	46.10	82.97	70.00	104.22		
8	Diwan Krishna Kishore S.D. Adarsh Sanskrit College. Ambala Cantt-133001, (Haryana)	38.39	75.51	57.91	76.50		
Himachal Pradesh							
9	Himachal Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla. (Roheru) District Shimla-174307, (H.P.)	56.66	124.03	93.51	97.00		
10	S.D. Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Dohgi (Bangana), District Una-174307, (Himachal Pradesh)	55.09	106.53	106.04	92.19		
Jharkhand							
11	Laxmi Devi Sharoff Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Harisharnam Kutir, Kalirakha, District-B, Deoghar-814112, (Jharkhand)	33.57	64.07	44.11	32.50		
Karnataka							
12	Poornaprajna Samshodhana Mandiram (Shodha Sansthan), Kathiguppa Main Road. Bangalore-560028, (Karnataka) (ASS)	27.06	57.73	69.25	75.00		
Kerala							
13	Calicut Adarsh Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, P.O. Balussery, District Kozhikode- 673612, (Kerala)	62.06	109.71	66.20	74.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6
14	Chinmaya International Foundation (Shodha Sansthan), Adi Shankara Nilayam Veliyand-PO Ernakulam- District, (Kerala-682319) (ASS)	27.12	54.81	45.29	50.50
Maharashtra					
15	Vaidika Samshodhana Mandala (Shodha Sansthan), Tilak Vidyapeetha, Gultekadi, Pune-400037, (Maharashtra) (ASS)	23.26	61.34	40.15	50.00
16.	Mumba Devi Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, C/o Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, K.M. Munshi Marg-400007, Mumbai, (Maharashtra)	35.91	73.70	51.38	64.00
Manipur					
17	Radha Madhava Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Nambol, (Manipur-795134)	-	-	-	38.14
Tamil Nadu					
18	Madras Sanskrit College & SSV Patashala, 84, Roypeetha High Court Mylapore-600004, Chennai.	54.10	133.20	92.12	87.00
19	Ahobila Muth Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Sannidhi Street, Madurathakam, Chennai-603306	14.79	35.34	21.03	40.00
Uttarakhand					
20	Bhagwan Das Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, PO - Gurukui Mangri, District Haridwar, (Uttarakhand)	34.78	81.71	63.80	74.00

Uttar Pradesh

21	Rani Padmavadi Tara Yog Tantra Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Indrapur (Shivpur), Varanasi-221001, (U.P.)	63.86	167.69	133.15	112.50
22	Ekarasanand Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Mainpuri, (U.P.), Sh. Ranggalaxmi Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Vrindavan, Mathura- 281121, (U.P.)	26.52	61.18	43.42	64.00
23	Sh. Ranggalaxmi Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Vrindavan, Mathura- 281121, (U.P.)	20.26	53.64	57.80	74.00

West Bengal

24	Kaliachak Bikram Kishore Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Village Kaliachak, P.O. Haria District Purba Medinipur-721430, (W.B.)	45.55	97.01	96.92	90.00
25	Sri Sitaram Vaidic Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, 7/2, PWD Road, Kolkata-700035, (West Bengal)	54.69	129.87	100.60	108.00

Statement-II***Norms for recognition of Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya (ASM)
and Adarsh Shodha Sansthan (ASS)***

A voluntary organization registered under the Societies' Registration Act or a Trust registered under Trust Act hereinafter called 'the Parent Body', maintaining a Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya or Shodha Sansthan, will be eligible to apply for recognition. The Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan would recognise them as ASM/ASS if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) The Mahavidyalaya should be teaching at the level of Shastri and Acharya or equivalent Courses on traditional lines and at least three batches of students should have passed out Acharya or equivalent traditional degree of a recognized University/Examining Body. The Shodha Sansthan should be actively pursuing research in the various Traditional Sanskrit Disciplines and should have produced at least 15 Ph.Ds/D.litts.
- (ii) The Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan should have been in existence for at least seven years at a level mentioned in (i) above. However, the Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan receiving financial assistance under the earlier scheme would continue to be entitled to receive financial assistance under this revised scheme.
- (iii) The Parent Body operating the Mahavidyalaya/Shodh Sansthan should be the owner with possession of adequate area upon which the Mahavidyalaya/Shodh Sansthan is functioning. Lease of 99 years in favour of the Parent Body operating the Mahavidyalaya/Shodh Sansthan will also be acceptable.
- (iv) The Mahavidyalayas/Shodh Sansthans should have been paying salary to their teaching and non-teaching employees into their bank accounts.
- (v) The registered Parents Body applying for recognition and financial assistance under this scheme in future would have to deposit a sum of Rs. 10.00 lakh in favour of the Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan in a fixed Deposit Account. The institutions already receiving assistance under the old scheme which have deposited Rs. 1 lakh/2lakh infavour of

the Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan would re-invest the matured amount till the fixed deposit of Rs. 10 lakh is made. On grant of recognition under the scheme, the fixed deposit shall be jointly in the name of the Principal/Director of the Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya/Adarsh Shodha Sansthan, as the case may, and the Registrar, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, both ex-officio.

- (vi) The Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan should be affiliated either to a University duly set up by an enactment of the Government of India or a State Government.
- (vii) The Mahavidyalaya should have student strength of atleast 80, a Shodha Sansthan should have atleast 12 active researchers.
- (viii) The application by the secretary of the parent body should accompany the following documents:-
 - (a) Certificate of Registration under Societies Registration Act/Trust Act.
 - (b) Resolution of the Parent Body that it will abide by all norms of this scheme in case the Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan is recognized as Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya/Adarsh Shodha Sansthan.
 - (c) An Undertaking in the prescribed format by all employees of the Mahavidyalaya/ Shodha Sansthan

School education for underprivileged children under RTE Act

2128. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number vagabond street children, ragpickers and such other children who have been covered under formal school education after commencement of the Right to Education (RTE) Act in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra;
- (b) whether all such underprivileged children in the State have been covered under the RTE Act; and
- (c) if not, the action plan Government has prepared to cover all such children in the State under formal education as per RTE Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) State Government of Maharashtra reported that for the year 2012-13, 1,95,821 children in the 6-14 years age group were identified as being out of school, of which 1,05,175 children have been enrolled in regular schools, of which 9,324 were from Mumbai. For children in remote areas and migratory children, the State has designed multiple strategies including seasonal/residential hostels and special training/bridge courses to bring these children into formal schools.

Derecognition of deemed universities in Tamil Nadu

2129. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had ordered for an inquiry to cancel the recognition of deemed universities in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to protect the students undertaking their studies in such deemed universities;

(c) whether the deemed universities have sought any legal remedies for their problems;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which maintenance of status quo of deemed universities is essential for enhancement of quality in education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Pursuant to the general perception about dilution of academic standards in certain institutions deemed to be universities, the Government on 6th July, 2009 constituted a Committee of eminent academic experts to review the functioning of institutions deemed to be universities and the desirability of their continuance as such. The Review Committee, on the basis of their evaluation and assessment, reported that while some institutions deemed to be universities met the required benchmarks, some others would need some time to do so and yet, some others, numbering 44, owing to deficiencies, did not deserve to continue as institutions deemed to be universities. These institutions, neither on past performance nor on their promise for the future, have the attributes to retain their status as universities. 16 of these deemed to be universities are located in Tamil Nadu. The Government has, in principle, accepted the report of the Review Committee.

(b) The Task Force constituted to prepare an action plan for implementation of the recommendations of the Review Committee on Institutions Deemed to be Universities, has classified the institutions into seven categories and suggested possible ways of protecting the interest of students in each of the categories. However, no further action was taken on this report in view of status quo obtained by those 44 universities from Supreme Court.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The issue regarding implementation of the recommendations contained in the aforesaid report is currently sub judice in the Supreme Court of India in the matter of Viplav Sharma Vs Union of India and Others [WP (C) 142 of 2006]. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Government to maintain status quo with regard to these 44 institutions deemed to be universities.

Discrimination against poor children in private schools

‡2130. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of discrimination with the poor children in the private schools of the country have increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to issue new guidelines to schools, for children admitted under economically weaker section quota, so that these children are not subjected to discrimination; and

(d) whether Government has made any body accountable for taking action against such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) No such incident has come to the notice of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has issued guidelines on 26th October, 2012 to all states/UTs for implementation of clause (c) of sections 8 & 9 of the Right of Children for Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act regarding non-discrimination of children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections in schools, for the State Governments and local authorities to take appropriate

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

steps to ensure that all schools adhere to these guidelines. Section 31 & 32 of the RTE Act provides for monitoring of the rights of the child by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR). State Governments have set up State Commission for Protection of Child Rights/Right to Education Protection Authority (REPA) for the purpose.

Setting up of institutes of architectural design

2131. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to set up institutes of architectural design across the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) No Sir. There is no proposal, at present, to set up institutes of architectural design across the country.

Cancellation of deemed university status

2132. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to cancel the deemed university status given to some private institutions as their intake of students was far less than the guidelines provided by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of deemed universities being affected and got cancelled along with their status; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Pursuant to the general perception about dilution of academic standards in certain institutions deemed to be universities, Government constituted a Committee of eminent academic experts to review the functioning of institutions deemed to be universities

and the desirability of their continuance as such. The Review Committee, on the basis of their evaluation and assessment, reported that while some institutions deemed to be universities met the required benchmarks, some others would need some time to do so and yet, some others, numbering 44, owing to deficiencies, did not deserve to continue as institutions deemed to be universities. The Government has, in principle, accepted the report of the Review Committee. However, the issue regarding implementation of the recommendations contained in the aforesaid report is currently sub judice in the Supreme Court of India in the matter of Viplav Sharma Vs Union of India and Others [WP (C) 142 of 2006]. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Government to maintain status quo with regard to these 44 institutions deemed to be universities.

Disruption of local trains in Mumbai due to poor maintenance

2133. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been instances of disruption of local train services in Mumbai due to poor maintenance resulting in technical snags;
- (b) if so, the details of such instances during the last two years;
- (c) the steps taken to streamline the maintenance work;
- (d) whether any accountability has been fixed in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) There has been no instance of complete disruption of local train services due to poor maintenance resulting in technical snags. However, there have been occasional instances of detention of local trains due to material failures and technical snags for which remedial measures have been taken from time to time.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Railways have taken various steps to improve the reliability of Signalling and Electrical system which include Dual detection system to improve reliability minimizing the effect of external interference like rain, flood, theft/vandalism, tress passing, provision of data loggers for centralized monitoring of Signalling system,

Light Emitting Diode (LED) Signals to improve visibility, Dual Fuse Alarm Systems to arrest the signalling failures due to fuse blowing off, Metallurgical analysis of broken components of pantograph/Overhead equipment and deployment of the thermo vision camera for detection of hot spot in overhead equipment.

Intensive maintenance activities are being carried out during night and mega blocks to improve the reliability and smooth operation of suburban services in Mumbai area.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Separate coach for ladies, handicaps and senior citizen

†2134. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that half portion of each coach is provided in many trains for ladies and handicaps, respectively;

(b) whether Government would make a provision to attach separate coaches for ladies, handicaps and senior citizens in all the trains; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) For the convenience of female passengers, handicapped persons & senior citizens, Railways have provided the following reservation related facilities in trains

(i) In all trains having reserved accommodation, a combined quota of two lower berths per coach has been earmarked in Sleeper, AC-3 tier and AC-2 tier classes for following category of passengers when traveling alone:

(a) Senior Citizens;

(b) Female passenger 45 years of age and above; and

(c) Pregnant women

(ii) A reservation quota of two sleeper class berths has been earmarked in all trains running on non-suburban sections for handicapped persons performing their journey on handicapped concessional ticket. The person accompanying the handicapped person as escort is also allotted the berth out of this quota.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) Specially designed coaches known as SLRD coaches with wider entrance doors to allow a wheel chair to enter, wider aisles and modified toilet with 4 berths, the lower two for physically challenged persons and upper berths for attendants have been attached in almost all Mail/Express trains except Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Jan Shatabdi Express Trains and Duronto Express Trains. These coaches are treated as unreserved except in case of Garib Rath Trains.
- (iv) In Sleeper Class, a reservation quota of 6 berths is earmarked in Mail/Express trains for ladies irrespective of age travelling alone or in a group of female passengers. Ladies special trains are also run wherever required and feasible.
- (v) Rear passenger portion of guard brake van (SLR) is also earmarked for ladies in certain Mail/Express trains for ladies passengers going without reservation.
- (vi) Accommodation is also earmarked for ladies and handicapped persons in Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU)/Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU)/passenger trains.
- (vii) Accommodation is also earmarked for senior citizens during specified hours on suburban sections by Central and Western Railways.

Expansion and development of railway stations

2135. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from the local Member of Parliament and the State Government regarding expansion and development of Sidhpur, Palanpur and Mehsana railway stations under Ahmedabad Division in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, so far;
- (c) whether funds have been earmarked for the said proposal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; 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) Some references including those from Honourable Members of Parliament have been received for development of Sidhpur and Palanpur stations.

Sidhpur and Palanpur stations have been identified for development as Adarsh station during the current year 2012-13. Mehsana station has already been developed as Modern station.

(c) to (e) Station-wise details of funds allocated/spent are not maintained. The expenditure on such works is funded under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities'. The allocation and expenditure under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' on Western Railway, which cover Sidhpur and Palanpur stations during the current year is Rs.49.92 crore and Rs.34.38 (upto January, 2013) crore respectively.

Railway connectivity

2136. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI:

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not able to connect backward and remote regions of the country even after 65 years of Independence;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has not been able to cover major areas in many States and has very little presence in the North-Eastern States and the Himalayan region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government would take to give special emphasis to North-Eastern States and the Himalayan region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) No mandate is available to Indian Railways to connect backward and remote regions. Some of the projects are taken up on socio-economic considerations which also connect backward and remote areas.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. 2602 Route Km of railway network already exists in North Eastern Region, 255.67 Route Km of railway network already exists in Jammu and

Kashmir, 296.26 Route Km of railway network already exists in Himachal Pradesh and 344.91 Route Km of railway network already exists in Uttarakhand States. As on 01.04.2012, 13 new line projects covering a length of 965 Km and 4 gauge conversion project having a length of 1510 Km have been taken up in North-Eastern States and 5 new line projects having a length of 595 Km falling fully/partly in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand have been taken up in Himalayan region. The works are being progressed as per the availability of resources.

Khurda Road-Bolangir New B.G. rail link

2137. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA:

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of its announcement in the Railway Budget 2012-13 to complete and commission phase-I of Khurda Road-Bolangir new B.G rail link project by March, 2013 and Phase-II by December, 2013; and

(b) if so, the progress of these two phases and the reasons for unsatisfactory progress, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Khurda Road-Begunia-Nayagarh Sections of Khurda Road-Bolangir project were targeted for completion during 2012-13.

Presently 86% of physical work in respect of Phase-I (from Khurda Road to Begunia) of Khurda Road-Bolangir New Line Project has been completed. Khurda Road-Khurda Town Section has been completed in 2012-13. Khurda Town — Sunakhela section falling on Khurda Road-Nayagarh is targeted for completion in 2013-14. Due to delay in availability of land and paucity of fund, target set for 2012-13 could not be achieved.

Amount generated through IRCTC

2138. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has privatized the services of railway catering; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount generated through IRCTC by giving contracts in the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The services of Railway's catering are provided either through departmental units managed by Railways/Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) or by private licensees. Supervision and monitoring of the catering services are done departmentally by Railways.

(b) After introduction of new Catering policy, 2010, all the catering activities except Food Plazas, Fast food units and Food Courts have been transferred to Zonal Railways by IRCTC. Details of Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) earnings from licensee catering for Eleventh and Twelfth plan period are as under:

Year	Plan	Earnings (Rs. in crores)
2007-08	Plan-11	289.20
2008-09		341.02
2009-10		367.66
2010-11		311.67
2011-12		26.19 *
TOTAL		1335.75
2012-13 (up to September, 12 unaudited)	Plan-12	11.21*
TOTAL		11.21

* Catering services except Food Plazas, Fast food units and Food Courts have been transferred to Zonal Railways by IRCTC

Unique identification number for railway employees

2139. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to issue unique identification number to both past and present railway employees;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this system has been tried in any other country; and
- (d) how Railways would cover 25 lakh present and past employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A scheme covering both serving and retired railways employees is under implementation with initial budgetary provision of Rs. 10 crores. This scheme has been developed keeping specific requirements of Indian Railways and other countries might have systems akin to their requirements.

Emergency announcement system in trains

†2140. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khanna, Kakodkar and Pitroda Committees had recommended for arrangement of emergency announcement system in passenger trains; and

(b) if so, the number of trains in which such arrangement has been provided and by when this arrangement would be provided in all trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) None of the Committees in its Report has made any recommendation regarding arrangement of emergency announcement system in passenger trains.

(b) Does not arise.

Quality of food supplied in trains

2141. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints are increasing regarding quality of food supplied in trains including Shatabdi, Duronto and Rajdhani trains particularly under South Central Railway;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Railways to prevent such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of the complaints regarding quality of food supplied in trains including Shatabdi, Duronto and Rajdhani trains particularly under South Central Railway is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	No. of complaints
1	2010-11	35
2	2011-12	20
3	2012-13 (up to February)	19

(c) Improvement in the quality of catering services is an on-going process. Supervision and monitoring have been strengthened through a mechanism put in place by deploying railway personnel, who check quality and hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Catering Monitoring Cells have been set up at Zonal and Divisional level for daily monitoring of the catering activities. Further, on the same pattern, a centralized Catering Complaint Monitoring Cell has been set up in Board's office having a toll free number 1800-111-321 for prompt redressal of the passenger grievances related to the catering activities for real time assistance to travelling public.

Adarsh railway stations

2142. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stations announced in the Railway Budgets of 2009-10 and 2010-11 to be upgraded as Adarsh railway stations;

(b) whether upgradation has been done as per the announcements; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, case-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) 378 railway stations during 2009-10 and 201 railway stations during 2010-11 were identified for development under 'Adarsh' stations scheme.

(b) and (c) Development of railway stations is a continuous process subject to availability of funds. 373 stations identified in 2009-10 and 132 stations identified in 2010-11 have been developed so far.

Status of new railway lines

2143. SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry sanctioned new railway lines in 2007 on Bengaluru-Kanakapura-Chamarajanagar and Hubli-Ankola lines;

(b) if so, the present status of these two projects;

(c) whether the survey work in this regard has been completed;

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

(e) whether these projects have been held up for want of any clearances from the Central or State Governments; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (f) Bangalore-Kanakapura-Chamarajanagar-Satyamangalam and Hubli-Ankola new line projects were included in the Budget 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively. In compliance to the orders of Central Empowered Committee constituted under Hon'ble Supreme Court, work on Bangalore-Chamarajanagar-Satyamangalam and Hubli-Ankola new line projects are held up.

In the case of Bangalore-Satyamangalam project, Karnataka State has agreed to provide land free of cost and also to share 50% of the cost of construction, and requested the Ministry of Railways to take up the work on non-forest area i.e. on Bangalore-Kanakapura-Chamarajanagar section. Accordingly, the project is being taken up further.

Final location survey for Hubli-Ankola new line project has already been completed. Based on its report, land acquisition papers were processed, but the project is held up as per directives of Central Empowered Committee.

Project to minimise late running of trains

2144. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated a project to minimise late running of trains and improving safety on railway tracks;

(b) if so, the details of this multi-pronged strategy; and

(c) the action plan of Government to intimate passengers with reserved/confirmed tickets about cancellation of such trains during foggy seasons, in advance, to avoid any inconvenience to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Indian Railways constantly endeavors to run trains to time and to this end Indian Railways have started monitoring the punctuality of trains using Integrated Coaching Management System (ICMS) at all the three levels viz. Divisional level, Zonal Head Quarters level and Railway Board level. This system, which is integrated with Control Office Application (COA), ensures on-line monitoring of punctuality, greater transparency as also accurate data-keeping regarding punctuality of trains. In addition to these, Indian Railways also undertakes punctuality drives from time to time and counsels staff to sensitize them regarding punctuality.

Furthermore, with a view to ensure safe operations and the punctuality of passenger carrying trains, constant endeavors for Up-gradation of technology of track, rolling stock and signaling systems as also improvement in standards of maintenance of assets to reduce equipment failures, is undertaken.

Railways also maintain close co-ordination with State Governments to tackle the Law and Order problems and miscreant activities, for smooth and punctual running of trains.

(c) There is no provision to inform passengers with confirmed reserved tickets about the cancellation of trains, at present.

Cordoning of railway tracks with walls

2145. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to cordon off railway tracks with walls in Delhi area to control train accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a proposal is also under consideration in other metros of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the status of removing jhuggies located around railway tracks to prevent deaths of the children and others, while they squat on such railway tracks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) Construction of walls/fencing is taken up in specific situations in Delhi area to prevent trespass, encroachments and for safety. Boundary wall/fencing is also provided on these considerations in other parts of the country on Railway land.

(e) Periodical drives are undertaken by Railways for removal of jhuggis located along the railway tracks. New encroachments are removed as soon as these are noticed. For old encroachments, action is initiated under Public Premises Eviction Act and Railway Act.

Procurement of accident-free high-speed superfast trains

†2146. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to procure accident-free high-speed superfast trains, keeping in view the growing crowd of passengers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Feasibility of developing High Speed Coaching Stock is being explored by Indian Railways. Modalities of induction of such stock through procurement or through in house development is not yet finalized.

(b) Link Haffman Bush coaches presently fit upto 160 kmph can be upgraded upto 200 kmph speed. For speed beyond 200 kmph, Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) has been advised to develop technical specification.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Technical parameters for operational speed certificate

2147. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the technical parameters applied by Railways to give operational speed certificate to its rolling stock on broad-gauge route;
- (b) whether there are different parameters for different types of rolling stock on same route/track; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Provisional speed certificate is issued with 5 year's validity on the basis of design parameters and computerized simulation of vehicle dynamics of rolling stock, upto a maximum speed as under:

- (1) 80 km/h for BG passenger stock.
- (2) 65 km/h for BG goods stock.

Final speed certificate is issued on the basis of satisfactory results obtained in oscillation trials of rolling stock.

- (b) Yes, Sir. Parameters and their permissible values are different for each type of rolling stock.
- (c) Permissible values have been decided by the standing criteria committee of Indian Railway's Research Designs and Standards Organization set up for evolving criteria for assessment of stability of rolling stock on Indian Railways based on service requirements. Details are given in the Statement.

Statement*Technical parameters for operational speed certificate*

Parameters	Locomotive	Coaches	EMU	Wagons	Departmental stock	Metros
Accelerations (Vertical and Lateral) Max. Preferred	0.35g 0.3g	0.35g 0.3g	0.35g 0.3g	—	0.6g 0.55g	(As per ORE- C-116) 0.27g
Sperling Ride Index (Vertical and Lateral) Max. Preferred	4.0 3.75	3.5 3.25	4.0 —	4.5 4.25	4.5 4.25	(As per ORE - C-116) 3.0
Lateral force	Lateral forces lasting more than 2 meters shall not exceed 0.85 (1+p/3) Tonnes where p is axle load in tonnes	—	—	Lateral forces lasting more than 2 meters shall not exceed 0.85 (1+p/3) tonnes where p is axle load in tonnes	Lateral forces lasting more than 2 meters shall not exceed 0.85 (1+p/3) tonnes where p is axle load in tonnes	—
Derailment coefficient	Derailment coefficient should not be more than 1.	—	—	Derailment coefficient should not be more than 1.	Derailment coefficient should not be more than 1.	—

Funds spent by railway zones on operations

2148. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 17 Railway Zones, 8 Zones spent more funds on operations than their revenue between April-October, 2012;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Metro Railway, Kolkata, has also spent more than its revenue;

(c) if so, how the Ministry looks at this as the burden falls on the other better performing Zones;

(d) the details of money spent by all Zones on operations during the last ten years, year-wise and Zone-wise; and

(e) the corrective measures that have so far been taken in this regard by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir. Only 5 Zones spent more funds on operations than their revenue between April-October, 2012. Zone wise earnings and ordinary working expenses between April-October, 2012 is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Yes, Sir. Metro Railway Kolkata has spent Rs. 150.42 crore which is more than its revenue of Rs.63.62 crore during the period April-October, 2012.

(c) Traffic earnings, particularly passenger and goods earnings which constitute 95% of traffic earnings, are apportioned amongst the zonal Railways based on the traffic traversed on the respective zonal Railway. As such, all the zonal Railways are not evenly placed by virtue of their geographical location and other factors determining the traffic potential. As regards Metro Railway, Kolkata; it caters to only suburban passenger traffic, which is the most subsidized category of passenger traffic. On the other hand, operating expenses incurred by the zonal Railways including Metro Railway, Kolkata include an element of fixed cost, irrespective of the traffic output. Due to these reasons, performance of the

Railways in respect of earnings and operating expenses are viewed for the Indian Railways as a whole.

(d) The details of expenditure of Indian Railways during the last ten years, year-wise and zone-wise is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(e) Indian Railways have taken both non-tariff related measures and tariff related measures to improve its economic health as indicated below:

Non-tariff Measures:

They include extension of Passenger Reservation System (PRS) and Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) facilities to more and more locations, speeding up of trains, review of trains with low patronage, deployment of additional coaches in well patronized trains, vigorous checking of ticket less travelling, additional leasing of parcel space in certain nominated trains, leasing of vacant compartment of guard in front SLR coach etc. In addition, efforts to improve staff productivity by better man power planning, better asset utilization, improvement in inventory management, optimizing fuel consumption etc. and controlling expenditure through number of austerity/economy measures are continuously being pursued.

Tariff Measures:

They include simplification and rationalization of freight/fare structure besides several other measures like introduction of Freight Incentive Schemes etc.

Statement-I

*Zone-wise total earnings and ordinary working expenses
incurred between April-October, 2012*

(Figures in crore of Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of Railway Zone	Total Earnings	Ordinary Working Expenses
1	2	3	4
1	Eastern	2653.34	3834.85
2	Northeast Frontier	1542.49	2318.58

1	2	3	4
3	North Eastern	1307.97	1803.18
4	Southern	3400.27	3729.29
5	Metro	63.62	150.42
6	South Western	1967.13	1759.54
7	Central	5338.04	4896.56
8	Northern	6610.66	6104.64
9	North Western	2622.91	1952.78
10	East Central	4400.79	3324.23
11	Western	5771.10	4508.04
12	West Central	4272.54	2535.36
13	South Eastern	5172.34	3288.16
14	South Central	6489.16	4462.00
15	South East Central	4556.13	1988.32
16	North Central	6070.05	2969.01
17	East Coast	5864.41	2253.89
	TOTAL	68102.95	51878.85

Statement-II*Expenditure of Indian Railways during the last ten years, year-wise and zone-wise.*

Sl. No.	Name of Railway Zone	(Rs. in crore)									
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Central	4681.11	2777.92	3038.46	3221.61	3501.63	3614.44	4903.26	5889.30	6208.96	6772.56
2	Eastern	3818.75	2257.73	2441.08	2537.20	2861.14	2894.04	3926.62	4965.42	5003.58	5555.17
3	East Central	Zone not created	2241.06	2380.42	2305.19	2639.05	2994.93	3468.37	4423.97	4559.45	4821.32
4	East Coast	Zone not created	1652.58	1692.22	1709.95	1887.36	2086.91	2507.15	2773.66	3030.77	3186.89
5	Northern	4827.52	3472.82	3811.10	4097.32	4238.80	4789.31	6409.50	7801.39	8448.82	9381.79
6	North Central	Zone not created	2006.73	2123.52	2082.10	2307.87	2475.87	3199.77	3761.12	3850.36	4308.92
7	North Eastern	1591.56	1048.57	1141.40	1157.65	1253.90	1324.67	1953.28	2376.52	2412.89	2795.16
8	Northeast Frontier	1178.70	1178.14	1348.24	1456.09	1283.51	1772.36	2418.81	2959.52	3112.73	3388.67
9	North Western	Zone not created	1049.60	1197.49	1308.03	1371.89	1521.92	2209.90	2561.52	2653.20	2928.14
10	Southern	2568.84	2221.76	2378.88	2490.66	2603.12	2901.70	4058.34	4810.07	4795.23	5062.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	South Central	2834.96	2554.61	2789.10	3150.18	3290.11	3620.39	4649.47	5585.05	5850.37	6429.08
12	South Eastern	4523.64	1648.74	1887.88	1920.71	1990.39	2174.82	3204.46	3897.82	3908.39	4276.56
13	South East Central Zone not created		1407.28	1493.05	1469.18	1583.62	1721.12	2045.75	2680.40	2649.98	2811.64
14	South Western Zone not created		810.83	902.73	1052.71	1195.46	1345.27	1717.78	2074.25	2179.29	2486.29
15	Western	3570.99	2614.71	2806.10	3020.23	3278.82	3429.38	4748.83	5770.79	5851.16	6516.59
16	West Central Zone not created		1602.86	1866.54	1960.24	2049.71	2256.69	2786.20	3304.13	3436.46	3609.52
17	Metro	88.27	90.63	90.69	90.48	96.15	109.34	141.81	175.42	187.58	206.42
TOTAL		29684.34	30636.57	33388.89	35029.53	37432.53	41033.16	54349.30	65810.35	68139.22	74537.41

Request from Maharashtra to handover acquired land

2149. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received a request from the Chief Minister, Maharashtra on 13th June, 2011 for granting the open land area of 8.32 acres at Achalpur, Distt. Amravati owned by the Central Railway to National Textiles Corporation Limited for a Green Field textiles project;

(b) if so, whether the project has been approved;

(c) if not, whether the Ministry intends to give the approval in view of its importance for this region in terms of industrial development and employment generation;

(d) the reasons for delay in giving approval; and

(e) the time-frame for approval of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (e) Railway land measuring 7.73 acres has already been transferred to National Textiles Corporation (NTC) and possession handed over to NTC on 20.12.2012.

Development of railway linkages to DMIC

2150. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received any request from Government of Gujarat for development of various railway lines for overall development of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC);

(b) if so, by when Railways intend to start those projects;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any State Government, including Government of Gujarat, has submitted any request for development of railway linkages in the influence area of DMIC;

(e) if so, the action taken thereon by Railways;

(f) whether Government is planning to develop Industrial Corridor along the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (e) Ministry of Railways has received requests from Government of Gujarat for development of various railway lines for overall development of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). The details of the requests and item-wise remarks are as below:

Gauge Conversion

	Particulars	Remarks
1	2	3
Ahmedabad-Dholera Investment Region	Ahmedabad-Botad-Bhavnagar	Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Botad has been included in the Budget 2012-13. The project has been assigned to Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL) for execution. Preliminary activities like preparation of plan, estimates have been taken up. Botad-Bhavnagar section is already in the Broad gauge network.
Dahej-Bharuch Investment Region	Dahej-Sammi-Bharuch	Conversion of this section has been completed and commissioned.
Palanpur- Siddhpur- Mehsana Industrial Area	Virangam-Samakhiali	There is already an existing Broad Gauge(BG) line. Doubling of this section has been sanctioned in the year 2011-12. Doubling between Virangam-Sadia (21.4 kms.) and Jatpipli-Sukhpur (52.33kms.) is in progress.
	Maliya Miyana-Navlakhi -Rajkot	Already converted to Broad Gauge.
	Mehsana-Patan	Already converted to Broad Gauge.
	Mehsana-Virangam	Already converted to Broad Gauge.

Virangam-Surendranagar	Already converted to Broad Gauge. Doubling of this section has been included in the Budget 2010-11. The work is in progress.
Samakhiali Gandhidham-Kandla	Samakhiali-Gandhidham-Kandla port is already double line Broad Gauge section.
Gandhidham-Anjar- Mundra	Gandhidham-Adipur-Mundra section of Ahmedbad division is a Double line BG section. Adipur-Anjar is now a single line BG Section.
Doubling	
Dahej-Bharuch Investment Region	The section was recently converted into broad gauge and commissioned. Presently there is no proposal for doubling based on traffic justification.
Palanpur-Siddhpur-Mehsana Industrial Area	The work of doubling of Virangam-Surendranagar section (65.26 kms.) was sanctioned in 2010-11. Sabli Road-Bhakarpara-Lilapur (14 kms.) section is targeted by 31st March, 2013. Other sections are not proposed for doubling.
Mundra-Palanpur	Doubling of Samakhiali-Palanpur section has been included in the Budget 2013-14 and will be

1	2	3
		implemented by Kutch Railway Corporation. Broad Gauge double line already exists on Samakhiali-Gandhidham -Mundra section.
	Gandhidham-Kandla	Doubling of this section has already been completed.
New Rail Lines		
Ahmedabad-Dholera Investment Region	Bhavnagar-Adhelai-Dholera-Vataman-Petlad	Survey is included in the Budget 2012-13. Preliminary activities for taking up the survey have been taken up.
	Bhimnath-Dholera	Survey has been completed and report submitted.
	Khambhat-Khambhat Port	Survey sanctioned in the Budget 2012-13. Preliminary activities for taking up the survey have been taken up.

Other rail Infrastructure for Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)

Port	Spur Rail Connectivity for Ports	Name of Section	Remarks
Hazira	Surat-Hazira New Rail Link	Surat-Hazira	After the recently notified Participative Policy of December 2012, a proposal for development as a private link model has been received for consideration.

Bedi Port	Bedi Port-Jamnagar Station	Jamnagar-Rajkot	Survey included in the Budget 2012-13. Preliminary activities for taking up survey taken up.
Porbandar Port	Porbandar Port-Porbandar station Preliminary activities for taking up the survey taken up.	Porbandar- Jamnagar	Survey included in the Budget 2012-13.
Chhara Port	Chhara Port-Kodinar (extension of Veraval-Somnath BG line to Kodinar)	Veraval-Rajkot	The work of the extension of Somnath-Kodinar has been taken up as a material modification to Rajkot-Veraval and Wansjaliya-Jetalsar sanctioned Gauge Conversion projects.
Mahuva Port, Kachhigadh Port and Nargol Port Connectivity	There are no specific proposals with the Railways in this regard.		

Dholera Special Investment Region:

High Speed rail line from Ahmadabad-Dholera—No decision on modalities of implementation of High Speed rail Corridors has been taken.

(f) and (g) Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) Project envisages development of the following Industrial cities along side with linkages to the Dedicated Freight Corridor in a phased manner:

- (1) Dadri-Noida-Ghaziabad Investment Region, Uttar Pradesh.
- (2) Manesar-Bawal Investment Region, Haryana.
- (3) Khushkera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Investment Region, Rajasthan.
- (4) Pithampur-Dhar-Mhow Investment Region, Madhya Pradesh.
- (5) Ahmedabad-Dholera Investment Region, Gujarat.
- (6) Shendra-Bidking Industrial Park City near Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
- (7) Dighi Port Industrial Area, Maharashtra.

Establishment of workshop at Jamalpur, Bihar

2151. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of establishment of workshop at Jamalpur in Bihar;
- (b) how much is the budget of this project and how much amount has already been allocated till Financial year 2012-13;
- (c) the completion schedule of this project; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) There is already an established workshop at Jamalpur in Bihar which is undertaking activities like periodic overhaul of wagons, Diesel locomotives and cranes in addition to manufacturing of wagons, 140 Ton cranes and Jamalpur jacks etc.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise.

Establishment of wagon workshop at Garhara, Bihar

2152. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of establishment of Wagon Workshop at Garhara in Bihar;
- (b) how much is the budget of this project and how much amount has already been allocated till financial year 2012-13;
- (c) the completion schedule of this project; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) A work has been sanctioned at Garhara for creation of facilities for maintenance of unloadable wagons. As part of this work, boundary wall, masonry work of Administrative block and foundation of over head tank has been completed.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 1 crore has been provided in 2012-13. A cumulative expenditure of Rs.1.22 crores has been incurred on the project upto February, 2013.

(c) and (d) The project shall be completed in 18 months after finalization of plan layout subject to availability of funds.

Adarsh and world class stations

‡2153. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Model, Adarsh and World Class stations established during the last three years;
- (b) whether there is any plan to establish Adarsh and World Class stations in Bihar also; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) 636 and 572 stations have been developed under 'Adarsh' and 'Model' station schemes respectively on Indian Railways. Model station scheme was in vogue between the year 1999 to 2008 and currently Adarsh station scheme is in vogue since the year 2009.

In Bihar, 48 stations have been identified for development under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme out of which 19 stations have been developed and 55 stations have been identified for development under 'Model' Station Scheme out of which 43 stations have been developed. The details are as under:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Stations developed as Adarsh Stations in State of Bihar (19)

Abhaipur, Anugraha Narayan Road, Arariya, Arariya Court, Bihar Sharif, Chhapra Jn., Forbesganj, Jamalpur, Jehanabad, Jogbani, Madhubani, Naugachia, Patna Saheb, Rafiganj, Sasaram Jn., Simraha, Sitamarhi, Sultanganj and Thakurganj.

Stations developed as Model Stations in State of Bihar (43)

Ara Jn., Arariya Court, Bakhtiyarpur Jn., Barauni Jn., Barh, Bariarpur, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Biharsharif, Buxar, Chhapra Jn., Danapur, Darbhanga Jn., Dehri-on-Sone, Gaya Jn., Hajipur Jn., Harishchandrapur, Jamalpur, Jamui, Janakpur Road, Jhajha, Katihar, Khagaria Jn., Kiul Jn., Madhubani, Mokama, Motihari, Muzaffarpur Jn., Nalanda, Nawadah, Patna Jn., Patna Sahib Jn., Phulwarisarif, Purnea Jn., Rajendra Nagar(T), Rauxaul Jn., Saharsa Jn., Samastipur Jn., Sheikhpura, Sitamarhi, Siwan Jn., Sonepur, and Sultanganj.

No station has been developed as world class station in the last 3 years.

In Bihar, Patna and Gaya stations are identified for development as world class stations by leveraging real estate potential of land around and air space above railway stations in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Consultancy work for preparation of Master Plan and feasibility Report for development of Patna as world class station have been undertaken. In regard to Gaya, preliminary studies have been undertaken.

Failure of E-ticket booking transactions

2154. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 30-40 lakh railway e-ticket booking transactions fail every month on IRCTC's e-ticketing facility but money is debited through consumers' bank accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last six months along with the reasons for failure of such a large number of transactions;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for technological upgradation of IT infrastructure of e-ticketing system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the further steps taken by Government to enhance the e-ticket booking capacity of IRCTC website?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the period from August, 2012 to January, 2013, while 7.32 crore tickets were booked successfully through the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website, in 53.92 lakh cases, payment was settled but tickets were not booked. The reasons for such cases include network failure, non-availability of chosen lower berth/compact accommodation, etc.

(c) and (d) Following steps have been taken to enhance the existing IT (Information Technology) infrastructure of IRCTC:

- (i) Internet bandwidth has been increased to 450 mbps recently.
- (ii) High capacity data base servers have been installed. This will help in faster through put and response.
- (iii) Additional Software licenses, application and web servers have been procured.
- (iv) Mobile Application and mobile website booking have been launched.
- (v) Continuous co-ordination is made by IRCTC with various banks regarding payment gateway to reduce failed cases.

Hike in passenger fares

2155. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether passenger fares were recently hiked across all classes;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has ignored to explore other options of internal revenue generation, including steps like monetisation of idle railway land, etc.;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Passenger fares had not witnessed any increase since 2002-03; in fact, fares in several segments of passenger services,

including Second Class, were revised downwards in subsequent years. A correction had become imperative from the view point of redressing the un-viability that had consequently got manifested in the fare structure and, also, generating resources that are critically required for funding initiatives in thrust areas, viz. modernization and safety.

The revision in Passenger Fares that has been implemented with effect from 22.01.2013 is a moderate one as would be evident from the following table:

Sl. No.	Class	Increase in Fare paisa per PKM
1	Second Class Ordinary (Suburban)	2 Paise
2	Second Class Ordinary (Non-Suburban)	3 Paise
3	Second Class (Mail/Express)	4 Paise
4	Sleeper Class	6 Paise
5	AC Chair Car	10 Paise
6	AC 3-Tier	10 Paise
7	First Class	3 Paise
8	AC 2-Tier	6 Paise
9	AC First Class	10 Paise

(c) to (e) Amongst the other measures taken for supplementing internal resource generation is the proposal outlined in the Railway Budget for 2013-14 for Fuel Adjustment Component (FAC) – linked revision in freight tariffs with effect from 01.04.2013.

Indian Railways network occupies a land area measuring about 10.65 lakh acres. Ninety per cent of this land is directly under railway tracks, yards, workshops and allied infrastructure. The vacant land, measuring about 1.13 lakh acres is mostly in the form of a narrow strip along tracks which railways have been utilizing, or plan to utilize, for its expansion in the form of doubling, third line, quadrupling, gauge conversion, freight corridors, yard remodeling, traffic facility works, workshops, etc. for servicing and maintenance of track and other rail related infrastructure. Vacant railway land/air-space not required by Railways for its immediate future operation needs, is utilized for commercial development through

Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), wherever feasible and supplement their financial resources by non-tariff measures.

Railway network in NE region

2156. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of railway network in the North-Eastern region;
- (b) the total length of railway network in the North-Eastern region built after 2001;
- (c) what is its proportion compared to the length of total railway network built in the country since 2001;
- (d) whether Government plans to undertake construction of any new railway line in the North-Eastern region in the near future;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) The total length of railway network in the North Eastern region as on 31.3.2012 is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Route Kilometres as on 31.3.2012
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.26
2.	Assam	2,458.93
3.	Manipur	1.35
4.	Meghalaya	-
5.	Mizoram	1.50
6.	Nagaland	12.85
7.	Sikkim	-
8.	Tripura	151.40
	TOTAL	2,627.29

(b) The total length of railway network added in North Eastern region during the period from 31.3.2001 to 31.3.2012 is 49.51 kms.

(c) Of the total route kilometres of Indian Railways added since 31.3.2001, the route kilometres of North Eastern region account for 3.15%.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Construction of 13 new lines falling fully/partly in North Eastern region and covering a length of 965 kilometres to augment railway network in North Eastern region have been taken. 10 new lines surveys are in progress. Three new lines surveys are proposed in Railway Budget 2013-14.

(f) Does not arise.

Tatkal tickets

2157. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that touts book Tatkal tickets in the name of fictitious persons and the genuine passengers are deprived of this benefit;

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to ensure that genuine passengers get benefit of this service; and

(c) the action taken by Government against touts and railway employees who are indulging in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under Tatkal Scheme, tickets are sold only to genuine passengers on production of self attested photocopy of one of the prescribed proofs of identity. While booking Tatkal tickets through internet, the details of the specific proof of identity have to be indicated. The passenger has to carry the same in original during travel. Further, Tatkal scheme has been rationalized and a number of modifications have been made with a view to avoid misuse of Tatkal scheme, which include no refund on cancellation of confirmed Tatkal tickets, non-issue of duplicate Tatkal ticket under normal circumstances, change of timings of opening of booking of Tatkal tickets, etc.

(c) To check the cornering of seats by touts in connivance with railway staff, preventive checks are conducted in and around reservation offices. Checks are

also conducted in trains against travelling on transferred ticket. Surveillance/Monitoring of the working of reservation offices is also undertaken by installing CCTVs to prevent possible activities of touts. Railway staff, if found indulging in malpractices in connivance with touts, are taken up under the Disciplinary and Appeal Rules. During the financial year 2012-13 (upto January, 2013), 2115 touts have been apprehended/prosecuted.

Railway projects

‡2158. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway projects on which work is under progress at present and the details thereof;

(b) the time by when these projects were to be completed and by when the above projects would now be completed; and

(c) the additional funds that will have to be spent due to this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) As on 01.04.2012, Railways have 347 ongoing projects consisting of 132 new line, 42 gauge conversion and 173 doublings project.

(b) Due to huge throw forward and limited availability of resources, deadline for every project is not feasible to be fixed. Completion time of projects are decided annually depending upon availability of resources and progress made on individual project. Target time for completion of any project cannot be fixed beforehand due to (i) delays in land acquisition and forestry clearances; (ii) adverse law and order condition and other market forces; (iii) failure of contracts; and (iv) technological changes, improved standard of construction and other changes in scope of work due to change in traffic pattern etc which could not be anticipated at the time of sanction of project.

(c) The additional funds that will have to be spent due to this delay cannot be quantified in real terms as escalation depends on various factors every year.

Increase in train fares

‡2159. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is contemplating to increase the fares of trains such as Rajdhani, Duronto and Shatabdi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalization of passenger fares is an on-going process. Such exercises are yet exploratory in nature and do not constitute a proposal for increasing fares of Rajdhani, Duronto and Shatabdi train services.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MoU/JV projects of PSUs under the Ministry

2160. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)/Joint Venture (JV) projects have been signed by the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry with the foreign or domestic partners;

(b) the date of signing of each of these MoUs/JV projects and the purposes of signing, PSU-wise;

(c) the status of each of the MoU/JV projects, PSU-wise; and

(d) by when the MoU/JV projects would be realized/completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) 125 nos. MoU/JV projects have been signed by various Central Public Sector Enterprises under Ministry of Railways with foreign or domestic partners. Out of these, 12 MOUs/JVs have been signed with Foreign partners and 113 with Domestic partners.

(b) to (d) The date of signing of each of MoU/JVs projects, the purpose of signing, the status of each project and by when project would be realized/completed, PSU-wise is given in the Annexure [See Appendix 228 Annexure No. 30]

Proposal for terminus at Madura near Sawantwadi

2161. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Express, Mail and Passenger trains on Konkan route terminate at Sawantwadi but for cleaning and other maintenance work these are taken to Madgaon in Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether to save time and cost, Railways have proposed to construct a terminus at Madura near Sawantwadi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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.

(e) Operationally not required at present.

Extension of advance reservation period

2162. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have extended the advance reservation period from three months to six months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) No, Sir. The existing Advance Reservation Period is 120 days.

(b) Does not arise.

Revised policy for private investment

2163. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have recently approved revised policy for encouraging private investment in railway connectivity;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The recently approved revised policy for encouraging private investment in rail connectivity provides for five participative models. These are as under:

- (i) Non-Government Private Line Model
- (ii) Joint Venture model
- (iii) Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) model
- (iv) Capacity augmentation with funding provided by customers
- (v) Capacity augmentation through annuity model.

Meetings have been held with potential Investors to apprise them about the various models and investment options thereon to enable them to make investments suited to their business interests.

Setting up of Adarsh stations and MFCs

2164. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Ministry would set up Adarsh Stations by upgrading Banspani, Bolangir, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Khurda Road, Koraput Junction, Rayagada and Titlagarh Junction stations announced in 2009-10 and Angul, Belpahar, Bobbili, Jakhpura, Jharsuguda, Lanjigarh Road, Lapanga, Meramundali, Rengali, Raghunathpur and Titlagarh stations announced in Railway Budget 2010-11; and

(b) the status of eight Multi-Functional Complexes (MFCs) at Cuttack, Brahmaipur, Jharsuguda, Rayagada, Banspani, Balasore and Bhubaneswar with budget hotel at Sambalpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Banspani, Bolangir, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Khurda Road, Koraput Junction, Rayagada, Belpahar, Titlagarh Junction, Jharsuguda stations have already been developed under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme and all related works have been completed.

Works for development under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme are planned for completion during 2012-13 at Angul, Jakhopura, Lanjigarh Road, Lapanga, Meramandali, Rengali and Raghunathpur railway stations and during 2013-14 at Bobbili Railway Station.

(b) Task of development of Multi Functional Complexes (MFCs) at Cuttack, Brahmapur, Jharsuguda, Rayagada, Balasore, Sambalpur and Bhubaneswar railway stations has been assigned to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and MFC at Banspani has been assigned to South Eastern Railway for development. Status of these MFCs is given in the Statement.

Statement

Status of MFCs

MFC Station	Present Status
Cuttack	Agreement has been executed with the developer and Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA).
Brahmapur	Bid is going to be invited soon.
Jharsuguda	Bid is going to be invited soon.
Rayagada	Site agreed by RLDA. Entrustment work is in progress.
Banaspani	Work completed.
Balasore	Multi-Functional Complex has been identified in 2010-11 and to be done by RLDA. Alternate site has been identified through joint inspection by RLDA and Railway.
Bhubaneswar	Site identification under progress by Division.
Sambalpur	New site has been identified by Division and advised RLDA to inspect and take over with approved plan.

Status of execution of dedicated freight corridor projects

2165. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of execution of work regarding the Dedicated Freight Corridor projects involving 3,300 kilometers of track route with an estimated financial outlay of Rs. 60,000 crore;

(b) whether the work is being executed solely by Railways or Public-Private-Participation is also being thought of for creating these huge infrastructure projects; and

(c) the time-frame by when these projects would be completed and commissioned for movement of rolling stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Two Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFC) viz. Eastern Corridor (Dankuni-Ludhiana, 1839 Kms.) and the Western Corridor (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) to Tughlakabad/Dadri, 1499 Kms.) have been sanctioned. The cost of DFC Project (excluding cost of land acquisition) is currently estimated at Rs.88,300 crore (Eastern DFC Rs.40,094 Crore and Western DFC Rs.48,206 Crores). This includes escalation in cost during construction period, capitalization of interest during construction, insurance and taxes etc. The cost of land acquisition is Rs.7536 crores. The project is being implemented through a mix of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS), multilateral/bilateral loans and public private partnership.

Western DFC is being implemented through loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in two phases (phase 1 being Rewari -Vadodara, 930 Kms. and phase 2 being JNPT -Vadodara and Rewar-Dadri, 569 Kms.), the total loan amount being 550 billion Japanese Yen (JPY) (Rs. 38,722 crore at exchange rate of 1 Rupee = 1.42 JPY). JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) funding for Western DFC phase 1 is tied up and loan agreement for the first tranche has been signed. Bids for civil construction work in 625 Kms. Rewari-Iqbalgarh section have been opened and offers are under evaluation. All requirements for funding of Western DFC phase 2 have been met and loan agreement for first tranche of phase 2 is targeted to be signed in March, 2013. Counterpart funds for JICA funded section would be provided as equity from Ministry of Railways.

World Bank is funding the 1183 Kms. Ludhiana - Khurja- Kanpur - Mughalsarai section of Eastern DFC and the total loan amount agreed is US \$ 2.725 billion (Rs.13,625 crore at exchange rate of 1 US \$ = 50 Rupees) in three phases . Loan agreement for first phase viz. Khurja-Kanpur, 343 Kms. has been signed and civil construction contract has been awarded in January, 2013. Loan agreement for the second phase (Kanpur-Mughlasarai, 393 Kms.) is targeted in 2013-14 and for phase 3 (Khurja-Ludhiana, 447 Kms.) thereafter. Counterpart funds for World Bank funded section would be provided as equity from Ministry of Railways.

Mughalsarai-Sonnagar Section (122 Kms.) is being funded by Indian Railways resources and construction work is in progress. Sonnagar-Dankuni Section (534

Kms.) is to be funded through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and implementation would be dependent on the response.

(c) The 122 Kms. Mughalsarai-Sonnagar section is targeted for commissioning in December, 2015. Phase 1 of Western DFC (930 Kms.) and 343 Kms. Khurja-Kanpur section where funding is tied up and contracting is at advanced stage, are targeted for commissioning in 2017. For remaining sections where funding tie up is in progress, commissioning is expected four years after the award of contracts.

Fare hike

2166. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have recently raised the fares for passenger and goods services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) how much does Railways estimate to earn from these rise in fares;
- (d) whether Railways plan to raise the fares again; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) The revision in Passenger Fares that has been implemented with effect from 22.01.2013 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Class	Increase in Fare in (paise per PKM)
1	Second Class Ordinary (Suburban)	2 Paise
2	Second Class Ordinary (Non-Suburban)	3 Paise
3	Second Class (Mail / Express)	4 Paise
4	Sleeper Class	6 Paise
5	AC Chair Car	10 Paise
6	AC 3-Tier	10 Paise
7	First Class	3 Paise
8	AC 2-Tier	6 Paise
9	AC First Class	10 Paise

With a view to rationally insulate Railways' finances, particularly in the context of deregulation of High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil, it has been proposed to introduce a dynamic pricing mechanism for adjusting tariffs in sync with movements in fuel cost in either direction, say twice a year, in the Railway Budget for 2013-14, Presently the proposal entails implementation of the Fuel Adjustment Component (FAC) – linked revision only in the case of freight tariffs with effect from 1st April, 2013. The estimated impact of this revision is an increase of 5.8% in freight tariffs.

(c) it is estimated that additional revenues amounting to approximately Rs. 12000 crores would be getting generated over a period of one year.

(d) and (e) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalization of the freight traffic and passenger fare structures is an on-going process. Presently, there are no other proposals for revising basic passenger fares of freight tariffs.

Graft cases in Railways

2167. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a recent report by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), Railways tops in graft complaints *vis-a-vis* other Government organizations;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of graft cases in Railways; and

(c) the action taken on these graft cases and the steps Government proposes to take to prevent corruption in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) In its annual report of 2011, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has shown 8805 nos. of complaints in 2011 against Railway personnel, inclusive of 2070 complaints brought forward from previous year. Of these only 2176 (25% of the total) contained verifiable information.

(c) Out of 2176 verifiable complaints, in 1353 complaints, the allegations were not considered to be sustainable and hence closed. In the balance 823 cases, 494 officials were held responsible for misdemeanor i.e. 0.04% of a total work force of 1.3 million employees and action has been initiated against them under Railway Servants (Disciplinary and Appeal) Rules.

Railways have a well established vigilance organization, spread over the entire railway system to curb corrupt practices. Preventive checks and decoy/surprise checks are carried out regularly and system improvements are suggested from time to time by the Vigilance organization and their implementation is monitored at the apex level. Suitable disciplinary action is taken, depending upon the gravity of the charges. In addition to this, e-procurement and e-tendering has been started for increased transparency. In-motion weigh-bridges have been installed at the goods loading points to prevent grant of undue advantage through over loading. Vigilance Awareness Week is also organized for dissemination of vigilance related information and increased awareness.

Train accidents due to human error

2168. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that human error has been the single major reason for most of the train accidents;
- (b) if so, the reasons for human errors;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there are a number of vacancies under safety category that have not been filled up till date; and
- (d) the measures taken by Railways to prevent human errors and to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Human error on the part of railway staff is also one of the causes of consequential train accidents. However, consequential train accidents attributable to failure of railway staff has come down from 56 in 2010-11 to 52 in 2011-12. In the current year during April, 2012 to February, 2013 also, consequential train accidents attributable to failure of railway staff has decreased from 50 to 43 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Concerted efforts have been made to fill up the vacancies in safety category, viz., Assistant Loco Pilots, Guards, Station Masters, Junior Engineers, Trackmen, Technicians, etc.

Railways have taken various measures to reduce failure of railway staff which include the following:

- (i) Implementation and monitoring of Railway Servants (Hours of Work and Period of Rest) Rules, 2005 to provide proper rest to railway staff including running staff;
- (ii) Periodic medical examination of safety category employees including running staff;
- (iii) Structured training at various stages, namely, initial and promotional stages alongwith refresher courses for safety category employees including running staff to help them assimilate new technologies and enable skill upgradation;
- (iv) Improvement in running rooms to provide stress free environment to the outstation crew and to enable them to take proper rest at outstations;
- (v) Yoga/meditation and physical training lessons have been introduced in training centers especially for safety category staff to enable them to cope with the stress involved in their job;
- (vi) Progressive mechanization of maintenance of track and rolling stock including locomotives, coaches and wagons to reduce human dependence and enhance productivity;
- (vii) Vigilance Control Device (VCD) as an aid to the driver for keeping them vigilant has been provided in most of the diesel and electric locomotives;
- (viii) Auxiliary Warning System (AWS) has been provided, in Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) trains in Mumbai suburban area so that motormen maintain speed as per aspect of the signal;
- (ix) Other devices/systems being introduced to reduce human dependence include Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), Anti Collision Device (ACD)/Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Light Emitting Diode (LED) Signals, etc.

Security to passengers in trains

†2169. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of sanctioned posts in Railway Protection Force (RPF) at present;
- (b) the number of vacant posts out of the sanctioned posts and since when these posts are lying vacant;
- (c) whether Government is formulating any time-bound scheme to fill up these vacancies;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) besides recruitment of security personnels, the other steps being taken by Government to provide security to passengers in the trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) and (b) The total sanctioned strength in Railway Protection Force as on 31.01.2013 is 74890 out of which 17255 posts are lying vacant. As these vacancies occurred due to retirement, death and from creation of new posts, dates of vacancies are different.

(c) and (d) Arising and filling up of vacancies is continuous process. However, for filling up of existing vacancies as well as newly created posts in the Railway Protection Force action has already been initiated. Four companies of women in Railway Protection Force have already been set up, and a proposal for another eight companies has been approved by Ministry of Railways.

(e) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such, the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police. However, 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.

The following measures are being taken by the Railways for security of the passengers:

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 1275 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.

2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations and is under implementation.
3. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

Public awareness against crime like Drugging of passengers is done through regular announcements at stations and in trains.

Statistical data of various sectors

‡2170. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact, that data presented by Government regarding statistics of various sectors are criticised at Government level itself;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether there is a need to make such data more authentic; and
- (d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Ministries/ Departments of the Government are inter-dependent in respect of production and use of statistics. The comments of other Departments are taken as feedback for improvement in the system for producing various statistics.

(c) and (d) Improving the quality of statistics is a continuous endeavour of the Government. The inputs for the same are obtained through various mechanisms such as Expert Groups/Working Groups constituted for specific issues and consultation with stakeholders. Modernisation of data collection techniques and compilation systems is also taken recourse to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12.00 hours.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The House then adjourned at forty two minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

New variety of coloured cotton

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

(a) whether Government is aware that our agro-scientists have conducted deep research to develop a new variety of naturally coloured cotton;

(b) whether due to lack of proper coordination and marketing system, such innovative variety of naturally coloured cotton has not reached to large part of cotton growers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Almond brown coloured cotton JCC-1 (KC 94-2) was developed by Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Madhya Pradesh, while DDCC-1 was developed by University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. One dark brown colour cotton line MSH 53 was developed by Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur.

(b) and (c) The lack of assured market with matching price is the constraint to pursue cultivation of naturally coloured cotton. Suitable isolation distance to cultivate natural colour cotton to prevent contamination and deterioration of the white lustre of normal cotton dissuade farmers to take up the colour cotton cultivation. The poor fibre quality attributes, unstable colour after exposure to sunlight and significantly low yields are other problems associated with colourful cotton cultivation on a large scale.

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: उपसभापति जी, जिस बहस पर हम लड़ गए, वही बहस फिर से मुझे शुरू करने का मौका मिला, इसलिए मैं आपका आभारी हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में बताया कि बी.टी. कॉटन में कलर की नई वैरायटी आई है। कलर का मतलब है कि कॉटन के अपने फूल में ही कलर आ जाता है और इस वैरायटी का फायदा यह है कि कॉटन को फिर से कलर करने के लिए बहुत डाइज और बहुत कैमिकल का प्रयोग नहीं करना पड़ता है। हमारी जानकारी में अभी-अभी आया है कि इसमें इज़रायल ने आगे बहुत काम किया है और आपने अपने जवाब में भी बताया है कि अपने देश में मध्य प्रदेश के जबलपुर और उधर नागपुर, धारवाड़ के साइंटिस्टों ने इसमें कुछ अच्छा काम किया है। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि कॉटन में कलर का कॉंबीनेशन बाइ ग्रोथ ही हो जाए, तो जो कैमिकल से एनवायरमेंट को बहुत बड़ा नुकसान हो रहा है या होने जा रही है, इससे हम बच सकते हैं। इसलिए कॉटन में कलर के डवलपमेंट से एनवायरमेंट की हम बहुत बड़ी सेवा कर सकते हैं। तो क्या सरकार इस विषय में आगे कुछ कार्यक्रम लेना चाहती है या उसके मन में क्या है? वह बताने का कष्ट करें।

डा. चरण दास महन्त: माननीय उपसभापति जी, देश में कुछ वाइड वैरायटीज़ हैं और कुछ ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में ऐसे कपास के पौधे हैं, जो अपने आप ही सफेद के बजाय कोई भूरे रंग का, कोई हरे रंग का कपास उत्पादित कर रहा है। इस संदर्भ में जवाहर लाल नेहरू कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जबलपुर में रिसर्च हुआ है और धारवाड़ में भी इस तरह के रिसर्च हुए हैं, मगर इसका उत्पादन बहुत कम होता है, क्योंकि हमारे किसान इसको उत्पादित नहीं करना चाहते; नंबर एक और नंबर दो, अगर इस कलर वाली कपास को धूप में रखा जाता है तो उसका कलर धीरे-धीरे कम हो जाता है और इसलिए यह सक्सेसफुल नहीं हो पा रहा है। आज की तारीख में हमारी जो जानकारी है, धारवाड़ में मात्र 50 एकड़ के क्षेत्र में यह बोई जाती है। हम लोग कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि इसका उत्पादन बढ़े और इसके लिए आईसीएआर में कॉटन रिसर्च ने लगभग 42 जर्म्स प्लाज्म को इकट्ठा किया है। इसमें तकनीकी खोज आगे जारी है। अगर हम पाएंगे कि यह कलर कॉटन हम उत्पादित कर सकते हैं, तो निश्चित रूप से यह सरकार कलर कॉटन उत्पादित करने का पूरा विचार रखती है।

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Bt. cotton, genetically modified cotton, can be replicated by the farmers themselves because every time they have to buy it from multinational companies or multinational subsidiary companies in India.

डा. चरण दास महन्त: उपसभापति जी, यह बी.टी. कॉटन के अलग से बीज मिलते हैं, जो यहीं उत्पादित होते हैं। चार ऐसे बड़े-बड़े उत्पादक लोग हैं, जिनके माध्यम से यह बीज उत्पादित किया जाता है और किसान उनको खरीद कर अपने खेतों में बोते हैं।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि बी.टी. कॉटन और अन्य क्वालिटी के कपास के उत्पादन में सामान्यतया कमी आती जा

रही है। इसके विकास की दृष्टि से अनुसंधान परिषद ने और भिन्न-भिन्न प्रकार की जो कृषि से संबंधित संस्थाएं हैं, उन्होंने समय-समय पर अनुसंधान करके क्या कुछ कार्य-योजना सरकार के समक्ष प्रस्तुत की है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वे कार्य योजनाएं क्या हैं और उन कार्य योजनाओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए कपास उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने की दृष्टि से क्या कोई विशेष कार्य योजना अभियान के रूप में सरकार चलाएगी।

डा. चरण दास महन्त: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, जैसा कि माननीय वरिष्ठ साथी गहलोत जी ने जानना चाहा है, मैं उनको यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि 2001 और 2002 में जहां कपास उत्पादन का क्षेत्र 91.32 लाख हेक्टेयर था, 2011-12 में 127.78 हेक्टेयर हो गया है। इसका मतलब 33 पर्सेन्ट की वृद्धि हुई। जहां तक औसत उत्पादन का संबंध है, जो फाहा 2001-02 में 186.4 किलो प्रति हेक्टेयर होता था, वह 2011-12 में 491 किलो प्रति हेक्टेयर हुआ है। तो यह कहना है कि इसमें उत्पादन कम हो रहा है, यह उचित नहीं है। उत्पादन में लगातार बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। पिछले दो-तीन वर्षों में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, मंत्री जी के उत्तर में आंकड़े हैं कि 2011 में 499, 2011-12 में 491 और 2012-13 में 481, तो यह कमी दर्शाता है, लेकिन मंत्री जी कुछ और कह रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए। Let him reply.

डा. चरण दास महन्त: मैंने भी यही कहा कि 2011-12 में 491 है। मैं यही कह रहा हूँ। मैंने यह कहा कि बीच में मानसून में कुछ अदला-बदली होने के कारण उत्पादन कुछ कम हुआ है, उसके बारे में गंभीरता से कृषि विभाग विचार करे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: यह हेरा-फेरी बंद करो, कार्य योजना को लागू करो।

श्री रामचन्द्र खूंटीआ: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जितना कपास उत्पादन हमारे देश में हो रहा है, क्या यह हमारे देश की जरूरत के अनुसार पर्याप्त है? अगर यह पर्याप्त नहीं है, तो आप इसके लिए क्या कदम उठा रहे हैं? कपास की हमारे देश की आम जनता को बहुत जरूरत है और हमारे देश में millions and millions of workers are dependent on the textile industry. उनको भी कपास की जरूरत है। अगर कपास उत्पादन नहीं होगा, तो हमारे देश के millions and millions of workers will be jobless and unemployed. So, the Minister should, specifically, say कि हमारे देश की कपास की जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिए वे क्या-क्या ठोस कदम उठा रहे हैं?

डा. चरण दास महन्त: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, देश को जितने कपास की जरूरत है, उतना उत्पादन पर्याप्त मात्रा में हो रहा है। यहां तक कि हम इसे निर्यात कर रहे हैं, इसलिए यह कहना कि यहां उत्पादन नहीं हो रहा है, यह सही नहीं है।

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, in the morning, raised a matter of great concern about the Resolution passed by the Pakistani Assembly condemning the execution of Afzal Guru and maintaining its silence as far as the attack on Indian Parliament is concerned. I appreciate that the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs said that he also shared this concern. But what we want and what the nation wants is a very structured response from the Government of India on such a sinister Resolution being passed by the Assembly of Pakistan. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when the Government is going to give an answer. This is a very serious matter.

SHRI JAVED AKHTAR: Sir, I want to associate myself with it and the Government should respond to it.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, we all want to associate ourselves with it.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, there is no difference of opinion as far as this issue is concerned. The Leader of the Opposition had proposed that there should be a structured debate on it, and the Government would respond to that. I would request the Chair to fix the time for it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, there will be a debate.

DR. NAJMA A. HEUPTULLA: Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Najmaji, you raise it after the Papers are laid. ...*(Interruptions)*... No discussion now. I cannot allow anything more on it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, two issues were raised.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not now. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government has responded. Please don't do that. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this? You are all violating the understanding. ...*(Interruptions)*... You raised it in the morning.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, we raised two issues. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You raised it in the morning and the Minister has given an assurance. The Government will comply with that assurance. Why do you doubt that? ...*(Interruptions)*... He said that the concerned Minister would

come and respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... He will do that. Let us give the Government the time for that.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the situation is very worse. We just want to know when the Minister would be here to give the reply.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, would you be able to say that?

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, when the Question Hour began, I gave this assurance and since then I have been in the House. I said I will convey the feelings to the External Affairs Minister. If he wishes to make a statement, he will come and make a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... Not even an hour has passed. So, just have patience. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; listen to me. The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs can only say this much. But he will convey to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs the feelings of the House and I am sure the Minister for External Affairs will respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... हो जाएगा, आप बैठिए। Please sit down. Dr. Heptulla, what do you have to say? ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Tiruchi Siva, you got the reply. Government will come back to you. You are a very senior Leader and I am helpless before you.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, thank you very much for being helpless.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Before this, Government was only helpless. Now, you are also helpless.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, before me, he is helpless.

RE. CONFERMENT OF BEST PARLIAMENTARIAN AWARDS

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, every day in the House we face important issues, issues that we are concerned, agitated. But, today I am very happily raising an issue of great pride for Rajya Sabha that this year, Rajya Sabha has nominated our two eloquent, hon. Members of the Rajya Sabha as the Best Parliamentarians of this year, Shri Arun Jaitley for 2010, and Dr. Karan Singh for 2011. It is a great privilege for our House to have two eminent, eloquent Members of the House, and the whole House is rejoicing.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The whole House is one with you in congratulating Shri Arun Jaitley and Dr. Karan Singh.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार): सर, मेरी आधे मिनट की एक छोटी सी रिक्वेस्ट है। I would request the hon. Minister that on Monday at 12 o' clock, you give a response on the issue of Pakistani Resolution. Other Members are willing to share it. It is an urgent matter. It may be over in half-an-hour. On Monday at 12 o' clock, we want a response.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They will do it. They have already said. Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. Shri Sharad Pawar.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

कृषि मंत्रालय का परिणामी बजट (2013-14)

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री तारिक अनवर): महोदय, मैं 2013-14 के वर्ष के लिए कृषि मंत्रालय (कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग) के परिणामी बजट की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ। [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8685/15/13]

I Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

II Outcome Budget (2013-14) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN 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 Pharmaceuticals) Notification F. No. 204/OR/A&E/1132, dated the 1st October, 2012, regarding amendments in Section 13 and 14 of the Ordinance of NIPER regulating the scholarship and registration of students of the Institute relating to the Degree of Masters and Doctor of Philosophy, under Section 36 of the National Institute of Pharmaceuticals Education and Research Act, 1998. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8617/15/13]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Outcome Budget, for the year 2013-14, in respect of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers); and

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8615/15/13]

(ii) Outcome Budget, for the year 2013-14, in respect of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals). [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8616/15/13]

Outcome Budget (2013-14) of the Ministry of Home Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget, for the year 2013-14, in respect of the Ministry of Home Affairs. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8624/15/13]

I Accounts (2011-12) of various universities and related papers**II Report and Accounts (2011-12) of various RMSAs and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Central Universities Act, 2009:—
 - (a) Annual Accounts of the Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8568/15/13]
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the Central University of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8570/15/13]
 - (c) Annual Accounts of the Central University of Punjab, Bhatinda, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8569/15/13]
 - (d) Annual Accounts of the Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8573/15/13]
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
 - (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Gujarat implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) Gandhinagar, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

[Shri Jitin Prasada]

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8571/15/13]
- (ii)
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Bihar implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) Bihar, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8572/15/13]
- (iii)
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Uttarakhand implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Uttarakhand, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepted by the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8574/15/13]

I Report and Accounts (2011-12) of UGC, New Delhi and related papers

II Accounts (2011-12) of IIT, Bombay and Patna and related papers

III Report and Accounts (2011-12) of various Institutes and related papers

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 18 and sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956:—
- (a) Annual Report of the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8729/15/13]

- (b) Annual Accounts of the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Commission.
- (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. 8729/15/13]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961:—
 - (a) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8586/15/13]
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Patna, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8727/15/13]
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.
- III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
 - (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (BOAT), Western Region, Mumbai, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8728/15/13]
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Shri Jitin Prasada]

- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8580/15/13]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST), Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8578/15/13]
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above.
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Board of Practical Training (BOPT), Eastern Region, Kolkata, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8577/15/13]
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Institute of Technology (CIT), Kokrajhar, Assam, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8579/15/13]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (BOAT), Northern Region, Kanpur, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vi) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8859/15/13]

I Notification of the Ministry of Railways

II Report and Accounts (2011-12) of BSCL, Kolkata and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Railways Notification No. G.S.R. 846 (E), dated the 26th November, 2012, publishing the Indian Railways (Penalties for Activities Affecting Cleanliness at Railway Premises) Rules, 2012, under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989, along with delay statement. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8626/15/13]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
 - (a) Thirty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Burn Standard Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8625/15/13]
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform hon. Members that the following message has been received from the President:—

“I have received the expression of Thanks by the Members of the Rajya Sabha for the Address which I delivered to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on 21st February, 2013.”

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar stating that he was unable to attend the sittings of the House from 21st February to 7th March, 2013 due to participation in the on-going Cricket Test Series against Australia. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence from 21st February to 7th March, 2013 of the current (228th) Session of the Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from 21st February to 7th March, 2013 of the current (228th) Session of the Rajya Sabha?

(No Hon. Member dissented)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

I have also to inform Members that two letters have been received from Shri S. M. Krishna stating that due to his personal commitments, he is unable to attend the sittings of the House. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence from 5th to 22nd March, 2013 of the current (228th) Session of the Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from 5th to 22 March, 2013 of the current (228th) Session of the Rajya Sabha.

(No Hon. Member dissented)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Status of implementation of Recommendations contained in the Thirty-third
Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee
on Information Technology**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. (SHRIMATI) KRUPARANI KILLI): Sir, I make a statement regarding the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2012-13) pertaining to the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

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): Sir, I beg to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing 18th March, 2013 will consist of:—

Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.

2. General discussion on the Budget (General) for 2013-14.

Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bills relating to the following Demands, after they are passed by Lok Sabha :-

- (a) Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2013-14;
- (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2012-2013; and
- (c) Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2010-11.

3. General discussion on Jharkhand Budget, 2013-14.

Consideration and return of the Jharkhand Appropriation Bills relating to the following Demands:—

- (a) Demands for Grants (Jharkhand) for 2013-14, and
- (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Jharkhand) for 2012-13

4. Discussion on the Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 (No. 3 of 2013) and Consideration and passing of the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2013, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.

CALLING ATTENTION TO THE MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**Recent all India strike by trade unions and workers
of organized and unorganized sector**

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the recent all-India strike by trade unions and workers of the organized and unorganized sectors.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank hon. Member of Parliament, Shri Prakash Javadekar, Shri Tapan Sen and Shri D.Raja for raising issues of vital concern to the working class. I am also thankful to various Members who spoke on issues related to improvement in the conditions of the working class. I propose to speak on some of the important issues raised by Hon'ble Members.

The Government is taking various measures to control price-rise and contain inflation in the country. Particular attention is drawn to the huge amount of food subsidy incurred by the Government to ensure availability of food grains to the poor, at very concessional rates, through the Public Distribution System.

The Government has been making efforts to pass the Food Security Bill in the Parliament. The enactment of the Bill will further increase the availability of subsidized food grains to the larger segments of the population. The Government is prepared to meet extra financial commitment on this account. The Government's commitment to help the poor is also evident from the large amount of subsidy for fertilizers and fuel to ensure their supply at reasonable rate to the people.

India has witnessed impressive economic growth for about two decades now. Yet, the challenge of employment, especially quality and remunerative employment in today's circumstances is truly formidable. There is no national level umbrella, policy so far to address employment-related issues. There is a need to integrate employment concerns into policy-making at various levels. The crucial issue is to ensure that the employment objective is mainstreamed in the country's socio-economic development strategy.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has prepared a National Employment Policy (NEP) to ensure that the growth process is inclusive and equitable. The policy has been drafted with a view to mainstreaming employment into policy-making for the socio-economic development of the country. It will provide a proper framework towards achieving the goal of remunerative and decent employment for all women and men in the labour force. The National Employment Policy also aims at accelerating employment growth and improving the quality of jobs in terms of productivity, earnings and protection of workers. The policy has been developed through wide consultations with various stakeholders, Central Ministries and State Governments. The Government is committed to taking all

feasible measures for enforcement of labour laws. So far enforcement of labour laws in the Central sphere is concerned, there exists a well-defined and effective enforcement machinery. Similar arrangements are also available in the States, Union Territories; ESIC and EPFO also have their own enforcement machinery.

Keeping in view the recommendations of the National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganised Sector and Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Government has enacted Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. The Government of India has set up a National Social Security Fund with a corpus of Rs.1,000 crore. The National Social Security Board has also been constituted which is advising the Government from time to time on new Social Security Schemes. Unorganized Sector Workers also get benefit from flagship welfare schemes such as MGNREGA, Aam Admi Bima Yojana, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, etc.

As per current disinvestment policy, the Government will retain 51 per cent of share-holding and management control of the Central Public Sector Enterprises. Therefore, the character of public sector enterprises will not be affected as a result of disinvestment policy of the Government. A draft note to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 has been prepared and is under active consideration of the Government. The amendments, *inter alia*, propose that in case where the contract labour perform the same or similar kind of work as the workmen directly appointed by the principal employer, the wage rates, holidays, social security provisions, etc., of contract labour shall be the same as are available to the directly appointed workmen on the roll of the principal employer.

An impact study has been conducted by V.V. Giri National Labour Institute and the same has been discussed in various fora. Views of a number of other related Ministries have been obtained. Consultation has been conducted with States, representatives of employers and employees. The amendment proposals are under consideration of the Government.

Proposal for amending the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to prescribe a National Floor Level Minimum Wages has been approved by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 22.02.2013. The following are the salient features of the Amendment which will be brought before the Parliament in the form of a Bill in due course: (a) National Floor Level Minimum Wage will be made statutory and applicable to all employments; (b) At present, the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act are not

[Shri Mallikarjun Kharge]

applicable to those employments where the total number of workers in a State is less than one thousand. After the Amendment, the Act will be applicable to all employments; (c) The National Floor Level Minimum Wages will be revised every five years on the basis of NSSO Consumer Expenditure Survey; (d) National Floor Level Minimum Wages will be linked to Variable Dearness Allowance to be notified at least once a year on the basis of Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers. Provisions relating to fixation of differential minimum rates of wages in respect of adults, adolescents and apprentices will be deleted. Provisions will be made in the Minimum Wages Act for issue of employment cards to the employees. This will be made Aadhaar compliant. The period of lodging claims by the workers will be enhanced from six months to one year. For ensuring better compliances, fines and penalties under the Act will be enhanced.

The proposal for removal of wage ceilings under the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 was deliberated in the 44th Meeting of ILC held during 14-15 February, 2012. In the Meeting, a broad consensus emerged for raising the wage ceiling from present level of Rs.6,500/- to Rs.10,000/- or Rs.15,000/-. The suggestion hence needs to be examined, in detail, by the Government in view of the huge financial implications.

The ceiling on the Bonus has been revised twice, in the recent past, to increase the eligibility limit and calculation ceiling. The suggestion for removing the ceiling entails a huge financial implication. This also needs to be discussed in appropriate tripartite fora before any final view can be taken.

As regards quantum of gratuity, the maximum quantum of gratuity has been increased from Rs.3.5 lakh to Rs.10 lakh. Further increase in the quantum of gratuity can be considered only in due course after considering the implications on the economy.

There have been persistent demands from various quarters to provide certain minimum pension to the pensioners under the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Nearly 27 per cent of the pensioners are presently getting a monthly pension of less than Rs.500/- per month and nearly 56 per cent of them are getting monthly pension between Rs.500/- and 1000/- per month. A proposal has been mooted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment

to enhance the Government's contribution so that a minimum pension of Rs.1000/- can be ensured to all pensioners under the EPF Scheme. The proposal is under consideration of the Government. We are continuously pursuing with the Finance Department in this regard.

As regards the suggestion for compulsory registration of trade unions within 45 days, it may be stated that the matter has already been considered in the tripartite fora. The Ministry of Law and Justice has been consulted and the matter is under examination.

Sir, the ILO Convention No. 87 relates to freedom of association and protection of the right to organize. Convention No.98 relates to the right to organize and collective bargaining. The main reason for non-ratification of the above two Conventions is the alleged restrictions imposed on the Government servants. However, freedom of expression, freedom of association and functional democracy are guaranteed by our Constitution.

Further, the Government employees in India enjoy high degree of job security flowing from Article 311 of the Constitution. They have also been provided with alternative grievance redressal mechanism like Joint Consultative Machinery, Central Administrative Tribunal, etc. Hence, the Government's position has been that this section of the workforce cannot be said to have, been deprived of the right of association.

The ratification of Conventions No.87 and 98 would involve granting of certain rights that are prohibited under the statutory rules for the Government employees, namely, to strike work, to openly criticize Government policies, to freely accept financial contribution, to freely join foreign organizations, etc. This issue was also raised by the Central trade union organizations in the meeting of Standing Labour Committee held on 04.01.2013. The issue is being examined by the Government. So, Sir, I have addressed some of the issue in this. More than 16 points.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have to reply after the Members' questions. So, do it then.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I will reply one by one.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: उपसभापति महोदय, श्रम मंत्री जी ने जो कहा, वह जँचा नहीं। वह इसलिए नहीं जँचा, क्योंकि उसमें राजनीतिक इच्छा शक्ति का पूर्ण अभाव दिखता है। श्रम मंत्री एक बात करते हैं, वे प्रपोजल रखते हैं, लेकिन फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री सारे प्रपोजल्स नकार देती है। यह सरकार ऐसी है कि एक लेबर मिनिस्टर लेबर के पक्ष में कहेंगे और वित्त मंत्री उसको मना करेंगे। यह कोई सरकार का निर्णय नहीं होता है। उसकी नीयत बिगड़ी हुई है। यह मजदूर विरोधी सरकार है। इसलिए मजदूरों के लिए जो पैसा देना चाहिए, वह पैसा नहीं दे रही है।

सर, 20 और 21 तारीख को जो एक देशव्यापी हड़ताल हुई, वह ऐतिहासिक इसलिए है कि वह केवल किसी एक यूनियन ने, किसी एक सेक्टर ने नहीं की, बल्कि वह पूरे देश भर में हुई। इसमें बीएमएस, एलआईटीयूसी, सीआईटीयू, आईएनटीयूसी शामिल थीं। देश के 34 मजदूर यूनियंस इकट्ठा होकर एक कॉमन प्लेटफॉर्म पर कॉमन माँगों को लेकर आए, जिसमें सभी क्षेत्रों के मजदूर और कर्मचारी शरीक हुए। एक ऐतिहासिक बंद रहा, क्योंकि इसमें 30-40 मिलियन, यानी 3-4 करोड़ से ज्यादा मजदूर और कर्मचारियों ने हड़ताल की। उनकी जो व्यवस्था थी, उस व्यवस्था का कोई आगाज़ उनके स्टेटमेंट में नहीं है। उनकी माँग थी कि लोग महंगाई से परेशान हैं। यह पहली ऐसी स्ट्राइक थी, जहाँ लोग वेतन बढ़ाने की माँग नहीं कर रहे थे, बल्कि वे माँग कर रहे थे कि महंगाई कम करो। सरकार ने अभी कहा कि हम महंगाई कम करने की भरसक कोशिश कर रहे हैं। वे क्या कर रहे हैं? रोज़ सुबह उठते ही यह दिखता है कि सरकार ने पेट्रोल का दाम बढ़ाया, डीज़ल का दाम बढ़ाया, सर्विस चार्ज बढ़ाए, सबके दाम बढ़ाए। सरकार राहत तो देती नहीं और लोगों को इसका परिणाम भुगतना पड़ता है।

सर, मैं संक्षेप में क्वेश्चन पूछूंगा। बात यह है कि महंगाई से असली वेतन घटता है, महंगाई के कारण मजदूरों के जीवनयापन पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ता है, मजदूरों की हालत बहुत बुरी होती है, क्योंकि 90 फीसदी मजदूरों को महंगाई के अनुसार भत्ता नहीं मिलता है और वह महंगाई के अनुसार नहीं बढ़ता है। वे अभी मिनिमम वेज की बात कर रहे थे, लेकिन अभी उस पर यकीन करना संभव नहीं है, क्योंकि इसका कानून नहीं आया है। यह जो मजदूरों ने स्ट्राइक की, इसके लिए उन्होंने तीन महीने की नोटिस दी थी, लेकिन तीन दिन पहले जीओएम मजदूर यूनियनों के साथ बैठा। मजदूर यूनियनों ने कहा कि इंडियन लेबर कांफ्रेंस में जो तय किया गया, जिसे सरकार ने मान लिया, उस पर अमल करने का आश्वासन दिया जाए, तो यह स्ट्राइक नहीं होगी, लेकिन सरकार ने यह आश्वासन नहीं दिया। इसलिए मेरा पहला प्रश्न यह है कि क्या सरकार आईएलसी को सीरियसली लेती है या नहीं, उसको वर्कर्स की संसद मानती है या नहीं? वे केवल वर्कर्स या मजदूर नहीं हैं, वे केवल वेतनभोगी नहीं हैं, वे देश की सम्पत्ति का निर्माण करते हैं। इंडियन लेबर कांफ्रेंस में जो निर्णय होते हैं, क्या उसकी पवित्रता को बरकरार रख कर सरकार उस पर कार्रवाई करके एक समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम घोषित करेगी?

सर, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न कांट्रैक्ट लेबर के बारे में है। अब सरकारी क्षेत्र में भी कांट्रैक्ट लेबरर्स हैं, जो गैर-सरकारी फैक्टरीज़ हैं, उनमें भी हैं और निजी क्षेत्र में भी हैं। लाखों-करोड़ों की संख्या में जो कांट्रैक्ट लेबरर्स हैं, उनकी हालत बहुत खराब है। आज जो हमें कवर कर रहे हैं, जो मीडिया के लोग हैं या जो दूसरी इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया के लोग आते हैं, उनमें भी 90 परसेंट कांट्रैक्ट पर हैं। उनके लिए न तो कोई जॉब सिक्योरिटी, न कोई वेज सिक्योरिटी और न ही कोई सोशल सिक्योरिटी है। उन कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर की हालत ऐसी है कि काम ज्यादा घंटे करो और वेतन कम पाओ। आज किसी-किसी संस्था में आउटसोर्सिंग के नाम पर 50-50 फीसदी काम कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर के द्वारा करवाया जाता है। इसलिए हम मांग करते हैं कि कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर को जॉब, वेज और सोशल सिक्योरिटी मिलनी ही चाहिए।

कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर का एक कानून बना, जिसका नाम है, "कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर (रेगुलेशन एंड एबॉलिशन) ऐक्ट", लेकिन न एबॉलिशन हुआ और न ही रेगुलेशन हुआ। हुआ यह कि परपेचुएट करने का काम किया गया। आपका यह कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर ऐक्ट फिलहाल विफल हो गया है और अब नये कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर ऐक्ट की जरूरत है, जिसमें यह दिया जाए कि कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर पेरीनियल नेचर के काम नहीं करेगा। कई जगह पर आज लोग 12-12 साल से काम कर रहे हैं, उन्हें एक दिन का ब्रेक दे दिया जाता है और उसे टेक्निकल ब्रेक दिखा दिया जाता है। जब लोग 10-10 साल तक एक ही जगह काम करते हैं, तो क्यों नहीं उनको परमानेंट जॉब मिलनी चाहिए? कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर ऐक्ट में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन लाने के लिए आप हमें समय सीमा बताइए कि अगले सेशन में कब आप कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर बिल ला रहे हैं, जिससे इनकी सारी व्यथाएं दूर हो सकें? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, अभी पांच मिनट ही हुए हैं, मैं दो मिनट और लूंगा।

सर, ऑर्गनाइज्ड लेबर के साथ भी बहुत अच्छा सलूक नहीं किया जा रहा है। इस सरकार ने आते ही सबसे पहला काम यह किया कि 2004 में कर्मचारियों की पेन्शन ही समाप्त कर दी गई। जब नई सरकार बनी, आते ही उसने कई काम ऐसे किए, जो मजदूरों के हित में नहीं थे। पेन्शन को समाप्त करके इन्होंने अपना नया काम शुरू किया और आज तक इनकी वही मजदूर विरोधी नीति जारी है।

सर, अभी उन्होंने इसका उल्लेख किया था, मेरा पेटिशन भी पेटिशन कमेटी के सामने है। ईपीएस के लिए मंत्रालय ने फाइनांस मिनिस्टर को चार साल से प्रपोज़ल भेजा है कि इसमें कम से कम 1000 रुपये मिलें।

सर, क्या आपको मालूम है कि स्टेट वेल्फेयर स्कीम के पेन्शनर्स को भी कभी-कभी 1200 या 1500 रुपये मिलते हैं, लेकिन जिन्होंने 20-20 साल तक मजदूरी में अपना 8.33 प्रतिशत डाला है, उनको 1000 रुपये से भी कम पेन्शन मिलती है। इसका क्या मतलब है? इसका कारण यह है कि सरकार अपनी तरफ से उसमें केवल 1.16 प्रतिशत ही डालती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कहीं-कहीं पर तो केवल 20 रुपये पेन्शन मिलती है।

[श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर]

सर, सरकार को भी अपनी तरफ से इसमें 8.33 प्रतिशत डालना चाहिए। 6 करोड़ मजदूरों के लिए अगर सरकार एक बार में 6000 हजार करोड़ रुपये दे दे, यानी हर मजदूर के लिए 100 रुपये दे दे, तो यह काम हो सकता। इससे उनको 3000 रुपये पेन्शन मिलने लगेगी। मैंने एक्व्यूरियल साइटिस्ट के साथ बैठकर सारा कैलकुलेशन किया है।

सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि ईपीएस को आप कब न्याय देंगे? पेन्शनधारियों को आप कब न्याय देंगे? ऑटोनॉमस दिखा करके सबका पेन्शन खारिज कर दिया गया और कहा गया कि आप पब्लिक सेक्टर में हैं, आप इसमें नहीं आते। कहीं कहा गया कि आप ऑटोनॉमस सेक्टर में हैं, आप इसमें नहीं आते, इस तरह कर्मचारियों का पूरा शोषण हो रहा है। इसलिए मैं पूछना चाहूंगा कि पेन्शन सुधार के लिए आप सचमुच में क्या कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं? इसकी समय सीमा भी हमें बताइए?

अन्त में मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो संगठित कर्मचारी हैं, लोगों को लगता है कि उनको कोई भी समस्या नहीं है, लेकिन सर, ऐसा नहीं है। मैं एलआईसी यूनियन का प्रेसिडेंट भी हूँ। एलआईसी के वेज सेटलमेंट पर अभी तक इन्होंने चर्चा शुरू भी नहीं की है। फर्स्ट वेज सेटलमेंट की कालावधि समाप्त होने से पहले ही आप नया काम क्यों नहीं शुरू करते हैं?

श्री उपसभापति: बस, अब आप कन्क्लूड कीजिए।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सर, लास्ट में मेरे बस तीन वाक्य और हैं। आज भी अनफेयर प्रेक्टिसिज़ जारी हैं। मैनेजमेंट, रजिस्टर्ड यूनियन्स से बात भी नहीं करती है। आपने स्वयं स्टिंग ऑपरेशन देखा होगा कि बैंकों में कैसी-कैसी हालत है और लोगों को क्या कह कर लगाते हैं। सर, हमें इसका जवाब अभी चाहिए कि सरकार डिग्निटी के साथ फेयर जस्टिस विद ऑर्गनाइज्ड लेबर करेगी या नहीं? बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. My point is that the House must know whether the hon. Labour Minister is replying on his own behalf or on behalf of the Government. If he is speaking on behalf of the Government, then, he should not mock at us. Please don't mock at us by saying that you have made a proposal and sent it to the Finance Ministry or this Ministry or that Ministry. Please don't mock at us. You are dealing with an issue of that segment of the society which is feeding you everyday; who are covering your body by producing clothes. They are producing and that's why this country is running. You are dealing with them. Please don't mock at them. This is number one.

Number two, all the trade unions, not one or two trade unions, but all the

trade unions of the country, have consensus on their demands. As per your own statement also, in the Indian Labour Conference, majority of trade unions had consensus on their demands. There was a demand for same work, same wage. In 2010, on the contract labour issue, the Indian Labour Conference had arrived at a consensus between the trade union representatives, the Central Government and the State Governments. Now, it is 2013. Please don't tell us that the file is moving here to there. You are replying here on behalf of the Government. Please reply responsibly. Please don't mock at the working class. What are you doing? About three years have passed, on the Minimum Wage Formulation, you are talking about National Floor Level Minimum Wage. Finally, we will end up with the definition of 'poverty level' with rupees thirty-two per day. If he is earning thirty-three rupees per day, he will be a rich man. Don't mock at us. Don't give us anything, but don't mock at us. On Minimum Wage Formulation, again, there was a consensus. And, you had, in this House, announced the consensual recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference. It is on record. More than a year has lapsed, what action have you taken? You are dealing with 40 crore workers. In the beginning of the last Budget Session, two provisions were brought — General Anti-Avoidance Rule and Retrospective Taxation. It was introduced when the Budget was presented. It was withdrawn while the Budget was being passed by the House, within less than a month, because you are concerned about Vodafone, you are concerned about British Petroleum. Within one month it was withdrawn! Cabinet finalized the Budget, presented in the House, and within a month, these provisions were withdrawn. You were so fast that even before the ink on the last year's Budget dried up, you had appointed a Committee. And, that Committee was so fast that within a month you started telling the Press that it was not required. क्या भाई? वह कौन लगता है? दामाद लगता है क्या? You are worried for a handful of corporates and foreign giants. Now, you have buried the ghost of GAAR. Our hon. Finance Minister announced it in the Singapore. You have buried the GAAR. You are burying those steps that are to be taken against those who avoid taxes. You are so fast in such matters. But the provision for contractual workers take two years! For Minimum Wage Formulation, one year has already lapsed. Please say that you don't accept our demands. But don't cut joke at the working class. They will not tolerate this. Each and every statement of yours, again, do not have any basis at all. The proposal of minimum pension of rupees one thousand has been loitering for more than four years in the CBT. I am a trade union activist. It has been

[Shri Tapan Kumar Sen]

loitering for more than two four years! And, today, you are making a statement that the Government's contribution will be increased. And, it is a proposal which is under consideration of our great Finance Minister. Fine! Four years have lapsed because they are common workers, not Vodafone or Reliance or British Petroleum. So, that can take more than four years. On PF and gratuity savings, we are not asking for increasing the amount. We are just asking for changing the formulation — 15 days per year of service. You change that formulation from initiation. Don't tell us that you have already increased it to rupees ten lakh. That was not the demand. You got enough time to consider each and every demand. But, at the end of the day, when you saying that the country is going through a very impressive growth trajectory, employment is not increasing. Even the Economic Survey has admitted this. Why is it so? The most respectable rate of growth our country has witnessed during the Eleventh Five Year Plan is 8.6% per annum. The employment generation has collapsed to 0.7 per cent. It does not concern you. And you are pumping on concessions after concessions through your consecutive Budgets, without any contribution to employment generation. Now, you are saying that National Employment Policy will be brought. Are you going to link the illegitimate concessions you are showering in every Budget on the corporate houses with the employment generation, with a prohibition that there will be no retrenchment? Are you going to link this up? **...(Time-bell rings)...** Sir, please let me complete. If you don't do it, it will be meaningless howsoever you go on chattering that a National Employment Policy will be brought. It will have no meaning, unless you concretise your action. Sir, the workers have waited enough. By the end of the day we find — while you promise that growth will be there, workers' prosperity will be there— that in the process of last three decades workers' share in the Net Value Addition has dipped from 30 per cent to 9 per cent today, whereas the share of profit in the Net Value Addition is pushed up, legitimately or illegitimately, from around 15 per cent to 60 per cent today. If this is not loot and plunder, if this is not reverse transfer of wealth from the millions of people to a handful of business and corporates, what else it is! And, still, you will be chattering about inclusive growth. Sir, we want a clear clarification and, at the same time, a clear assurance. If you say, "we don't accept your demand; we are for the corporates. We are governed by the corporates; we will be operating for the corporates." Fine. Tell us clearly. Don't mock at us. "We will be taking up this issue or that issue; please don't do this."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I am concluding. You are talking about the democratic principles. You are talking about the Government employees; we are not asking for the Government employees. In the private sector, the moment you form a union, they are thrown out. You have to make mandatory recognition of trade unions in any establishment. Without that, trade unions' right has got no meaning. We are not talking about the Government sector. Whenever you will say about 87 and 98, you will talk about police, military or government sector. No.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I am just concluding, Sir. We are demanding that in every establishment recognition of the union must be mandatory. You have a procedure. In a multiplicity of unions, you have a procedure to decide. But no employer has the guts to say that we will not talk to union. Employer must have the guts to advertise in the papers that ours is an establishment where there is no trade union. No employer should be allowed to have that nasty right, to publish this in the advertisement. After the strike, at the end, after 5 months and 13 days, our hon. Prime Minister could get the time to make an appeal to the workers, that too through Press, that too on a Sunday, call a meeting of the GoM with the Trade Unions and one of the GoM members, a senior Minister, is absent.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: We should not be taken for granted like this. We cannot be humiliated this way. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... You talk about the democratic rights. Even after the strike, workers have been attacked. They are being jailed. They are being humiliated even on date. One worker's ear was chopped off. One worker was blinded in my State for joining strike.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): What are you talking? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tapan, you have taken too much time. Please conclude.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: BSNL office was ransacked. In Noida, more than 200 workers are in jail. They are being hounded. Although the U.P. State Minister made a statement that it is not the workers who have done it, still they are being hounded. They are in jail. ...(**Time-bell rings**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. Please conclude.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I am just concluding; last sentence.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How many last sentences are there!

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: The BPCL, a Central Government management company, has inflicted 16 days' paid hours for two days' strike. This arrogance must stop. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: it is the same company where the management got their pay revised; but it is not allowing workers' wage revision...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please conclude. That's enough.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: ... although it is pending for more than five years; and they are attacking. If you are serious about the democratic rights of the workers, please prevail upon the BPCL management, prevail upon the Noida Administration and see that ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. That's enough.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: ... the workers who are performing strikes are not victimized, are not punished. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have six additional names. So, every Member is requested to ask a question as clarification. In any case, not more than two minutes per Member would be given. It is because today is Friday and we have to adjourn early. So, please cooperate. Mr. Bandyopadhyay.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal): Sir, I am impressed, highly impressed by the pledges given and the platitudes spoken. This is quite correct that the Labour Minister in the Government of India is very lightweight, politically. I do not want to cast any aspersions on him. Having been in the Labour Department myself with the Central Government for some time, I know his plight. I have all the sympathies for him.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But he is a strong man. No, no. He is a strong man. ...(*Interruptions*)... Don't make such comments about Ministers. Don't make such comments.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: I am concerned about three matters on which he is not coming out at all. Firstly, casualization of labour has gone up. Casualization of labour in the regular jobs has gone up even in the public sector undertakings. In an undertaking called CIL and in all its eight subsidiaries, or, at any other place, all regular work, even underground, which is against the Mine Safety Rules, is being contracted out and being done by the contract labour. They have no protection whatsoever. Sir, the producers of nation's wealth are being treated as shuttles to be rounded about and thrown out.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, another point is, Mr. Minister has said that the gratuity has been increased from Rs. 3.5 to Rs. 10 lakhs. It is very good. Then, the minimum pension has also been increased. It is also very good. But all these matters relate to only four-six per cent of the organized labour. What about the ninety-six per cent of the labour who are outside the pale of all labour laws? They are the producers of wealth in the sense that the food security is dependent on the large number of agricultural workers who are totally casual, who have no security of tenure and who have nothing to do. They are always at the mercy of the land owners. They can bring him in and throw him out. But he produces the food which we all eat. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Please. Please conclude now.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, I am just finishing. I am not as good a speaker as my friend, Tapan is. Sir, my last point is...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Put the question.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: The Government of India has not ratified two very important ILO Conventions. The hon. Minister is good enough to agree to that. He has admitted it. But saying that 'we have our laws, we have our Constitution' is not enough. If you have everything, then why don't you ratify them? You should have ratified them and made it a part of the Indian legal system. But you have not done it. That means that the Government is, perhaps, not capable of doing it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now please conclude.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: I am just ending, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That's okay. Time is over.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Okay, as you say. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. M.P. Achuthan. Please put only questions.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, the impression that we got from the reply given by the hon. Minister and the attitude of the Government is that even after such a magnificent strike by millions of workers in India, the Government of India is not sensitive. What is the reaction of the Government? We have seen in the Budget that there is no concrete action to contain inflation or price-rise. The Government is not addressing the vital interests of the majority of the people, the workers. The Minister has said that some benefits would be given through contract work, but even in Government service, if you take a look at the report of the public sector undertakings, for the last three or four years, the number of workers in the public sector has been decreasing and they are being employed on contract basis. Even in departments like Prasar Bharati, in every sector, Government is leading the private sector in the matter of employing workers on contract and casual basis. And here, they are denying it.

Sir, the Minister had said in his reply that if a worker has been doing the same job, he would get all the benefits. In which department are you giving them the benefits? In which company are you giving the benefits, except for the PF and ESI? You are not giving them other benefits or even the pay. You are providing only the minimum wages without pension. Does the Minister know that there are people who are getting only one rupee per month as PF pension? It had been promised that it would be increased to Rs. 1,000. Many months have passed, but no concrete action has been taken; only promises have been made. This is the attitude of the Government — only promises to workers and benefits to corporates. This cannot go on. That is why, this economic policy has failed right from where it had originated. All the European countries, even America, are going in for welfare measures to benefit the workers. But, here you are eliminating them. You are going backwards. Please correct it. Otherwise, we would resist employing workers on contract basis. We will resist it and we will defeat it.

1.00 P.M.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात): उपसभापति महोदय, जैसा जावडेकर जी ने कहा कि जो मजदूर ठेकेदार के यहां काम करता है, तो वहां ठेकेदार पी.एफ. के लिए मजदूरों के नाम लिखा देता है। कभी-कभी ऐसी स्थिति बन जाती है कि जब कभी एक ठेकेदार के यहां 25-50-100 मजदूर काम करते हैं और उनका नाम पी.एफ. के लिए लिखाया या नहीं लिखाया, मजदूरों को पता नहीं लग पाता है, क्योंकि मजदूर तो अनपढ़ होता है तथा उनको इसकी पूरी जानकारी भी नहीं हो पाती है। तत्पश्चात वे मजदूर एक जगह एक महीने, दो महीने या तीन महीने काम करने के बाद वहां से काम छोड़कर दूसरी जगह पर काम करने लगते हैं। इन मजदूरों ने जहां पहले एक साल काम किया होता है तो उसका एक साल का पी.एफ. जमा होगा। लेकिन ये मजदूर जब वे पुराने ठेकेदार के पास जाते हैं तो वहां उनको सही जवाब नहीं मिलता है तथा उनको अन्य कागजों की फॉर्मलिटी के चक्कर में लगा दिया जाता है। मेरी विनती है कि ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए, जिससे मजदूरों को उनके पी.एफ. की जानकारी आसानी से मिल सके। ऐसे ही करोड़ों रुपयों का पी.एफ. सरकार के पास जमा है, जिसको लेने वाला कोई नहीं है। उसको लेने वाला इसलिए नहीं है कि उनके पास वेरिफिकेशन या जानकारी नहीं है। मेरे ध्यान में यह भी आया है कि जब ठेकेदार नाम लिखकर देते हैं तो उसमें अपने-अपने लोगों के नाम लिखकर दे देते हैं, जबकि काम किसी अन्य व्यक्ति ने किया होता है। इस प्रकार मजदूरों को न्याय नहीं मिल पाता है। दूसरा, अभी दो दिन पहले मैं स्किल डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम में गया था। वहां माहिदी दी जा रही थी। मुझे हैरानी हुई कि जबकि हिन्दुस्तान में उद्योग बढ़ रहे हैं, हिन्दुस्तान का डेवलपमेंट हो रहा है, इसमें जो हमारे युवा हैं, उसमें स्किल का निर्माण हो, उसमें तकनीकी नॉलेज बढ़े, उसके लिए आई.टी.आई. भी कराया जाता है। इसका बजट में भी प्रावधान होता है। सारे बजट में एक हजार करोड़ का प्रावधान स्किल डेवलपमेंट के लिए किया गया है। सारे बजट में 1000 करोड़ का प्रावधान स्किल डेवलपमेंट के लिए किया गया है, जबकि गुजरात ने अकेले 800 करोड़ रुपए इस काम के लिए रखे हैं...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया: वहीं भारत सरकार सारे बजट में 1000 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखती है, जोकि उचित नहीं है। मेरी मांग है कि हमारे देश के युवाओं की स्किल बढ़ाने के लिए 1000 करोड़ से ज्यादा का प्रावधान किया जाना चाहिए। महोदय, मेरा तीसरा प्रश्न है कि आपको इसके लिए एक आदर्श मॉडल डवलप करना चाहिए। महोदय, देश में जहां उद्योग चलते हैं, वहां टैक्नॉलोजी आती है। इसलिए आपको आईटीआईज को टैक्नॉलोजी के साथ जोड़कर ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए जिससे कि आईटीआईज में जाने वाले स्टूडेंट्स को टैक्नॉलोजी का अच्छा ज्ञान हो। हम देश में ऐसा एजुकेशन सिस्टम डवलप करने की आपसे अपेक्षा करते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत। कृपया 2 मिनट में समाप्त करें।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी के जवाब से अपनी असहमति व्यक्त करता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी, आप प्रयास कर रहे होंगे, परंतु आपको इस बात का जवाब देना चाहिए कि दो साल पहले भिन्न-भिन्न श्रमिक संगठनों ने मांग-पत्र देकर अपनी समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए प्रयास किया था, परंतु वह नहीं हुआ। फिर वर्ष 2012 में भी हड़ताल हुई। आपको बैंकिंग कर्मचारियों ने भी मांग-पत्र दिया, आपने उनकी बात नहीं सुनी तो उन्होंने भी हड़ताल की। अब देश के प्रमुख 35 श्रमिक संगठनों ने, जिनमें वे श्रमिक संगठन भी शामिल हैं, जिनकी कार्य-शैली भिन्न-भिन्न है और वह एक-दूसरे से तालमेल नहीं खाती है, फिर भी वे एक हुए। उन्होंने एक कॉमन चार्टर्ड ऑफ डिमांड्स बनाकर आपको दिया, लेकिन उस पर भी आपने कोई समाधानकारक कोशिश नहीं की। यही कारण रहा कि उन्होंने 20-21 फरवरी, 2013 को देशव्यापी हड़ताल की जिसे देश में बड़ा समर्थन मिला। महोदय, यह इस बात को सिद्ध करता है कि आज श्रमिकों के साथ अन्याय हो रहा है और उनकी समस्याओं को हल करने का आप प्रयास नहीं कर रहे हैं। मंत्री महोदय, आपने अपने जवाब में कहा कि महंगाई, भ्रष्टाचार, काला-धन व एफडीआई की जो व्यवस्था देश में चल रही है, उसका श्रमिकों पर कोई प्रभाव नहीं पड़ रहा है। महोदय, मैं भी मजदूर रहा हूँ और मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि महंगाई का सर्वाधिक प्रभाव श्रमिकों पर पड़ता है। आपको इस बात की जानकारी है कि इस देश में लगभग 46 करोड़ श्रमिक हैं, उनमें 43 करोड़ असंगठित मजदूर हैं जिनको ट्रेड यूनियन राइट्स का अधिकार नहीं मिल पाता है। उनके साथ घोर अन्याय हो रहा है। ऐसी स्थिति में आप कह रहे हैं कि कोई प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता है, मैं इससे सहमत नहीं हूँ। आप इस बारे में पुनः प्रयास कर उनकी दशा ठीक करने के लिए कोशिश करें। महोदय, मैं आपसे एक निवेदन और करना चाहता हूँ कि मजदूरों के खिलाफ ये सब परिस्थितियाँ इसलिए पैदा हो रही हैं क्योंकि देश में मजदूरों के कल्याण संबंधी कानून बहुत पुराने हैं। आप भर्ती अधिनियम देख लें, ठेकेदार लेबर प्रथा, औद्योगिक विवाद अधिनियम, पेंशन एक्ट, ईपीएफ एक्ट देख लें - इन सब एक्ट्स में गलती करने वालों को सज़ा का प्रावधान कुछ भी नहीं है। इसलिए कोई डरता नहीं है। इन श्रम कानूनों में वर्तमान परिस्थितियों को ध्यान में रखकर संशोधन करने की आवश्यकता है। इसका सबसे बड़ा कारण ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is enough ...(Interruptions)... It is not going on record ...(Interruptions)... It is not going on record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: *

श्री उपसभापति: यह रिकार्ड में नहीं आ रहा है, आप बैठिए। मिस्टर गहलोत। It is not going on record. ...(Interruptions)... Take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... मिस्टर गहलोत कोई फायदा नहीं है, आप जो बोल रहे हैं, वह रिकार्ड में नहीं आ रहा है। बैठिए, बैठिए। Mr. Anil Desai, you please start. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANIL DESAI: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want to ask a question, you ask it. Otherwise, nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... I called you to ask a question on this; don't make a lecture. ...*(Interruptions)*... I do not want to listen to lecture.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra): I would like to put questions to the Minister of Labour.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want to ask, you do so. Your one minute is over.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: Sir, eleven major Central Trade Unions went on a two-day nationwide strike on 20th and 21st February, 2013. What was the need for that? You have all the details of that in front of you regarding the price-rise or inflation. Sir, whenever the reports have come about this, it was surprising to see that the Press Reports and the electronic media also highlighted Rs. 26,000 crore loss during those two days. But none of the reports have come which speak about the employees, workers or the work force, who have lost their complete man hours and who have surrendered their wages, which were dearer and more precious than this Rs. 26,000 crore loss, being highlighted by the media. These are the few things. Sir, what is happening in the organized or un-organized sector? What has the Government done? You see the condition of Air India. You are saying that the Government has come forward to see that a turnaround is made in aviation sector, in Air India. If you happen to see, one fine day, the Government or the Air India Civil Aviation Department has given the orders, proclaimed by the CMD, that you straightway transfer your 10,000 employees to one of the subsidiaries, which is created overnight, that is, AIATSL, and, 7,000 employees to the engineering subsidiaries, which is being formed. So, out of 25,000 employees, only 8,000 employees are to be retained in Air India. What kind of justice, what kind of security, have you contemplated to give to those people? There is no answer to all this. See, what is happening to the contract labour day-by-day. See the way the contract labour is working beyond permitted hours, how they are made to work, and, how they are treated as bonded labour. What are the minimum wages you are going to give? Are you going to make it to Rs. 10,000? It will not be sufficient.

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will you be seriously thinking it to link it with the consumer price index?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: You are speaking about the ILO. What are the 87th and 98th provisions? Will they be applicable to the workforce in India?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: Sir, let me speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That is over. Your three minutes are over.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: We are looking after the Trade Unions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Now, Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: We are working with them. We are working for the ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Three minutes are already over.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: No, no. Let me speak. This is injustice. This is injustice, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, three minutes are over. Nothing more will go on record.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I have already announced that everybody can take two minutes. He has taken three minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody has a special privilege; everybody has equal privilege. ...*(Interruptions)*... Today is Friday. We have to adjourn the House and, at 2.30 p.m., we have to assemble again. Mr. Anil, please sit down.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Anil, it is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia, please start.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not going on record. Mr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, please start. *...(Interruptions)...* That is not going on record. Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Don't say all these unnecessary comments.

SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sanjay Raut, see, I have allowed two minutes to everybody but I allowed him to speak for three minutes. *...(Interruptions)...* He can speak during discussion on the General Budget. It is not the time for making a speech. During discussion on General Budget, I will give you more time. *...(Interruptions)...* See, this is for seeking a clarification. You should know the rules of the House. Here, you can only seek a clarification, for which, I have given you three minutes in spite of that fact that I have given others only two minutes. Yes, Mr. Khuntia, please take only two minutes.

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Odisha): While joining my colleagues, I would say that हमारे देश के करीब 50 करोड़ मजदूरों के इंटरैस्ट के लिए जो 20-21 तारीख को स्ट्राइक हुई थी, उसमें जो अहम मुद्दे थे, वे पेंशन को बढ़ाने के लिए, कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर्स को इक्युअल मजदूरी देने के लिए, ईएसआई प्रोविडेंट फंड के कवरेज को बढ़ाने के लिए, बोनस के कैलकुलेशन और उसको बढ़ाने के लिए थे। I want to say कि इन मुद्दों के बारे में जो बोला गया कि फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर को प्रकरण गया है, यह ठीक नहीं है। Will the Minister be pleased to say कि प्रधानमंत्री जी ने जो कमेटी बनाई है, जैसा तपन दा बोल रहे थे, Has that Committee been constituted to go into the details of the demands and problems given by the Central trade union or will the Minister assure us that this Committee has the mandate to go into the details, consider the problems and also give the decision within a timeframe so that the problems of the workers can be resolved? Sir, I want to draw your kind attention on the pension about which a mention has been made here. Some people are getting even Rs. 50 or Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 as pension. Even agriculture workers and general public are getting Rs. 300 as pension. But these people are even paying for getting Rs. 300 pension. About the gratuity, about which the Labour Minister has said, we are talking about the amount. If you give one month salary as gratuity to the poor workers, the total amount will not cross three lakhs. It may be also in the higher-wage category. So, I request the hon. Minister to assure this House that he will

*Not recorded.

[Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia]

consider all these demands. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... I also want to have a clarification on whether a Committee is constituted and “whether it will go into the details. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Please take a decision within a timeframe.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. Minister, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, just one minute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I am not allowing. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, the Statement has not been circulated so far. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, the Statement is coming.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That should have been circulated.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, I already requested that it is coming and will be circulated. And, in the afternoon also, we are going to discuss the same subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is another thing. You should pull up your officers. It is for the Ministry to see to it that the statement is circulated before it is made by the Minister, or, at least it should be if circulated at the same time. It is a lapse on the part of your Ministry, your officers. Please pull up them.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Yes, Sir, I will.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, मैं भाषण नहीं करूंगा, मैं एक क्वेश्चन पूछना चाहता हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति: क्या क्वेश्चन है?

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, मैं प्रश्न ही पूछ रहा हूँ, भाषण नहीं कर रहा हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि इस देश में बड़े पैमाने पर असंगठित मजदूर भी हैं। पिछले दिनों जो हड़ताल हुई, उसमें उनकी भी संख्या थी और अधिक से अधिक लोग, लाखों लोग असंगठित मजदूर हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...(*Interruptions*)... I have not permitted you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: क्या इन असंगठित मज़दूरों के लिए आपने कोई विशेष व्यवस्था की है? एक आयोग का गठन हुआ था, उस आयोग की रिपोर्ट में क्या है? उनके लिए आप कौन-सी व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं?

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : सर, मैंने इसमें बहुत से मुद्दों को एक्सप्लेन करने की कोशिश की है। अभी प्रकाश जावडेकर जी, तपन सेन जी, बंदोपाध्याय जी, अच्युतन जी, मांडविया जी, थावर जी, अनिल देसाई जी और रामचन्द्र खूँटिआ जी ने इसके बारे में अपने विचार व्यक्त किए, लेकिन मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ, अगर आपको वह बुरी लगे तो मैं उसके लिए माफ़ी चाहूँगा, कि यह लेबर डिपार्टमेंट जो है, यह कन्करन्ट लिस्ट में आता है। यह बात सभी जानते हैं, तपन सेन जी जानते हैं, जिन्होंने बहुत ही विहिमन्तली इसको क्रिटिसाइज़ किया और बन्दोपाध्याय जी, जो सीनियर ब्यूरोक्रेट भी हैं, आज यहां पर मैम्बर हैं। तो मेरा वेट तो ज्यादा है, लेकिन "लाइट वेट" शायद उन्होंने अपने हिसाब से कहा होगा। मेरा वेट एक किंचटल दस किलो है। मैं उनकी बात का जवाब नहीं देना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन ऐसे सीनियर मैम्बर्स, लीडर्स अगर ठीक ढंग से अपनी बात कहें, तो हम भी उनको उतनी ही रिस्पेक्ट से देखेंगे।

महोदय, मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि इसके कन्करन्ट लिस्ट में रहने की वजह से हमें कुछ दिक्कतें हैं और सभी ट्रेड यूनियन्स के लीडर्स यह जानते हैं कि हमारे जितने भी 43-44 लेबर लॉज़ हैं, उनको इम्प्लीमेंट करने की जो जवाबदारी और रिस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी है, यह उनकी होती है। यहां से हम गाइड कर सकते हैं, मीटिंग बुलाते हैं। जैसा जावडेकर जी ने कहा कि साल में एक बार आईएलसी जो मीटिंग बुलाते हैं, वहां पर भी इस संबंध में चर्चा होती है, बहुत से मुद्दों पर चर्चा करके एक मत होते हैं, कुछ मुद्दों पर सब एक मत नहीं होते क्योंकि उसमें एम्प्लायर्स हैं, एम्प्लाइज़ हैं, सरकार है और एनजीओज़ भी हैं। उसमें चन्द मुद्दों पर समझौता होता है, चन्द मुद्दों पर समझौता नहीं हो पाता है। इस वजह से जो अंतिम निर्णय किया जा सकता है, उसको स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को भी इम्प्लीमेंट करना चाहिए। जो बड़े-बड़े मुद्दे हैं, जैसे पॉलिसी मीटर के बारे में है, जावडेकर जी ने प्राइस राइज़ के बारे में कहा, तपन कुमार सेन जी ने बजट के बारे में कहा। उनको इस सबके बारे में मालूम है। सर, जब यहां पर बजट पर डिस्कशन होगी तो उसके बारे में अपना अच्छा भाषण वे देंगे, ऐसी मुझे उम्मीद है। वहां पर उनको इसके बारे में सॉल्यूशन मिलेगा, लेकिन मेरे पास जो सॉल्यूशन है, अगर मैं कुछ कर सकता हूँ तो इतना ही कर सकता हूँ। आज आपको इस डिपार्टमेंट की तारीफ करनी चाहिए थी क्योंकि दो साल में हमने 9 कानूनों में अमेंडमेंट करके लेबर को जिनती सहूलियत देनी चाहिए, उतनी कोशिश करके हमने दी है। हो सकता है कि वह आपकी सेटिस्फैक्शन के मुताबिक न हो या आप जो चाहते हैं, वह न हुआ हो, लेकिन हमने यह कोशिश की है कि उसमें ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को फायदा मिले।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: You have done it. But your Government has not done it.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: My Government and I are one. चाहे ग्रेव्यूटी का मामला हो, प्लांटेशन लेबर वर्कर्स का मामला हो, वेलफेयर स्कीम्स का मामला हो या राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना हो। आप बताइए कि किस ज़माने में राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना हो गई थी? असंगठित वर्कर्स के लिए अब तक हमने कम से कम दो हज़ार करोड़ के करीब खर्च किए हैं। ऐसा कभी नहीं हुआ। पहली बार यूपीए गवर्नमेंट में अनऑरगनाइज्ड वर्कर्स के लिए इतना पैसा खर्च किया गया है, उसका एप्रिसिएशन आप नहीं कर रहे हैं। जो नहीं होता, उसके लिए क्रिटिसाइज़ कीजिए, कम से कम जो हुआ है, उसके लिए तो आप एप्रिशिएट कीजिए।

दूसरा, कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर ऐक्ट के बारे में हमारी कोशिश जारी है। आप यह कह रहे हैं कि आप कोशिश कर रहे हैं, लेकिन हो नहीं पा रहा है। कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर ऐक्ट के जितने भी अमेंडमेंट्स हैं, उनके बारे में आपको भी मालूम है। सर, लेबर फील्ड में ट्राइपार्टाइट होने की वजह से हम जो भी प्रपोज़ल रखते हैं, हमसे पहले तो उनको ही मालूम होता है क्योंकि वे भी उसका अंग हैं। यह पंचायत सिस्टम के जैसा है इसलिए हर चीज़ उनको मालूम है। इसलिए इस संबंध में हमारी कोशिश जारी है, लेकिन जितने भी स्टेक होल्डर्स और जितनी भी मिनिस्ट्रीज़ हैं, उनको भी इसको मानना चाहिए क्योंकि इसमें फाइनेंशियल इन्वॉल्वमेंट है। अगर सारे कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर्स को हम रेग्युलराइज़ करेंगे तो इसमें फाइनेंशियल बर्डन कितना होगा? क्या उस बर्डन को सरकार उठा सकती है, प्राइवेट कॉरपोरेट्स उठा सकते हैं, क्या दूसरे इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स भी इसको मानते हैं, यह सब भी हमें देखना होगा। दूसरी तरफ मैं यह मानता हूँ कि इनका एक्सप्लॉयटेशन हो रहा है, आउटसोर्सिंग हो रहा है, हर गवर्नमेंट में यह हो रहा है। सर, श्री बंदोपाध्याय जी ने इसको क्रिटिसाइज़ किया, लेकिन अगर मैं उनसे पूछूँ तो उन्हें बुरा लगेगा। क्या उनकी गवर्नमेंट आने के बाद पश्चिमी बंगाल में यह बंद हुआ है? यह तो 1970 का ऐक्ट है, मैंने आने के बाद तो नहीं बनाया। जब 1970 से यह ऐक्ट चल रहा है तो उसमें हमारी कोशिश तो यही है कि उसको किस ढंग से अबोलिशन के साथ, अब अगर है तो रेग्युलेट करना है। उसको रेग्युलेट करने के लिए तो हम अमेंडमेंट्स लाए हैं। अगर सभी लोग इसको मानेंगे तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इसमें थोड़ी तब्दीली भी होगी, लेबर्स की जो कठिनाई है, वह भी थोड़ी दूर होगी। इसीलिए मैं माननीय तपन कुमार सेन जी को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर्स के बारे में हम उतने ही उत्सुक हैं, जितने आप हैं।

श्री तपन कुमार सेन: लेकिन वह कब होगा, यह भी बताइए? फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री से कब निकलेगा? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: हमारी तरफ से तो हमने अमेंडमेंट करके केबिनेट से अप्रूवल लेनी है, सारे स्टेक होल्डर्स को भी हमने भेजा है। उनके जो भी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन: वह आ गया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: नेचुरली वहां पर हमारे डिपार्टमेंट को जितनी कोशिश करनी है, उतनी कोशिश करके उसको लायेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन: इसीलिए वे सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के चक्कर काट रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान) आपने वर्ष 2010 से केबिनेट नोट भेजा है और वह सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट में, मिनिस्ट्री के चक्कर काट रहा है। आप इसके बारे में बताइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: तपन जी, हो गया। आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सर, यही मुद्दा है। ...(व्यवधान) वह कब होगा? इनकी सरकार का एक साल बचा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, हो गया। आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: दूसरा मुद्दा मिनिमम वेजिज का है। जो मिनिमम पेंशन स्कीम है, इसके बारे में हमने आलरेडी मूव किया है और हमारी फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट से बातचीत हो रही है, अगर उसमें हमें सफलता नहीं मिली, उसमें अगर हम यशस्वी नहीं हुए, तो उसका अल्टरनेट क्या करना चाहिए, इसके बारे में सोचेंगे। यह कहा गया कि गवर्नमेंट ने सिर्फ 1.6 किया है, 8.33 जब आपकी NDA की गवर्नमेंट थी तब भी कोई नहीं माना, आज भी स्थिति वही है। ...(व्यवधान) आपका सत्य से हटकर कुछ बोलना, ठीक नहीं होगा। हम सभी जानते हैं कि कोई गवर्नमेंट 8.33 पेंशन के लिए कंट्रीब्यूट करने के लिए तैयार नहीं होगी, पहले भी नहीं होगी, आज भी नहीं होगी और भविष्य में भी नहीं होगी। भविष्य में जावडेकर साहब अगर मेरी जगह पर आयेंगे, तो वे भी नहीं कर पायेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रामचन्द्र खूंटीआ: सर, अभी तो हो जाती है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: आप सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: यह सात हजार करोड़ हो जाती है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: उपसभापति महोदय, इसीलिए हमारी कोशिश यही है कि कम से कम 0.86 परसेंट देंगे, तो लेबर्स के लिए हम कुछ न कुछ मिनिमम पेंशन दे सकते हैं। आज जितनी डिमांड की जा रही है, उतनी तो नहीं दे सकते हैं, लेकिन हम कम से कम पेंशन दे सकते हैं, इसके लिए हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं और वह पेंडिंग में है। सभी ट्रेड यूनियन ने मिलकर ऑल इंडिया स्ट्राइक की। हमने उनसे बातचीत भी की, लेकिन एक बात उन्होंने कही कि जब स्ट्राइक होने जा रही थी, तो उसके तीन-चार दिन पहले जो हमने मिलकर ग्रुप ऑफ मिनिस्टर्स की मीटिंग की, यह ठीक नहीं, यह मीटिंग इससे पहले करनी चाहिए थी। इस बात को मैं मानता हूँ। हमारी कोशिश रहेगी कि इस बार फिर इन मुद्दों के ऊपर रोशनी डालने के लिए और क्या कर सकते हैं, किस हद तक कर सकते हैं, इसे हम देखेंगे। आज सदन में जो सवाल उठाये हैं, उनके बारे में, मैं फिर बातीचत करूंगा। वह

[श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे]

जीओएम कमेटी नहीं है, वह तो उस वक्त, स्ट्राइक के वक्त *informally* चार-पांच मिनट मिनिस्टर्स को बैठाकर इन समस्याओं को किस ढंग से सुलझा सकते हैं, कुछ कर सकते हैं, इसके लिए थी। उसी के बाद यह मिनिमम नेशनल फ्लोर वेजिज की बात आई और उसके बाद मैंने बिल पेश किया है, जो कि आपके पास आ रहा है। अगर आप उसको ऐप्पूव करेंगे, तो मिनिमम वेजिज जिस क्षेत्र में, जिस वर्ग को नहीं मिल रहे हैं, उनको तो वेजिज मिलने का काम हो जायेगा। उसके साथ लिंकड डियरनेस वेज अलाउंस का भी प्रावधान किया है। मैं यह चाहूंगा कि आप हमारा साथ दीजिए। हम बराबर एक के बाद एक उसको सॉल्व करने की कोशिश करेंगे। हमें और आपको मिलकर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के ऊपर दबाव डालना जरूरी है। अगर वहां पर ठीक ढंग से वह इम्प्लिमेंट करे, तो शायद मेरे ऊपर जो आप प्रहार कर रहे हैं, वे ज़रा कम हो जायेंगे। इसीलिए मैं ज्यादा कुछ नहीं कहते हुए, यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इन समस्याओं को सुलझाने के लिए तैयार है और टाइम टू टाइम हम इसको ठीक ढंग से देखेंगे। शुक्रिया।

श्री तपन कुमार सेन: मंत्री जी, आप बीपीसीएल के ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Salman Khursheed, would you like to say something? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन: मंत्री जी, बीपीसीएल के पेमेंट के बारे में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजीव शुक्ल): वह कंसीडर करेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Salmanji, do you want to say something?

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, I had assured the House that I would convey the feelings of the House about the students' agitation in Tamil Nadu to the External Affairs Minister. He wants to say something on that.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Stand of the Government on the Resolution on Sri Lanka in the U.N. Human Rights Council in the light of the agitation by students in Tamil Nadu

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Sir, I am very grateful for this opportunity. We have had a discussion in the House earlier and anxieties have been expressed because students' bodies of various

colleges and universities in Tamil Nadu are out in the streets agitating over the Sri Lankan issue. I want to share with the House that the process for a decision on the Resolution, which is indeed a procedural Resolution, as follow-up of last year's Resolution, is now underway. We are engaging all other Member-countries of UNHRC. We are, absolutely, committed to what we tried to do last year, which was to ensure that there must be accountability, fair participation, sanctions must be imposed, where they are found to be necessary after adjudication, and that a life of dignity and of equality must be ensured to all the Tamil citizens of Sri Lanka. This was our objective of supporting the Resolution last year. That objective remains important, and we are constantly in pursuit of that objective. Whatever steps are necessary towards the pursuit of that objective, will be taken by the Government of India. We are in the process of finalizing our position and posture. We are in touch with all other stakeholders. And as soon as the final view is taken, we will come back to the House and we will inform the House of the latest position.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It was a demand. So, no clarifications.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We only want to request the Government to ensure that the investigation is impartial and independent.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: Sir, I share the sentiment of the hon. Member, and that the investigation must be impartial, transparent and independent. This is something that has been reiterated repeatedly, and we remain committed to this objective.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, hon. Members, I would like to inform the House that as per the decision of the BAC, we will take up the reply on the Railway Budget at 2.30 p.m., and after the reply, we will take up the Private Members' Resolutions.

The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned at twenty-eight minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN in the chair.

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS**Rejecting Resolution passed by National Assembly of Pakistan
on 14th March, 2013**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I now take up the Resolution.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Odisha): Sir, we need copies of the Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall make it available.

I move the following Resolution:

“This House totally rejects the Resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan on March 14, 2013. The House notes that Pakistan has committed that it would not allow its territory to be used for terrorism against India and only fulfilment of this commitment can be the basis for peaceful relations with Pakistan. The House rejects interference in the internal affairs of India, and calls upon the National Assembly of Pakistan to desist from such acts of support for extremist and terrorist elements.

The House reiterates that the entire State of Jammu and Kashmir including the territory under illegal occupation of Pakistan is and shall always be an integral part of India. Any attempt from any quarter to interfere in the internal affairs of India will be met resolutely and with complete unity of our nation.”

May I take, hon. Members, that this Resolution is adopted unanimously?

HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Resolution is adopted unanimously.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just require a minute.

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बिहार): रेजोल्यूशन वेल ड्राफ्टेड है, बहुत बढ़िया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to say something, Mr. Punj?

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, I just need one minute to make one point. By adopting the Resolution passed by the Pakistani National Assembly; firstly, they have conceded to the words that they have a definite role in promoting terror across border and India. This is an open admission by Pakistan. Secondly, Sir, so far, we used to be confused about the role-between the State actors and non-State actors. Now by adopting this....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. We have discussed this in the morning. Now the hon. Minister for Railways will reply to the discussion.

THE BUDGET (RAILWAYS) 2013-14

रेल मंत्री (श्री पवन कुमार बंसल): माननीय सभापति जी, रेल बजट 2013-14 पर जो चर्चा हुई, उसमें इस सदन के 43 माननीय सदस्यों ने हिस्सा लिया और मैं उन सभी का अति धन्यवादी हूँ।

(उपसभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

जिन्होंने इस चर्चा में भाग नहीं लिया, लेकिन समय-समय पर मुझे अपने सुझाव देते रहे, बल्कि कई बातों में कुछ शिक्षा भी देते रहे हैं, मैं उन सभी को भी बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मेरा पूरा विश्वास है कि बेशक कोई सुझाव आया हो या किसी तरह की आलोचना भी हुई हो, उन सभी को रेलवेज़ को बहुत कुछ सीखने को मिलेगा और हमारा जो कर्तव्य है कि लोगों को सुरक्षा और संरक्षा सहित वाजिब कीमतों पर अच्छा सफर मिले, उसके लिए हमारे लिए वह सहाय्य होगा।

एक सवाल बार-बार उठा और वह एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है, जिसका जिक्र श्री बलबीर पुंज जी, जिन्होंने चर्चा शुरू की, उन्होंने किया और बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि भारतीय रेल का अपना मैनडेट क्या है और यह भी स्पष्ट तौर पर कहा गया कि इसको हमें एक व्यापारिक संस्थान नहीं मानना चाहिए। मैं इस बात के साथ सहमत हूँ। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि रेलवेज़ का जो मैनडेट है, वैसे तो वह एक मजबूत, सुदृढ़, साउंड फाइनैशियल प्रिंसिपल पर, वित्तीय सिद्धांतों पर चलनी चाहिए, लेकिन साथ-साथ हमारे ऊपर एक बहुत बड़ी सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी है। भारतीय रेल का रूट तकरीबन 64,500 किलोमीटर है, जिसके द्वारा वह एक जगह को दूसरी जगह से जोड़ती है और इसकी टोटल ट्रैक 1,15,000 किलोमीटर है। यह किसी-न-किसी ढंग से देश के एक-एक वासी के जीवन को छूती है और उनसे इसका सीधा सम्बन्ध है। यह आज हमारे सामने है कि रेलवेज़ के जो किराए हैं, खास कर नीची श्रेणियों के, अलग-अलग प्रान्तों में जो उसी के मुकाबले की बसें हैं, मैंने उन सभी की तुलना की थी, तो वे तीन से पांच गुणा ज्यादा हैं। इसलिए इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं कि हमारे फाउंडिंग फादर्स ने रेलवेज़ को उस वक्त जो जिम्मेदारी, जो मैनडेट दी, रेलवेज़ उस पर पूरा उतर रही है। लेकिन साथ-साथ, हम सभी ने देखा है और शायद वह एक जरूरी अंग था कि जो सेवाएं हमें मुहैया करवानी हैं, तो उसके लिए यह जरूरी है कि उसके साथ-साथ रेलवेज़ के कुछ अपने साधन होने चाहिए। किसी वक्त रेलवेज़ का जब अलग बजट पेश होता था, तो सही मायने में रेलवेज़ की तरफ से जनरल रेवेन्यू में पैसा जाता था। आज मुझे भी इस बात पर थोड़ा अफसोस है, हम सभी को है कि हम जनरल रेवेन्यू से जितनी ग्राँस बजटरी सपोर्ट इधर चाहते हैं, वह हमें नहीं मिलती। क्यों ऐसी हालत है कि हम यहाँ

[श्री पवन कुमार बंसल]

तक पहुंचे? यह सवाल, जो पुंज साहब ने कहा था, उस पर मैं थोड़ा ठहर कर आऊंगा, लेकिन यह सवाल इस बात के लिए एक बहुत अहम सवाल बन जाता है। इसलिए यह जरूरी है जब मैंने अपनी बजट स्पीच में कहा था, अब मैं वे बातें पूरी तरह से दोहराना नहीं चाहूंगा कि अपनी मजबूती के बल पर ही एक पक्षी टहनी पर बैठा होता है, न कि यह कि जो शाखा की मजबूती है, वह उसे मजबूत लगे। वह उसको मजबूत नहीं लगती, उसका होसला खुद अपने पंखों की ताकत में होता है। यह रेलवेज़ के लिए अनिवार्य है कि रेलवेज़ में वह शक्ति हो। वह कैसे आएगी? जब हम सब मिल कर, जो बार-बार उधर से कहा गया था कि दलगत राजनीति से ऊपर उठ कर अगर इसके लिए सोचेंगे, यह तब आएगी। मुझे विश्वास है कि हमें जो सपोर्ट मिलती रही है, मैंने उधर कहा था, वही मैं फिर कहता हूँ कि ठीक है कि हमें शायद कहना होता है, लेकिन मैं यह समझता हूँ कि सदन के बीच में जो विचार आए, जो मुझे बाहर लोगों ने कहा कि 10 साल के बाद जो थोड़ा-बहुत किराया बढ़ाना पड़ा, उसमें ज्यादातर लोगों से सहमति है, लोगों ने उसको कबूल किया है। लेकिन चूंकि यह सवाल उठा, मैं उसका मामूली सा जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ कि वह क्यों हुआ और कैसे हुआ। सर, रेलवेज़ के लिए एक चीज़ अति आवश्यक है। रेलवेज़ का जो ऑपरेटिंग रेश्यो होता है, वह तकरीबन 80% जरूर होना चाहिए, बल्कि उससे भी कम होना चाहिए। यानी 100 रुपये कमाने के लिए रेलवेज़ की तरफ से 80 रुपये से ज्यादा खर्च नहीं होने चाहिए। यह जो 20 रुपये का अन्तर होगा, उसी को हम नवीनीकरण के लिए, नई लाइनों के लिए, सहूलियतों के लिए, पेंसिजर्स अमेनिटीज़ के लिए, विद्युतीकरण के लिए एवं बहुत सी अन्य चीज़ों के लिए इस्तेमाल कर पाएंगे। किसी वक्त यह रेश्यो इतना ही था, लेकिन बाद में यह बिगड़ना शुरू हो गया और 2012-13 से पिछले वर्ष, यानी 2011-12 में वह रेश्यो तकरीबन 94.9 तक पहुंच गया। यह रेश्यो रेलवेज़ के लिए अनसस्टेनेबल है, जिसे सहा नहीं जा सकता और उसी हिसाब से रेलवेज़ चल नहीं सकती। यह बात हमें माननी होगी। हमारे सामने यह एक बहुत बड़ी चुनौती थी और इस चुनौती से निपटने के लिए यह करना जरूरी था।

जब प्रधानमंत्री जी ने मुझे यह जिम्मेवारी दी और जब मैंने इसके हालात देखे, उस समय मैंने यह बात महसूस की। मुझे कोई खुशी नहीं थी कि एकदम पहले से एक ऐसे फैसले के लिए आगे जाऊँ कि हमें कुछ किराया बढ़ाना पड़ेगा। लेकिन यह कदम उठाना अनिवार्य हो गया था, इसीलिए हमें किराया बढ़ाना पड़ा। हमारी यही कोशिश रही कि किराया हमें कम से कम बढ़ाना पड़े। इसमें बजट के लिए भी हम दो महीने रुक नहीं सकते थे, क्योंकि उस वक्त 1600 करोड़ रुपए की हमें बहुत जरूरत थी।

इसके साथ-साथ हमने फिस्कल कन्सॉलिडेशन के लिए भी जिम्मेदारियां ली थीं, ताकि इसमें जो वित्तीय अनुशासन आना चाहिए, वह आ सके। यह कैसे किया जाए, इसके लिए

करंट ईयर में हम इसको 88.8% के रेश्यो पर ले आएंगे, जो पहले 94.9 हो गया था। अगले साल का हमने टार्गेट रखा है कि उसे 1% और कम करके 87.8 पर ले कर आएंगे। मेरी यह मंशा है और आप सब भी इस बात को कबूल करेंगे कि आने वाले वर्षों में जरूर हमें इसे 80% पर ले आना चाहिए। उसके बाद ही यह सिस्टम सस्टेनेबल हो पाएगा।

हम जिन सहूलियतों की उम्मीद करते हैं, वह सहूलियतें रेलवेज़ तभी दे पाएगी, जब हम इसे जरूरी तौर पर 80% पर ले आएंगे। हो सकेगा तो हम इसे 74% पर ले आएंगे, लेकिन कम-से-कम 80% पर तो हमें इसे जरूर लाना ही चाहिए।

इसके लिए हमने जो कदम उठाया, मैं उसका मामूली सा जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ। जिक्र इसलिए करना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि यहां कहा गया कि किराया 25% बढ़ा दिया गया, गरीबों की जेब काट ली गई, उसमें से बहुत पैसा निकाल लिया गया। इसके लिए मैं आपके सामने एक मामूली सा उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ और वही तथ्य भी है। किराए की इस बढ़ोतरी को आप 25% कह सकते हैं, लेकिन पहले कृपया आप उस फैक्ट को भी देख लें कि सच्चाई क्या है। जो सबसे गरीब श्रेणी की क्लास है, उनको एक जगह से दूसरी जगह जाने के लिए अगर 100 किलोमीटर का सफर तय करना हो, तो पहले उनको 8.00 रुपये देने पड़ते थे और अब उनको 10.00 रुपये देने पड़ेंगे। यह 25% हो गया। 8.00 रुपये का 25% 2.00 रुपये बन गया और वह 10.00 रुपये हो गया। यह बात मैं मानता हूँ। हालांकि अब 8.00 रुपये की जगह वह 10.00 रुपये देगा, लेकिन 12 साल के बाद यह बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। मैंने जो जिक्र किया है, अब आप अपनी-अपनी जगह यह अंदाजा भी लगा लीजिए कि बसों का किराया कितना बढ़ गया है? अगर एक यात्री 100 किलोमीटर का सफर करके, 10.00 रुपये में अपने स्थान पर, अपने रेलवे स्टेशन पर पहुंच गया, वहां से उसको 3 किलोमीटर का सफर भी करना पड़े तो या तो वह पैदल जाएगा या साइकिल रिक्शा लेगा। अगर वह साइकिल रिक्शा लेता है, तो भी उसे 50.00 रुपये लगेंगे या नहीं लगेंगे?

इस कारण मैं आपसे यह दरखास्त करता हूँ कि आप सब इसको इसी हिसाब से यहां भी कबूल करें कि हां, यह अनिवार्य था, इसकी जरूरत थी और इसी कारण हमें यह करना पड़ा।

इसके बाद जो दूसरा सवाल पूछा गया, मुझे उस पर थोड़ा खेद हुआ। जब मैंने अलग-अलग तरह के कुछ चार्जिज बढ़ाए, तो उस पर टिप्पणी की गई कि पीछे से जेब काट ली, चोरी से लोगों की जेब काट ली। यह बात तो मैंने सामने ही कही और उसके बारे में आपको बताया। अगर मैं आपको इसकी सच्चाई बताऊंगा तो आप इस बात पर मेरे साथ सहमत होंगे कि यह जरूरी था। उदाहरण के तौर पर रिज़र्वेशन चार्जिज़ और कैन्सलेशन चार्जिज़, इन दो चार्जिज़ का मैं पहले जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ।

[श्री पवन कुमार बंसल]

सर, रेलवेज़ में एडवांस बुकिंग 4 महीने पहले, यानी 120 दिन पहले खुल जाती है। सभी की यह शिकायत है और यह शिकायत वाज़िब भी है, क्योंकि मैंने भी वही देखा है। रेलवेज़ में हम अक्सर दलाल का जिक्र करते हैं कि दलाल टिकट ले लेते हैं और तीन-तीन गुना महंगी बेचते हैं। पांच सौ रुपये वाली टिकट को पन्द्रह-पन्द्रह सौ रुपये में बेचा जाता है। वे क्या करते हैं, जब बुकिंग शुरू होती है, तब जिन ट्रेन्स में ज्यादा रश रहता है, पहले ही दिन वे काफी ज्यादा टिकट खरीद लेते हैं, क्योंकि उतना पैसा वे लगा सकते हैं। जब औरों को टिकट नहीं मिलती, तो उतने दिन वे यह कोशिश करते रहते हैं कि उन टिकटों को ब्लैक में बेच दें। उनकी जितनी टिकटें ब्लैक में नहीं बिकती, जब चार महीने पूरे होने में एक दिन रह जाता है, 119वें दिन वे उसको वापिस कर देते हैं। अगर आप यह कहते हैं कि हमारे कैंसिलेशन चार्जिज़ ज्यादा नहीं होने चाहिए, तो कुछ रुपये देकर वह दलाल उसको कैंसिल करा लेगा, लेकिन तब तक उसने उसमें खूब मुनाफा कमा लिया होगा। इसलिए, मैं समझता हूँ कि इसको बढ़ाना जरूरी है और जितना बढ़ाया है, वह बहुत ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ाया गया है। समय का अभाव है, वैसे मैं उनका भी अलग-अलग जिक्र कर सकता हूँ कि कितना-कितना असर पड़ा है। सर, सेकंड क्लास पर रिजर्वेशन में और तत्काल में फर्क नहीं पड़ा। जो बात कैंसिलेशन की है, वही बात रिजर्वेशन के लिए भी है। अगर रिजर्वेशन का चार्ज थोड़ा-सा ज्यादा होगा, जो कि वापस नहीं मिलता या अगर कैंसिलेशन में भी थोड़ा काटा जाएगा, तो उससे मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई बहुत बड़े अंतर की बात मैं नहीं कह रहा हूँ। मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूँ कि इसमें तमाम तस्वीर बदल जाएगी, लेकिन इससे उसमें कुछ अन्तर अवश्य आएगा, कुछ अंकुश जरूर लगेगा।

सर, इसके साथ-साथ मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि दलालों को रोकने के लिए हमने और क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं। लोग बहुत तरह की ऑनलाइन बुकिंग करने लगे हैं। मैंने नंदन नीलकणि जी से दो मीटिंग्स खुद की हैं कि कैसे हम आधार सिस्टम को वहां ले आएं, कैसे हम उसके साथ बुकिंग वहां करवा पाएं और कैसे हैंड हेल्ड सेट्स आपके पास हों, ताकि ट्रेन में भी चेकिंग उसी के साथ हो जाए और कोई दिक्कत नहीं हो तथा हम यहां तक भी पहुंच जाएं कि आपके पास जो अपना मोबाइल फोन है, उस पर अगर अपनी कंगली लगाएं, तो उसी के साथ वहां रीडिंग हो जाएगी और उसके ज़रिए भी यह पता लग जाएगा कि आप ठीक टिकट के लिए बैठे हैं। इसके लिए हमें टेक्नोलॉजी का इस्तेमाल करना है। मैं इसमें भी आपको बता सकता हूँ कि उसमें कितना अन्तर पड़ा। अगर इन सब चीज़ों के लिए थोड़ा-थोड़ा पैसा या कहें कि बहुत कम पैसे देना पड़े, अगर वह बढ़ जाए, तो मुझे विश्वास है कि उससे कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ेगा। जिसे टिकट लेनी हो और उसे कैंसिल नहीं कराना हो, तो कोई बात नहीं। फिर, यही बात तत्काल के लिए भी कही जाती है कि आपने तत्काल का चार्ज बढ़ा दिया। मैं उसके लिए फिर कहता हूँ कि इसके सिस्टम में जो मॉलप्रैक्टिसेज़ या कुरीतियां आ गई हैं, उसको सुधारने के लिए यह एक छोटा-सा कदम उस

दिशा में है, ताकि आगे ये न हों, इसीलिए यह किया गया है। मैं बाहर के देशों का उदाहरण देना पसन्द नहीं करता, लेकिन मुझे मालूम है कि अगर आपने वहां पर एक दिन या एक-दो महीने पहले ट्रेन का कोई टिकट लिया हो, तो जितना नॉर्मल किराया होता है, उससे तीन गुना पैसा वहां देना पड़ जाता है। यहां तो यह 1/3 है, लेकिन वहां इसी के लिए 3 गुना पैसा देना पड़ जाता है, अगर एक दिन पहले भी आप ट्रेन का टिकट लें। इस तरह इसमें इतना अन्तर है। उनके साथ हमें अपनी तुलना नहीं करनी है, बल्कि हमें अपनी जगह पर इसे देखना है। मेरी गुजारिश सिर्फ यह है कि यह जो थोड़ा-थोड़ा बढ़ाया गया है, यह कोई बहुत बड़ी बढ़ोतरी नहीं है।

सर, एक तीसरा फैक्टर 'फ्यूल एडजस्टमेंट कॉम्पोनेन्ट' है। पहले मैंने 22 जनवरी से रेलवे का किराया बढ़ाने का जिक्र किया। जब उसको थोड़ा-थोड़ा बढ़ाया था, जिससे करेंट ईयर में 1600 करोड़ रुपये आने थे और अब नये साल में उसके साथ 6600 करोड़ रुपये से एक अतिरिक्त मॉपिंग अप होनी थी। इसका फैसला तो हमने पहले ले लिया था, लेकिन इसके दो-तीन दिन बाद ही बल्क डीज़ल की कीमत एकदम से 10 रुपये 80 पैसे बढ़ गई और उसका असर तो रेलवेज़ पर भी होगा। हमने अनुमान लगाया कि एकदम उसके बाद इससे एक वर्ष में कितना फर्क पड़ेगा, तो सिर्फ उस बढ़ोतरी के कारण 3300 करोड़ रुपए उसमें से निकल गए। इस तरह, हम जो 6600 करोड़ रुपए का सोच रहे थे, वह सिर्फ 3300 करोड़ ही रह गया। उसके साथ फिर बैंक टू स्क्वेयर वन यानी हमारी वही पोजिशन हो जानी थी। जो हम करना चाहते थे, फिर उसके कारण कर न पाते या अगर कोई और मामूली बेहतर प्रणाली में कहीं लाना चाहते, तो वह न ला पाते। इसलिए, हमारे साथ ऐसा आगे न हो, मैं उसी बात को आपके सामने लेकर आया हूं। लोक सभा ने उस बात को पास किया है। 'फ्यूल एडजस्टमेंट कॉम्पोनेन्ट' में यह है कि रेलवेज़ का जो कुल खर्च होता है, उसका कितना हिस्सा ईंधन पर लगता है? उसको अलग से बना कर रखा गया है, जोकि बहुत आसानी से वर्क आउट होता है। उसकी कीमत में आगे जितनी बढ़ोतरी होगी, उतने परसेंट इसको आगे बढ़ा देंगे। जो 10 रुपये 80 पैसे बढ़ा, और उससे कुछ समय पहले बिजली का रेट बढ़ा था, इस वर्ष में पिछले अप्रैल से वह सारा मिला कर इस एक साल के लिए पांच फीसदी बनता था। बिजली का रेट बढ़ा, पिछले अप्रैल के बाद डीज़ल का दाम बढ़ा और फिर इस बार जो डीज़ल का दाम बढ़ा, इन सभी को मिलाकर टोटल 5 परसेंट बनता था। वह मुझे 'फ्यूल एडजस्टमेंट कॉम्पोनेन्ट' के तौर पर लगाना पड़ा। पैसेजर्स का जो किराया था, वह अभी बढ़ाया था, तो उस पर नहीं लगाया, जोकि 860 या 880 करोड़ के लगभग बनता था। वह हमने नहीं किया, क्योंकि हम अभी उसमें बढ़ोतरी करके हटे थे, लेकिन जो माल भाड़े के लिए बनता था, वह लगाना फिर अनिवार्य हो गया था, वह लगाया गया है और मैं मानता हूं कि उससे थोड़ा-थोड़ा फर्क पड़ेगा।

सर, यहां एक बहुत अहम सवाल उठता है। मैं फिर आपके क्रॉस सब्सिडाइजेशन वाले सवाल पर आता हूं। आज के दिन क्रॉस सब्सिडाइजेशन बढ़ कर माल भाड़े की तरफ से

[श्री पवन कुमार बंसल]

25 हजार करोड़ रुपए यात्रियों के सफर पर खर्च होते हैं। क्या यह वाजिब है? टिकट वे लोग लेते हैं, जो खुद सफर करते हैं। जो खुद सफर करते हैं, क्या उनके लिए वे लोग भी पैसा दें, जो सफर नहीं करते हैं? अगर हम माल भाड़ा बढ़ाएंगे, तो उसका असर तो सभी वस्तुओं पर पड़ेगा। एक आदमी अगर ट्रेन पर सफर नहीं करता, लेकिन हम माल भाड़ा बढ़ाते रहे, बढ़ाते रहे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): We have been misquoted here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I have not quoted anyone. ..*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, are you yielding? ...*(Interruptions)*... He is not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I will come to you direct when I refer to the hon. Member's point. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will make a mention of what he said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: *

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: It is a fact that it is going on for decades and decades. I am only mentioning what is the present position prevailing in the system. I am only talking of that, Sir.

सर, वह इस साल के अंत तक बढ़ कर 25 हजार करोड़ तक पहुंच जाएगा। मैं यह समझता हूँ कि मैंने कुछ गलत नहीं कहा, अगर मैंने उदाहरण दिया है कि बहुत लोग गांव में झुग्गी-झोंपड़ी में रहते हैं, उनको कभी ट्रेन पर सफर करने का भी मौका नहीं मिलता है, जरूरत नहीं पड़ती है, लेकिन जो चीज़ वे बाजार में खरीदते हैं, अगर उसकी कीमत बढ़ती हो, तो उनको भी ज्यादा कीमत देनी पड़ती है। कोई आदमी या मैं ट्रेन में सफर करता हूँ, अगर मेरे ऊपर कुछ पैसा खर्च हो गया, तो क्या वह आदमी उसके लिए दे, जो ट्रेन से सफर नहीं करता है? हमें यह बात आगे के लिए सोचनी होगी। यह देखना होगा कि हम

*Not recorded.

क्रॉस सब्सिडाइजेशन कितनी कर सकते हैं। इसी के साथ एक दूसरा सवाल यह है कि किसी वक्त रेलवे जो माल ढोती थी, वह पूरे रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट का 80 परसेंट से ऊपर होता था। आज वह कम होकर 36 परसेंट रह गया है। Do you want us to price ourselves out of the market, Sir? जब कि इसकी जरूरत है, फ्यूल इफिशंट है। आप अंदाजा लगाइए कि अगर चार हजार होर्स पावर का एक इंजन अपने साथ 48 वैगन्स को लेकर चल सकता है, तो उसमें कितना माल जाएगा, दूसरी तरफ अगर उतना ही माल ट्रकों के जरिए भेजना पड़ेगा, तो उसके लिए 400 से ऊपर ट्रक लग जाएंगे। क्या ये सड़कों पर प्रदूषण नहीं फैलाएंगे? इन सभी बातों को देखते हुए हमें यह देखना जरूरी है कि जो हमारा माल भाड़ा का सेक्टर है, जो हमारा फ्रेट सेक्टर है, उस पर हम ऐसे बोझ न डालते रहें। इसके लिए हमें एक संतुलित एप्रोच रखनी पड़ेगी। मैं सिर्फ यही कहना चाहता हूं और मैं समझता हूं कि इस सदन के सभी सदस्य इस बात को मानेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय रेल मंत्री जी, यह 80 परसेंट से 36 परसेंट पर कैसे आ गया, इसका क्या कारण है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: एक सवाल मेरे सामने अक्सर आता है मुझे कहा जाता है कि यह काम तो आपका है, यह आपको देखना है कि आप पैसा कहां से लाएं, कैसे लाएं, हमें इस बात का नहीं पता, आप अपना काम कीजिए और ये सेवाएं दीजिए और साथ में चीन का उदाहरण दिया जाता है। वहां वह रेलवेज़ एक परसेंट ब्याज पर पैसा ले लेता है और लगा देती है, तो फिर तुलना करने की जरूरत नहीं है। लेकिन, अगर हमें बॉरो भी करना हो, तो हम सिर्फ रोलिंग स्टॉक के लिए बॉरो कर सकते हैं, क्योंकि रोलिंग स्टॉक में एकदम उसका रिटर्न मिल सकता है। नवीनीकरण, नई लाइनें बनाने के लिए, पुरानी लाइनों का नवीनीकरण करने के लिए, विद्युतीकरण के लिए, दोहरीकरण करने के लिए वह पैसा नहीं लग सकता है, क्योंकि उसका बहुत लंबा जेस्टेशन पीरियड होता है, पन्द्रह-पन्द्रह साल प्रोजेक्ट्स में निकल जाता है और ब्याज की दर कम से कम सात परसेंट है, अगर हमें JICA या वर्ल्ड बैंक से भी लेना हो। क्या उसके लिए वह कर सकते हैं? इसलिए, हमें फिर जरूरत है कि जो इंटरनल जेनरेशन है, उसके बिना उसका कोई विकल्प नहीं है। उसकी हमें जरूरत है। लगेगा कि शायद मैं कोई ऐसी बात कर रहा हूं, कोई संकेत दे रहा हूं और किराया बढ़ाने का, लेकिन मैं वह नहीं दे रहा हूं। मैंने कहा कि अभी नहीं बढ़ाना है, लेकिन यह सवाल हमारे सामने अहम है कि अगर हम बजट पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं, तो ये जो बुनियादी सवाल हैं, उन पर हमें अपना विचार जरूर रखना होगा कि इन चीजों को हमें कैसे करना है।

अगला सवाल आ जाता है कि आपके पास जमीन बहुत है, तो आप जमीन क्यों नहीं बेच देते हैं? यह सुन कर अच्छा लगता है। मैं भी जब तक यहां नहीं आया था, तब तक मुझे भी लगता था कि जमीन बहुत है, जगह-जगह रेलवेज की जमीन पड़ी है, अगर रेलवेज

[श्री पवन कुमार बंसल]

जमीन को बेच दें, तो पता नहीं आज कितना पैसा बना सकते हैं। मैं इसका रफ फिगर बता रहा हूँ। रेलवेज के पास 10 लाख एकड़ से ऊपर जमीन है, लेकिन 8 लाख एकड़ के ऊपर या तो पटरियां हैं या शेड्स हैं या गोदाम हैं या स्टेशन्स हैं, ऐसा है और उसके बाद 01 लाख 10 हजार एकड़ जमीन पर जंगल है। जो रेलवे ट्रैक्स के साथ है, वह लगभग 02 लाख एकड़ बन जाता है और वह आगे के लिए रखना जरूरी है। दोहरीकरण करना है, आज की बात नहीं है, लेकिन दस साल के बाद, बीस साल के बाद, तीस साल के बाद, पचास साल के बाद, सौ साल के बाद डबलिंग, ट्रिपलिंग क्वाड्रपलिंग और आगे-आगे बढ़ाना होगा, और ज्यादा लाइनें बनानी होंगी। यानी, जितनी ज्यादा जरूरत पड़ती है, उतनी जमीन रखनी पड़ती है। फिर मैं इस बात पर आया कि ऐसी कितनी खाली जमीनें हैं, जिनको हम बेच सकते हैं। उसके लिए हमने आर.एल.डी.ए. बनाया और पार्लियामेंट ने उसका क़ानून पास किया। इसके बाद शिनाख्त करके उनको कुछ जमीनें, 136 प्लॉट्स दे दी गयीं, जो तकरीबन 1500 और कुछ हेक्टेयर्स होती हैं और यदि उनको आप ढाई गुना कर दें, तो वे एकर्स में बदल जाएंगी। उनमें से कुछ प्लॉट्स को उन्होंने आइडेंटिफाई किया है कि उनका कैसे-कैसे उपयोग किया जा सकता है। उनसे कुछ हासिल करने के लिए चार प्लॉट्स पर मेरे आने से पहले उनकी ऐग्रीमेंट हो चुकी है। उन 136 में से मुम्बई का एक बड़ा प्लॉट है, जिसमें मैं समझता हूँ कि एक प्रोजेक्ट में 2500 करोड़ से ज्यादा आ सकता है। लेकिन, उसके साथ-साथ जो सीमाएं हैं, जिनके बीच आप काम कर सकते हैं, उनको देखते हुए हम उन पर काम करेंगे।

आखिर में बात आती है उन पर एन्क्रोचमेंट की। एन्क्रोचमेंट 2000 एकड़ जमीन पर है, जिनमें ज्यादातर झुग्गी-झोंपड़ी हैं अथवा कहीं कुछ और कहीं कुछ है। हमारे सामने यह सवाल है कि हम उन लोगों के लिए कैसे करें? मैं दिल्ली गवर्नमेंट और 'हपा', का जो कि अर्बन पॉवर्टी एलिविएशन का प्रोग्राम है, उस मिनिस्ट्री के साथ तथा हमारे पास मुम्बई से दो-तीन एमपीज़ की रिक्वेस्ट्स आयी हैं, उन सभी से जिक्र करके प्रधानमंत्री जी के पास जाकर, कैबिनेट के पास जाकर हम कुछ फैसला करना चाहेंगे कि हम उनके साथ कैसे क्या कर सकते हैं। इसमें यह हो सकता है कि कुछ पर मकान बना लें, बाकी जमीन खाली करके रेलवेज़ को दे दें अथवा मकान ऊंचे बना लें और जमीन रेलवेज़ को दे दें। अभी मैं उसकी बिल्कुल बुनियादी और एलिमेंट्री बात कर रहा हूँ कि उस तरह से हम उसका इस्तेमाल करना चाहेंगे।

स्क्रेप की भी बात है। मैंने यह खुद देखा है कि जगह-जगह स्क्रेप पड़ा है और वह बहुत अधिक पड़ा है। उसके बारे में मैंने बार-बार बात की है कि उस स्क्रेप का हमें एकदम कुछ न कुछ करना चाहिए, ताकि वह जंक न बन जाए। वैसे तो एक प्रोसेस है, उसके तहत हम कुछ न कुछ डिस्पोज़ ऑफ़ करते रहते हैं, लेकिन अंदाजा लगाया गया है

और हम समझते हैं कि इस साल (2013-14) 4500 करोड़ रुपये हम स्क्रैप से ही हासिल कर पाएंगे। सर, फाइनेंसिज़ के बारे में मेरा इतना ही कहना है।

मेरा यह फर्ज़ बनता है कि मैं एक बात का जिक्र करूँ, जिसे मैंने बजट स्पीच में भी कहा था, हालांकि यहां वह बात ज्यादा नहीं उठी कि मैंने रेल टैरिफ अथॉरिटी की बात भी की है। मैं समझता हूँ कि कुछ लोग मेरे साथ मुत्तफिक हो सकते हैं और कुछ नहीं भी हो सकते हैं कि यह सवाल हमारे लिए एक बहुत बड़ा राजनीतिक सवाल बन जाता है। जब रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी और सभी जगह हैं, तो क्यों न एक अच्छी और ऊंचे दर्जे की रेलवे टैरिफ रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी भी बन जाए? वह सभी चीज़ों को देख कर, सभी लोगों से बात करके, सभी की बात सुन कर अपना निर्णय दे, and that will always be subject to the decision of the Parliament. हमारी जो कमिटीज़ हैं, उनके पास उसकी रिपोर्ट जाएगी। अभी वह सिर्फ डिस्कशन स्टेज पर है और मैंने उसे इंटर-मिनिस्ट्रियल डिस्कशन के लिए भेजा है कि क्या उसकी सिफारिश हो या कि वह अनिवार्य हो जानी चाहिए। उस पर कैबिनेट अभी फैसला देगी, उसके बाद कानून में संशोधन करने की जरूरत होगी और जब दोनों सदन उसको पास करेंगे, तभी वह बात मानी जाएगी, लेकिन मैंने सोचा कि उसका जिक्र आपके सामने थोड़ा-सा कर दूँ।

सर, जैसा मैंने पहले कहा कि यह वाजिब है कि इतना बड़ा देश है, यहां इतनी रेल सेवाएं हैं, लेकिन अभी भी यहां कई इलाके ऐसे हैं, जो रेल से जुड़े नहीं हैं। उन सभी की यह मांग है, उनकी हमेशा से यह उम्मीद है, क्योंकि वे दूरदराज के इलाके हैं, जहां से एकदम से किसी ढंग का कोई माल-भाड़ा नहीं मिल सकता। अगर हम उनका सर्वेक्षण करें, तो उनमें जो रेट ऑफ रिटर्न होता है, वह पॉजिटिव नहीं हो सकता, क्योंकि हम उस सिचुएशन में फंस जाते हैं कि वहां अभी कोई काम नहीं है, वहां भाड़ा ढोने का कोई इंतजाम या जरूरत नहीं है, वहां कोई कारखाना आदि भी नहीं है, तो हम वहां से सिर्फ पैसेंजर्स सर्विस का अंदाजा लगाते हैं, जिससे रेट ऑफ रिटर्न हमेशा नेगेटिव रहता है। हमारी जो बंदिशें हैं, आज के दिन हमारे रिसोर्सिज़ की जो सिचुएशन है, कंस्ट्रेंट्स हैं, उनके कारण प्लानिंग कमीशन को वह मानना मुश्किल हो जाता है। ऐसे बहुत से इलाके पड़े हैं, जिनके लिए हम समय-समय पर सर्वे करते हैं। लेकिन, श्री बलबीर पुंज जी ने एक बात यह उठायी थी कि हमें एक ऐसा सिस्टम बना लेना चाहिए कि हम दोनों पार्ट्स को अलग कर दें। यानी, रेलवेज़ का एक व्यापारिक संस्थान के तौर पर जो काम है, वह एक तरफ हो। उसकी जो सोशल रिलिवेंस, सोशल इम्पोर्टेंस और सोशियोइकनॉमिक कंसिडरेशन की बात है, वह एक तरफ हो, लेकिन उसके साथ ही जो नेशनल इम्पोर्टेंस की बात है, वह एक बहुत अहम बात है और उसके लिए मुझे प्रसन्नता है। उसके बारे में मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री ने उस पर अलग से बल दिया है। जो नॉर्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स हैं, जम्मू-कश्मीर है और हिमाचल प्रदेश के भी कुछ इलाके हैं, उनके लिए डिफेंस फोर्सिज़ की तरफ से है और 13 ऐसे प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, जिनमें से ज्यादातर नॉर्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स के हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

3.00 P.M.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: What about Maoist-infested Jangalmahal, Sir?
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I will come to that. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: You have not given a single rupee. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I will come to that. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no, please.(Interruptions) Please do not interrupt. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: What have you done for Jangalmahal?
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek O' Brien, please don't interrupt.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I would only request the hon. Member to please let me finish. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no. ...(Interruptions)... Why do you do this?
...(Interruptions)... Mr. Derek O'Brien, please don't interrupt. ...(Interruptions)... No,
no. You are not permitted to speak now. ...(Interruptions)... Please take your seat.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: No, no. This is not a Bengal issue. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you do this? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Do something, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek O'Brien, please don't do that.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: We want development, Sir. ...(Interruptions)... He has mentioned everything. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not going on record. ...(Interruptions)... Listen to what the Minister is saying. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is correct. ...(Interruptions)... He has a right to say. ...(Interruptions)... You made your point during the discussion. ...(Interruptions)... Let him give the reply. ...(Interruptions)...

*Not recorded.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: *

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

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...
Nothing will go on record except what the Minister says.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I sat, all through the speech of the hon. Member listening to him without interruptions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, it is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, it is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: We will not listen.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, it is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, if the hon. Member insists on my not proceeding in the matter in my way, I would like to make it clear, Sir, that this project is in a preliminary stage of execution. Planning Commission has given in-principle approval to the project.

This is in the preliminary stage. The Planning Commission has given in-principle clearance to this project, subject to the State Government sharing 50 per cent of the cost. I am hopeful that the State Government will come forward if they are sincere about making that demand here, they will share 50 per cent of the cost. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming to what I was saying earlier.

श्री बलबीर पुंज (ओडिशा): हमारे भी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: मैं यह बात कर रहा था, क्योंकि उन्होंने चाहा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow the Minister to finish the reply.

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: नेशनल इंपोर्टेस के 11 प्रोजेक्ट का ऐलान किया हुआ है और इसमें नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के ज्यादा हैं। पहले तो इसमें ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: अब सुनिए, listen first. पहले सुनिए।

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Jiribam-Imphal (Tupul), new line; Bogibeel Bridge linking Dibrugarh and North Bank line, Dimapur-Zubza at new line; Teteila-Byrnihat, new line; BhairabhSairong, new line, Agartala-Sabroom, new line; Sivok-Rangpo, new line; Byrnihat-Shillong, new line; Lumding-Silchar-Jiribarr Badarpur-Kumarghat gauge conversion; Rangiya-Murkongselek, gauge conversion और उसके अलावा ऊधमपुर-श्रीनगर-बारामूला न्यू लाइन। ये नेशनल प्रोजेक्ट हैं। सर, उसके बाद, डिफेंस की तरफ से ...(व्यवधान)... कुछ strategic levies identify की गई हैं जिनके सर्वे take up किए गए हैं।

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, we are happy.

श्री तरुण विजय (उत्तराखंड): सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: अभी सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: अभी तो मैंने सब चीजों का जवाब नहीं दिया।

श्री उपसभापति: तरुण जी, सुनिए पहले। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: ऐसा लगता है कि माननीय सदस्य पूरी बात सुनना नहीं चाहते। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मि. तरुण, पहले सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: मुझे खेद है कि मैं जो बात कहना चाहता था, माननीय सदस्य मुझे यह बात कहने की इजाजत नहीं दे रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं यह बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि यह इल्जाम बिल्कुल बेबुनियाद है। यू.पी.ए. की सरकार किसी के बीच में कोई मतभेद नहीं समझती। मेरे पास सभी प्रांतों के एलोकेशन हैं, यदि आप समय देंगे तो मैं एक-एक प्रांत का पढ़कर सुना दूंगा। लेकिन अगर किसी वर्ष दो प्रांतों को बहुत ज्यादा मिल गया और वहां काम नहीं हो पाया किसी-न-किसी कारण, क्योंकि प्रांतों की जो अपनी जिम्मेदारी थी उसके अनुसार आधा पैसा उनको लगाना था, उन्होंने नहीं लगाया और वे सिर्फ केन्द्र सरकार का पैसा, रेलवे का पैसा लगवाकर उसको रोक देना चाहते हैं। अगर वहां कुछ कम कर दिया और अगर दूसरे प्रांतों की जरूरत है जिनका मैंने जिक्र किया, उन प्रांतों को वहां जरूरत है, वहां कुछ पैसा ज्यादा दे दिया, तो क्या हमने गुनाह कर दिया? इसलिए मैं आपको बताऊँ, अगर आप थोड़ी देर मुझे समय देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने आपको भी सुना है, मुझे थोड़ी देर आप बात करने देंगे तो मैं आपकी बातों का जवाब देने की कोशिश करूंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: पहले सुनिए, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: अब उसके अलावा पासीघाट-तेजू-रूपई-परशुराम कुंड न्यू लाइन है, जो नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की है। तिसमारी त्वांग न्यू लाइन, नॉर्थ लखीमपुर एलॉग्स सिल्वथर न्यू लाइन। अब इन्हें छोड़कर मैं कुछ दूसरे प्रोजेक्ट्स के नाम पढ़ लेता हूँ - पठानकोट लेह - न्यू लाइन, जम्मू-अखनूर-पुंछ, कर्णप्रयाग-चमोली, अनूपगढ़-चित्तौड़गढ़-मोतीगढ़-बीकानेर, ...(व्यवधान)... श्रीनगर-कारगिल-लेह, सरोद...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: यू.पी. की भी बता दीजिए।

डा. वी. मैत्रेयन (तमिलनाडु): रायबरेली।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, माननीय सदस्य ने रायबरेली का जैसे नाम लिया, मुझे सुनने से लगता है कि माननीय सदस्य ऐसा समझते हैं कि रायबरेली हिंदुस्तान में नहीं है।

श्री उपसभापति: नरेश जी, बैठिए।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, यूपी के लिए, लोक सभा में इनके लीडर्स ने जिन अलग-अलग चीजों का जिक्र किया, उनका जवाब मैंने लोक सभा में दिया है और वे मेरे जवाब से बिल्कुल संतुष्ट थे। सर, इटावा मेनपुरी न्यू लाइन के बारे में मैंने कहा कि वह काम पूरा हुए बिना नहीं रुकेगा।

श्री उपसभापति: नरेश जी, आप बैठिए। आपके लीडर संतुष्ट हैं। गहलोट जी, बैठिए।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: अगर आप ऐसे बोलेंगे तो कुछ बोलने में रह जाएगा। सर, कई चीजें जिन्हें मैं यहां शेयर करना चाहता था, उन्हें छोड़कर सीधे इन बातों पर आता हूँ। बिहार के लिए मुंगेर और पटना, दोनों पुलों के लिए अच्छा-खासा प्रावधान रखा गया है। सर, दोनों को मिलाकर साढ़े तीन सौ करोड़ से ज्यादा पैसा साल के लिए रखा है और पटना में गंगा ब्रिज के लिए पिछले साल 145 करोड़ था, इस साल 180 करोड़ रखा गया है। मुंगेर में गंगा ब्रिज के लिए पिछले साल 145 करोड़ था, लेकिन इस साल 175 करोड़ रखा गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: बैठिए, बैठिए। राम कृपाल जी बैठिए।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, स्टाफ के बारे में कई माननीय सदस्यों ने जिक्र किया है। ...(व्यवधान)... अभी मुझे बोलना है, अगर आप मुझे बोलने देंगे तो मैं जरूर पूरी बातों का जवाब दूंगा। सर, स्टाफ के बारे में मैंने कहा था कि इस साल 1,52,000 लोगों को हम विभिन्न श्रेणियों में भर्ती करेंगे और मैं प्रसन्नता के साथ कह रहा हूँ कि इस साल वह लक्ष्य पूरा हो जाएगा।

[श्री पवन कुमार बंसल]

महोदय, मैंने महिलाओं के लिए 10 फीसदी पोस्ट्स रखने का ऐलान किया था। मुझसे पूछा गया कि आपने 33 परसेंट क्यों नहीं किया? महोदय, इतना इसलिए किया है क्योंकि पहले बिल्कुल ही नहीं था और हमारा जो तकरीबन 14 लाख स्टाफ है, उसमें 76 हजार के लगभग महिलाएं ऑलरेडी काम कर रही हैं। महोदय, महिलाओं की सुरक्षा का प्रश्न हमारे लिए महत्वपूर्ण है, इसके लिए आरपीएफ में महिलाओं की चार कंपनियां तो पहले बन चुकी हैं और हमने 8 कम्पनीज उनके लिए और बढ़ानी हैं। इससे अब हम महिलाओं की भागीदारी और ज्यादा कर पाएंगे। हमारा प्रयास है कि उन्हें ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा सहूलियतें मिलें।

महोदय, पैसेजर्स एमिनिटीज की मांग बार-बार उठती है और वह वाजिब भी है। बड़े स्टेशंस पर एस्कलेटर्स लगाए जा रहे हैं। 122 एस्कलेटर्स लग चुके हैं, इसके बाद और लगेंगे।

महोदय, चूंकि मेरे फ्लो का बीच में फर्क पड़ गया, मैं बहुत सी बातों को छोड़ते हुए कहना चाहूंगा कि हम एस्कलेटर्स और लिफ्ट्स को अलग-अलग अहम स्टेशंस पर लगाएंगे। जहां-जहां संभव होगा, हम एल्डरली लोगों के लिए व्हील चेयर्स का इंतजाम स्टेशन के दोनों तरफ करेंगे - पहला प्लेटफार्म एक तरफ का और दूसरा प्लेटफार्म दूसरी तरफ का, एस्कलेटर्स एवं लिफ्ट्स लगने के बाद वे सभी जगह जा सकेंगे, लेकिन उतने समय तक दोनों प्लेटफार्म पर उनके लिए अलग-अलग जगह पर हम व्हील चेयर्स के इस्तेमाल का प्रावधान कर रहे हैं। सर, एक बहुत अहम प्रोजेक्ट, जिसका जिक्र यहां हुआ था और जो विजन डॉक्यूमेंट में भी है, उस डेडिकेटेड फ्रेट कॉरीडोर का क्या हुआ है? यह एक अहम सवाल है। इसके लिए यह कहते हुए मुझे प्रसन्नता है कि इसमें मुगल सराय से सोननगर तक आगे काम बढ़ा है और वर्ल्ड बैंक की जो फंडिंग है खुर्जा से कानपुर तक, जो ईस्टर्न डेडिकेटेड फ्रेट कॉरीडोर का 343 किलोमीटर है, उसके सिविल कंस्ट्रक्शन का जो काम है उसके लिए कांट्रैक्ट अवार्ड हो चुका है और वर्ल्ड बैंक से हमें उसके लिए 975 मिलियन डॉलर मिल चुके हैं। पहला फेज उसका साइन हो चुका है।

श्री बलवीर पुंज: कंपलीशन डेट क्या है?

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: इसका मैं मानता हूँ कि यह कंपलीशन मार्च, 2017 तक हो जाएगा। ...(व्यवधान)... टोटल मिलाकर, अगर आप कहेंगे, इसको भी मैंने शॉर्ट करते हुए कहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, what about the Dedicated Freight Corridor between Ernakulam and Coimbatore?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We have first selected two corridors. Now, we cannot possibly begin with all the identified Corridors. You have to first tie up

for funds. ...(*Interruptions*)... I agree with you entirely that there is a lot to be done. I don't deny that fact. I am not promising you the Moon on this Earth.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, it had been announced in the Budget that it has started ...(*Interruptions*)...

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

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Even if there is a Vision Document, I would own up all that. But it would be our sincere endeavour to see what is doable, what is practical. We can't just spread our wings without knowing what our resources are. Therefore, two projects had been identified, and it would be a matter of national honour if we could stick on to those two projects and complete them on time. Sir, I can say, with full confidence, that the Eastern Corridor and the Western Corridor are the two projects that we would be completing, partly with funds from the World Bank, partly with the Railway's own funds, partly through PPP and through the JICA, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency. We would be completing these projects with their support, and it would be a matter of national pride for us that we have built these two Dedicated Freight Corridors. On these two Dedicated Freight Corridors the freight would move uninterrupted. There would be no level crossings anywhere. The result would be that our present lines would be spared for faster and more passenger traffic. That is how we would be able to increase passenger traffic too. Only then would we be able to meet the demands for more trains and greater connectivity. We are in the process of building up coaches. We are becoming self-reliant as far as coaches, wagons and even locos are concerned. But the important thing is that we have to free our lines, and for that, it is essential that we have the Dedicated Freight Corridors. The country has the honour of entering the select club of countries such as USA, Russia and China, which carry one billion tonnes of goods every year. India is the fourth country in that list.

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA (Odisha): I want an assurance from the hon. Minister about the extension of the Eastern Corridor up to Behrampur.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister complete. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA: Sir, this relates to the Eastern Corridor...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, we want an assurance from the Minister on that. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has extended it from Ludhiana to Dankuni ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, allow him to complete. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: It is from Ludhiana to Dankuni. I am talking about the entire project. After the contracts are awarded.

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA: Sir, we only want an assurance from the Minister on that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I can't give an assurance, but I do look forward to the completion of the project within four years after the contract is awarded. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete the reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, this is a project in which more than 86 per cent of the land has been acquired, despite resistance at certain places. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA: Sir, we want an assurance from the Minister on that ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I am saying that we look forward to completing it within four years of the award of the contract. Now, there are three different phases in which we are working. Every phase will be completed within four years of the award of the contract. And, we are working. One contract has been awarded, while the other will be awarded in the next few days.

सर, सुरक्षा का एक बहुत अहम सवाल है। सभी लोगों के लिए संरक्षा और सुरक्षा, सेफ्टी एंड सिक्योरिटी, दोनों का अहम सवाल है। हमने इसके लिए फंड्स की एलोकेशन बढ़ाई है। मैंने यह कहा है कि अगर हमने कोई किराए में या भाड़े में बढ़ोतरी की है, उसके लिए we have to provide commensurate services to the people. सेफ्टी पर जो टोटल राशि है, वह पिछले साल से इस साल बढ़ाई है। साल 2102-13 में इसके लिए 36,541 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान था जो इस साल 2013-14 के लिए 36,541 से बढ़ाकर 41,112 करोड़ रुपए कर दिया है। इसके लिए हमारा प्रयास यह होगा कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, let him complete. ...(*Interruptions*)... You cannot interrupt like this. He is not yielding.

श्री बलवीर पुंज: सर, रिवाइज्ड एस्टिमेट के मुकाबले कितना है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... उन्हें खत्म करने दीजिए। Continue please.

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, मैं प्रसन्नता के साथ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ तो हमने जो फ्रीडम फाइटर्स हैं, उनके लिए लोक सभा में यह ऐलान किया था कि उनको अपना नवीनीकरण जो एक साल बाद कराना पड़ता है, उसको हमने बढ़ाकर तीन साल कर दिया है। अब मैं यहां प्रसन्नता के साथ ऐलान करना चाहता हूँ कि जो गैलन्ट्री अवार्डीज हैं, उनके लिए भी यही होगा कि उनको हर वर्ष डी.आर.एम. के ऑफिस में अपने नवीनीकरण के लिए नहीं जाना पड़ेगा, उनका नवीनीकरण भी तीन साल के लिए होगा।

दूसरे, जिनको परमवीर चक्र, महावीर चक्र मिला हुआ है, तो इस वक्त देश में बहुत कम है, तीन एक कैटेगरी में हैं और दूसरी में 51 हैं, तो उन सभी को ए.सी. फर्स्ट क्लास और ए.सी. एक्जिक्यूटिव क्लास में अपने कम्पैनिशन के साथ सफर करने का मौका मिलेगा। मुझे यह मालूम हुआ कि बहुत दूर-दराज के इलाकों में, जैसे जम्मू-कश्मीर में, हिमाचल प्रदेश में, वहां हमारे वे सिपाही रहते हैं, जिन पर देश को फख्र है, जो गैलन्ट्री अवार्डीज हैं, उनको भी डी.आर.एम. के दफ्तर में, जो मैनेजर का डिविजनल रेलवे ऑफिस होता है, वहां आने में काफी दिक्कत होती है और कभी उनको सफर करना होता है, कभी नहीं, पर उनको वहां आना पड़ता है। इसके लिए भी मैंने अफसरों को इस बात की हिदायत दी है कि हम जल्द ही इस पर फैसला ले लें कि वे एक बार शुरू में पास लेने के लिए वहां जाएं, लेकिन उसके बाद तीन साल बाद जब उसका रिन्यूअल हो, नवीनीकरण हो, तब वे अपनी जगह से बैठे-बैठे ही लिख दें और किसी सिस्टम के थ्रू उनका रिन्यूअल होता रहे और उनको वहां जाने की परेशानी न हो। यह हम उनके लिए करेंगे।

सर, मैं अपनी बात को कम करते हुए कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब मैंने अपनी बजट स्पीच वहां पेश की, उसके बाद मुझे माननीय सदस्य मिलते रहे। कुछ चीजों का ऐलान मैंने लोक सभा में किया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Oscarji, I think, let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him complete the reply.

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: बहुत चीजों का, जिनका ऐलान मैंने वहां किया, उन सभी का जिक्र मैं यहां नहीं करना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन जो-जो बातें इधर उठीं और उनसे ताल्लुक रखती हैं और जो उधर कहा था, सिर्फ उन्हीं को संक्षेप में कहना चाहूंगा। एक तो नई लाइन के लिए पुणे-नासिक, दूसरा मनमाड-इंदौर वाया मालेगांव और धुले के लिए मैंने साफ कहा है और तीसरा, अजमेर टू सवाई माधोपुर वाया टोंक है। तो इन तीन लाइनों के लिए भी शर्त वही है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स 100 परसेंट जमीन इसके लिए हमें दें और साथ ही 50 परसेंट खर्चा दें, इसके लिए मैं उनसे रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा।

[श्री पवन कुमार बंसल]

सर, बाराबंकी-फैजाबाद-अयोध्या-जाफराबाद, इसकी डबलिंग का सर्वे के लिए भी मैंने वहां ऐलान किया है और तीव्र गति के साथ इसको भी हम कराएंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री ईश्वरलाल शंकरलाल जैन (महाराष्ट्र): सर, आपने नासिक और पुणे का जो ऐलान किया है, इसमें 50 परसेंट जमीन पूरी नहीं दे रहे हैं, जबकि 50 परसेंट जमीन स्टेट गवर्नमेंट तो वहन करने के लिए तैयार है।

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री ईश्वरलाल शंकरलाल जैन: परंतु जमीन में भी 50 परसेंट सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने रेलवेज को देनी होगी।

श्री उपसभापति: आप मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, नई लाइन्स के प्रोजेक्ट छोटा उदयपुर-धार और दूसरा दाहौद-इंदौर वाया धार, इनके लिए भी मैंने कहा है कि तीव्र गति से हम इनके काम को आगे बढ़ाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

सर, इसके साथ-साथ फिर Merrut-Muzaffarnagar doubling, gauge conversion of Madhepura-Purnea, Dholpur-Sirmutta and extension to Gangapur, new line project of Gulbarga-Bedar-Munirabad-Mahabubnagar and Gaya-Chatra इनके लिए भी। ask them to expedite the project.

सर, दूसरा जिक्र मैंने अभी कर दिया है, साथ ही यू.पी. के लिए कह दूं कि उस तरफ मेरे पास यह बात उठी थी, मुझसे अनुरोध किया गया था कि रामबाग-लखनऊ के बीच में जो लेवल क्रॉसिंग है, उसको हटाने के लिए एक बाइपास लाइन की स्वीकृति दें, तो मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि इस पर 52 करोड़ की लागत पर काम शुरू किया जाएगा।

सर, मैंने बहुत ट्रेनों का पहले ऐलान किया था और आज सुबह प्रश्न-काल में जब काकोडकर कमिटी की रिपोर्ट का जिक्र आया था कि उनकी सेप्टी के लिए उनकी क्या-क्या सिफारिशें हैं, तो मैंने आज सुबह इस सदन को बताया था कि 106 सिफारिशों में से एक सिफारिश यह है कि नई ट्रेनें न चलाई जाएं और जिन बातों का यहां जिक्र हुआ था कि रेल पटरी पर नहीं चल रही है, तो उनके लिए मैंने यह कहा था कि रेल पटरी पर तब नहीं चलती है, जब हम गाड़ियां ज्यादा चला देते हैं। लेकिन फिर भी यह लोगों की जरूरत है, उनकी इस जरूरत को हमारे माननीय सदस्य यहां दर्शाते हैं, उसकी मांग करते हैं। उस मांग को मानते हुए मैंने सिर्फ 19 गाड़ियों को चलाने के बारे में कहा था, तीन के एक्सटेंशन का कहा और पांच की फ्रीक्वेंसी बढ़ाने के लिए कहा था। बहुत सी गाड़ियों की फ्रीक्वेंसी के बारे में मैंने कुछ ऐलान किया था। इस प्रकार किसी की फ्रीक्वेंसी वीकली से बाय वीकली हो जाएगी और कोई हफ्ते में तीन दिन हो जाएगी।

महोदय, वह सवाल, जिसके लिए बार-बार श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना जी उठने की कोशिश करते हैं, लेकिन मेरे इशारा करने पर बैठ जाते हैं, मुझे लगता है कि शायद उस बात को मैं पहले कह दूँ। उन्होंने कहा था कि अमृतसर की जो ट्रेन्स हैं, उनमें से एक ट्रेन का नाम दुर्गियाना मंदिर एक्सप्रेस होना चाहिए। इस बात को हम मान रहे हैं। जो अमृतसर-हावड़ा एक्सप्रेस है, इसको हम दुरग्याना मंदिर एक्सप्रेस कहेंगे। श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत जी ने अपने वक्तव्य में कहा था, जिसके बारे में अब भी उन्होंने दो बार कहा, कि मैंने मध्य प्रदेश की बातों का जिक्र नहीं किया। बहुत सी ऐसी बातें हैं जो मैं आपको गिना सकता हूँ, लेकिन एक-दो के बारे में, जिनको शायद आप सुनना चाहते हैं, मैं यहां कहना चाहता हूँ। आपने पांच सर्वेज की तरफ इशारा किया था, उनमें से ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): I have made an important request. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I have made the announcements. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, there is no announcement regarding south India ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Seelam, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I will read the entire list. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is reading. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप सुनिए। Please, listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... प्लीज, आप सुनिए।

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I have read ...*(Interruptions)*... That I have already announced. Everything need not be announcement again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is there. You know it.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I want to make one point clear. There were many announcements by me in the other House which are now in the public domain. I am not required to announce them again.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is in public domain.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I have referred to only some announcements ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, when it is already in the public domain, what is the need? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार): रेल मंत्री जी बिहार के बारे में भी कुछ कहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बिहार को भी कुछ दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, मैं एक दो बातें और कहना चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You know what those trains are. You know it. It is in the newspapers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: बिहार के कारखाने का क्या होगा? वह बना हुआ है लेकिन उसे चालू नहीं कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: एक ट्रेन दुर्ग से ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत (मध्य प्रदेश): मंत्री महोदय, आप सर्वेज के बारे में कुछ बता रहे थे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आप सुनिए। गहलोत जी, सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: मैंने हिदायत दी है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक सर्वे मई में पूरा हो जाएगा और दूसरे में आगे बढ़ेंगे। दूसरा, जो ट्रेक्शन ऑल्टरनेटर मेनुफैक्चरिंग फैक्टरी, विदिशा में लगनी है, जो पिछली बार सैंक्शन हुई है, and, considering the complexity of Traction Alternators, specifications for its indigenisation development are being firmed up. Tender for appointment of consultant for bid process management is under finalisation. I have directed the officials to expedite the matter. वह अभी बिल्कुल प्रिलिमनरी स्टेज पर है, लेकिन वह काम आगे बढ़ेगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसके साथ-साथ एक बीना-भोपाल MEMU ट्रेन चलाने के बारे में कहा गया था, मुझे पता लगा कि वह भी पहले का कहा हुआ है, वह आठ कोचेज की MEMU ट्रेन जल्दी ही वहां चलनी शुरू हो जाएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शशी भुषण बेहेरा: ओडिशा के बारे में आपका क्या कहना है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, एक ट्रेन पहले सारनाथ एक्सप्रेस के नाम से दुर्ग से छपरा जाती थी, उसके एक्सटेंशन की मांग हुई और मैंने दोनों तरफ उसकी एक्सटेंशन कर दी है, एक तरफ गोंदिया के लिए और दूसरी तरफ मुजफ्फरपुर के लिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर आप लोग मुझे दो मिनट कहने देंगे तो मैं अपनी बात कहूँ, नहीं तो मैं यहीं खत्म कर सकता हूँ, मैंने बहुत सी बातें कही हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, what about South India? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, allow the Minister to complete his reply.
...(Interruptions)... आप लोग बैठिए।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, क्योंकि उस ट्रेन की मांग बहुत उठ रही थी, वहां के लोगों की बहुत मांग थी इसलिए वह ट्रेन, जिसका पहले ऐलान किया, वह है। इसके अलावा एक और नयी ट्रेन, दुर्ग से छपरा, पूरे हफ्ते, रोज चलाई जाएगी। इस प्रकार जो पहली ट्रेन है, वह भी रहेगी और उसके अलावा एक नयी ट्रेन और चल जाएगी। Also, 12455/12456 Delhi Sarai Rohilla to Sri Ganganagar Express (Tri-weekly) will be run as a daily train and 11125/11126 Indore-Gwalior Express will be extended from Gwalior to Jhansi after completion of necessary infrastructural works at Jhansi.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: कारखाने का क्या हुआ? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, मैं उन चीजों के बारे में पहले कह चुका हूं। एक ट्रेन और बहुत अहम थी, जिसका मैं जिक्र करना चाहता हूं। एक ट्रेन नागपुर से अजमेर तक चलाने की बहुत मांग थी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जो छपरा में रेल कारखाना है, उसे आप चालू करवाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: यह अजमेर के लिए बहुत बड़ी मांग थी, नागपुर से अजमेर के लिए, वह मांग मान ली है और यह ट्रेन चलेगी। मैं दो सर्वे का और जिक्र करना चाहता हूं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं राम कृपाल जी की मांग से सहमत हूं। आप छपरा का रेल कारखाना जल्दी से शुरू करवाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: साहीपुर-बिथूर और उन्नाव-पूर्वा, मरवाऊ-लखनऊ न्यू लाइन के सर्वे को जल्दी करने के लिए मैंने कहा है। माननीय सदस्यों ने जिन और चीजों को जिक्र किया है ...(व्यवधान)... यह मैं मानता हूं कि बहुत जरूरतें हैं, बहुत मांगें हैं, जैसा कि मैंने पहले अपने रेल बजट के भाषण में कहा था और जब बाद में उधर से जवाब में कहा, तो बहुत मांगें उनकी मांगी गई हैं, उनका जिक्र मैंने नहीं किया है। इसके अलावा बहुत ऐसी मांगें हैं, जिनके बारे में, मैंने शुरुआत में कहा था कि उनकी बहुत जरूरत है, लेकिन हमारे जो संसाधन हैं, उन्हीं के हिसाब से हमने काम करना है। हमारा थ्रो फॉरवर्ड एक लाख 50 हजार करोड़ का इन प्रोजेक्ट्स का है। उस पैसे को अगर हम थोड़ा-थोड़ा बिछाते रहेंगे, that thin-spread will lead us nowhere. इसलिए यह जरूरत है और कहा गया है कि प्रायोरिटी पर हम कुछ प्रोजेक्ट्स को करें, तो अच्छा रहेगा और ऐसा हमने तय किया है। जिन प्रोजेक्ट्स को हम प्राथमिकता पर लेकर करेंगे, उनको हम जल्दी से जल्दी समाप्त करेंगे। सर, इन शब्दों के साथ, मैं अपनी बात खत्म करता हूं।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, एक सवाल हम भी माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहते हैं।
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Oscar Fernandes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the Railway Minister has forgotten that there is a State called Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is very unfortunate.

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Oscar Fernandes, please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... You please sit down. I have called Mr. Oscar Fernandes.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Karnataka): Hon. Railway Minister, my appeal to you is to give us a direct Express Train from Bangalore to Mangalore, without diverting the train to anywhere. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, मेरा नाम कल था, लेकिन मैं जानबूझकर नहीं बोला। मैं रेल मिनिस्टर रहा हूँ। मैं इनकी सारी कठिनाइयों को जानता हूँ और इनको धन्यवाद भी देता हूँ कि विकट परिस्थितियों में इन्होंने रेलवे का बजट इतने अच्छे ढंग से पेश किया है, इसके लिए इनको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Seek the clarification.

श्री रामविलास पासवान: एक छोटा सा गरीब लोगों का काम है, उसके लिए मैं हर रेल मंत्री से बोलता रहा हूँ। हमने अपने समय में रेल के कुली को गर्म कपड़ा दिया, उनको फ्री में पास दिया, उनके लिए विश्राम गृह का निर्माण किया, 57 हजार केजुअल लेबर को परमानेंट किया। उसके बाद, मैं एक आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ। लालू जी रेल मंत्री बने, उन्होंने एक साल के लिए उनको रेलवे में गैंगमेन के लिए प्रमोशन दिया। मैं मंत्री जी से भी मिला था। मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो कुली है, लाइसेंसी पोर्टर है, वह बेचारा सबसे गरीब है, वह गरीब परिवार से आता है, आप उसको कोई रियायत मत दीजिए, लेकिन ग्रुप "डी" में जो बहाली होती है, उस ग्रुप "डी" की बहाली में उसके लिए जो क्वालिफिकेशन है, उसके मुताबिक कुछ सीटें उनके लिए आरक्षित कर दीजिए। ...*(समय की घंटी)*... उनको विश्राम की सुविधा दीजिए। उनको फैमिली पास दीजिए। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से इस संबंध में मिला था और मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी इसका जवाब देंगे।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि एक विषय जो राम कृपाल जी ने उठाया है, आप उसकी तरफ ध्यान दीजिए। छपरा में कारखाना बनकर तैयार है, जब लालू जी रेल मंत्री थे तब वह बनाया गया था। पूरे बिहार का आपसे आग्रह है कि आप उसकी शुरुआत करिए। मैं भी आपसे आग्रह कर रहा हूँ कि कुछ मामलों में पॉलिटिक्स से ऊपर उठकर कार्यवाही करने की जरूरत है। इतना भारत सरकार का पैसा उसमें लगा हुआ है। आप उसकी घोषणा करिए, यह मैं आपसे आग्रह कर रहा हूँ।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: सर, माननीय सदस्य इस बात को जानते हैं कि उसका फार्मल अनाउंसमेंट उस वक्त होता है जब उसकी कर्माधिकारी प्रोडक्शन शुरू हो जाए। वह तकरीबन सब तरह से पूरा हो गया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि महीने तक उसका उद्घाटन किया जा सकता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the Railway Minister has forgotten that on the Railway Map of India, there is a State called Tamil Nadu. Members from our State had made so many representations yesterday. He has not take note of it. सर, हमें भी एक नजर देख लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री ईश्वरलाल शंकरलाल जैन: सर, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने महाराष्ट्र की योजनाओं के बारे में जिक्र किया। नासिक-पूना और मनमाड से इंदौर के लिए जो कंडीशंस रखी हैं, उसके अंदर 50 परसेंट खर्च का बोझ स्टेट गवर्नमेंट लेने के लिए तैयार है। परन्तु यहां पर एडिशनल कंडिशन डाली गई है ...**(व्यवधान)**... जमीन फ्री ली जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, जमीन ही तो प्रोजेक्ट की कोस्ट है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री जेसुदासु सीलम: सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नंदी येल्लैया: सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: आप लोग बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... I will call you. Why don't cooperate. I will call you. Sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... If you cooperate I will gie you time. ...**(Interruptions)**... If you cooperate, I can. ...**(Interruptions)**... What is this? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री ईश्वरलाल शंकरलाल जैन: सर, मेरी बात पूरी नहीं हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: हो गया, हो गया, आप बैठिए। नरेश जी आप पूछिए।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: महोदय, मेरी बहुत छोटी सी गुजारिश है, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी, लखनऊ से मुंबई ...**(व्यवधान)**... और लखनऊ से देहरादून इन दो जगहों पर बहुत यात्री जाते हैं और यहां ट्रेनों की सुविधा बहुत कम है। आप इस बारे में कोई घोषणा करेंगे?

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ask your demand.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Nadikudi-Bibinagar, Kovvur-Bhadrachalam and Ramagundam-Kothagudem are vital lines not only for Andhra Pradesh but also for the entire south India. A second line from Nadikudi to Srikalahasti will ease ...**(Interruptions)**... traffic to Kerala, to Tamil Nadu, to Karnataka. Secondly, a direct train from Mangalore to Bangalore will help passengers of Andhra Pradesh to go to Mangalore directly.

[Shri Jesudasu Seelam]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Nominated): Sir, there was already a medium gauge line between Tharangambadi and Mayiladuturai. I am requesting you to re-establish it as a broad gauge line so that we can have a complete secular circuit. It will take in the big church of Vailankanni, it will take in the Muslim shrine of Nagore Shariff and it will take in several Hindu temples which are existing around Mayiladuturai.

डा. विजयलक्ष्मी साधो (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो इन्दौर-मनमाड और इंदौर-दाहोद के लिए ट्रेन चलाई है, मैं इसके लिए उनको धन्यवाद देती हूँ। नर्मदा नदी पर इंदिरा सागर, ओंकारेश्वर और महेश्वर तीन हाईड्रो प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं और यह टूरिस्ट स्पॉट है। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन है कि इंदौर मनमाड के साथ इस महेश्वर को भी जोड़ा जाए, क्योंकि वह इससे बिल्कुल टच करता हुआ है। यह महेश्वर बहुत बड़ा हिस्टोरिकल प्लेस है, इसलिए इसको ट्रेन से जोड़ा जाना जरूरी है।

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): सर, मैंने अपने भाषण के दौरान अनुरोध किया था कि अजमेर ...*(व्यवधान)*... मेरी मंत्री महोदय से यह मांग है कि जो अजमेर का रेलवे अस्पताल है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसकी बदहली और कमियों को दूर करने की कार्यवाही करें। ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो घोषणा पूर्व रेल मंत्री, लालू प्रसाद जी ने की थी कि उसको विश्व स्तर का स्टेशन बनाया जाएगा, उसको विश्व स्तर का स्टेशन बनाने के लिए कार्यवाही की जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए, बैठिए। You can write. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा प्रभा ठाकुर: इस पर ज्यादा ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है, क्योंकि वहां ज्यादा टूरिस्ट आते हैं।

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Hon. Minister, on the medical and humanity ground, can I have a request to the hon. Minister? Hundreds of cancer patients travel daily from North-Eastern Region to Bombay for their treatment. ...*(Time-bell rings)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, that's enough. Now, Mr. Balagopal.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, can the hon. Railway Minister arrange ...*(Time-bell rings)*... a super fast train between Guwahati and Bombay for the cancer patients?

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, I wish to make only three-four points. One is, we asked for a daily Rajdhani. It is going to Mumbai and Goa through Konkan route. So, it should be made daily. We asked for that, but nothing came from the Minister. Then, we asked for a coach factory. Sir, Raebareli is in India, but Palghat is also in India. It was announced at the same time, but it is not yet done. And, the wagon factory which is ...*(Time-bell rings)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: One more point, Sir. The licences of all the vendors in Kerala were cancelled. That issue is also very important, Sir. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Hundreds and thousands of people are there, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)... Its over now. ...(*Interruptions*)... Other hon. Members, if you have anything to ask, you can write to the Minister, and I hope the hon. Minister will reply to them. Also, for these requests, the hon. Minister, if you wish, you can reply now. Otherwise, you can write to them, as you please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I will try to write to all the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion and to the others also as to what are the points they have raised and what is our response thereto. Thank you.

श्री रामविलास पासवान : कुलियों के लिए तो बोलिए।

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल: बाकी बातों को तो ज्यादा देखने की जरूरत है। कुलियों के लिए मैंने एक चीज कही है, क्योंकि मुझे मालूम हुआ है कि कुछ कुली, जो पहले उधर चले गए थे, वे वापस आने के लिए भी कहते रहे, लेकिन उनके आराम के लिए जो जगह है, मैंने उसके लिए कहा है कि उनके आराम के लिए एक अच्छी जगह होनी चाहिए।

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS (Contd.)

Approval of recommendations contained in third report of the Railway Convention Committee (2009)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I shall put the Resolution moved by Shri K.J. Surya Prakash Reddy on the 12th March, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That this House approves the recommendations contained in Paras 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 79, 80, 81 and 82 of the Third Report of the Railway Convention Committee (2009), appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Under-taking to General Revenues, etc., which was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 18th May, 2012.

The motion was adopted.

GOVERNMENT BILLS**The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2013,****The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2013****and****The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 2013**

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I move:

That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2013-14 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I also move:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2012-13 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I also move:

That the Bill to provide for authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2011 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I shall put the Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2013-14 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I beg to move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I will put the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2012-13 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I beg to move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I will put the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to provide for authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2011 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION

Taking necessary legal, administrative and financial decisions and creating conducive atmosphere for working classes

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the Private Members' Business. Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya to continue his speech. The Private Members' Business will be for two-and-a-half hours from now onwards.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात): सम्माननीय उपसभापति जी, प्रकाश जावडेकर जी जो संकल्प लेकर आए हैं, उसका समर्थन करने के लिए मैं सदन में खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

(उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तिरुची शिवा) पीठासीन हुए)

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हमारे गुजरात के मूर्धन्य साहित्यकार माखन देसाई ने एक सुभाषित लिखी थी। उस सुभाषित में उन्होंने कहा था, * आज हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में यह स्थिति बनी हुई है कि हमारे गरीब के यहां अपना चूल्हा जलाने के लिए, अपने परिवार के लिए तेल की एक बूंद लाना भी उनके लिए कठिन हो जाता है और दूसरी वास्तविकता यह है कि अमीरों के यहां अपने परिवार की कब्रों पर घी के दीये जलाए जाते हैं। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि आजादी के बाद हमारे देश की जो स्थिति बनी है, हमारे देश की परिस्थिति ने जो मोड़ लिया है, उसमें यह स्थिति बनी है कि गरीब लोग गरीब ही बन रहे हैं, मजदूर लोग मजदूर ही रह गए हैं और समृद्ध लोग ही समृद्ध होते जा रहे हैं। उसका कारण क्या है? सुबह जब बात हो रही थी कि जो दो दिन की हड़ताल हुई, मुझे लगता है कि बारिश के पहले जो साइलेंस होता है, कहीं वैसी स्थिति तो अभी नहीं बन रही है! यह हड़ताल क्यों हुई थी? देश में महंगाई बढ़ रही है। देश में महंगाई बढ़ने के साथ गरीबों की इनकम नहीं बढ़ रही है। गरीब, गरीब ही बन रहा है और अमीर, अमीर ही बन रहा है। मुझे लगता है कि यह बहुत गंभीर बात है। इसलिए उसके बारे में हमें गंभीरता से सोचना पड़ेगा। हम अपने देश को आगे ले जाना चाहते हैं, हमारे देश का विकास करना चाहते हैं। हमारे देश में 40 करोड़ से ज्यादा मजदूर लोग हैं। जब हम उनकी चिन्ता नहीं कर सकते, तो हमारा देश आगे कैसे बढ़ सकता है? प्राचीन काल में आचार्य चाणक्य ने कहा था यदि आप अपने देश को समृद्ध बनाना चाहते हैं, तो देश में हुनर होना चाहिए, देश में व्यापार होना चाहिए, सब लोगों को रोजगार मिलना चाहिए। इसके आधार पर आगे यह विचार बढ़ता चला। महात्मा गांधी जी ने 1935 में एक पुस्तक लिखी थी, जिसका नाम था 'मेरे सपनों का भारत'। उसमें उन्होंने विचार दिया था कि हिन्दुस्तान कैसा होना चाहिए। उसमें उन्होंने ग्राम स्वराज का विचार दिया था। जब हमारे देश में ग्राम स्वराज बनेगा, क्योंकि हमारे देश की ज्यादा आबादी गांवों में बसती है, जब दो-तिहाई लोग गांवों में बसते हैं, तो गांवों का विचार किए बिना हम राष्ट्र का विकास नहीं कर सकते। इसलिए हमारे विकास का जो रूट है, वह गांव है। अगर हम गांवों से ही विकास करने की बात सोचें, तो ही हमारा विकास आगे बढ़ सकता है। लेकिन दुर्भाग्यवश जब से हिन्दुस्तान आजाद हुआ, तब से अब तक हमारे यहां गांवों को पीछे धकेला गया है। यहां गरीबी की बात तो बहुत होती है, गरीबी का नारा भी बहुत लगता है, गरीबी के नाम पर वोट भी बांटे जाते हैं, लेकिन गरीब के बारे में कभी सोचा नहीं जाता है। अगर गंभीरता से सोचा जाता, तो ऐसी स्थिति नहीं होती। हमारे राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी जी ने दर्शन दिया था कि देश को कैसे आबाद करना है, देश को कैसे समृद्ध करना है। मुझे लगता है कि यह पुस्तक

*The hon. Member Spoke in Gujarati.

सभी को पढ़नी चाहिए। उनके मन में क्या था, उनके मन में क्या सोच थी, उसके आधार पर हम हिन्दुस्तान क्यों नहीं बनाना चाहते? अभी हम हिन्दुस्तान को कहां ले जाना चाहते हैं? अभी हम विश्व के सामने देखते हैं कि समय बदल रहा है। अगर हम समय के साथ नहीं बदलेंगे, तो हमें इसका परिणाम भुगतना पड़ेगा। सारा विश्व महात्मा गांधी से प्रेरणा लेता है। वह उनके दिए हुए एक्सटेंशन के सिद्धांत को एक्सेप्ट कर रहा है और हम उससे भाग रहे हैं। मुझे लगता है कि अगर इसी तरह से हमारा देश गांधी जी की सोच के आधार पर चलाया गया होता, तो आज जो स्थिति आ गई है, वैसी स्थिति नहीं आई होती।

सर, हमारे देश में मजदूर की जो हालत है, इसके लिए गांधी जी ने बहुत उचित चिन्तन दिया था। बाद में हमारी पार्टी के दार्शनिक नेता श्री दीन दयाल उपाध्याय जी ने भी हमको एकात्मता और मानवतावाद का दर्शन बताया। उन्होंने कहा था कि हर हाथ को काम और हर खेत को पानी मिलना चाहिए। यह कितना बढ़िया विचार है कि हर खेत को पानी मिले। जब हर खेत को पानी मिलेगा तभी रोजगार बढ़ेगा, किसान समृद्ध होगा, गांव में लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा और जब गांव में लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा, तभी उसकी गरीबी हटेगी, लेकिन इस बारे में हमने कभी विचार नहीं किया। आज भी हम ऊपर-ऊपर ही विचार कर रहे हैं। हर खेत को पानी देने के लिए हिन्दुस्तान की नदियों को जोड़ने की आवश्यकता है। इसके लिए हमारे पास हिमालय से निकलती हुई नदियां हैं। इन नदियों में साल में दो-दो बार बाढ़ आती है, जब बारिश होती है और जब बाढ़ आती है तो हमें पानी मिलता है। दूसरा, जब बर्फ पिघलती है, तब भी हमें पानी का स्रोत मिलता है। हमारे देश में इतनी बड़ी-बड़ी नदियां हैं, क्या उनको जोड़ कर अपने हिन्दुस्तान के हर किसान के खेत में पानी पहुंचाने का विचार हम नहीं कर सकते? आप मजदूरों का कल्याण करने की बात करते हैं, हमारे देश में मजदूरों का तभी कल्याण हो पाएगा, जब उनको रोजगार मिलेगा। अगर उनको रोजगार नहीं मिलेगा तो मजदूरों का कल्याण कैसे हो सकता है? हिन्दुस्तान के सभी नागरिकों को रोजगार मिले, आप यह बात तो करते हैं, लेकिन वह रोजगार जिन चीजों के आधार पर मिलना चाहिए, उसके लिए उनको जो तकनीकी ज्ञान दिया जाना चाहिए, क्या वह तकनीकी ज्ञान देने के लिए हमारी इच्छाशक्ति आगे बढ़ रही है? वैसी इच्छाशक्ति हमारे अन्दर क्यों नहीं बढ़ती है?

हिन्दुस्तान में स्किल डेवलपमेंट के लिए देश के बजट में 1000 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान रखा गया है। मैं गुजरात से बिलांग करता हूँ। केवल हमारे एक गुजरात स्टेट में ही स्किल डेवलपमेंट के लिए 800 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया जाता है। जहां एक स्टेट 800 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान करता है, वहीं सारे हिन्दुस्तान के लिए बजट में केवल 1000 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया जाता है। इस तरह कैसे स्किल डेवलपमेंट होगा और कैसे राष्ट्र का विकास होगा?

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

हमारे देश में दो-तिहाई लोग गांवों में बसते हैं और वे वहीं गांवों में ही पढ़ते हैं। जब पढ़े-लिखे लोगों को रोजगार नहीं मिलता है, तो अनपढ़ लोगों की तो बात ही क्या की जाए। हमारे यहां गांवों में 13.5% युवा लोग हैं, जो पढ़े-लिखे हैं, लेकिन उनको रोजगार नहीं मिल रहा है। जैसी स्थिति गांवों में है, वैसी ही स्थिति शहरों में भी है। दिन-प्रतिदिन हमारी आबादी बढ़ रही है। जिस गति से आबादी बढ़ती जा रही है, उसी गति से बढ़ती हुई आबादी के भरण-पोषण के लिए रोजगार उपलब्ध कराना भी आवश्यक होता है। वह रोजगार उन्हें कब उपलब्ध होगा? स्वाभिमान के साथ सभी को अपना रोजगार मिलना चाहिए।

'महात्मा गांधी नरेगा योजना' के तहत रोजगार उपलब्ध कराने की बात होती है। फूड सिक्वोरिटी बिल के बारे में बात होती है। मेरा पूछना यह है कि अगर आप किसी लाभार्थी के बैंक एकाउंट में सब्सिडी डाल दें, क्या इससे उसका स्वाभिमान बढ़ेगा? इसके लिए हमारी सोच ऐसी होनी चाहिए कि हिन्दुस्तान का हर नागरिक, हिन्दुस्तान का हर युवा स्वाभिमान के साथ रोजगार पा सके।

इंग्लैंड के एक अर्थशास्त्री विल्सन ने पूर्ण रोजगार का सिद्धान्त दिया था। राष्ट्र को समृद्ध बनाने का अगर कोई सिद्धान्त है, तो वह यही है कि वहां के नागरिकों को पूर्ण रोजगार मिलना चाहिए, अच्छा रोजगार मिलना चाहिए। उन्होंने जो सिद्धान्त दिया था, उसे अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति रूजवेल्ट ने स्वीकार किया और आज भी वे लोग उसी विचार को आगे लेकर चल रहे हैं। हम पश्चिम की बात करते हैं, यूरोप की बात करते हैं, अमरीका की बात करते हैं, लेकिन अमेरिका जो स्टेप ले रहा है, क्या हम उसको फॉलो कर रहे हैं? क्या हम उनके इस पाथ को एक्सेप्ट कर रहे हैं? हम उनके ऐसे पाथ को तो एक्सेप्ट नहीं कर रहे हैं, लेकिन ऊपर-ऊपर से हम हिन्दुस्तान में रोजगार की बात करते रहते हैं, गरीबी हटाने की बात करते रहते हैं।

हम हिन्दुस्तान के युवा लोगों के लिए स्किल डेवलपमेंट की बात करते हैं, लेकिन अब जो गैप बढ़ गया है, उसका आप क्या करेंगे? मुझे 100 प्रतिशत यह लगता है कि समृद्ध और गरीब लोगों के बीच जो गैप बढ़ता जा रहा है, वह गैप इसी तरह और भी अधिक बढ़ता रहेगा, गरीब गरीब ही रह जाएंगे।

आज मुझे सदन को एक इतिहास की तरफ ले जाने का मौका मिला है। हमें याद करना होगा कि 16वीं सदी में सारे यूरोप में औद्योगिक क्रांति हुई थी और इस क्रांति के होने से उद्योगपति बहुत समृद्ध बन रहे थे, सुखी बन रहे थे, धनवान बन रहे थे। वे किन लोगों की वजह से धनवान बन रहे थे? उनके यहां जो लेबर काम कर रही थी, जो मजदूर काम कर रहे थे, उन सब मजदूरों को ऐसा लगा कि यहां जो इंडस्ट्रीज लगी हैं, पूंजी लगी है, जिससे उद्योगपति सुखी और समृद्ध हुए हैं, यह समृद्धि तो हमारे पसीने से ही आई है।

जब यूरोप के ऐसे मजदूर लोग इकट्ठे हो गए, तब सारे यूरोप में रेवोल्यूशन हो गया, क्रांति हो गई और वहां ऐसी स्थिति आ गई, जिससे वहां सभी उद्योग खत्म हो गए और वहां लेनिनिज्म शुरू हो गया। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से और सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में 45 करोड़ से भी ज्यादा जो मजदूर हैं, उनकी चिन्ता उन्हें करनी चाहिए। गरीबी और अमीरी के बीच जो गैप बना हुआ है, उसको कम करना चाहिए और सब लोगों को समान पर्स देने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए, तभी हमारा राष्ट्र समृद्ध बनेगा और तभी हमारा राष्ट्र इक्कीसवीं सदी में विश्व की महासत्ता बनेगा। यदि हम ऐसा नहीं कर पाएंगे, तो हमें इसका परिणाम भुगतना पड़ेगा। इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए हमें आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Odisha): Sir, the Private Members' Resolution moved by Shri Prakash Javadekar is a very important Resolution and the Government should consider it very seriously. If in our country, we take the total working class population, it is around 50 crores and from among the 50 crores, we can divide the workers into four categories. The first category is 'workers of Central Government employees, State Government employees, Central public sector employees, private sector employees, employees of companies and corporations'. The second category is 'workers working in private companies'. The third category is 'workers who are now created in view of globalisation in different forms like self-employed workers'. But the fourth category of 'workers are workers who are neither self-employed nor are they employed by anybody'. The employees are not seen. The workers are not seen. They are not counted as workers nor do they have an employer. What about 44 labour rules we have? Is it implemented or not? It is only for three per cent of workers who are organised, belonging to first category of employees, and is called as organised labour in our country. For the second and fourth categories of workers, the Second National Labour Commission and the Committee led by Shri Arjun Sen Gupta, have recommended two legislations. One is social security legislation for unorganised workers and the second is social security legislation for agricultural workers. Also, IOL Convention has recommended mandatory provisions and legislations for agricultural workers. We have a legislation for un-organised workers with limited resource for their social security, but we have not yet accepted the social security for the agricultural workers who constitute a very huge number of workers all over the country and the estimation by Second Labour Commission and Arjun Sen Gupta Committee is that the total expenditure may go up to Rs. 29,000 crores. Here the question is, for

[Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia]

the unorganised agricultural workers, as I have said earlier, neither there is continuous process of employers' presence that will give contribution of the employer, nor is the employee working in a particular place deducts the contribution to enroll in any social security scheme. The question arises as to who pays for it. The only answer is, the Central Government can give 50 per cent and the State Government also should give 50 per cent. So, this Rs. 27,000 crores could be covered and there can be a legislation for the agricultural workers also. It has not yet been accepted by the Government of India. Earlier in 1993, when our INTUC Convention was held, at that time, Mr. Narasimha Rao was there. He announced the Comprehensive Labour Legislation for agricultural workers and building construction workers. Ultimately, there was a Building Construction Workers Act by way of an ordinance in 1995 and after that, it came into existence and passed in the Parliament in 1996.

But, the agricultural workers' legislation has not yet seen the light till today. My advice to the Government would be that even if Rs. 29,000 crores has to be spent, it should be spent; and, if you have consultations with the State Governments, some portion can be shared by them. So, this legislation should be taken into serious consideration. There should be social security legislation for the agricultural workers for the whole of the country.

Sir, if you go into the details, in our country, in the area of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and West Bengal, you will find millions of forest workers who are engaged in collecting Tendu leaves, Sal seeds, Mahua and some other minor forest products. They make a living on that. You will be surprised to find the number of people working in forests is very huge, in millions and crores in this country. These people do not have any protection. I would like to stress that they do not get a minimum wage; they don't have the social security.

While they collect these leaves from the forests and other minor forest products, they may even be killed by tiger or any wild animal, at any point of time. But, till today, they have not been covered under any sort of social security scheme. I know these workers who collect Tendu leaves and Sal seeds; the work is just for forty days in a year; it is a seasonal work. These workers collect these

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products and other minor forest products; in the whole year, they may be getting Rs.2,000 or 3,000. From that scanty income, they have to manage for the whole year. These workers are mostly women, belonging to the tribal community.

Sir, I would like to take you to a situation which prevailed some two hundred years back. Just to give an example, I quote:

“The forest is the largest natural employer which creates huge employment for the tribes who are in the forests/nearby areas for their livelihood. The women collecting firewood and forest produce, in the year 1887-88, collected in Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh and a question was put to a number of women and boys who were collecting fuel in the Government forest. In reply, they told, ‘We are mostly widows, tribals, belonging to Charmings, Ludhis and other low caste. We live in several villages nearby the forest, depend chiefly on what we can earn by collecting fuel, firewood-collection. We take our permits at the forest outpost for which we pay one-and-a-quarter anna. They allow the permit-holder to collect fuel. A large bundle of fuel may be collected in a day. The next day, we carry our bundles into Pilibhit town, eight miles away, nearly thirteen kilometres, and sell them there for three or four annas or so. We earn about two-and-a-half annas in two days. We can just live on this earning. When we don’t collect the fuel, we work for the cultivators in our village and we do the sugarcane work and also some other work. The ordinary village wage is one anna a day for women and three paisa for boys. We will have only one meal a day in the evening. We eat whatever grain happens to be cheapest. We don’t always get enough to eat and some times we do not have even a full meal in twenty-four hours. Prices are so high for us and hardly can we afford.’”

I just want to draw the attention of the House to this fact after more than 200 years. Now, we are in 2013. I quoted the quotation of the year 1887-88 the report of pilibhit district collector. So much time has passed. Properties worth lakhs have become worth thousands of millions. But, the situation for these workers has not changed! Even today in Bihar, Jharkhand in Odisha and in Chhattisgarh, the Adivasi workers are collecting minor forest products like firewood. In the whole year, they may be getting Rs. 1,500, Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000, and there is no person to purchase what they are collecting. These people do not get the minimum wages,

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they have no social security, they have no job security, they have no medical care, they have no protection from malnutrition, and so on. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider in 2013 a social security scheme and welfare board for such type, of workers who are working in agriculture, forests areas and who are tribals and very poor people.

Sir, I want to draw the kind attention of the House towards this issue. Sir, in the morning, I was speaking about pension. I want to tell this House and the public also one thing. You will be surprised that under our Pension Scheme where nothing is to be spent, the Government is giving a pension of Rs.300. The workers are paying 12 per cent from their wages and salaries towards this. Sir, 2,160 people get a pension of Rs.50 per month; 2,520 people get a pension of Rs.51 to Rs.100 per month; then, 14,880 people get a pension of Rs.200 per month; 1,58,000 people get a pension of Rs.300 per month, and so on. So, there are around 36 lakh pension holders who are getting it from the EPF. A majority of them are getting less pension than the free pension given to the general public in the country. Is it not injustice? As was told by the Labour Department, there was a Committee in this regard. The recommendation of the Committee to the Government was to make it a minimum of Rs.1,000. We are asking for a pension of Rs.3,000, but the Committee has recommended a minimum of Rs.1,000. I think the Government should consider it. There should not be any compromise. Maybe, instead of 1.39 per cent, the Government can give 1.71 per cent. In this way, they have to pay around Rs.14,000 crores. But, even if it is so, they have to give it because a minimum pension of Rs.1,000 should be given to all the workers.

Now, there is a question of social security. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards it. The Government might have some difficulty in taking some action at this point of time. There may be difficulty in regularization of workers and in giving them regular jobs. But, we are having a democratic form of Government. Will it not be justified to give them minimum wages, national floor level wages, also equal wages to contract labour at par with the regular workers, social security and medical care? I am not talking about higher wages or collective bargaining. What I am talking about is everybody should have a regular job. The national floor level minimum wages, social security like Provident Fund, ESI,

gratuity and medical care are the minimum rights of every worker working in the whole country. Sir, the social security, Provident and ESI, etc., which we have now should be extended to these workers. We have to reduce the number of workers, as far as the Act is concerned. At present, it is 20, but we have to make it five. As far as the salary is concerned, we have to make it a minimum of Rs.20,000. Under the Provident Fund, it is very less. Any simple worker is getting not less than Rs.10,000. That means, any general worker cannot be covered under it. So, my request is, the Government should seriously consider to have the national floor level minimum wages, equal wages to the contract labour, Provident Fund, ESI and medical care for all. That will be the rightful thing for each and every worker.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards the injustice being done in this country. We have one category of workers who are working five days a week. On two days of a week, they do not work. We also have another category of workers who are working six days a week. We have workers in a company, sitting in office, who work seven hours a day. But the workers who are working in the factories under the sky, in the rain and under the sun, they have to work for eight hours. Where is the justice? Of course, in this era now, in view of the globalization and privatization, even in the IT industries, the engineers are being compelled to work for more than 12 hours. But I am going to say that even if you go to the judiciary where millions of cases are pending, there is four months holiday. Why? What for? I demand from the Government that if we are a democratic country, if you have to give justice, you have to fix eight hours for everybody, right from an unskilled worker who is working under the sun and up to the rank of the Cabinet Secretary. Everybody must have the same working hours and the same holidays. Why should a Central Government worker work for five days and a State Government worker work for six days? Why should he? A person who is sitting inside the office in air-condition is working for the same hours, and the person who is working in the forest area, in the NHPC or in Arunachal Pradesh also works for eight hours. Many senior Ministers are already here. I want to draw the attention of the Minister of Labour Department that they should consider equal working hours for everybody in this country and equal working days for everybody. That would be the real justice for everyone. If we do not give equal time and equal working days, then they will get less wage, they will get more working hours, they will get more working days, then, ultimately, they will get less benefit.

[Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia]

Coming to the DA, we have three patterns of DA, one is for Central Government, State Government employees, उनका जो भी जाए, एक प्रतिशत बढ़ जाएगा, सबको मिलेगा। I do not oppose it. They should get it. But why should the Industrial DA take time to increase? Why should the workers who are getting minimum wages get Rs.2 a year? There should also be equal DA pattern for everybody, be it a Central Government employee, be it a State Government employee, or, be it an industrial worker. Do you think that rice or anything else which is available in the market has a different system of rate? If inflation is there, it is for everybody. So, what I say is that if we have to give justice in this country, we have to have a uniform policy, national floor level minimum wages, and equal wages for contract labour and regular employees, equal working hours, equal working days, and equal set of DA for every worker working in the country. I am not speaking about collective bargaining or right to increased wages because that is a different option. A company which is increasing profit can give, but may not give. "But so far as bonus is concerned, in foreign countries you will find that every company is giving salary of thirteen months for working twelve months. Why should we deny bonus? Bonus is a part of the wages. The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, fought for the bonus at a time when the trade union was taking its shape in our country in Ahmedabad. He started his speech from a baboo/ tree and also started fasting. Ultimately, the owners of the Ahmedabad Textile Mill surrendered, accepted and gave bonus. So, the Bonus Act should be amended in such a way that everybody right from the Chairman and MD up to the worker gets a part of the bonus. Now what is happening is that without amending the Bonus Act, they are making a scheme. What scheme? In view of a Supreme Court judgement, they are making a scheme. They are getting five per cent and two per cent at the executive level. They have also a scheme for workers. But in the public sector without amending the Act, they are getting the benefit of the bonus whereas the private sector people are not getting it. So, why should we oppose the amending of the Bonus Act? Why should the employers oppose amendments to-the' Bonus Act in a country where from 1947 to 1991 we had a watertight compartment?

That's why 47 crore or 50 crore monopoly houses have, today, become one lakh crore in 2012. That is the reason for having water-tight compartments, because

the products from outside cannot come inside and the insider products cannot go outside. The watertight compartment policy of the Government helps the managements to increase their capital. You are not opposed to it, you are happy. But why not should there be that whatever income they are generating is to be shared with the workers? They should come forward and share the profit with the workers to some extent. And, that will be a good gesture, a new culture, to build new industrial relations in this country. And, if we accept Mahatma Gandhi's view of public-private partnership, and if you say that the community, the Government, the society, is above the capital, above the labour and nobody should work to harm that and support the workers, the workers will also work for the development of the country, for the development of the society, for the development of the industry. The Government and the employers also should, simultaneously, adopt a uniform policy so that it does not harm anybody. With these words, I support this Resolution and request the Government to take some uniform decision so that the discontentment, which is prevailing among the workers, is vanished and everybody works for the development of the country.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Shri M.P. Achuthan. Not present. Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Thanks, your honour. I have all bouquets for Shri Prakash Javadekar for taking it up on behalf of under-dog labour. I praise that he has drawn the attention of this august House to the pitiable plight of the labour force. I associate with the statement of Shri Ram Chandra Khuntia regarding giving many suggestions for improvement of the condition of the labour. And, it was a delight to listen him analyzing the very ills that are affecting the labour force.

Sir, labour is producer of wealth. We can call him *lakshmi ka janak*. In Indian mythology, labour is represented in the concept of divinity by celebrating a particular day in the name of Lord *Vishwakarma*. It is high time that it is realized in the society that along with the slogan of *Satyamev Jayate*, there is a need of another slogan *Shramev Jayate*. Let there be glory for that who works. Let there be glory for the person whose sweat is there in raising the edifice of the Rashtrapati Bhawan. Let there be glory for the labour because of whom cereals are produced, because of whom wheat is produced, because of whom rice is produced,

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because of whom machines work. Labour is that man who is behind the machine. And, his plight is on these counts. Number one, low wages; number two, increasing workload; number three, rising prices; number four, insecurity of tenure; number five, low living standard; and number six, decreasing real wages. Every labour, every hand, has right to get work. Every labour has a right to live gracefully and properly. For that, we must ensure, your honour, remunerative wages for him which we call लाभकारी वेतन. At present, minimum wage is unrealistic. Minimum wage is not uniform. Minimum wage throughout the country is not the same. And, that the minimum wage is also not paid too. It is an enigma that people are BPL inspite of being in work. As far as statistics are concerned, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, they are worrying and they are alarming. According to the 2009-10 survey of the National Sample Survey Organisation, the size of India's workforce is between 430 and 471 millions. Nearly 30 million of India's labour force is unemployed. Unemployed labour is dissatisfied labour. Unemployed labour is a kind of curse for the society. Unemployed labour is a tax on the society and something must be done for that. 30 million of India's labour force is unemployed; 26 millions are officially under-employed; 40 million want additional work; and 35 million are looking for other alternatives of livelihood. These are official figures. These are the statistics which speak for themselves. India's official upper limit of unemployment and underemployment is about 70 million. That is more than the population of countries such as France, UK, Italy, South Korea, Spain and Canada. Even this figure is disputed by experts who believe that the actual number is several times larger. Over the years, agricultural share in GDP has declined, but the proportion of workforce employed in the sector remains static. It is a very sore point and it needs attention. In the 1950s agriculture constituted about 50 per cent of the GDP, now, its share has fallen to 14.2 per cent in 2011-12. It has fallen from 50 per cent to 14.2 per cent. What a decline it is! And, workforce is the same, 50 per cent of the total labour. As a result, average income from agriculture is the lowest amongst all sectors. 'Krishi' has become घाटे का धंधा। People are crying to leave it if they can find some alternative employment. As far as suicides are concerned, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, 17,000 farmers commit suicide every year on an average. During the last 10 years, the number is, just multiply it by 10, a horrifying figure. Even if one farmer commits suicide, there should be a commotion

in the society. If one farmer takes his own life, there must be a kind of gloom in the society. Sir, 17,000 farmers die every year. Lack of skill in India also forces workers to remain trapped in the unorganized sector, doing menial and semi-skilled work. Overall, it is something to be very much thought of, deliberated upon. About 93 per cent of India's workforce is still trapped in the unorganized sector. There should be zero tolerance for unorganized sector and every labourer should be in the organized sector, so that he gets proper benefits, so that he is given old-age pension, so that he gets unemployment benefits, he gets maternity benefits, he gets livelihood-loss compensation, he gets accident and medical care.

He is given Provident Fund, he is given pension, and he is given necessary medical care. That can be possible only when there is zero unorganized labour and all labour is organized in some kind of a sector or union. Only then can it happen. Labour is of many types, Sir. Broadly labour, as we have talked about, is organized and unorganized; and 93 per cent is unorganized. Then migrant labour is there; it has its own problems. There is a special Act for that also. Agricultural labour is there; building construction labour is there; mines labour is there; even children labour is there in *bidisor* in carpet, in Bhadohi or in fire works of Sivakasi or in bangles of Firozabad. Then woman labour is there. All of them have their own problems. They "have their own specific difficulties. They should be looked into and attended on; and, overall, if we do a broad sampling, labour is of three kinds — skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled. Effort should be, there should be no unskilled labour; there should be no illiterate labour. There should be no labour who is not able to get proper food, proper cloth and proper house. *Roti, Kapada aur Makaan* should be the fundamental responsibility of the State or the employer or the society; to ensure that, every labour who, through his shram, earns wealth for the country, must be satisfied, must be cared.

Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 has many loopholes. **...(Time-bell rings)...** As far as pension is concerned, in his Resolution and in his speech also, Shri Javadekar has gone into details that pension is only a pittance. His grievances are not looked into. There is no redressal machinery. His children are malnourished; his women are not rightly cared for. Disgruntled labour is one of the most virulent, one of the most dangerous things for the society. If society wants to live in peace, if State wants to live in a rightly-harmonized atmosphere, the State, the society and the employer must ensure that *Shramev Jayate* is rightly recognized, is rightly honoured and rightly looked after.

[Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania]

I thank you very much, Sir, for giving me time. I thank you, and also Lord Shiva, for your kind indulgence for me. But I hope and pray, through your good offices, that man behind the machine will be looked after and his needs will be cared for. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Next is, Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde; not present. Now, the Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Member, my esteemed friend, Shri Prakash Javadekar, for raising an issue of vital concern to the working class. I am also thankful to all other Members who spoke on the issue related to improvement in the condition of the working class.

Today morning, my senior colleague, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, has already explained the Government's stand on the issue while he made a statement on the Calling Attention Motion. However, since the hon. Members have talked on the subject in detail, let me reiterate the stand of Government in this regard.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it may be stated that the Government has taken various measures to contain inflation in the country.

These measures are in the form of appropriate monetary and fiscal policy interventions. The Government has also taken a number of pro-active measures to address the supply constraint in respect of essential items. Particular attention has been drawn to the large food subsidy provided by the Government to ensure adequate availability of food grains to the poor, at very concessional rates, through the Public Distribution System. Sir, the Government's efforts to pass the Food Security Bill in Parliament would further increase the availability of subsidized food grains to large segments of the population, and the Government is committed to meet the extra burden on this account.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, recently, the Government of India had approved a proposal for amending the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, to, *inter alia*, provide for statutory national floor level minimum wages. This is a significant initiative taken by

the Government. It would primarily help workers in the unorganized sector in getting higher minimum wages. Through the provision of statutory national floor level minimum wages, the workers would be assured of the floor level minimum wages, which would be set by the Government, and will apply uniformly throughout the country and to all kinds of employment. In addition, the amendment proposed contains a series of measures, and the national floor level minimum wages will be made statutory and applicable to all kinds of employment. At present, there is no statutory Act for minimum wages. The proposed Amendment Bill would make it a statutory provision.

Sir, at present, the provisions contained in the Minimum Wages Act are not applicable to cases where the total number of workers in a State is less than 1,000. This is a very important provision. After the amendment comes into force, the Act will be applicable to all types of employment, even where the number of workers is less than 1,000. At present, the provision for minimum wages is applicable only where the number of employees is more than 1,000. Now, after this amendment comes into force, this position would change; all employees will be covered under the Minimum Wages Act. The national floor level minimum wages would be revised every five years on the basis of the National Sample Survey Organization's Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Sir, there is another important aspect. The national floor level minimum wages will be linked to variable Dearness Allowance, to be notified, at least, once in a year, on the basis of the Consumer Price Index for the industrial workers.

Sir, the provision relating to fixation of differential minimum rates of wages in respect of adults, adolescents and apprentice will be deleted. Provisions will be made in The Minimum Wages Act for issue of employment cards to employees. This will be made *Aadhaar* compliant.

Sir, the period of lodging claims by workers will be enhanced from six months to one year. For ensuring better compliance, fines and penalties under the Act will be enhanced. This amendment will be brought before the Parliament in the form of a Bill at an early date.

Sir, over the years, decisions related to labour are deliberated in the Indian Labour Conference, the ILC, in the first instance. Subsequently, the suggestions

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made through the ILC are taken up by Ministry for appropriate action. The ILC has been in existence for 72 years now and has been making significant contribution to labour policy formulation and implementation. The labour policy of the Government derives its mandate largely from the decision taken by the ILC.

Sir, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, was enacted with the aim to regulate the employment of contract labour, to improve the conditions of work of contract labour and prohibit their engagement in employment of perilous nature.

The Government is ceased of the problems faced by contract labour in the country and is fully determined to ameliorate their condition by taking appropriate action under the Act. The Government proposed to bring out amendments in the Act with a view to safeguarding the interest of contract workers in terms of wages and social security. The proposal is under consideration of the Government. Sir, the Labour Bureau has conducted quarterly quick employment surveys in selective labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors, namely, textile including apparels, metals, gems and jewellery, automobiles, transport, IT/BPO, leather, handloom and powerloom to assist the economic slowdown in employment in India since January 2009. Sir, so far 15 such Surveys have been conducted by Labour Bureau. According to the Survey result, overall estimated employment in all selected sectors has experienced a net addition of 27.38 lakhs starting from the first Survey held from October, 2008 to December, 2008 till the 15th Survey from April, 2012 to June, 2012. It is, therefore, not true that as a result of economic slowdown since 2008, there is loss of jobs in export-oriented industries. Sir, India has witnessed an impressive economic growth for about two decades now and yet the challenge of employment, especially quality and remunerative employment in today's circumstances, is truly formidable. There is no national level umbrella policy so far to address employment-related issues. There is a need to integrate employment concerns in the policy making at various levels. The crucial issue is to ensure that the employment objective is factored in the mainstream of country's socio-economic development strategy. The Ministry of Labour and Employment has prepared a National Employment Policy to ensure that the growth process is inclusive and equitable. The Policy has been drafted with a view to bringing in employment in

the mainstream in the policy making for socio-economic development of the country. It will provide a proper plane for achieving the goal of remunerative and decent employment for all women and men in labour force. It also aims at accelerating employment growth, particularly in the organized sector and improving the quality of jobs in terms of productivity and training, especially in the unorganized workers. The policy has been developed through wide consultation with various stakeholders, Central Ministries and State Governments. Sir, as per Section 6 of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, an employer is required to contribute 12 per cent of the wages, subject to wage ceiling of Rs.6,500 per month. In the Employees' Provident Fund, Employees Pension Scheme, 1995 is funded by diversion of 8.33 per cent of employer's contribution. In addition, 1.16 per cent of the wages also is contributed by the Central-Government in the Pension Fund. Therefore, the Pension Scheme is funded with a total contribution of 9.49 per cent of wages — 8.33 per cent by employer and 1.16 per cent by the Central Government. There has been persistent demand from various quarters like members, pensioners, trade unions, and different associations to provide certain minimum pension to pensioners since majority of present-day pensioners receive a meagre sum as pension against the high cost of living. Nearly 27 per cent of the pensioners are presently getting a monthly pension of less than Rs.500 and nearly 56 per cent pensioners are getting a monthly pension of between Rs.500 and Rs.1,000. A Cabinet Note has been prepared to enhance Government's contribution by 0.63 per cent, that is, from 1.16 per cent to 1.79 per cent, so that the minimum pension of Rs.1,000 can be ensured for all pensioners under the EPF Scheme. The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Sir, the Government is aware of the problems faced by migrant labourers in receiving their dues from the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, since they are not traceable on the addresses provided by the employers to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation while depositing their contributions. However, computerisation of the EPFO office, introduction of facility of online filing of returns by the employers and the facility of knowing balance lying in the EPF accounts of subscribers by registering on EPF portal by members, etc., will help in identifying the employees who have contributed to the EPF Scheme.

[Shri Kodikunnil Suresh]

Sir, the Government is committed to take all possible measures for the better enforcement of labour laws. So far as enforcement of labour laws in the Central sphere is concerned, there exists a well-defined enforcement machinery, generally referred to as the Central Industrial Relation Machinery. Similarly, enforcement machinery is also available in the States. Employees' State Insurance Corporation and the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation have their own enforcement machineries there.

Sir, the New Pension System, NPS, which has replaced the old pension system, is the New Restructured Defined Contribution Pension System for all new recruits who have joined the Central Government service on or after 1st January, 2004. It is not correct to say that the accumulated amount of the subscribers is transferred to private funds. The subscribers' contribution under NPS is being managed by the Pension Fund Managers appointed by the Interim Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, which is an Authority constituted by the Government through a resolution to regulate and develop the pension market. Sir, the accumulated corpus under the NPS would be divided equally amongst the three selected Pension Fund Managers, namely, SBI Pension Fund Private Limited, UTI Retirement Solutions Limited and LIC Pension Fund Limited. These companies are controlled by SBI, UTI and LIC.

The National Commission on Farmers, chaired by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be, at least, 50 per cent more than the weighted average of cost of production. This recommendation, however, has not been accepted by the Government. The MSP is recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices based on objective criteria and considering a variety of relevant factors. A mechanical linkage between MSP and the cost of production may be counterproductive in some cases. The Minimum Support Prices of various agricultural commodities have been substantially increased over the last few years to ensure remunerative price.

My colleague, Mr. Rama Chandra Khuntia, has raised a point here. The welfare schemes like Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana and Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana are applicable to the eligible agricultural workers as well. Hence, it is not correct to say, as Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia has said, that social security measures are not applicable to agricultural workers. It is not correct.

Sir, in India, a large percentage of the workforce is from the unorganised sector, who have not been covered under various labour laws, including laws relating to social security. Providing social security to the unorganised workers has been a priority issue for the Ministry of Labour and Employment. With this object, the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 was enacted. The salient features of the Act are, (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, and, (iii) old age protection, (iv) constitution of National Social Security Advisory Board, both at the Central and the State level, and, any other benefits under the Act, which may be decided by the Central Government.

Sir, under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, the State Government collects cess, and, then, the same is deposited with the respective State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. The formulation of welfare schemes and utilization of the cess is with the State Welfare Board as also with the State Governments. The Union Government has been issuing instructions to the States from time to time for proper utilization of cess for the welfare and upliftment of construction workers. On 5th June, 2012, the hon. Minister for Labour and Employment wrote to the Chief Ministers of the States to take appropriate steps for collecting and utilizing the cess. This issue of Cess was raised by one hon. Member during his speech.

Sir, the Government has set up a task force to evolve policy framework for domestic workers in the context of regulatory mechanism and social security provisions. The draft policy is under the consideration of the Government. The domestic workers have already been covered under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY). Sir, the Ministry of Labour and Employment is sensitive to the problems faced by differently-abled persons and weaker sections of the society. Twenty Vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up for providing necessary skill training to the differently-abled persons. Further, a number of schemes are under implementation for providing skill training to the persons from weaker sections of the society, and, for facilitating their placement.

Sir, after the Government's decision to allow FDI in multi-brand retail, small and medium scale manufacturers are going to be benefited, as thirty per cent sourcing from these industries has been made mandatory. This would provide the

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necessary scales for these entities to expand their capacities in manufacturing, hence adding up to the employed population and also boosting the manufacturing sector of the country. These industries also stand to get added advantages of technology upgradation, which would give them an upper hand in productivity and local value addition, thereby raising the profitability and earnings of the small manufacturers. The 30 per cent sourcing norm would also help the small enterprises to get integrated with the global retail chains. New manufacturing opportunities will also open for the country's micro, small and medium enterprises.

Sir, today morning, during the Calling Attention Motion, my senior colleague mentioned several points, so, while not making a lengthy speech, in view of commitments of the Government on labour-related issues, which I have described, and, the action taken for fulfilment of these commitments, I request hon. Member, Shri Prakash Javadekar, to withdraw his Resolution. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Messages from the Lok Sabha. Secretary-General.

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

The Appropriation Bill, 2013

The Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013

The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:—

(I)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation Bill, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 2013.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution.”

(II)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 2013.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution.”

(III)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 2013.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution.”

Sir, I lay a copy each of the Bills on the Table.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTIONS**Taking necessary legal, administrative and financial decisions and creating conducive atmosphere for working classes (contd.)**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Shri Prakash Javadekar.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I will not take much time, but I was really disappointed to listen to my good friend, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Employment. It is not the issue of persons who are heading the Ministry. It is the issue of what they are doing. People will judge the Government by its action, not by its promise. पूरे उत्तर में उन्होंने 9 कानूनों का जिक्र किया कि हम लेबर के हितों के लिए 9 कानून बनाने वाले हैं। 9 साल हो गए, लेकिन एक भी कानून नहीं बना। प्रपोजल्स तो हो गए, लेकिन लेबर मिनिस्ट्री जो प्रपोजल दे रही है, उसको कहीं भी अंतिम अंजाम तक यह सरकार नहीं पहुंचाना चाहती है। यह वास्तविकता है। अगर सचमुच सरकार की मजदूरों के लिए कुछ काम करने की इच्छा होती, तो एक साल में एक कानून पास करते-करते भी 9 कानून पास हो जाते। हम उनको समर्थन देते, लेकिन

[Shri Prakash Javadekar]

ये कानून संसद के सामने नहीं आए। इसलिए यह सरकार की इच्छा नहीं है। उन्होंने यह कहा कि महंगाई के लिए मजदूर लड़ रहे हैं, बाकी सारी कठिनाइयां हैं। उनका भाषण सुन कर मुझे लगा कि कोई ऑपोजीशन का नेता बोल रहा है, क्योंकि उन्होंने यह मान लिया कि मजदूरों की हालत बहुत खस्ता है। आपके राज्य में मजदूरों की हालत खस्ता है, यह आपने स्वीकार किया, लेकिन उसका उपाय करने की आपकी जो जिम्मेदारी थी, वह आपने नहीं निभाई। आपने कहा कि फूड सिक्योरिटी होगी, केश ट्रांसफर होगा, मनरेगा है। यह कोई मजदूरों की समस्या का समाधान थोड़े ही है! महोदय, हमें दया नहीं चाहिए, बल्कि हमें न्याय चाहिए। यह अधिकार की लड़ाई है। जब गरीब के लिए फूड सिक्योरिटी जरूरी है, तो ठीक है, यह जरूरी है, लेकिन हम ऐसी व्यवस्था क्यों नहीं कर सकते कि वह मेहनत से कमाए, अच्छी तरह से कमाए, मिनिमम वेज महंगाई के साथ-साथ बढ़ता जाए और फिर वह अपनी मेहनत से कमाए हुए पैसे से अनाज लेने जाए। मनरेगा कोई जॉब का विकल्प नहीं है, यह डिस्ट्रेस में आए हुए लोगों की मदद करने के लिए एक रिलीफ स्कीम है। मैं महाराष्ट्र से आता हूँ, वहाँ एम्प्लायमेंट गारंटी स्कीम है, जो हमने 1972 में शुरू की, सभी दलों की सहमति से शुरू की। उसके लिए रिसॉर्सेज़ मोबिलाइज़ करने के लिए हमने प्रोफेशन टैक्स लगाया। **This is the first tax proposal which is unanimously approved by both the Houses of the State Legislature,** क्योंकि उसमें विश्वास था। वहां इकोनॉमिक एसेट्स तैयार हुए, यहां वे नहीं हो रहे हैं। मैं उस चर्चा में नहीं जा रहा हूँ। मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि आपने 9 कानूनों की तैयारी की, लेकिन एक भी कानून नहीं बनाया, यह आपकी सबसे बड़ी विफलता है। मजदूरों के साथ यही विश्वासघात है।

आप कौन से दो बिल ला रहे हैं? पेंशन और इंश्योरेंस। इसमें क्या है? जहाँ मजदूरों की कमाई के लाखों-करोड़ों रुपए हैं, उसमें एफडीआई को इंटररेस्ट है। चंद बिलियन डॉलर के आधार पर लाखों-करोड़ों रुपयों के मैनेजमेंट का अधिकार मिले, यह एफडीआई की इच्छा होती है। इसलिए पेंशन फंड में एफडीआई चाहिए, इंश्योरेंस में एफडीआई चाहिए। आज मैं उसकी बहस में भी नहीं जाऊंगा, क्योंकि जब वह बहस के लिए आएगा, तब बात करेंगे। अभी मंत्री जी ने बात की कि एफडीआई में सोर्सिंग नॉर्म के द्वारा यहां रोजगार बढ़ेगा। नहीं सर। **My dear friend, please see what you have done and how you have tweaked the rules of FDI sourcing norm in case of IKEA, the first case of FDI. You have tweaked the rules. Instead of saying 'Indian-made' or 'Indian-manufactured' 30 per cent sourcing, you have made it 'from India'. That change of one word has completely vitiated the whole provision and has actually negated it.** इस तरह से ट्वीकिंग पहले ही केस से शुरू होती है, तो इस सरकार पर क्या भरोसा करें!

आपने एक्चुअली बहुत से एसईजेड किए हैं। वहां लेबर लॉज़ का अमल नहीं है। आज के जो आधे-कच्चे लेबर लॉज़ भी हैं, उनका भी अमल नहीं है। आप लेबर रिफॉर्म की बात करते हैं और वे सारे एंटीलेबर लॉज़ की बात करते हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि हमें समझना चाहिए कि मजदूर और किसान, ये दो लोग ऐसे हैं, जो वेल्थ जेनरेट करते हैं। किसान एक दाना बोकर सौ दानों की पैदाइश करता है और मजदूर वस्तु के आकार को बदल कर, वैल्यू एडिशन देकर, उसको वेल्थ में रूपांतरित करता है। लेकिन यूपीए सरकार में मजदूर और किसान, दोनों ही परेशान हैं। स्थिति यह है और इसीलिए हम न्याय की लड़ाई लड़ते हैं। हमारी एक ही मांग है - जॉब, वेज और सोशल सिक्योरिटी। नौकरी की सुरक्षा, वेतन की सुरक्षा और सामाजिक सुरक्षा। आपने स्वयं यह माना है कि ये तीनों भी आज बहुत बड़े वर्ग में नहीं हैं। 90% मजदूरों के नसीब में यह नहीं है और इसी के लिए हमारी लड़ाई है, लेकिन इसके बारे में आपने कुछ नहीं कहा है।

मैं खूंटिया जी का अभिनन्दन करूंगा। वह हमारे मित्र भी हैं और मजदूर संगठनों में काम भी कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने एक बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण बात कही है और हमारी भी मांग वही है। हम उनकी इस मांग से सहमति जताते हैं कि वर्किंग कंडिशन में, वेज में, डीए में, वर्किंग डेज़ में और बोनस में जस्टिस होना चाहिए। क्यों नहीं इक्वैलिटी का प्रिंसिपल आता? जब तक यह प्रिंसिपल नहीं आता है, तब तक जस्टिस नहीं मिल सकता। कपिल जी बैठे हैं, और वह जानते हैं कि "Justice delayed is justice denied." You have delayed justice for nine years.

उन्होंने एग्रीकल्चर और डोमेस्टिक वर्कर्स की बात भी की, स्वामिनाथन फार्मूला का जिक्र भी किया, लेकिन सरकार उसे स्वीकार नहीं कर रही है। It is not about mechanical. अगर किसान के खाते में कुछ नहीं आएगा तो मजदूर के खाते में भी कुछ नहीं जाएगा, यही वास्तविकता है। इसलिए अगर हमें खेतिहर मजदूर की चिन्ता करनी है, तो किसान की चिन्ता भी करनी पड़ेगी। लाभकारी मूल्य का जो अधिकार है, वह किसान को मिलना चाहिए और उसी के लिए स्वामिनाथन फार्मूला है, जिसकी हम लगातार मांग करते हैं। 9 साल में अर्थ नीति का आपने ऐसा संचालन किया है, जिससे जॉबलेस ग्रोथ हुई है। हर साल लगभग 1 करोड़ नौजवान जॉब मार्केट में आते हैं, जिनमें से लगभग 20-30 लाख युवा ही नौकरियां पाते हैं। आप यह स्थिति ले आए हैं और इसीलिए हर साल बेरोज़गारों की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अंत में मैं एक वाक्य पर आता हूँ कि अब मैं क्या करूँ? मेरे पास तीन विकल्प हैं। एक तो सरकार ने जो वादा किया है, मैं उसी पर निर्भर करूँ और अपना प्रस्ताव वापस ले लूँ। दूसरा विकल्प यह है कि मैं भर्त्सना करूँ और बहिष्कार करूँ। तीसरा विकल्प मेरे पास यह है, देश के सभी मजदूर मेरी बात सुन रहे हैं कि सरकार की क्या नीति है। सरकार मजदूर को न्याय देने के लिए तैयार नहीं है।

[Shri Prakash Javadekar]

सर, एक नया बालक भी 9 महीने में मां की कोख से जन्म लेता है, लेकिन 9 साल हो गए, मजदूर को कुछ भी नहीं मिला है। अंत में मैं यही कहूंगा कि इस सारी चर्चा से यह साफ हो गई है कि इसमें सरकार की कोई इच्छा नहीं है, इनसे यह नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिए अगर वोटिंग की भी जाए और 10 वर्सिज़ 5 की वोटिंग हो जाए, तो भी उसका कोई अर्थ नहीं निकलेगा, क्योंकि आप कुछ करने वाले नहीं हैं।

आपका यह अन्तिम साल, विदाई का साल है, इसलिए विदाई के वर्ष में हम इतना ही कहेंगे कि मजदूरों ने देखा है कि आपकी मजदूर विरोधी नीति कैसी है, आप उनको न्याय नहीं देंगे, इसलिए इस प्रस्ताव पर वोट करके भी हमें कुछ फायदा नहीं दिखता है। मजदूरों को हम इतना ही आश्वासन देंगे कि हम आ रहे हैं, हम न्याय देंगे और सारी मांगें, जो वाजिब हैं, उनको सही मुकाम तक पहुंचाएंगे। यही कहते हुए मैं आपसे इजाजत चाहता हूँ।

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Prakash Javedekar has mentioned here that the Government has not passed any law for the workers. I would like to inform the hon. Member that it is not correct. I may inform the hon. Member that in the last few years this Government has either amended or passed ten labour laws. I am not going to mention all the laws. The Payment of Wages Act, 1936 was amended by this Government. The ceiling of the wages was raised from Rs.10,000 to Rs.18,000. The Payment of Bonus Act also has been amended. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 also has been amended; and enhanced the amount. The Apprentice Act, 1961, Inter alia, was amended for providing reservation for Other Backward Classes. The Act was notified on 28-1-2008. It was made effective from 1.2.2008. The Workman's Compensation Act, 1923 was also amended. The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 was also amended. The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 was also amended to change the definition of employer, family and worker and to add a new chapter to provide safety and avoid risk. This is already effective. The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 was amended to more effectively utilize the Employees' State Insurance Corporation infrastructure to meet medical insurance requirement of the workforce in the unorganized sector. The amendment was notified on 20.5.2010 and was made effective from 1.6.2010. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 was also amended by this Government. Therefore, we already have 10 labour laws at various stages of consideration and implementation. Therefore, I once again request the hon. Member to withdraw the Resolution.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Javadekar, are you withdrawing the Resolution?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Yes, Sir.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now Shri Y.S. Chowdary to move a Resolution.

**Forming independent and empowered regulatory authority
capable of taking action against erring media**

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I move the following Resolution:—

"Having regard to the fact that—

- (a) in Indian democracy, media has a responsible role;
- (b) women are portrayed in poor light through obscene, vulgar pictures/scenes;
- (c) entertainment free from obscenity, vulgarity and violence, will be a sign for a healthy society;
- (d) media is required to be accountable to the general public;
- (e) self regulation is not properly and appropriately followed by media;
- (f) the Press Council of India does not have enough teeth and authority to take action against abuse of independence by media; and
- (g) an independent regulatory authority for media is necessary to check unhealthy tendencies, this House urges upon the Government to form an independent and empowered regulatory authority capable of taking action against erring media."

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as a matter of fact the forefathers of our Constitution reposed immense faith in the media expecting that it can play a very impartial, constructive and selfless role on the matters relating to public interest. The belief is reflected more than adequately in several concessions granted to media including the provisions of Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution of India, considering the

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5.00 P.M.

media as an important organ in the nation building. The media conducted itself on the strength of ethical values coupled with self-restraint for considerable period. However, as the media started expanding its activities on the strength of modern technological advances, at times, unfortunately the issues which are interested to public started overtaking the issues of public interest and welfare. This is further aggravated with the advent of some business houses into media business bringing the concept of profit-making through media business. All these changes have led to the dilution of the moral values and self-regulation of our media.

Sir, if we take into account some of the recent controversies surrounding the media, it clearly suggests that all is not well in this territory. It is needless to emphasize the importance of a strong and impartial media in strengthening any society and, at the same time, if we fail to contain and restrain negative and selfish media elements, it can weaken the foundations of our well-preserved democratic values, social harmony, uplift of weaker sections and national integration.

Sir, some of the recent developments, strongly, prompt me to say that in the name of freedom of expression, some sections of the media at times have been brutally suppressing the fundamental rights of selected individuals and groups purely due to selfish reasons. In this context, I would like to quote a statement made by an Editor-in-Chief of a television channel. I quote: "I guess journalists are more feared today, but sadly less respected. We are more arrogant, less ethical". The above statement clearly depicts the direction in which our media is moving.

Sir, in a civilized society, many of us expect everyone to conduct ethically and morally. Unfortunately, this rarely happens and if it really happens, there is really no need for this august House to deliberate and formulate innumerable laws. Sir, I find that strangely some of the intelligent and senior functionaries argue that media should be left to its own ethics and self-regulation. A point of consolation and appreciation is that still some of the old media houses are following the journalism based on ethics and self regulation, even when some media houses are reckless and blatant in their unethical approach. I am unable to understand the

reason for this exception of self-regulation and ethics only for media, when every citizen, employee, constitutional functionaries, including the members of this hon. Parliament and Judiciary are accountable and answerable for their actions.

Sir, can we expect a conduct guided by ethics and morals from a media, which is aimed at improving its TRP ratings at any cost? Can we call the media socially responsible and self regulated, which is promoting obscene programmes in the name of reality shows wherein the women and children are shown in poor light?

Sir, before sensationalization, nothing is important including national security for some sections of media. The entire country watched with shock the live telecast of commando operations during the terrorist attacks in Mumbai. This telecast might not have benefitted the country but the terrorists got immense benefit as their masters could guide them depending on the information gathered through telecasts. The media should have been more responsible enough to telecast these shots only after the conclusion of commando operations.

Sir, it is an undeniable fact that in the recent times some mafias on the strength of the ill-gotten wealth accumulated through corrupt practices got entry into media business and started promoting totally truthless, biased, motivated and illegal news targeting their opponents in the business and politics. These forces hardly give any value for social decency either, in promoting episodes relating to women, children and other weaker sections. This reckless behaviour of a section of our media, if not checked and restrained, can derail social harmony and national integration.

Sir, I am sure it is in the minds of every one of us as to how, recently, one TV Channel tried to intimidate a business house for financial gains. Similar such incidents are happening to intimidate political opponents and spread communal and religious hatred. Sir, the most unfortunate and most damaging is the extensive trial by media in some sensational cases even before the trial started by the hon. Courts and decided. No one can enjoy unlimited rights at the cost of the fundamental rights of others.

It is pertinent to mention here that the hon. Supreme Court held recently that when there is a conflict between right to dignity and freedom of speech, the latter

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should give way to the former. Sir, what will happen to the morale and morals of our society if money power coupled with media power is allowed to project a blatant lie as a monument of truth repeatedly? Sir, the days are gone when media was viewed as only a source of information and on the contrary the media is playing a crucial and decisive role in crystallizing public opinion on any issue, taking advantage of its vast circulation and proximity to the people. A responsible media can be a guide and protector to the society and similarly, the irresponsible and selfish media can be a destroyer, worse than any infectious disease which ultimately can drive us to a primitive world. This fact underlines the necessity of transforming our media into an unbiased and selfless tool. This can be possible only through introspection by every stakeholder in the country.

Sir, considering all the points narrated above, I strongly advocate the necessity of creating a Constitutional Authority to regulate media.

Sir, I would like to clarify that by saying 'regulation' I do not mean 'control.' As all of you are aware, the 'control' does not allow freedom, whereas the 'regulation' allows freedom but with reasonable restrictions and a watch.

Sir, the legislations made so far in the direction of making media accountable have not yielded any noticeable results because of severe limitations and lack of teeth in those laws.

Sir, as per the existing law, any person aggrieved from media can approach courts, but very few opt this as the complainant alone is required to personally attend the court proceedings when the accused media-heads enjoy the exemption from their physical presence. Further, no such case is decided within reasonable time and thus there is no fear of penalty or correction for the errant media.

Sir, any article aimed at sensationalizing and damaging the reputation of a person or an institution is very prominent and reaches masses like tsunami, whereas the retraction of such articles is slow and insignificant, if at all done. Therefore, the safeguards offered by the present system to protect the affected persons from the excesses of media are toothless and inadequate. Even if we go through, how many TV licences, media permits have been cancelled until now? None. Regulation does not mean control or wagging the Fourth Estate. Regulatory

authorities are everywhere. They are in telecom, power, Securities Act, insurance. Why are we not able to set up for media? Though there is a Working Journalists Act, it is largely toothless. In the past, basically, people used to run media houses with a lot of ethical values but with commercially viable models. But, unfortunately, today none of them are following that. Whenever such issues of regulating media come up, media says they are being controlled, which is not true. We understand that free market forces should run free, but in India a large part of our population is still, unfortunately, uneducated. Hence, it needs definitely, regulation and safeguards. Institutions of editors and editorials have been killed. We now have CEOs and managing editors who will be responsible for profit-making for the promoters. My sympathies are with all the journalists of this country because now they have no choice but to take up articles which would benefit society. Only commercial heads and corporate houses, in advance, tell them what to air or what to print and what not to print. I have a few suggestions in this case. Media must have a regulatory body that would verify facts from opinions, unverified or dubious materials, defamatory news damaging one's credibility, absence of inappropriate material which enhances social unease. In fact, recently, during a meeting in Delhi, on some of the points- -I can't mention the names in this august House—media people said that the media had been growing big but it had not been able to regulate itself. The National Broadcasting Association has a code of conduct, but this applies to a handful of channels; even while this code was being violated and strictures passed by the Ombudsman, no action was taken. In fact, by the way, they are all laments of the top journalists. Many TV Channels have been promoting irrationality, *Bhoot Pret*, superstition, violating the privacy of individuals showing the face of rape victims and inciting unproved violence. Recently, a school teacher in Delhi was wrongly accused by a TV channel and thrashed by the local people. Later, we understood that it was wrong. What grave implications could have the teacher's family gone through?

Definitely, the media wants autonomy. But, it has not shown responsibility. Even if we compare with the developed countries like the U.S., which is also one of the large democratic countries, freedom of press is a Fundamental Right under the First Amendment of their Constitution. But, just see how quickly they have moved to having controls without sacrificing the basic Fundamental Rights. They have formed a commission called Federal Communications Commission which has

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been regulating for quite some time and it is a very successful model. Of course, they have different branches and are regulated by different bureaus.

Even in the U.K., more than the media regulator, the BBC sets standards of quality journalism. We are proud of having some of the best brains in the world. We must have such a regulation in place before it is too late and we create more social unrest. Sir, it is because of these inadequacies that I am moving this private Member's Resolution with a proposal to create a body for regulation of media both print and electronic including internet. Sir, I propose that such a regulatory body consisting of about fifteen members be headed by a retired Chief Justice of India, who will be selected by the sitting Chief Justice of India. Four Members of Parliament be made ex-officio members of the Committee. Five members may be drawn from the media community and balance five members may be drawn from the social elite of high repute. This regulatory body be given a fixed tenure of five years making it directly accountable to the Parliament and insulated by the provisions similar to impeachment of the Supreme Court Judges.

At the end I request all colleagues of this August House to support this Resolution. Sir, with this I conclude.

The question was proposed.

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): थैंक्यू सर, अभी सदन के माननीय सदस्य श्री वाई.एस. चौधरी जी ने मीडिया के संबंध में ऑटोनोमस रेग्युलेटरी ऑथोरिटी की मांग करते हुए जो मुद्दे उठाए हैं, बातें कही हैं, उनमें काफी तथ्य भी हैं। हम मीडिया का सम्मान करते हैं, मीडिया की स्वतंत्रता का भी सम्मान करते हैं और मीडिया की जिम्मेदारी और अहमियत को समझते हुए भी इस देश में कानून में भी यह व्यवस्था की गई कि मीडिया और प्रेस की आजादी रहे, प्रेस की आजादी बाधित न हो, उस पर कोई अतिक्रमण न हो, क्योंकि मीडिया हमारे लोकतंत्र का चौथा मजबूत स्तम्भ है। जिसका महत्व जितना बड़ा होता है उसकी जिम्मेदारी भी कहीं उतनी ही बड़ी होती है। वह जिम्मेदारी उसी व्यक्ति को या उसी महकमे को या उसी सभा को समझने की आवश्यकता है, जिस तरह एक मार्गदर्शक के रूप में आज मीडिया का यह एक रोल रहा है कि वह समाज में, देश में एक मार्गदर्शक के रूप में काम करते हुए सच्चाई दिखाए, सच्चाई बताए, सच्चाई सुनाए, समाज को अवगत कराए और साथ ही मीडिया की एक जिम्मेदारी है कि कोई ऐसी खबर, कोई ऐसे समाचार न फैलने पाएं। उन्हें वह रोके क्योंकि जिनके कारण देश को हानि पहुंचती हो, उस सच से अच्छा

है, उस सच को न कहना। अगर कहीं धार्मिक भावनाएं भड़कायी जा रही हों और उससे देश की राष्ट्रीय भावना और एकता को खतरा पैदा हो या इस तरह की कोई घटना घटती हो, तो उसे बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर, बार-बार अलग-अलग तरीके से दिखाकर समुदायों में आपस में नफरत पैदा करना, उसके बजाय आग पर पानी डालने की जो मीडिया की जिम्मेदारी है, उस पर घी डालने का काम करना, यह मीडिया का धर्म नहीं है और न कभी रहा है।

हम शुरू से अखबार पढ़ते रहे, दूरदर्शन आया उसे भी देखते रहे और उसके समाचारों से भी रूबरू हुए, लेकिन पिछले कुछ वर्षों में मीडिया का स्वरूप बदला है। आज टीआरपी की होड़ में या कॉर्पोरेट घराने जो उन्हें चलाते हैं, उनके निर्देश पर मीडिया-कर्मियों की भी अपनी विवशताएं होती होंगी, लेकिन उससे देश को, समाज को या देश की एकता को खतरा पैदा होता है, तो ऐसे समाचारों को लेकर एक रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी जरूर बननी चाहिए जो उन्हें नियंत्रित करे। महोदय, हम सेंसरशिप नहीं चाहते हैं बल्कि हम चाहते हैं कि वे स्वानुशासन लागू करें यानी अपने आप पर अनुशासन लागू करें। वे खुद अपनी जिम्मेदारी समझते हैं, अपना महत्व व अपनी अहमियत समझते हैं, इसलिए वह उसके अनुरूप कार्य करें।

अगर मीडिया आज कहीं दाउद जैसे अपराधियों को अपराधी न कहकर उन्हें सरगना, डॉन, अंडरवर्ल्ड का किंग या बेताज बादशाह जैसे विशेषणों की उपाधि देता है, तो हमारे समाज में जो कच्चे मन हैं, जो किशोर दिमाग हैं, उन पर इन बातों का क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा? उन्हें लगेगा कि यह कोई बहुत बड़ा काम है और इससे तो लोग बेताज बादशाह बन जाते हैं। इस तरह उन्हें कहीं अपराध करने की प्रेरणा तो नहीं मिलती? इनका उनके मन पर आखिर कैसा दुष्प्रभाव पड़ता है, अगर समाज में मीडिया खुद इन बातों के प्रति अपनी जिम्मेदारी का निर्वाह नहीं करेगा, तो कौन करेगा? आज बलात्कार, हत्या, लूट, चोरी और दंगा-फसाद जैसी नकारात्मक न्यूज को हाइलाइट करके उन्हें बार-बार दिखाना और उनका इस तरह से प्रदर्शन करना कि वे समाज में दरार पैदा करें, खौफ पैदा करें या इस तरह की स्थिति पैदा करें जिससे कि सामाजिक वातावरण प्रदूषित हो, तो क्या यह मीडिया का धर्म है? आज मीडिया हम जन-प्रतिनिधियों को अपना धर्म समझाता है। वह उनका अधिकार है, वह कहें और जहां गलती हो, वहां कान पकड़े, लेकिन उसे खुद भी तो अपने को अनुशासन में रखना या उसे अपनी जिम्मेदारी या मर्यादा को समझना आवश्यक है, जो दूसरों को उपदेश देता है। तो मीडिया को जन-हित व देश-हित में, चाहे वह प्रिंट मीडिया हो या इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया हो, दोनों पर यह बात लागू होती है। पहले प्रिंट मीडिया में सकारात्मक न्यूज हाइलाइट होकर आती थी कि सरकार की क्या उपलब्धि है, सरकार ने क्या दिया, लेकिन आज उसके बदले कहां रेप हुआ, कहां हत्या हुई - ये खबरें हैडलाइंस बनती जा रही हैं। हमें उससे क्या हासिल हो रहा है? वह न्यूज दी जा सकती है, लेकिन उसे कहां दिया जाना चाहिए? इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया में उसे बार-बार दिखाने से क्या समाज को कुछ भला हो रहा है? क्या कोई अच्छा संदेश जा रहा है? किसको इससे क्या प्रेरणा मिल रही है? सिर्फ

[डा. प्रभा ठाकुर]

सनसनी के लिए है तो क्या इस तरह की सनसनी एक समाचार है? क्या यह समाज को खबरदार करती है या यह कोई मार्गदर्शन देती है? क्या कोई इसकी सार्थकता है?

महोदय, मैं कई बार मीडिया चैनल पर होने वाली टीवी डिबेट में जाती हूँ। कई बार मुझे बहुत अफसोस भी होता है और मैं यह कहती भी हूँ कि भाइयो, हमेशा आप किसी निगेटिव इश्यू को लेकर ही डिबेट क्यों रखते हो? देश में इतना कुछ सकारात्मक कार्य भी हो रहा है, देश में कुछ अच्छा काम भी हो रहा है, देश में इतने अच्छे नियम बन रहे हैं, नीतियां बन रही हैं, कानून बन रहे हैं, काम हो रहा है। सरकारें काम कर रही हैं, उसके बारे में भी बात कीजिए। अगर आप एकतरफा सिर्फ निगेटिव पक्ष को ही लेंगे और यह बताएंगे कि जन-प्रतिनिधि ऐसे हैं, जन-प्रतिनिधि वैसे हैं, केजरीवाल जैसे लोग खड़े हो जाएंगे, जो सब जन-प्रतिनिधियों को चोर बताएंगे और मीडिया वही दिन-दिन भर न्यूज में बताएगा, तो यह संतुलन कहां रहेगा? समाज को क्या संदेश जाएगा? क्या लोकतंत्र में सभी जन-प्रतिनिधि चोर हो गए हैं या तानाशाही व्यवस्था हो गई है? आप किसकी वकालत कर रहे हैं? आखिर देश में लोकतंत्र की व्यवस्था ही तो रहेगी। जिस देश में तानाशाही व्यवस्था है, उस देश में मीडिया की क्या स्थिति है, सामान्य आदमी की क्या स्थिति है? हर कोई इस बात से वाकिफ है, मीडिया भी वाकिफ है। अगर इस तरह का वातावरण समाज में बनाया जाएगा कि उनका डेमोक्रेसी से विश्वास उठ जाए, चुनी हुई सरकारों से विश्वास उठ जाए, जन-प्रतिनिधियों से विश्वास उठ जाए, तो बताइए कि हम अपने देश में कौन सी व्यवस्था ला रहे हैं? किस तरह हम अपने युवाओं के, किशोरों के दिमागों की सोच को ले जा रहे हैं? आज वे भी इसी तरह के निगेटिव सवाल पूछने लगे हैं, उनकी सोच निगेटिव होने लगी है। हम समाज को क्या दिशा दे रहे हैं? समाज को दिशा देने में मीडिया की एक बहुत बड़ी भूमिका होती है, उनकी बातों का बहुत प्रभाव पड़ता है। कोई बात जो समाचार-पत्रों में छपती है या कोई बात जो मीडिया में दिखाई जाती है, तो लोग उसे बड़े ध्यान से पढ़ते हैं, सुनते-देखते हैं और उसका असर समाज में लोगों पर होता है। इससे लगता है कि मीडिया का कितना बड़ा महत्व है।

महोदय, जब श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी जी सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री थीं, तो मैंने उन्हें दो-तीन कार्यक्रमों के बारे में शिकायतें लिखी थीं। मुझे खुशी है कि तत्काल उनका जवाब आया और कार्रवाई भी हुई। मैंने लिखा था कि यह जो "सच का सामना" कार्यक्रम है, यह समाज को प्रदूषित करता है, यह बंद ही हो जाए तो अच्छा है। वह बहुत ही घटिया किस्म का कार्यक्रम रहा है। एक और कार्यक्रम "अजब देश की गजब कहानियां", उसके बारे में भी मैंने लिखा कि ये कौन सी कहानियां हैं और हमें क्या सिखा रही हैं? ये समाज को क्या सीख दे रही हैं? यह इस देश की संस्कृति नहीं है। हमें कहीं न कहीं अपने देश की संस्कृति, सांस्कृतिक विरासत को भी ध्यान में रखना है। ठीक है, पाश्चात्य भी जो कुछ अच्छा है,

प्रेरणास्पर्द है, मनोरंजन भी कहीं देता है, अश्लीलता नहीं है, तो उसे आप दीजिए, दिखाइए, हमें उससे परहेज नहीं है, लेकिन हमारी जो अपनी भारतीय संस्कृति है उस पर कोई आक्रमण न हो। हमारे युवा अपनी संस्कृति को ही भूल जाए, जो उसकी भारतीय विरासत है उसे भूल जाए, ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए। इस भूमिका को निभाने में मीडिया से अधिक प्रभावशाली और कोई हो नहीं सकता। मीडिया उसे निभाती भी है, क्योंकि ऐसा नहीं है कि सभी कुछ काला ही काला है, कई उजले पक्ष भी हैं, कई अच्छे कार्यक्रम भी लाते हैं, अच्छे मनोरंजक कार्यक्रम भी आते हैं, जो कि सामाजिक को कुछ अच्छा भी देते हैं। लेकिन कई बार सास-बहू के रिश्तों के नाम पर टी.वी. में कुछ ऐसे कार्यक्रम भी दिखाए जाते हैं, जिनमें षड्यंत्र रचे जा रहे हों। ऐसे कार्यक्रम परिवारों को जोड़ने के बजाय तोड़ते हैं और उसमें अविश्वास पैदा करते हैं। महोदय, ये जो देवरानी-जेठानी, सास-बहू, ननद-भाभी के रिश्ते हैं, जो बड़े मीठे-मधुर रिश्ते हैं, इन रिश्तों में दरारें न पड़ें, बल्कि इनमें एक मिठास घुले, ऐसे कार्यक्रमों का समाज जरूर स्वागत करेगा, क्यों नहीं करेगा? ऐसे कार्यक्रमों को भी लोग देखना चाहते हैं। कुछ वे कार्यक्रम जो देशभक्ति से जुड़े हों, कोई महापुरुषों से जुड़े हों, जो लोगों को कुछ पॉजिटिव सोच देते हों, कुछ ऐसा जिससे कि वे कुछ सीख सकें, जिससे कि उनको आनंद की अनुभूति हो और उनको लगे कि अपनी आत्मा के अनुकूल हमने कुछ देखा है, तो उससे अच्छा लगता है, आनंद आता है। इसलिए इस तरह मीडिया को ध्यान देना चाहिए, जिससे मीडिया अपनी प्रभावशाली भूमिका को और अधिक प्रभाव से निभा पाए।

महोदय, अंत में मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि विज्ञापनों के नाम पर जिस तरह से स्त्रियों को भेदे और अश्लील रूप में चित्रित किया जाता है, उसकी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं होती है। विज्ञापनों में महिलाओं को भी लाएं, लेकिन थोड़े संयम और मर्यादा का उसमें ध्यान हो। कई बार मैंने देखा और एक बॉडी वार्मर के विज्ञापन के बारे में मैंने मंत्री महोदय को जब लिखा, तो तत्काल उन्होंने उसका प्रसारण बंद करा दिया। उस विज्ञापन में दिखाते थे कि द्रौपदी का चीरहरण हो रहा है। उसमें अमूल बॉडी वार्मर का विज्ञापन करते हुए दिखाया जाता था कि द्रौपदी बहुत खुशी-खुशी चीरहरण करा रही है। वह खुश है, वह हंस रही है। क्या यह विज्ञापन है? सर, जो विज्ञापन किसी की भी धार्मिक भावना को आहत करे, देशभक्ति की भावना को आहत करे, सामाजिक सद्भावना को आहत करे, इस प्रकार के समाचार या विज्ञापन हमें क्या देंगे? जब शुरुआत में न्यूज़ चैनल आए, तब उनका रुख इस तरह का नहीं था। ऐसा नहीं था कि वे केवल आपराधिक घटनाओं या हादसों पर कार्यक्रम तैयार करते थे। आजकल तो घटनाओं को रिपीटेडली दिखाया जाता है, फिर उन कार्यक्रम बनाकर सनसनीखेज तरीके से उनका प्रस्तुतिकरण होता है और न्यूज़ नीचे दबी-कुचली सी एक पट्टी से चलती रहती है। आज न्यूज़ केवल एक पट्टी के रूप में रह गई है और ऊपर कुछ सनसनी चल रही होती है। सर, क्या यह न्यूज़ है? न्यूज़ की भी तो कुछ गाइडलाइन्स होती होंगी, जिनके आधार पर न्यूज़ चैनल्स को लाइसेंस दिया गया होगा? तो ज़रा सरकार भी इस बात को देखे कि हम संसद सदस्य मीडिया की सेंसरशिप नहीं चाहते हैं, हम मीडिया की

[डा. प्रभा ठाकुर]

आज़ादी चाहते हैं, लेकिन मीडिया का स्व-अनुशासन रहे। हर व्यक्ति को इस देश में आज़ादी है। जिस तरह मीडिया को आज़ादी है, उसी तरह मुझे भी आज़ादी है। आज हमारी या किसी की भी प्रतिष्ठा वे बिना तथ्यों के आधार पर उछाल दें, किसी की भी पगड़ी उछाल दें, तो यह अधिकार उनको भी तो नहीं है। किसी की भी आज़ादी पर अतिक्रमण करना, यह मीडिया का अधिकार नहीं है। बिना पूरे तथ्यों के, बिना पूरे सुबूतों के, आधारहीन बेबुनियाद बातों को कह देना, दिखा देना और बाद में कहीं एक छोटी सी क्षमा मांग लेना, उससे क्या होगा? समाज में तो उस व्यक्ति की बदनामी हो गई! तो यह सारी जिम्मेदारी कौन देखेगा? इसलिए आज इसकी आवश्यकता है और आज सदन में जब यह मांग उठी है, तो मैं भी इसका समर्थन करती हूँ।

महोदय, मैं जानती हूँ कि अनेक मीडियाकर्मी भी अपनी आत्मा की आवाज़ को सुनकर ऐसा नहीं चाहते होंगे कि वे इस रूप में समाचारों को दिखाएं, लेकिन कॉरपोरेट घरानों में टी.आर.पी. की जो होड़ लगी हुई है, वे क्या करें? शायद उनकी कहीं लाचारी होती होगी, मजबूरी होती होगी, इसलिए उन्हें इस मजबूरी से उबारने के लिए भी यह आवश्यक है कि ऐसी अर्थोरिटी बनाई जाए। मैं तो प्रेस काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया की सदस्य भी रही हूँ। उसमें प्रिंट मीडिया तो आता है, लेकिन इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया उसके अंतर्गत नहीं आता, इसलिए इस अर्थोरिटी की जरूरत है, ताकि एक ऐसा अनुशासन बना रहे, जिससे हमारे देश की सामाजिक समरसता, सद्भावना, संस्कार और संस्कृति बनी रहे और इन सबको देखते ही लगे कि हां, यह मीडिया जो है, यह भारतीय मीडिया है। यह हमारा मार्गदर्शक मीडिया है, यह सच्चाई दिखलाने वाला और विश्वसनीय मीडिया है। इसका समाज में जो विश्वास बना हुआ है, वह विश्वास बना रहे, कायम रहे, इस आशा के साथ मैं भी चौधरी साहब के रिज़ॉल्यूशन का समर्थन करती हूँ, धन्यवाद।

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Sir, I thank you for having given me the opportunity to speak on this Resolution. My experience has been that it is only on Friday when there is a Private Members' Resolution, we get sufficient time to speak, but insufficient people to hear. Sir, we just had the Railway Budget. What comes to my mind is that there has been a total derailment in our cultural, moral and social values. Therefore, I think, very rightly, this Resolution has been brought. There are seven points. There is a saying in Hindi, सात सवाल, एक जवाब। So, for all the seven problems, the answer is the way in which, in the last more than five decades, we have been dealing with these issues. For example, Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, no doubt, gives a fundamental right to speech and expression. Very rightly, Supreme Court has held in the Indian Express case the

width of the fundamental right. Article 19 contains — clause (6) under which — the State can impose reasonable restrictions can be imposed on decency or morality. This has not been done. In Chapter IV of the Constitution, Article 39 (c), says, “It is the responsibility of the State to ensure that childhood and youth are not exploited, resulting in moral and material abandonment.” But, in actuality, that is not happening. There has been no regulatory measure. In its absence there should be self-restraint, at least, Press people should know that their children are also going to be spoiled on account of sexually-provocative and culturally degrading matters being published. Sir, I was listening to Mata Amritanandamayi on the inauguration of Vivekananda 150 birth anniversary celebrations. She explained what is the fate of the youth today is. मर्कटस्य सुरापानं, यद्ये वृश्चिकदंशनम्। A monkey is made to drink an intoxicating drink and over and above that the scorpion is made to bite, then what would happen? Therefore, the position, unfortunately, is that no steps have been taken. I have seen certain photographs. I can't show it to my children or to anybody. They are sexually so provocative and culturally degrading womanhood. Women are highly respected in our country. They are considered as a divine treasure in a family. But, today, woman means only sex. I will read out what Swami Vivekanand said nearly 100 years ago, “Shall India die.....” that means if India culturally dies, “.. then from the world all spirituality will be extinct, all moral perfection will be extinct, all sweet souls who have sympathy for the religion will be extinct, all ideality will be extinct, and in its place will reign the duality of lust and luxury as the male and female deities, with money as its priest, fraud, force and competition as its ceremonies and the human soul its sacrifice.” I don't think, anybody can use such an inimitable language. Today, except male and female sex, there is nothing. So, we have come to that degrading position. Of course, since it is relating to cinematograph, it applies to magazines also. There was a picture, the name of the film is Sopan ‘*Satyam Shivam Sundaram.*’ That picture came in for criticism by the Supreme Court, and no less a person than Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer remarked, “It is deplorable that a power for good like the cinema, but a subtle process, and these days, by a ribald display, vulgarizes the public palate, pruriently infiltrates adolescent minds, commercially panders to the lascivious appetite of randy crowds and inflames the lecherous craze of the people who succumb to the seduction of sex and resort, in actual life, to ‘horror’ crimes of venereal violence.” Now, recently, you have seen what happened

[Shri M. Rama Jois]

In Delhi. And it is happening every day. There is rape of even small children. Recently, in Bhandara, girls of eleven years, nine years and six years were raped. We are seeing all these things. Why is this happening? There are two rails. Otherwise, this is bound to derail. These two rails are — *Dharma and Samskriti*, service and sacrifice. These are the two most important rails on which our national life has been running. Swami Vivekananda said, "If the philosophy, which has come from times immemorial is disregarded, that nation is going to die." I think that is the serious thing that is happening. That is what Justice Krishna Iyer has said. Dharma does not mean religion. A few people wrongly translate it as religion. Suppose I speak about Dharma, I have seen, the next day, the papers report, 'Rama Jois spoke about religion.' I never speak about religion. Religion is a mode of worship of God by believers. *Dharma* is a code of conduct by an individual, how he has conducted himself.

अहिंसा सत्यमस्ते यं शौचं इन्द्रिय निग्रहः

एतं सा मासिकं धर्मम्

It is the definition of '*Dharma*' — non-violence, truthfulness and not acquiring illegitimate property. That is the most important thing which is, in fact, totally disregarded. *Asteya* means, not acquiring property illegitimately. *Shaucham* means cleanliness, not only in thought, word and deed; and the last is *Indriya nigraha*. Our education system contains nothing about teaching *Indriya nigraha*. That is what is happening Many youths observe Valentine Day. What is Valentine Day? In Encyclopedia Britanica, Encyclopedia Americana, they say, 'it has nothing to do with Saint Valentine.' It is a business gimmick created by greeting card manufacturers. Someone manufactured a Valentine Card and prospered it. Today, hundreds of crores of rupees worth of Valentine cards are being sold. Whom do you send it? As far as sex is concerned, husband and wife relationship is considered as most important and sacred in our culture.

अन्योन्यस्याव्यभीचारो भवेदामरणान्तिमः।

एषः धर्मः समासेन ज्ञेयः स्त्रीपुंसयोः परः॥

That is mutual love and fidelity — *dharma* to be observed by husband and wife throughout their life. This is the principle. That is what our cultural value has

been. Every woman must be regarded as an incarnation of his own mother. Why was this feeling there? It was after indepth consideration of human nature that our ancestors said, "Please consider every woman as your own mother. Once you consider every woman as your own mother, there is psychological impotency. Nobody will rape." That is why when it is said that this Bill is coming 50 years late, I said, "Sixty years back, we were not seeing these incidents of rape.' Today, there is no newspaper which does not contain an offence of rape. We completely disregarded *dharma*. *Indriya nigraha* is not there. Then, as Amritanandamayi said, मर्कटस्य सुरापानं यध्ये वृश्चिकदंशनम्। You make a monkey to drink alcohol and dance. That is what she said about the youth of today. Today, what is the youth doing? They drink alcohol intoxicate themselves and they are also provoked by various media. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the media. Article 19 very clearly says, 'decency' and 'morality'. When there is no self-restraint, legislation has to come in. Earlier, everything was fully in the control of cultural values. Here, I would like to quote what an English woman had written about our values. She said that in the Indian culture, a woman is not treated as an object of sexual pleasure but as a divine treasure. Just as gold ornaments cannot be thrown here and there, they must also be protected. That is why, the condition that women must be given protection throughout is not on the ground that a woman is inferior; it is having regard to the mischievous nature of the males and the possibility of an onslaught. For example, rape is a one-sided offence. It is only on women. Therefore, our people thought that women should be protected by cultural values. That is why, during Dusshera and at other times; even small *kanyas*, that is, girls who have not yet attained puberty, are worshipped like God.

या देवी सर्वभूतेषु शांतिरूपेण संस्थिता।
नमस्तस्यै नमस्तस्यै नमस्तस्यै नमो नमः॥

Even elders touch the feet of girls and actually salute them. That has been the practice in our country. As far as the media and newspapers are concerned, as I said, they have no control at all. They don't know what is going to happen to their own children. That is why, the Resolution is welcome. Kerry Brown, an English lady author, has written a book called "Essential Teachings of Hinduism." It was published by Arrow Books, London, in 1990. She said, "In Hinduism, a woman is looked after not because she is inferior or incapable but, on the contrary,

[Shri M. Rama Jois]

because she is treasured. She is the pride and power of the society. Just as the crown jewels should not be left unguarded, neither should a woman be left unprotected. If there are costly jewels, we do not throw them here and there like brass vessels. Costly material is protected.

पिता रक्षति कौमारे भर्ता रक्षति यौवने।
रक्षन्ति स्थाविरे पुत्रः न स्त्री स्वातन्त्र्यमर्हति॥

"न स्त्री स्वातन्त्र्यमर्हति" has been misinterpreted. She has also written a commentary on *Manusmriti*. "न स्त्री स्वातन्त्र्यमर्हति" does not mean that she should be a slave. When she is a young girl, she requires the protection of the father. When she is married, she requires the protection of her husband. When she is aged further, the husband would be still older and he will also not be in a position to take care of her. Hence sons should look after. So, all the burden of protecting women lies on the males. In fact, males can complain, but why is the burden on them alone? That is because, as Prof. Max Mueller had said in a lecture titled, "What India can teach us", a hundred years back, "If, in the entire world below the sky, there is any piece of land where an in-depth study of human nature has been made and solutions have been provided, it is India and India alone." That is why I say, "न स्त्री स्वातन्त्र्यमर्हति" is being misinterpreted. On the other hand, the *Manusmriti* says, "यत्र नार्यस्तु पूज्यन्ते रमन्ते तत्र देवता" which means, wherever a woman is worshipped, the Gods are pleased." women are worshipped, there Gods are pleased ...(Time bell rings)... and then,

स्त्रियां तु रोचमानायां सर्वं तद्रोचते कुलम्।
तस्यां त्वरोचमानायां सर्वमेव न रोचते॥

If women are insulted, everything is going to be ...(Interruptions)... awarke. Seven of eternal values *Manusmriti* written by five editions have been published by Universal Law Publishers on Ancient Values . Unfortunately, there is a total misunderstanding between 'love' and 'lust'. 'Love' is most important. But 'lust' is different. But, unfortunately, 'love' is misunderstood as 'lust', and that is why we have been landed in this position. And that is why I said, 'सात सवाल, एक जवाब'।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Therefore, I welcome the Resolution moved by Shri Y.S. Chowdary. ...(Interruptions)... The Press media should be regulated because there is no self-regulation. There is a difference between स्वातंत्र्य एवं स्वेच्छाचार। स्वातंत्र्य is not स्वेच्छाचार। Which mean individual can act according to their will and wish ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: It is absolutely necessary that a regulation is made, particularly having regard to Article 19 (6) namely on grounds of decency and morality. Press has no right to destroy decency and morality. If morality and decency is destroyed in the youth, what is there to remain? Today withers our youths therefore the Question is the biggest question. I quote तैत्तरीयोपनिषद् and conclude it.

युवा स्यात्साधुयुवाध्यायकः॥ आशिष्ठो द्रदिष्ठो बलिष्ठः॥
तस्येयं पृथिवी सर्वा वित्तस्य पूर्णा स्यात्॥ स एको मानुषः आनन्दः॥

What is the measure of happiness? Measure of happiness is that youth must be learned, must have good character and determined mind and should be free from bad habits. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: If such youths are there, then only there will be happiness. ...(Interruptions)... With these words, I fully support the Resolution.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): Mr. Vice-Chairperson, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to reply to the Resolution moved by the hon. Member, Shri Y.S. Chowdary, who, in his Resolution, has stated, "Having regard to the fact that - (a) in Indian democracy, media has a responsible role; (b) women are portrayed in poor light through obscene, vulgar pictures/scenes; (c) entertainment free from obscenity, vulgarity and violence, will be a sign for a healthy society; (d) media is required to be accountable to the general public; (e) self-regulation is not properly and appropriately followed by media; (f) the Press Council of India does not have enough teeth and authority to take action

[Shri Manish Tewari]

against abuse of independence by media; and (g) an independent regulatory authority for media is necessary to check unhealthy tendencies, this House urges upon the Government to form an independent and empowered regulatory authority capable of taking action against erring media.” Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the essence of this entire Resolution is independent and empowered regulatory authority capable of taking action against erring media. We have the privilege of hearing two outstanding interventions from hon. Dr. Prabha Thakur and from very distinguished Mr. Rama Jois, and I heard both of them very intently. I think, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, before we set out to deal with the core issue involved in this Resolution, it would be important that we recap the development of our democracy as it has unfolded over the past 64 years. It is indeed a matter of pride and privilege for us as Indians that except for possibly an odd country here or there, all those who attained independence or liberation from the yoke of imperialism, in Asia, Africa and Latin America, in and around the time that India became independent, either were subjected to some form of military dictatorship, one-party rule or totalitarianism. It is indeed something that we need to be proud of that we have had an unbroken democratic tradition which extends to the time that we attained our independence. And, at the heart of this democratic tradition really lies the free Press. Article 19(1)(a), which both Mr. Chowdary and Mr. Rama Jois referred to, provides for the freedom of speech and expression to every individual. We have exculpated from it the freedom of the Press and the founding fathers of the Constitution, in their wisdom, rightly decided that there should be appropriate caveats on this freedom. Now, the question, which really arises to my mind, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, is that how do you find the golden mean. Where does the golden mean lie between the freedom of speech and expression, from where we have exculpated the freedom of the Press, and the reasonable restrictions which have also been provided in the Constitution?

But, before we set out to deal with that, I think, it would be important that we have an overview of the media landscape as it exists today. You have the print media, which has a tradition which goes back, if nothing less, at least, a 150 years even predating or possibly coinciding with the first war of independence in and around 1857. You have the broadcasting media - radio - which also has a time-honoured tradition and the television which has been now around for about four

decades and private television, as we know it, for about two decades now. Then, you have the online media and recently, you have the phenomena of the social media or the new media which is, of course, in the Indian context, administered by the Ministry which is headed by my hon. senior colleague, Shri Kapil Sibal.

The short point that I am trying to make, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, is that you have a synthesis which has taken place, a convergence which has taken place over the past couple of years, whereby the lines between print, broadcasting, online and social media have blurred, and, therefore, you have to deal with a paradigm whereby all of us not only live in an information age but we also live in an information age which, at times, can be quite overwhelming, if not intimidating, to say the least.

Over a period of time — And this is not the first time that this debate is taking place in this hon. House — concerns have been expressed about aberrations which are there in the media space. I have with me a speech delivered by an hon. Member of this House in 1974 while speaking on the Press Council (Second Amendment) Bill. It is indeed very illustrative if you were to read the speech because it reflects more or less, in a different span of time, the concerns which have been articulated by Mr. Chowdary and, of course, which have been very eminently endorsed by both, Prabhay/and Mr. Rama Jois. I would just quote one paragraph from his speech just to illustrate as to how this debate has spanned across the contours of the Indian Parliamentary system going back possibly to its very inception. The illustrative paragraph is, and, I quote the hon. Member, who is now no longer with us, late Mr. R.K. Mishra, “I would submit that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is being too touchy about this talk of freedom of the Press. Now, where is the freedom of the Press? What do we have in India? We have the freedom of the newspaper owner in India, we have the freedom of the newspaper proprietor, and, in some cases, the delegated freedom, which is enjoyed by the newspaper managers.”

But, with all due respect to his views, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, this is only a part of the story because the fact remains that the vibrance and the robustness of the Indian media has, to a very large extent, also acted as an oversight mechanism, which has helped to broadbase, strengthen and consolidate our democratic institutions.

[Shri Manish Tewari]

6.00 P.M.

While I entirely share some of the concerns, which you have raised about paid news, about private treaties, about TAM TRPs, sensationalism bordering on insensitivity, cross-holdings in the media space and monopolistic practices, the question I asked myself is: is an independent regulator really the solution to these problems?

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as the spokesperson for my Party, I had the privilege of dealing with the front-end of the media, and, now, as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, I also have the remit of dealing with the back-end media. And, it may sound a little insensitive or a little blase, if I were to put it or articulate in those terms, but the fact is that the media is a business like any other business in this world. And, I do not hold any excuse for these aberrations but the limited point that I am trying to make is that, unfortunately, in this business, the revenue models are very flawed. I am not saying that that should be an excuse for aberration or that should be an excuse for illegality but there are certain realities, which, I think, it is important for me to share with this House, and, that is why, especially, in the broadcast space, when this Government, through a statutory remit, embarked upon the process of digitization, the entire effort was to see that transparency is brought about in the broadcasting sector. From the consumer to the broadcaster, taking the intermediaries along, a vibrant revenue model can be built, which can possibly deal with some of the aberrations, which have been concerning us for all this while.

However, it is not that we, as a Government, are trying to hide behind the fig leaf of aberrations of flawed revenue models and letting the media off the hook. That is not the case. This Parliament, in its wisdom, has, over a period of time, enacted legislations which provide the mechanism for exercising oversight on various facets of the media. Now, it is another matter that there may have been times when the superintendence or the implementation of that may not have been to the satisfaction of everybody concerned. But that does not mean that there is an absence of a statutory architecture which empowers and enables, and when I

talk about Governments, I talk about Governments in continuance across time and space, to be able to deal with the aberrations and take effective action. The Press Council of India Act was enacted in 1978. If I were to go into the reason as to why the Parliamentary leaders at that point in time decided that the Press Council of India would be a body of peers which would exercise both moral and in certain cases statutory superintendence over the media and not be armed with excessive powers which could disturb that golden mean between the freedom of speech and expression and the reasonable restrictions, I do not think that they were really wrong in their approach. The Press Council of India does have the ability, does have the authority, either *suo motu* or on the receipt of a complaint, to take action. It is another matter that, maybe, we will live in times where a moral censure or a moral reprimand does not carry that amount of weight. But that does not mean that the Press Council of India does not have the authority to be able to take action. But, given the times that we live in, as we speak, Government is considering amendments to the Press Council of India Act. We are trying to ensure that this Act is made, I would not like to use the word stringent, more effective so that it could be concurrent and adaptable to the times. And, I have no hesitation, of course, these are amendments in the draft stage, Mr. Vice-Chairperson, Sir, in sharing some of the salient points with you that the Press Council may direct the authorities of the State to suspend the release of an advertisement to the offending newspaper till the adjudication is published or for the period specified by the Council. On the award of two censures under this section, these are amendment to section 14 that we are considering, within a period of six months, the Council may ask the concerned authorities to suspend Government-funded advertisement to the newspaper; and in case of an editor or a journalist, suspend the accreditation of such editor or journalist for a period not exceeding three months. If on more than two such instances of non-compliance with the directions issued under this section within a period of one year, the Press Council of India may direct the authorities for suspension of registration of newspapers up to a fortnight. But these are contentious issues and there is a need for consensus not only within Parliament but across the stake-holders because there could be room for legitimate criticism that Government is actually trying to overreach and is trying to disrupt that golden mean which I keep referring to. Mr. Vice-Chairperson, can I conclude in five minutes or do you want me to conclude now?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): We have to conclude it.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: In a sense, Mr. Vice-Chairperson, the short point that I am trying to make is that there are mechanisms, frameworks, which are available under the different sections of different Acts which empower the Government to take action against, what the hon. Member has said, the erring media.

Therefore, under those circumstances, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw the Resolution.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Chowdary, do you want to reply?

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY : I want you to extend this discussion to the next date.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Will you reply, or, are you withdrawing the Resolution? No Member is here to speak on your Resolution. Therefore, you have to reply; and then we have to conclude.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, let me first thank my colleagues for supporting my views on the Resolution. I also thank the hon. Minister for his clarifications.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude in two minutes.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Yes, I will try my best. There are certain serious problems about the media, particularly the entry of crony capitalism. The Minister was telling whether regulatory body was required. If dharma and adharmā is followed, no regulatory body is required. Most of the media has been converting stories into news. The media is meant for reporting the facts. The hon. Minister said that at the end of the day, the media is supposed to run a business house. I do agree. But that doesn't mean that they will run in unethical way and make profits. If that is the case, many hospitals are also expected to run for the sake of profit. But can they ruin the public health? Are they not running ethically and commercially viable operations? The media is also expected to do that. However,

the hon. Minister has said, in a lighter vein, whether the regulatory body is required or not. If that is the case, we had the Controller of the Capital Issues in the past. Why have we brought the SEBI? I am definitely satisfied with the Minister's reply that they have already started bringing forward certain amendments. The whole idea of bringing this point is to sensitise the hon. Members of this House on the media issue. In any case, I withdraw my Resolution.

The Resolution, by leave, was withdrawn.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri K.N. Balagopal, not present. Next Shri Rangasayee Ramakrishna to move the Resolution.

Upper House for all States and empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA (Karnataka): I move the following Resolution:

“Having regard to the fact that—

- (i) from times immemorial, self governance by the institution of Panchayats was prevalent in the village-society;
- (ii) even the British respected this institution which catered to the basic needs of the society in which influential and wise men were nominated at the local level who had an affluent background;
- (iii) post independence, in the formative years of the Republic, the office bearers in these institutions were sought to be elected and the caste panchayats were replaced by elected panachayats;
- (iv) based on the Balwant Rai Mehta Committee report, Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru launched Panchayati Raj in Nagaur district in Rajasthan in 1959;
- (v) in the states such as Rajasthan, which adopted this model, the CD Block budgets comprising Public Works Department, public health, primary and secondary education, agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, etc. were transferred to Panchayati Raj institutions for being administered not by government officials but by elected Panchayati Raj

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representatives and the budgets were themselves created out of felt demands for the people and administered by the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj bodies;

- (vi) had this system been allowed to take roots and continue for a longer time, the nation would have reaped the benefits of a truly decentralized democracy but unfortunately this experiment was short lived;
- (vii) however, Panchayati Raj institutions could have been saved by taking one more logical step in their path of evolution, *viz.*, integrating directly elected people's representative into the scheme of Panchayati Raj hierarchy itself and one more alternative which could have been seriously considered was to make the Panchayati Raj functionaries to elect MLAs;
- (viii) Panchayati Raj continued on paper and *Sarpanches* got elected without any attendant charter of responsibilities and the financial powers that could have rendered their duties effective and meaningful;
- (ix) despite the detailed enumeration of allocable functions to Panchayats in Eleventh Schedule (article 243 G) of the Constitution, the non devolution of financial powers to make these enumerated functions meaningful and the non vacation of administrative space by concerned government departments, has resulted in rendering the Panchayati Raj a boneless wonder;
- (x) in the entire chronology of the framing of the Indian Constitution, the segment that betrays a half hearted approach and the absence of consensus happens to be that concerning bicameral legislatures in the States;
- (xi) in the backdrop of diametrically opposed views on the need for a second chamber, more opposed and less favourably inclined, Dr. Ambedkar moved a compromise resolution proposing second chamber, purely as an experimental measure and article 169 of the Constitution resulted, which confined the bicameral set up only to states which already had a second house in the Government of India Act, 1935;

- (xii) functional representation, originally an Irish model, is indeed the genesis of an idea, which if properly understood in the right perspective, provides for strengthening Panchayati Raj institutions by integrating them into the framework of the Upper House;
- (xiii) the practice of MLAs constituting an electoral college for the Second House can be abandoned in favour of local bodies, both in rural and urban areas, *viz.*, Panchayati Raj institutions and Municipalities to form an electoral college to send their representatives to the Upper House; and
- (xiv) simultaneously, the restriction of the facility of bicameral legislature only to Government of India Act, 1935 provinces can also be abandoned in favour of a uniform policy for all states to have a Legislative Council, not dependent on an enabling resolution of the concerned assemblies, this House urges upon the Government to—
 - (a) initiate an amendment to article 169 of the Constitution such as to provide uniformly for an Upper House in all the States, to be composed of representatives to be elected by all Panchayati Raj institutions in rural areas and all municipalities and corporations in urban areas replacing the present system of substantial representation to the MLAs, and the teachers/graduate constituencies; and
 - (b) amend Part IX of the Constitution such as to provide for transfer of certain departments such as agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, public health, Public Works, primary and secondary education to appropriate echelons of Panchayati Raj along with the concurrent transfer of the concerned budgetary outlays and real transfer of such areas to the Panchayati Raj institutions which will be possible only if the corresponding space is vacated by the concerned Government departments.”

Sir, I want to recollect that as far back as 1959, the Indian Government had initiated the first step towards Panchayati Raj. In a meeting held in Nagore, the former Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru came and inaugurated Panchayati

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Raj in a proper framework. At that time, we envisaged a three-tier set up — Panchayats at the village level, Panchayat Unions or Panchayat Samithis at the taluk level or at the Tehsil level; and Zilla Parishad or District Board at the district level.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Rangasayee, you have moved the Resolution. Your speech remains unfinished. You may continue your speech on the next day allotted for Private Members' Resolutions, that is 26th April, 2013.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now we take up Special Mentions. Dr. Prabha Thakur. Please lay it on the Table.

Demand to make autonomous bodies responsible to the concerned Ministries

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): संभवतया सरकार के काम-काज में अधिक पारदर्शिता लाने के लिए स्वायत्तशासी संस्थान विभिन्न मंत्रालयों में स्थापित किए गए, जो हर निर्णय लेने में आत्मनिर्भर एवं सशक्त हैं। किन्तु, मुझे सदन में यह कहते हुए खेद है कि ऐसे कुछ सरकारी संस्थान अपनी शक्तियों एवं स्वतंत्रता का दुरुपयोग भी करते हैं। कई बार तो ऐसे संस्थान संबंधित संसदीय समिति के निर्देशों एवं निर्णयों को भी महत्व नहीं देते, जबकि उनके कार्यकरण से जनता में सरकार के प्रति असंतोष उत्पन्न होता है।

मेरा सुझाव है कि इन संस्थानों को संबंधित मंत्रालयों के प्रति पूर्ण जवाबदेह बनाने की आवश्यकता है, ताकि हर प्रक्रिया में पारदर्शिता के लिए मनमानी न हो तथा नीतियों में पूरी स्पष्टता रहे।

Demand to take steps for uniform use of National Emblem by various organisations of Central and State Governments

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, National Emblem of a country symbolizes its history, tradition, culture, pride and honour of a nation. National Emblem is an adoption of Sarnath Lion Capital of Asoka. National Emblem with Ashoka Chakra teaches truth, love and sacrifice to the whole nation and its citizen.

India adopted this National Emblem on 26th January, 1950. The emblem forms part of the official symbol in the communications by Government of India and appears in Indian currency as well. It is displayed in many places; appears prominently on Indian passports, distinction boards placed in front of Ministries and Central Government offices. Many States are using National Emblem in their State Emblem. A few States are not using it. The States must use National Emblem along with their own State Emblem.

Often it is observed that there is no uniformity in using National Emblem by various offices and organisations of Central and States. It is pertinent to mention here that as per the provisions of the State Emblem of India (Regulation of Use) Rules, 2007, the State Emblem should be positioned in the “middle top” on the official/demi-official stationery, visiting cards etc. It should be ensured that the State Emblem of India is depicted together with the *motto* “Satyameva Jayate”- in Devanagri Script - inscribed below the profile of Lion Capital.

I urge the Government to abide the above mentioned rules, and that National Emblem be kept in the middle of currencies issued by RBI, distinction boards in offices, Government letterheads and in other relevant stationeries and places.

Demand to regularize the workers employed on daily wage basis in Government opium and alkaloid factory at Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, शासकीय अफीम एवं क्षारोद कारखाना, गाजीपुर, उत्तर प्रदेश में 1820 में स्थापित किया गया था, जो विश्व का सबसे बड़ा वैध अफीम कारखाना है। इस कारखाने में श्रमिकों की दशा अत्यन्त दयनीय है, विशेष तौर पर सामयिक श्रमिकों की दशा। यहां पर मंत्रालय द्वारा कुल स्थायी श्रमिकों की संख्या 559 है, जबकि वर्तमान में कार्यरत श्रमिकों की संख्या 355 मात्र है, जिनमें कुल 204 पद रिक्त हैं। एस.आई.यू. की रिपोर्ट को यदि मंत्रालय स्वीकार कर लेता है तो वर्तमान में दिनांक 01-03-2013 तक कुशल श्रमिकों के स्वीकृत पद 159 होंगे, जबकि कुशल कार्यरत श्रमिकों की संख्या 125 मात्र है। इसके साथ ही अकुशल श्रमिकों के स्वीकृत पद 221 हैं, जबकि कार्यरत संख्या 230 है। अकुशल श्रमिक वर्ग में वर्तमान समय में 9 अधिक हैं। यदि अकुशल श्रमिकों की कुशल श्रमिक पद पर पदोन्नति/उन्नयन कर दिया जाए तो अकुशल श्रमिक वर्ग में 25 पद रिक्त हो जाएंगे। इसलिए सामयिक श्रमिकों को तत्काल प्रभाव से नियमित किया जा सकता है।

वित्त राज्य मंत्री के पत्र फा0स0 19011/2/2012 स्वापक नियन्त्रण-1 दिनांक 28 सितम्बर, 2012 के अनुसार अकुशल श्रमिक से कुशल श्रमिक वर्ग में पदोन्नति/उन्नयन नहीं किया गया

[श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह]

है, जिसके फलस्वरूप अकुशल श्रमिक का पद वर्तमान में रिक्त नहीं है। यदि अकुशल से कुशल पर पदोन्नति दी जाती है तो 25 जगहें रिक्त हो जाएंगी, जिन पर सामयिक श्रमिकों को नियमित किया जाना है। वर्तमान समय में कुल कार्यरत सामयिक श्रमिक मात्र 37 हैं, जिनका विभागीय चयन समिति द्वारा दिनांक 23-05-2012 का साक्षात्कार किया जा चुका है, जिसमें सभी सामयिक श्रमिक, शासकीय अफीम एवं क्षारोद कारखाना, गाजीपुर के कार्यालय पत्र फा.स. 4/1/3/2013/एल0बी0 दिनांक 24 मई, 2012 के अनुसार उपयुक्त पाए गए हैं। अतः सरकार से मांग है कि सभी सामयिक श्रमिकों को नियमित किया जाए, जिससे उनके परिवार का भरण-पोषण हो सके।

Demand to improve passenger amenities at Hyderabad and Secunderabad railway stations

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, Hyderabad and Secunderabad Railway Stations are under the administrative control of the South Central Railways. Hyderabad is well-connected to Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and several other important places of the country, through a number of trains being operated from these stations. Every day, more than 100 trains arrive at or depart from these stations, transporting over 1,00,000 passengers to different destinations. But there are no facilities of lifts and escalators for the passengers at these railway stations. The passengers are facing inconvenience in reaching the platforms for want of lifts and escalators. The provision for lifts and escalators has been a long-pending demand of the passengers, especially the elderly and physically challenged ones. But till date, the railway authorities have taken no steps to install lifts and escalators at these railway stations in order to avoid inconvenience to the passengers.

Further, Sir, Hyderabad being the hub of IT and pharma industries, a lot of foreigners visit the city. Therefore, there is an urgent need to step up the facilities at these stations on par with international standards. As a part of this exercise, it is urgently required to upgrade the waiting rooms, retiring rooms and also install the equipment for digital display of information relating to trains.

In view of the above, I urge upon the Central Government to direct the concerned authorities to initiate action in this regard, immediately.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): The House is adjourned to meet again at 11.00 A.M. on Monday, the 18th March, 2013.

The House then adjourned at fourteen minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 18th March, 2013.