

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

**Thirteenth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

Gazettes & Debates Unit  
Parliament Library Building  
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Block 'G'  
Acc. No. .... 24 .....  
Dated.... 15 Jan 2009 .....

*(Vol. XXXII contains Nos. 1 to 10)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

Price : Rs. 80.00

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

*Monday, March 3, 2008/Phalgun 13, 1929 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### MEMBER SWORN

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Secretary-General to call the name of the Member for taking oath.

L.t. Gen. (Retd.) Tej Pal Singh Rawat, PVSM, VSM (Garhwal, Uttarakhand)

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we should felicitate the Indian cricket Team...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Have patience. Please let me make a point.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You will be delighted to hear my point.

*...(Interruptions)*

11.01 hrs.

### REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

**Felicitations to the Indian Cricket Team for winning the Under-19 Cricket World Cup at Kuala Lumpur and senior Indian Cricket Team on winning first match of finds against Australia in One day Triangular series at Sydney**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is a matter of immense pride that the Indian teenagers have lifted the under-19 Cricket World Cup by beating South Africa in the finals at Kuala Lumpur on 2nd March 2008.

The young team under the captaincy of Virat Kohli has displayed tremendous grit and determination, apart from their efficiency, to wrest the coveted Cup. This bodes well for the Indian cricket.

It is heartening that the senior cricket team too has registered a comprehensive victory over Australia in the first match of the finals of the One day triangular series at Sydney yesterday.

I am sure the House would join me in congratulating the under-19 Indian cricket team for their accomplishment and wish them and the senior Indian cricket team successes in their future endeavours.

*...(Interruptions)*

11.01<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

### RE: DEMAND FOR SEPARATE STATE OF TELANGANA

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Naidu Saheb, what you are doing is not right. Please take your seat. I will call all the Members one by one.

*...(Interruptions)*

11.02 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. Nothing can be taken down if you are here.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot take note of it, Mr. Rao. I can only say, go to your seats. From this place, I cannot take note. They are also not recording anything.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will consider; I have got the notice.

*...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi):  
Telangana State should be formed ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. I am  
appealing to you to go to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing can be recorded from here.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If you speak from a place other  
than your seat then nothing will go on record. Please go  
to your seats and speak. Then only it will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word will be recorded from  
anywhere unless I allow.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have a right to speak. You go  
to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever is the merit of your cause,  
please speak from there.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Do not  
record anything.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: I am not asking for your resignation.  
I want to give you an opportunity to speak from your  
seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

11.06 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao and  
some other hon. Members went back to their seats.*

...*(Interruptions)*

---

\*Not recorded.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your problem.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They strongly feel about this matter.  
At least let us respect their views whether you agree or  
do not agree.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO (Karimnagar): It  
is 50 years betrayal...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: How can both of you speak at the  
same time. Please speak one by one.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (Hanamkonda): Sir, we will  
not keep quit. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is an internal issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVINDER NAIK DHARAVATH (Warangal): Mr.  
Speaker, Sir, we have been witnessing the dilly-dallying  
with regard to Telangana for the last so many  
years...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, please sit down.  
Please do not record anything.

...*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao.

SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO: Those who  
made commitment for the formation of Telangana did not  
keep their words.

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\*Not recorded.



*[English]*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the UPA Government was formed, a clear-cut assurance was given to the people of Telangana about the formation of Telangana State. His Excellency, the President of India, has also addressed the Joint Session of Parliament and assured the people. They expected consensus and it has been fully arrived at but the Congress Party and the UPA Government have betrayed the people of Telangana. In protest of the non-compliance of the promise made by the UPA Government, I am tendering my resignation...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Sir, I am also tendering my resignation...(*Interruptions*) All the political parties...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No more speeches.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into this letter. There is a procedure. I will have to apply my mind.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVINDER NAIK DHARAVATH: Mr. Speaker Sir. I will also tender my resignation. The injustice which is being done for 50 years. After taking opinion of all the parties, a promise was made by the Congress Party...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not happy that you are reducing numbers here.

...(*Interruptions*)

11.08 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri K. Chandra Shekhar Rao and some other hon'ble Members left the House.)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share with you a long experience of sitting in this House but it is the first instance when not one but four hon'ble Members of the House have tendered their resignations.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: That is true.

*[Translation]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would like to have a proper discussion on Telangana in the House because in the President's Address not a single word has been spelt about? Telangana despite the fact that the issue was under consideration of quite some time. When our Government was in power we formed three new States—not only on the basis of...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a wrong practice, you please take your seats.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, the Chair has allowed the hon. Leader of the Opposition to make submission.

(*Interruptions*)

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): He is welcome. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You wait for him to finish. Do not come to his rescue.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to continue?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I agree that the notice has come; and the debate on the President's Address is also there.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: On which subject have you given your notice? Is it on Telangana?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my notice is on the national unity and integrity...(*Interruptions*) I have been giving the notice for a week now.

MR. SPEAKER: Advaniji has made a submission in this regard. I have heard the statement of the Leader of the Opposition.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I have been giving the notice for the past one week...(interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: May I make an earnest request to the hon'ble Members? This is your House. Time is precious.

[Translation]

You please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats. Any time you cannot raise any issue.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA PAL SINGH YADAV (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views on Bundelkhand. Suicides are being committed there...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House. Then you would not be able to say anything about Bundelkhand or anything else.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a matter of great sorrow. Again and again, I am saying which matter I have disallowed. As soon as the hon. Leader of the Opposition wanted to intervene, I have allowed him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: They felt very strongly, and I have allowed them.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You see the House. But his point has been very strongly made.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are not allowing the leader of the opposition to speak....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Malhotra Saheb, we are seeing a new *parampara*. This is the Budget Session. You have the opportunity to discuss the President's Address. There is a Motion of Thanks, and nobody is utilizing those opportunities. What can I do?

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. I find that the House do not want to be run.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record any word.

....(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: I have shown the highest respect to the extent of my ability to the Opposition. I have high regards for Advaniji, you know it and everybody knows it. As soon as he wanted, I allowed him to speak.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ananth Kumar, you are not to speak for him; please take your seat.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I earnestly appeal to you. I earnestly appeal to all sections of the House.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ananth Kumar, you are a senior Member, Please cooperate.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, we walk out in protest against the attitude of the Government and its failure to form the State of Telangana....(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

11.13 hrs.

*Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and some other  
Hon. Members then left the House.*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please wait.

The hon. Opposition Members are walking out. Let us conduct it with some decorum and dignity.

...(*Interruptions*)*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: I want to give opportunity and also allow to raise issues

*[English]*

but you compel the Chair to face a situation to adjourn the House.

Yes Mr. Prabhunath Singh ji, please make your submission.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you to make your submission.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has given a Notice, as will you and ten other hon. Members have also given notices.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given my notice prior to them....(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no *pahla* notice or second notice.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (*Vijayawada*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have made allegations against the Congress. I object to it. I oppose it.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: All right, your submission has been recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shall I call 10 Members together? Is that what you want? I have to call him, I have to call him, I have to call him. Have I to call everyone together? What is this going on?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, thank you for the opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: You have opposed it and you have protested it. That has been recorded.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, we would like to set right the records. The BJP had promised in 1998.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a debate on Telangana now.

Mr. Rajagopal strongly objects to it.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Sir, I am not only objecting to it but I am also saying that the BJP promised in 1998 'one vote—two States' when they were part of the NDA. They promised it. They were in power for six years, and they refused to do it. They formed three new States and refused to form Telangana, whereas the Congress never promised for Telangana...(*Interruptions*) The Congress party only promised for second SRC, which was also accepted by the TRS, which signed an agreement with the Congress accordingly ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (*Srikakulam*): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have betrayed the people of Telangana...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaaidu, I find that everyday you are disturbing the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I find that every day you are disturbing the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, they have betrayed the people of Telangana ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record one word.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, I will have to take action.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Everyday I find, since the opening of this Session, that you are disturbing the House. You cannot dictate whatever you want to do.

...*(Interruptions)*

11.16 hrs.

### SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

**Re: Incidents of violence against North Indians in  
Mumbai and other parts of the country**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Do you really need a Chair?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajan), Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very sensitive issue which is related to the unity and integrity of the country. I had given notice in this regard and you have given me time to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I had asked you to speak at 12 o' clock after the Question Hour is over.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I am thankful that you have given me time to speak. Though the country has been witnessing hate campaign for the last several months, the origin of this dispute could be traced long ago. The incidents of violence against and murder of people belonging to U.P. and Bihar have been taking place in various parts of the country. Whenever such incidence takes place with Indians in other countries then our country expresses grave concern but when such

\*Not recorded.

incidence involving the people of various States take place in our own country then it needs consideration. It started from Assam. There a large number of people from Bihar were killed. While from Maharashtra, which is known as financial capital of the country, began the exodus of thousand of people to Bihar due to the manner in which the people particularly of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh were ill treated with abusive languages and a dispute that arose due to the inflammatory speech made by the leader of a new party in his quest to become the messiah of the Marathis.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very sensitive issue. Maharashtra is the financial capital of the country and \*... in the statement it has been said that ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not take the name.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: OK, it, will be expunged but I have mentioned his name because, it is due to him that such an incident took place ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): We are the people who protect Hindi speaking people...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Athawale, I will have to take action.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: We are here for them. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I will take action against you. I would name you. I am giving you a warning.

*[Translation]*

You please go to your seat and speak from there.

...*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Enough is enough. This cannot be done. Has the House become a place of tamasa?

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Maharashtra is the financial capital of the country. All other States in a country derive their name from historical and geographical factors but Maharashtra has been given its name because it is the financial capital of the country. There is a reason behind it because Reserve Bank of India is situated here. Reserve Bank of India is like a magnet which attracts all the finances of the country towards Maharashtra. Not only this, all the large companies like Tata which is situated in Jharkhand and Reliance which has its factories across the country, have their headquarters in Maharashtra. Even the headquarters of State Bank of India is situated in Maharashtra. Though petroleum and kerosene are sold in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar but the Headquarters dealing in petrol and diesel situated in Maharashtra. Marathi people alone are not behind making Maharashtra the financial capital of the country but each and every person of the country is responsible for making it one.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singhji, may I take one minute? I think nobody can question it. Our Constitution provides it and it is binding on everybody that every citizen has a right to live freely with dignity in every part of India. This is what we reiterate once again. Therefore, if somebody is violating it, I believe, the law and order machinery will take action against him. We can only express our great resentment and objection to any attempt by anybody to disturb or take action or attack any other citizen of India. They have no right to do that. It is my right, everyone's right in India to stay in every part of the country which should be reiterated by all of you.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There the Government is not maintaining law and order...(Interruptions) The Government is not taking any step. ...(Interruptions)

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): It is often a linguistic problem...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. Professor, you are also doing like this? What the students learn from you?

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Naidu, again you have got up. You have no right.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, each person of the country has contributed for it becoming the financial capital of the country. Even the issues of language and culture are being raised and the people from Bihar and U.P. are being taught the lesson of culture. For such people I would like to say that Banaras has been centre of culture in the world due to the presence of river Ganga giving salvation and Jyotirlinga Shri Vishwanath of Lord Shiva. Similarly Gaya in Bihar has been the cultural hub of the world due to being the place of Buddhist pilgrims. Before teaching the people of U.P. and Bihar lessons of culture and civilization, they should first visit these places to have a glimpse of the culture and civilization of these places and then preach about culture sitting in Maharashtra. I think that they need to visit Bihar to gain some knowledge.

Sir, through you, I would like to request that our Chhat worship is being questioned. It is a festival in which sun god is worshipped. This is considered as one of the greatest festivals of Bihar. It is being said whether it is proper to take bath in Ganga or in sea. I would like to say that they have lost their brains due to drinking the salty water of sea. If they happen to taste the water of Ganga they would find that...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You should invite them to come to Patna.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not use inflammatory language. I would conclude by saying that this country is not governed by Congress

Party alone but various parties are ruling in different States. At some place it is BJP, at other it is the Bharatiya Janata Party and Biju Janta Dal alliance and at some other place it is the rule of Janata Dal United and Bharatiya Janata Party alliance. But these incidents take place in the Congress ruled States only...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you say like this, they will also react.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Assam is ruled by the Congress Party then again Maharashtra is ruled by Congress Party. Recently Chief Minister of Delhi made a speech wherein she stated that increasing migration of people from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to Delhi causing immense problems for this metropolitan city. I would like to say that the Congress has witnessed the result of patronizing a Bhindrawala and if they want to disintegrate the nation by way of patronizing another Bhindrawala, the country cannot be allowed to be disintegrated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have gone from here to there. Mr. Devendra Prasad Yadav, You may speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to submit to you that the statement made by the Home Minister is a conflicting statement...*(Interruptions)* The statement made by the Home Minister before this nation is a conflicting one...*(Interruptions)* He will have to choose which is supreme between the two—this whole country or Maharashtra. Since he has given priority to the State of Maharashtra because in the year 1966...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You will be given opportunity to speak later.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I will conclude my speech just in two minutes. In the same way in the year 1966 Bal Thakaray had proclaimed himself to be a messiah of Marathis by making similar statement. That is the reason why the Congress Party is not taking any action there today...*(Interruptions)* They filed a case under Section 153, 153A and 153B and the way Raj Thakaray was arrested and taken to the Court by extending full VIP treatment. Releasing him within two and half hours later is just encouraging such type of people. The MOCOCA is in force in Maharashtra. This is a seditious statement.

MR. SPEAKER: When the Court has granted him bail, what can anyone do?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to submit to you that the Union Government should intervene in the matters. That is a Congress ruled State and Raj Thakaray should be arrested under MOCOCA and put behind the bars, so that this nation may not be disintegrated and its unity and integrity remain intact...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot dictate to the Court. Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I also would like to request the same and believe that the Congress Party will take it seriously.

MR. SPEAKER: Devendra Prasad ji please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am already disturbed. Why are you adding to my troubles.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to what he is saying. I will give you opportunity to speak since a point has been made against you, I shall also give you opportunity to speak.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Such an important issue is being discussed...*(Interruptions)* I have been giving notice for last one week, but they are not allowing me to speak...*(Interruptions)*

There cannot be more important an issue than the matter concerning the unity of the nation...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I think, I will adjourn this House immediately. Let us pass everything during shouting. Let us go home. In one day's time, let the Budget be passed.

*[Translation]*

This has become a farce.

[*English*]

Can anybody get up at any time and dictate the Chair?

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this happening?

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Sir, action is not being taken, that is why all this is happening...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I humbly request you all to cooperate with the Chair.

[*English*]

Please cooperate. I challenge that not a single Member can cite any issue, which I have not allowed to be raised.

[*Translation*]

Even then you people try to force your viewpoint in such a manner. Devendra Prasadji, you speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the House on such a big sensitive issue of national importance...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not need gratitude. I just need a little cooperation from you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, then I conclude here and now...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., you speak. I have already given you an opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, I feel pained...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am also no different from you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, what is this? It is a question of national unity and integrity...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you a chance to speak.

[*English*]

I have invited you.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you provided me an opportunity to speak. I have given notice under rule. Sir, I am thankful to you because it is not the question of Maharashtra only, now and then such incidents keep on happening in Assam also, and happen with the people of Hindi speaking areas. Not only this, at present an extraordinary situation is being created in Maharashtra. We have to go into the genesis of what has taken place during the last 40 years. I would like to cite some examples. Not only, the office of Amitabh Bachchan, who is a film star, and who is known as Big B, is being attacked but also a poor person like Shri Kishan Singh a resident of Dudhwa village of Raghunathpur police station in Sewan district who had been earning his livelihood by selling roasted bhooja in Pune, for ten years, has borne the burnt of hatred. Both of his hands have been cut and he has been sent back to his village. How sensitive matter is this? Both of his hands have been cut.

A photo can not be false. Mr. Speaker, Sir with your kind permission I would like to place it here. All must see this photo as to how Kishan Singh has been sent back to his village from Pune with both of his hands cut. He was unconscious in the hospital. But when he got up in the morning he found that both of his hands had been cut. Who is this Sena? I want to know whether this is Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena or a Sena working against national unity and integrity of India. What is this sena? This is not Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena rather this is that Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena which have destroyed the whole of the nation and which crossed all limits of brutality, barbarism by cutting hands of a poor person. This is not a common incident happening with the North Indians. North Indians have made a very significant contribution to this country. This is the same land of Maharashtra, to which farmer leader Shri Sharad Pawar belongs to and which is not only the birth place of Bhimrao Ambedkar Sahib but also his work place. This is the land from where message of equality was given not only to India but also to the entire world.

The land of Maharashtra where Mahatma Fule had given a message to the country and the daughter of Maharashtra Lata Mangeshkar had sang a song for the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the country. The song goes like this!

"Ay mere vatan ke logo, jara ankh mein bhar lo pani,  
Jo sahid huen hai unki jara yaad karo Kurbanii.  
Koi Sikh, koi jat maratha, koi gorkha, koi madrasi,  
Sarhad per mamewala, har veer tha Bharatvashi".

If any such voice is raised from the State, the financial condition of the State will deteriorate. Thousands of Poorvanchlis and North Indians and Biharis are being targeted and they are leaving the State daily. 20,000 people have returned to Bhojpur, Bihar, alone from there. Twelve thousand people returned to Sahjahanpur and other places in Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*. I would like to say that the people are doing such things in the name of Chatrapati Sah Jee Maharaj, who was an ideal and who set an example for upliftment of downtrodden people. This land was the work place of socialist leader Madhu Dandawate and other socialist leaders who raised their voice for an equalitarian society.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the reasons behind the recent development? Who do these things takes place? Why the North Indians are being treated like this in Mumbai...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, this is not a debate.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: 50-60 people were injured in the incidents...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are making a debate, please sit down. You will be given opportunity to speak on President's Address.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very significant issue. In Mumbai 43 percent people are Marathi and 57 percent people are from North India and Poorvanchal. Mumbai is the economic capital of India, it is a beautiful metro city and Poorvanchali

have toiled hard to develop this city. All over the country, where it is Bangalore, Delhi, Ludhiana or Pune in Maharashtra, they have made significant contributions for the economic development of the area by their hard work...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am very sorry.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: And only people from Poorvanchal have made their contribution in this. I would like to state the reasons why such incidents are taking place. I will take just two minutes for this...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: How a fullfledged debate can be permitted on this matter?

*[English]*

Please strike out those words.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Athawale jee, please sit down, otherwise you will have to go outside. I would like to send you outside.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I am concluding now. This is narrow minded politics. Who can permit them to violate the Constitution? Can any Indian citizen be permitted to violate the Indian Constitution?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Can any citizen of India be given freedom to play with the spirit of the Indian Constitution? I am asking some questions which are the question of every citizen of the country? We all

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\*Not recorded.



are equal. Whether the State Government of Maharashtra and the Union Government...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody says that it is wrong, but even then this is continuing in the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Everybody should not only abide by the law of the country but they should also behave themselves, otherwise I demand that list of names of such persons should be sent to the Election Commission to strike off their names from electoral roll...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I request you to conclude your speech now. Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain jee.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an organization such as Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena should be banned. Many social and unsocial elements in our country are fuelling rumours about such thing. Such organizations should be banned. I demand that their names should be struck off the electoral roll...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain's submissions should be recorded, and nothing more.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, do you not want the House to run? I would adjourn the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I would not allow this to continue.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Devendra Jee, this is not fair. You are speaking for last ten minutes, what is this?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally I would like to say one thing which Iqbal had said...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I will take only one minute. This is regarding national integration...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is a matter of regret that no one is ready to follow the instruction of Chair.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Please hear me. I want to recite a line.

Gulistan mein gar fulon ka katleam hota hai.  
Sabab kuchh bhi ho, bagbhan badnam hota hai,

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more to be recorded. Now, Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It has been made into more than a debate.

[*Translation*]

I will not allow anyone to speak more than two minutes. Ajmi ji, please take your seat. You will be given opportunity to speak, when I will call you.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not like to say anything new...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Will ten members speak at a time? Leave it to me as to when you will be allowed to speak.

*[English]*

Please do not dictate me.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker. Sir, Prabhunath Singh ji has put-forth all his points. I have risen to lessen the acrimony arising out of the issue, and not to increase it. I would not like to say anything which may create tension between Maharashtra and Bihar. It's a State matter and as the Members of Parliament whatever rights we have...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, Laluji is speaking from there. Unless he listens to the entire thing. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should not pay attention to what he says, rather you should address the Chair while speaking. He speaks good on Railway Budget and has presented a good railway budget too.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: He has not given us anything for Bhagalpur, that's why I am somewhat angry...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, I haven't risen to create any acrimony. It's a very serious matter. The discussion that has been taken up here has been a matter of discussion in Maharashtra. The statements made by them have also hurt the religious sentiments. People celebrate the festival of Chhathha all over Bihar and Uttar Pradesh with traditional fervour and quiety. It needs no certificate from anybody as to how we celebrate our festivals. Like the festival of Ganapati which is celebrated with pomp and show in Maharashtra, the Puja on the festival of Chhathha is performed all over the country and world. That's why I feel the statement made by him is very wrong.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not like to go into history. I wouldn't like to be indulged in Sher-o Shayari. Frankly, I would like to say that now-a-days there is a practice of getting popularity by making irrelevant statements. I do not blame the person who made the statement to disturb the unity and integrity of the country, rather I want to blame this Government, which has the National

Security Law; the MACOCA that can be used against anyone who makes statement to disturb the unity and integrity of the country. You kept them silent for so many days and you gave them full publicity...*(Interruptions)* I want to blame the Congress-led UPA Government at the Centre. Since they have not come to power in Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The State Government is not here. That is the problem. You cannot tell the Statement Government.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not even started speaking as yet. I am not blaming. I am fixing the responsibility of the Government...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The State Government is not present here.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: It's the responsibility of the UPA Government. There is UPA Government at the Centre as well as in State...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramjital Suman.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not even started speaking and you are asking me to conclude. I seek your patronage...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have spoken very well.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I will conclude within a minute. My charge is that the Union Government has deliberately allowed this issue to rise. If such a person had been arrested under the National Security on the very first day this issue would not have got so much publicity. Since the Congress Party is no more in power in Bihar, that's why it has no attachment with the North Indians. Therefore, the Congress Party is deliberately getting the north Indians there disgraced by a party and has allowed this issue to rise...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything more.

*...(Interruptions)\***[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not come to my point as yet.

MR. SPEAKER: Your submission is over. Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Your name is not Ramji Lal Suman.

*...(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Ramji Lal Suman's submission will be recorded. Nothing more will be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: After I have said, "Nothing will be recorded", nothing more will be recorded. Only Shri Ramji Lal Suman's statement will be recorded.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal, please be quick. Conclude your speech within a minute.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as my learned colleagues have just said, it is a very serious issue. Nearly 1 crore 60 lac people live in Mumbai and out of them, approximately 45 lac people are north Indians. North Indians have contributed a lot in building today's Mumbai. Mr. Speaker, Sir, Gujaratis and Marwaris have their hold over big industries in Mumbai. People from Uttar Pradesh and people of U.P. and Biharis are engaged in milk business whereas most of the transport business is done by the Punjabis. Therefore, entire country has contributed in shaping up today's Mumbai. Hence, occurrence of such incidents cannot be termed as State subject. The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India

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*\*Not recorded.*

is supposed to maintain law and order in the country. It is the duty of Government of India to ensure that nobody is allowed to create tension in the country in the name of language, religion and regionalism.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would very humbly like to say that the Samajwadi Party organized a rally on 3rd February in Mumbai and prior to that the President of Maharashtra Navnirman Sena...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not naming anyone, I know, he had started making statements, and counter statements. I would like to know as to what the Government was doing there for ten days...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody can reply here. This is the problem.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking questions about the State Government. Nobody is here to reply for them. This is the problem.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Ministry of Home Affairs that the case was registered on February, 11. It is my allegation that the case was made so weak that the culprits got bail very easily on such a serious question...*(Interruptions)*. Stringent action needs to be taken against such elements...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 20 thousand people fled from Nasik only. It is a very grave incident. I would like to submit to you that in fact the point is that the President of the 'Nav Nirman Sena'...*(Interruptions)\** is engaged in gaining political ground...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sumanji, you have already spoken for two minutes.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, elections to the State Legislative Assembly are due to be held in near future. This is being done to gain mileage in the Assembly elections...*(Interruptions)*. Strict action should be taken against this person...*(Interruptions)*

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*\*Not recorded.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more to be recorded but the speech of Shri Ilyas Azmi.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything more.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. I would like to make a point associating myself with Shri Prabhunath Singh ji, Devendra Prasad Yadav ji and Ramji Lal Suman ji. I am observing that for the first time a man talked non-sense and resorted to hooliganism and conscience of a whole nation was awakened in Mumbai. The country would have been saved from a number of tragedies had the conscience of the nation been awakened on December, 6, 1992 and January 7, 1993 when in this very Mumbai the government of Congress Party, their police and the 'Shiv Sena' and all others had connived at murdering humanity...(Interruptions). Now the conscience has awakened albeit somewhat late. Massacre of Sikhs occurred here in Delhi. If the conscience of the nation had been awakened at that time the country would have probably been saved from a number of tragedies...(Interruptions). I welcome it that for first time conscience of our country has awakened and the person who has awakened it also deserves thanks...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please just refer to the matter. Only one minute is allowed for you Md. Salim.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter and I understand that at present our country is passing through a phase of global economy on the one hand and local politics on the other. It is competitive politics. The people who consider themselves pan-nationalists become pan-Maharashtrians in Mumbai. Efforts have been made since independence to develop Mumbai as an economic hub of the country in a planned way. It was the policy of the Government. The economy

\*Not recorded.

was pushed to shift it westwards from the eastern and northern region. I am not talking of regionalism. The current state of economy will lead to internal migration. Due to economic factors people will migrate from one place to the other. This trend is growing not only in our country but in the entire world also.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, South Indians who at that time were called as Madrasi whether they be Malayalis, Telugus, Kannadigas or they be people from Chennai were targeted and assaulted. It is a wound, which has been festering for the last few months. You are talking of the M.N.S. It is only one wound but there lies even greater malady there...(Interruptions)\*

In this way they resorted to such kind of politics a competitive politics wherein every one is free to kill, stab, burn and vandalise and reach a political understanding. Whether it be the N.D.A. or the Congress party.

They have been encouraging such elements. It is causing immense damage to the nation as well as the national unity...(Interruptions). I hail from the city of Kolkata where also people migrate from different States of the country. At present 40 thousand people belonging to Bengal have been made to flee from Mumbai who work in gem and jewellery industry. 40 thousand people of Midnapur district along with the people of Bihar and U.P. in the name of Bengal...(Interruptions).

I understand that the Union Government should issue directives to the Government of Maharashtra. ...(Interruptions)\* It is not electoral politics but a matter of fact...(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever has been said about the State Government.

[English]

That will be deleted.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I neither rise to support whatever has been done by the activists of Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena in Maharashtra particularly in Mumbai nor I want to plead for the same, but some incidents took place in Mumbai and prior to all this some other incidents had also taken place in Assam. ...(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai):  
When incidents had taken place in Assam, could they  
take place in Maharashtra?...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow any more on this.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
they are doing politics...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Just listen to me  
whether I am doing politics any some one is doing  
politics?...(*Interruptions*).

MD. SALIM:...(*Interruptions*)\*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: By referring to  
their names...(*Interruptions*)\* can you speak here anything  
you want to? ...(*Interruptions*)

MD. SALIM: An article in this regard has been  
published in the 'Samna' newspaper...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted that. Why are you  
saying that?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
can they speak anything and level any allegation by taking  
the name any one they want.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted that.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: For this, you and  
the leaders like you are responsible...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunathji, I knew that this would  
happen. So I had requested you, but you did not listen  
to me. Okay, let them do one more partition of the  
country.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
I have already said that I am not rising in support of  
anyone nor advocating for someone...(*Interruptions*). I am  
blaming only however, please listen to me...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Geeteji, why are you speaking while  
looking over there? You address me.

...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
earlier in Assam terror was unleashed severely in Assam  
over this issue...(*Interruptions*). Laluji, You may please  
listen to me...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Geeteji, only that will go on record  
which you speak while addressing me.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
many Biharis had been killed there. In Mumbai, nothing  
happened like this. But uproar has been created much  
more than what was the reality. This is the fact; you  
should understand this thing. In fact, there was no need  
to discuss it here...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very sad day for the country.

[*Translation*]

If the House runs like this, what will happen?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you not want to run the House?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Our demand is that the headquarters of the Reserve Bank of India should be shifted to Delhi...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not write one word that is said without my permission.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: What kind of job you have given me. I was not even interested. Spare me from this job.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We are behaving in this manner!

*[Translation]*

I appeal you. Think whether this is proper for the country?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, those who do not want me to speak are responsible for this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Speak on the issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not proper.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:...*(Interruptions)\**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: That will be deleted from the record.

*[Translation]*

Delete it.

...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Package to Farmers

\*61. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to implement the recommendations made by the Radhakrishna Committee on rural indebtedness and to devise a new package for farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated funds to be allocated to implement the package;

(c) the estimated number of farmers who have gone out of the institutional credit system in the country at present; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that farmers are not deprived of the loan schemes of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Expert Group on Agricultural Indebtedness constituted by the Government of India under the chairmanship of Prof. R. Radhakrishna has submitted its report to the Government and it is the public domain.

A scheme of debt waiver and debt relief for farmers has been announced by the Government in the Union Budget for 2008-09. Under the Scheme, all agricultural loans disbursed by scheduled commercial banks, regional and rural banks and cooperative credit institutions up to March 31, 2007 and overdue as on December 31, 2007 will be covered under the scheme.

For marginal farmers (i.e., holding upto 1 hectare) and small farmers (1-2 hectare), there will be a complete waiver of all loans that were overdue on December 31, 2007 and which remained unpaid until February 29, 2008. In respect of other farmers, there will be a one time settlement (OTS) scheme for all loans that were overdue on December 31, 2007 and which remained unpaid until February 29, 2008. Under the OTS, a rebate of 25 per cent will be given against payment of the balance of 75 per cent. Agricultural loans restructured and rescheduled by banks in 2004 and 2006 through special packages and other loans rescheduled in the normal course as per

RBI guidelines, will also be eligible either for a waiver or an OTS on the same pattern. The total value of overdue loans being waived is estimated at Rs. 50,000 crore and the OTS relief on the overdue loans is estimated at Rs. 10,000 crore.

(c) Such information is not being captured by the existing data reporting system of the banks.

(d) Details are given in the statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

The Government of India has, in recent years, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and NABARD, initiated several steps in providing more credit facilities to the farmers. Some of the important initiatives are detailed below:

1. The Reserve Bank had constituted a Working Group to suggest measures to further simplify the procedures so as to reduce the cost and time for obtaining agricultural loans, especially by small and marginal farmers. Three recommendations, *viz.*, dispensing with no dues certificate (NDS) for small loans upto Rs. 50,000; considering opening of counselling centres and extending credit to the landless labourers, sharecroppers and oral lessees based on the certificates provided by local administration/ Panchayati Raj institutions of the Working Group were accepted and banks were advised accordingly.
2. Based on the Interim Recommendations of the Committee on Financial inclusion headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan, constitution of two Funds, *i.e.*, the "Financial Inclusion Fund" with NABARD, for meeting the cost of developmental and promotional interventions, and a "Financial Inclusion Technology Fund" to meet the costs of technology adoption was announced in the Union Budget (2007-08). Each Fund will have an overall corpus of Rs. 500 crore, with initial funding to be contributed by the Central Government, RBI and NABARD in the ratio of 40:40:20. The implementation of a comprehensive policy for financial inclusion is expected to increase the access of vulnerable sections of the rural population to financial services, including credit.

3. Considering that high rates of interest often act as deterrent to farmers from availing farm credit, it was announced in the Union Budget (2006-07), that crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakh would be given at 7% rate of interest. Accordingly, crop loans are presently being made available at 7% at the ground level by almost all banks with interest subvention from the Government of India. This scheme is continued for 2007-08 and 2008-09 also.

4. Banks have also been advised to:

- i. simplify the procedure for documentation in respect of agricultural loans;
- ii. loans upto Rs. 50,000/- have been made collateral free;
- iii. to provide all eligible farmers with Kisan Credit Cards to enable them to have hassle free access to credit.

5. As part of the measures announced by the Reserve Bank of India for financial inclusion, banks have been advised to issue General Credit Cards upto Rs. 25,000/- without insisting on security and end of funds.

6. The Government of India announced a comprehensive Farm Credit Package in June 2004 for doubling the credit to agriculture in three years (2004-05 to 2006-07), which among other things, stipulated the following:

- i. The scheduled banks (Commercial banks and RRBs) were advised to finance 50 lakh new farmers during each of the three years. The target of covering 50 lakh new farmers has been surpassed during each of the three years.
- ii. The Package also included certain debt relief measures for farmers in distress and farmers in arrears to enable them to get fresh credit. Besides, One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme for small and marginal farmers and relief to farmers indebted to non institutional lenders such as moneylenders etc. were also implemented to enable them to access fresh credit from banks.

7. To improve the outreach among the poor and the informal sector, NABARD has pioneered the SHG-Bank linkage programme which has since become the largest SHG programme in the world. Banks have also been advised to finance Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) and Tenant Farmers' Groups (TFGs):
8. Banks have been advised to undertake, on a pilot basis, 100% financial inclusion in at least one district in each State. Based on the success of the pilot, the State Level Bankers Committee in the States will draw a time-table for achieving 100% financial inclusion in other districts of the State.
9. To improve the financial outreach, detailed guidelines for Banking Correspondent/Banking Facilitator models have been provided to banks by RBI.
10. Pilots have also been undertaken for improving outreach in areas with difficult geographical terrain/remote areas (experiencing lack of infrastructure and where banks may find it uneconomical to open branches) through the use of Technology (including information technology). Many banks are examining ways and means to replicate the pilot.
11. In order to mitigate distress of farmers in 31 debt-ridden districts of Maharashtra (6), Andhra Pradesh (16), Karnataka (6) and Kerala (3), the Hon'ble Prime Minister announced a Rehabilitation Package, including waiver of entire interest on overdue agricultural loans as on 01.07.2006, so as to make farmers immediately eligible for fresh loans from the banking system. Additional farm credit flow is being ensured in these 31 districts through the banking sector.
12. The Cooperative credit system, which are the main financial institution for catering to the credit needs of the farmers more particularly the small and marginal farmers, have become sick due to financial, structural and managerial weaknesses. In order to revive the short-term rural cooperative credit institutions, a package of measures as

recommended by the Vaidyanathan Committee with estimated financial outlay of Rs. 13596 crore, is under implementation. So far, 17 States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have executed the MoUs with Government of India and NABARD for implementation of the revival package.

13. The Central Government and the State Government have reached an agreement on the content of the package to implement the Prof. Vaidyanathan Committee's report on reviving the long-term cooperative credit structure. The cost of the package is estimated at Rs. 3,074 crore, of which the Central Government's share will be Rs. 2,642 crore or 86 per cent of the total burden.

#### Revision of Defence Procurement Policy

\*62. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revise the Defence Procurement Policy;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering any scheme to involve indigenous companies and also the Multinational Companies operating in the country in the defence deals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):  
(a) to (d) Government promulgated Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP-2006) with effect from 1st September, 2006 to ensure expeditious procurement of the approved requirements of the Armed Forces in terms of capabilities sought and time frame prescribed.

DPP-2006 provides for review of the procurement procedure after every two years in the light of the practical experience gained in its implementation.



To encourage participation by Indian companies and strengthen the domestic technical/Industrial base, Capital Acquisitions have been categorized in the Defence Procurement Procedure-2006 as under:-

- i. Acquisitions covered under the 'Buy' decision. Buy would mean an outright purchase of equipment. Based on the source of procurement, this category would be classified as 'Buy (Indian)' and 'Buy (Global)'. 'Indian' would mean Indian vendors only and 'Global' would mean foreign as well as Indian vendors. 'Buy Indian' must have minimum 30% indigenous content if the systems are being integrated by an Indian vendor.
- ii. Acquisitions covered under the 'Buy & Make' decision would mean purchase from a foreign vendor followed by licensed production/indigenous manufacture in the country.
- iii. Acquisitions covered under the 'Make' decision would include high technology complex systems to be designed, developed and produced indigenously.

[*Translation*]

#### **Pending Irrigation Projects**

\*63. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several centrally assisted major/medium irrigation projects which commenced during the Ninth and the Tenth Five Year Plans are still incomplete;

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

(c) whether the work on the construction of the said projects has been reviewed during the last one year;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the future road map for completion of remaining projects and the new projects to be taken up during the Eleventh Plan Period; and

(e) the Central Loan Assistance/Grants provided by the Union Government to States during the last three years, State-wise and project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) So far Central Assistance under AIBP has been provided to 236 major and medium projects/project components. Of these, 177 projects were taken up under AIBP during 9th and 10th Plan. So far, 91 projects/project components have been completed which includes 61 projects of 9th and 10th Plan.

(b) Project-wise and State-wise details are enclosed as statement.

(c) As per existing procedure, all the major and medium projects under AIBP are monitored by the Central Water Commission by paying field visits twice a year which is to be followed up by the submission of Monitoring Report to the Ministry of Water Resources and other concerned offices including Water Resources/Irrigation Department of the State Governments. Periodic Reviews have also being taken from time to time by the Ministry of Water Resources with the State Governments.

(d) On the basis of reviews and monitoring done from time to time, the Ministry of Water Resources has initiated several measures to expedite completion of ongoing irrigation projects under AIBP which includes vigorous monitoring of the projects, linking utilization of Central Assistance to physical achievements in terms of potential creation, release of grants based on Memorandum of Understanding and Utilization Certificates, taking up new projects only against completion of one ongoing project etc. These measures have resulted in record potential creation under AIBP of 9.37 lakh ha. during 2006-07.

The projects to be included in AIBP in the Eleventh Plan are ongoing projects under AIBP spilling over from Tenth plan, ongoing and new projects of the Prime Minister's Relief Package for agrarian distress districts, projects benefiting drought prone/tribal areas, projects benefiting States having irrigation development below National Average and new projects based on 1:1 criteria.

(e) A Statement indicating State-wise names of the ongoing AIBP projects, year of inclusion in AIBP, present status of completion, anticipated date of completion, Central Assistance provided during 2004-05 up to 27th February 2008, targeted potential under AIBP and potential created up to March 2007 is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

(Thousand hectare)

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Miner & Medium Irrigation Projects	Plan of Inclusion in AIBP	Year of Inclusion in AIBP	Completed in year	Anticipated Completion	On schedule /delayed	Target potential under AIBP	Potential created upto March, 2007	Percentage of Pot. Creation	CLA/Grant released during				Total CLA/Grant released 2004-05 to 2007-08
										2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>														
1.	Sriramsagar S.I	VIII	1996-97	2005-06	Completed		122.56	117.91	96.21	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Cheyyeru(Annarnaya)	VIII	1996-97	2003-04	Completed		5.26	5.26	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Priyadarshini Jurala	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		40.16	40.16	100.00	59.63	17.89	0.00		77.52
4.	Somasila	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		32.28	23.00	71.25	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
5.	Nagarjunasagar	IX	1998-99	2005-06	Completed		27.94	25.07	89.72	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Madduraisa	IX	1998-99	2005-06	Completed		9.39	9.39	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
7.	Gundalavagu	IX	2000-01	2007-08	Completed		1.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
8.	Maddigedda	IX	2000-01	2006-07	Completed		0.60	0.00	0.00	0.90	0.00	0.00		0.90
9.	Kanupur Canal	IX	2000-01		Deferred		0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
10.	Yerrakalva Res.	IX	2000-01		XI Plan	Delayed	10.00	3.64	36.40	5.84	0.00	0.00		5.84
11.	Vamedhara St-II Ph 1	X	2003-04		2007-08	On schedule	17.10	10.93	63.91	21.18	0.00	6.68		27.86
12.	FFC of SRSP	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	86.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	127.40		247.40
13.	SRSP St II	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	178.07	8.16	4.58	0.00	2.27	72.00		74.27
14.	Tadipudi LIS	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	83.61	4.98	5.98	0.00		48.22		48.22
15.	Pushkara LIS	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	75.24	4.98	6.63	0.00		33.12	13.97	47.08
16.	Relivagu	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	2.43	0.00	0.00	0.00		6.71		6.71
17.	Gollavagu	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	3.85	0.00	0.00	0.00		28.35	32.12	60.47
18.	Mathadivagu	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	3.44	0.00	0.00	0.00		28.35		28.35
19.	Peddavagu	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	5.26	0.00	0.00	0.00		50.63		50.63
20.	Nitwei	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	5.26	0.00	0.00	0.00		2.85	15.55	18.40
21.	Sri Komaram Bheem	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	9.91	0.00	0.00	0.00		7.78	74.54	82.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22.	Alisagar LIS	X	2006-07	2007-08	Completed		21.77	21.77	100.00	0.00		13.50	2.87	16.37
23.	Guthpa LIS	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	15.70	0.00	0.00	0.00		10.95	6.55	17.50
24.	J. Chouda Rao LIS	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	266.23	0.00	0.00	0.00		298.13	405.00	703.13
25.	Veligalu	X	2006-07		2007-08	On schedule	9.73	5.67	58.27	0.00		36.09	26.25	62.34
26.	Gundlakdamma	X	2005-06		2007-08	On schedule	32.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.61	39.74		99.35
27.	Swamamukhi	X	2005-06		2007-08	On schedule	4.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.93	5.93		11.86
28.	Tarakarama thirtha Sagaram	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.01			33.01
29.	Palermvagu	X	2005-06		2007-08	On schedule	4.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.54			9.54
30.	Thotapally Barrage	X	2005-06		2009-10	On schedule	48.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.14			63.14
	Total						1136.14	280.93		87.55	311.38	816.42	576.85	1792.20
	ASSAM													
1.	Pahumara	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	11.76	10.60	90.14	0.08	1.76			1.83
2.	Hawaipur lift	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		3.04	3.04	100.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
3.	Rupahi	VIII	1996-97	2001-02	Completed		0.20	0.20	100.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
4.	Dhanairi	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	68.37	26.00	38.03	0.00	0.00			0.00
5.	Champarnati	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	24.99	1.45	5.80	0.00	0.00			0.00
6.	Borolia	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	13.56	1.50	11.06	0.00	3.60			3.60
7.	Boradikarai	IX	1997-98	2004-05	Completed		8.59	7.20	83.82	0.00	0.00			0.00
8.	Burhi Dihing	IX	1997-98		2008-09	Delayed	4.49	1.93	42.96	0.00	0.00			0.00
9.	Intg. Irr. Scheme in Kailong Basin	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		9.29	4.42	47.58	0.00	0.00			0.00
10.	Kailonga @	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		2.69	2.60	96.65	0.00	0.00			0.00
11.	Mod. of Jamuna Irr.	IX	2001-02		2008-09	Delayed	13.76	8.50	61.78	0.00	7.25			7.25
	Total						160.74	67.44	41.96	0.08	12.60	0.00	0.00	12.68
	BIHAR													
1.	Western Kosi	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	212.05	144.80	68.29	19.88	5.96	1.70	16.30	43.84
2.	Upper Kosi	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		12.18	12.18	100.00	1.34	0.08	0.00		1.41

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3.	Durgawati	VIII	1996-97		Deferred	Delayed	20.30	3.30	16.26	0.00	1.40	0.00		1.40
	Banesgar	IX	1997-98		2007-08	Delayed	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Omi Reservoir	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		9.56	9.46	98.99	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
5.	Bilal Reservoir	IX	1997-98	2000-01	Completed		4.00	4.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Sone Modernisation	IX	1998-99		2007-08	Delayed	314.58	264.64	84.12	16.00	8.80	1.53	14.67	41.00
7.	Babane	IX	2000-01		2011-12	Delayed	2.49	0.83	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Total						575.15	439.21	76.36	37.22	16.24	3.23	30.97	87.65
<b>JHARKHAND</b>														
1.	Gumari	IX	1997-98		2008-09	Delayed	16.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.36	0.39	3.71	5.46
2.	Toral	IX	1997-98		Deferred	Delayed	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Lairatu	IX	1997-98	2002-03	Completed		6.10	6.10	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Kansjore	IX	1997-98		2008-09	Delayed	6.29	4.50	71.54	0.00	0.48	0.00		0.48
5.	Sonua	IX	1997-98		2008-09	Delayed	8.01	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.71	0.00	0.90	7.60
6.	Surangi	IX	1997-98		2008-09	Delayed	2.60	0.00	0.00	2.53	0.00	0.00	1.13	3.66
7.	Tapkara Reservoir	IX	1997-98	2002-03	Completed		1.82	1.52	83.56	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
8.	Upper Santh	X	2004-05		2008-09	On schedule	7.07	1.86	26.31	8.27	1.44	0.90		10.61
9.	Panchikhero	X	2004-05		2008-09	On schedule	3.09	0.00	0.00	4.50	1.05	0.00		5.54
	Total						59.17	13.98	23.63	21.29	5.04	1.29	5.74	33.36
<b>GOA</b>														
1.	Saleauli	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		6.44	6.29	97.67	0.65	0.00	0.00		0.65
2.	Tilari	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	14.52	0.86	5.92	0.00	0.00	1.91	18.34	20.25
	Total						20.96	7.15	34.11	0.65	0.00	1.91	18.34	20.90
<b>GUJARAT</b>														
1.	Sardar Sarovar	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	1792.00	394.10	21.99	530.50	339.60	121.89	350.00	1341.99
2.	Jhuj	VIII	1996-97	1999-2000	Completed		2.91	2.91	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Mukteshwar	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		5.07	4.57	90.21	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Spu	VIII	1996-97	1999-2000	Completed		1.02	1.02	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00

1	2	3.	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
5.	Demanganga	IX	1987-98	1998-2000	Completed		6.89	6.89	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Karjan	IX	1987-98	1999-2000	Completed		5.99	5.99	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
7.	Sukhi	IX	1987-98	1999-2000	Completed		3.49	3.49	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
8.	Deo	IX	1987-98	1987-98	Completed		0.10	0.10	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
9.	Watrak	IX	1987-98	1999-2000	Completed		3.71	3.71	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
10.	Harnav - II	VIII	1986-97	1987-98	Completed		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
11.	Umaria	VIII	1986-97	1986-97	Completed		0.16	0.16	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
12.	Aji-IV	IX	2000-01		2010	Delayed	3.75	0.93	24.80	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
13.	Ozat-II	IX	2000-01		2010	Delayed	1.80	0.56	31.11	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
14.	Brahmini-II	IX	2000-01		2010	Delayed	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
15.	Bhadar-II	X	2002-03		2010	Delayed	1.50	0.50	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Total						1829.18	424.73	23.22	530.50	339.80	121.89	350.00	1341.99
	<b>HARYANA</b>													
1.	Gurgaon Canal	VIII	1986-97	2003-04	Completed		20.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	J. L. N. Lift Irr.	IX	1987-98		Deferred		69.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	WRCP	VIII	1986-97	2006-07	Completed		131.97	109.09	82.66	11.14	6.00	3.17		20.31
	Total						220.97	109.09	49.37	11.14	6.00	3.17	0.00	20.31
	<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b>													
1.	Shahnehar Irr. Project	IX	1987-98		2008-09	Delayed	24.76	2.51	10.14	0.00	8.83	0.72	21.41	30.96
2.	Sidhata	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	5.35	0.15	2.71	1.13	6.08	1.00	25.73	33.93
3.	Changar Lift Irr. Project	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	3.04	0.00	0.00	0.84	1.15	0.50	23.40	25.69
	Total						33.15	2.66	8.01	1.77	16.06	2.22	70.54	90.58
	<b>JAMMU &amp; KASHMIR</b>													
1.	Manwal Lift*	VIII	1986-97	2006-07	Completed		11.39	11.39	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Lethpora Lift*	VIII	1986-97	2006-07	Completed		2.66	2.66	100.00	0.45	0.30	0.00		0.75
3.	Koili Lift*	VIII	1986-97	2006-07	Completed		2.15	2.15	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Mod. of Ranbir Canal*	IX	1999-2000		2009-10	Delayed	7.67	1.76	22.95	0.00	7.56	0.00	17.88	25.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
5.	Mod. of New Pratap Canal*	IX	1999-2000	2006-07	Completed		1.29	1.21	98.37	0.00	2.92	2.70		5.82
6.	Mod. of Kathua Canal	IX	1999-2000	2006-07	Completed		3.21	3.21	100.09	0.00	1.00	0.00		1.00
7.	Rajpora Lift	IX	2000-01		2006-09	Delayed	2.43	0.00	0.00	1.42	4.77	1.89	9.36	17.44
8.	Trail Lift	IX	2000-01		2006-10	Delayed	6.00	0.00	0.00	1.55	4.42	1.85	9.18	17.00
9.	Igophey Irr. Pr.	IX	2000-01	2006-07		Completed	3.47	3.47	100.00	0.50	0.27	0.00		0.77
10.	Mod. of Zaingir Canal	IX	2001-02	2006-07		Completed	2.14	2.14	100.00	1.00	0.70	0.00		1.70
11.	Rafabad High Lift Irr.	IX	2001-02		2006-09	Delayed	2.93	0.00	0.00	2.39	2.83	1.85	7.83	14.70
12.	Mod. of Dadri Canal	X	2006-07		2006-10	On schedule	2.57	0.00	0.00	0.00		3.27	12.52	15.79
13.	Mod. of Mastand Canal	X	2006-07		2006-10	On schedule	6.50	0.00	0.00	0.00		4.46		4.46
14.	Mod. of Mav Khul	X	2006-07		2006-10	On schedule	9.35	0.00	0.00	0.00		2.43	0.92	3.35
15.	Mod. of Babel Canal	XI	2007-08		2008-09	On schedule	3.04	0.00	0.00	0.00			1.45	1.45
16.	Mod. of Kanali Canal	XI	2007-08		2010-11	On schedule	4.20	0.00	0.00	0.00			6.52	6.52
	Total						70.94	27.99	39.46	7.30	24.78	18.25	65.66	115.97
<b>KARNATAKA</b>														
1.	Upper Krishna SL I	VIII	1996-97		2007-08	Delayed	169.00	147.19	87.09	98.48	17.38	32.66	43.52	192.03
2.	Melaprabha	VIII	1996-97		2007-08	Delayed	56.63	37.49	66.20	12.00	6.00	13.50		31.50
3.	Hirehalla	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		8.33	4.42	53.06	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Ghataprabha	IX	1997-98		2007-08	Delayed	139.96	106.17	75.86	62.09	19.50	30.81		112.40
5.	Karanja	IX	1997-98		XI Plan	Delayed	30.94	18.12	58.56	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Upper Krishna ST.II	IX	2001-02		2007-08	Delayed	178.32	99.05	55.55	204.68	95.36	78.66	104.81	483.51
7.	Gandori Nala	IX	2001-02		2007-08	Delayed	8.09	6.28	77.38	19.05	2.54	4.75	45.53	71.87
8.	Mankinalah	X	2002-03	2003-04	Completed		3.00	3.00	100.00	0.00				0.00
9.	Votehole	XI	2007-08		2007-08	On schedule	0.00	0.00		0.00			0.29	0.29
	Total						594.27	421.70	70.96	396.30	140.78	180.37	194.15	891.59
<b>KERALA</b>														
1.	Kallada	VIII	1996-97	2004-05	Completed		9.28	9.28	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Muvattupuzha	IX	2000-01		2007-08	Delayed	28.23	23.47	83.14	49.44	9.36	13.93		72.73

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3.	Karapuzha	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	8.72	0.00	0.00	0.00		2.72		2.72
	Total						46.23	32.75	70.84	49.44	9.36	16.65	0.00	75.45
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>														
1.	Indira Sagar	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	62.20	10.95	17.60	124.94	41.95	9.89	94.77	271.55
2.	Bansagar Unit-I	VIII	1996-97	2007-08	Completed		0.00	0.00		28.53	15.60	0.83	7.95	52.91
	Bansagar Unit-II	X	2003-04		2008-09	Delayed	123.83	40.96	33.13	68.00	18.14	4.04	38.70	128.88
3.	Upper Wainganga	VIII	1996-97	2002-03	Completed		35.25	30.50	88.52	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Rajghat Dam	IX	1998-99		2007-08	Delayed	0.00	0.00		12.00	0.00	0.00		12.00
4.	Sindh Phase II	IX	1998-99		2009-10	Delayed	83.29	48.73	58.51	114.22	24.53	0.00		138.75
5.	Sindh Phase I	IX	1999-2000	2007-08	Completed		10.58	5.21	49.26	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Mahi	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	26.43	10.41	39.39	32.00	8.26	5.36	33.20	78.82
7.	Barierpur LBC	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	43.85	0.00	0.00	26.19	6.38	0.76	7.25	40.58
8.	Urmil RBC	IX	2000-01	2002-03	Completed		1.69	1.69	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
9.	Banjar	IX	2000-01	2002-03	Completed		1.10	1.10	99.55	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
10.	Bewanthadi	X	2003-04		2008-09	Delayed	29.41	0.00	0.00	27.89	2.45	0.51	4.92	35.77
11.	Mahan	X	2003-04		2008-09	Delayed	19.74	0.00	0.00	11.57	4.80	0.37	3.49	20.23
12.	Omkareeshwar	X	2003-04		2008-09	Delayed	28.32	0.00	0.00	71.36	9.11	1.99	19.08	101.54
13.	Bargi Diversion Ph - I	X	2005-08		2008-09	Delayed	21.19	1.10	5.19	0.00	25.55	0.00		25.55
	Bargi Diversion Ph - II	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	31.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.33	2.06	19.78	33.15
	Total						518.58	150.65	29.05	516.70	168.10	25.81	229.12	839.73
<b>CHHATTISGARH</b>														
1.	Haadeo Bango	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		86.80	86.50	99.88	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Shivnath Diversion	IX	1997-98	2002-03	Completed		5.24	5.24	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Jonk Diversion	IX	1999-2000	2006-07	Completed		9.57	7.78	81.30	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Kosarteda	X	2002-03		2008-09	Delayed	11.12	0.00	0.00	2.93	1.56	0.00		4.49
5.	Mahanadi Res. Pr.	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	13.88	11.94	86.00	0.00	6.10	0.00	7.50	13.60
6.	Bamai	X	2002-03	2006-07	Completed		1.51	1.14	75.80	0.00				0.00
	Total						127.92	112.60	88.02	2.93	7.66	0.00	7.50	18.09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>														
1.	Goalthurd	VIII	1996-97		2011	On schedule	18.91	12.71	67.23	152.00	30.05	2.09	20.03	204.97
2.	Surya	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		2.97	0.46	15.50	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Waghur	VIII	1996-97		2010	Delayed	26.33	0.00	0.00	15.34	7.61	4.34	41.58	68.87
4.	Bhima	IX	1997-98	2006-07	Completed		58.78	44.02	74.91	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
5.	Upper Tapi	IX	1997-98	2004-05	Completed		1.40	1.40	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Upper Wardha	IX	1997-98		2008-09	On schedule	37.26	34.52	92.66	43.94	0.00	29.04	19.87	92.85
7.	Wan	IX	1998-99	2005-06	Completed		15.28	14.92	97.68	6.53	0.00	0.00		6.53
8.	Jaykvedi Stage-II	IX	2000-01	2004-05	Completed		7.27	7.27	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
9.	Vahnupuri	IX	2000-01	2005-06	Completed		2.64	2.64	100.00	0.00	1.41	0.00		1.41
10.	Bahula	IX	2000-01	2006-07	Completed		4.30	3.03	70.43	5.00	0.57	0.00		5.57
11.	Krishna	X	2002-03		2007-08	Delayed	19.59	15.20	77.60	29.55	13.92	82.80	8.24	134.51
12.	Kukadi	X	2002-03		2007-08	Delayed	53.14	51.79	97.45	62.95	24.29	41.62	55.46	184.32
13.	Upper Manar	X	2002-03		2009-10	Delayed	8.28	0.00	0.00	17.14	5.40	4.00		26.53
14.	Hetwani	X	2002-03		2008-09	Delayed	6.17	0.91	14.75	35.00	9.00	0.00		35.00
15.	Chaskaman	X	2002-03		2007-08	Delayed	26.19	25.00	95.46	48.50	10.30	9.26	12.34	80.41
16.	Upper Pen Ganga	X	2004-05		2010-11	On schedule	24.62	14.55	59.09	50.12	2.48	5.89		58.49
	Bawanthadi	X	2004-05		2007-08	On schedule	27.71	0.00	0.00	30.47	13.60	0.29	2.76	47.12
17.	Lower Dudhna	X	2005-06		2009-10	On schedule	29.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	26.76		50.76
	Tilari	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	8.50	1.66	25.54	0.00	-8.16	1.06	23.07	32.29
18.	Wana	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	54.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.00	0.00		9.00
19.	Nandur Madhmeshwar	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	24.62	5.00	20.31	0.00		16.53	22.03	38.56
20.	Punad	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	10.85	0.00	0.00	0.00		15.98		15.98
21.	Wan - II	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00		2.03		2.03
22.	Pothra Nalla	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	5.07	0.00	0.00	0.00		5.63	4.53	10.16
23.	Shivna Takli	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	6.39	2.00	31.30	0.00	4.43	11.97		16.40
24.	Tajapur LIS	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	3.62	0.00	0.00	0.00		2.50		2.50



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25.	Kadakpurna	X	2006-07		2009-10	On schedule	9.64	0.20	2.07	0.00		5.89	56.46	62.37
26.	Arunavati	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	0.77	0.56	73.08	0.00		0.59	11.85	12.44
27.	Lainala	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	7.14	0.15	2.10	0.00		5.90	14.27	20.17
28.	Kar	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	3.24	1.00	30.83	0.00		4.21	7.88	12.09
29.	Lower Wardha	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	21.12	0.00	0.00	0.00		29.93		29.93
30.	Utawali	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	5.07	1.50	29.56	0.00		10.25	7.47	17.72
31.	Purna	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	7.51	4.29	57.15	0.00		22.12	20.37	42.49
32.	Kadvi	X	2002-03	2004-05	Completed		0.37	0.37	100.00	7.00				7.00
33.	Kumbhi	X	2002-03	2006-07	Completed		5.43	5.43	100.00	9.30				9.30
34.	Kasari	X	2002-03	2004-06	Completed		1.24	1.24	100.00	0.76				0.76
35.	Kasarnai	X	2002-03	2004-05	Completed		3.04	3.04	100.00	0.00				0.00
36.	Jawalgaon	X	2002-03	2004-05	Completed		1.81	1.81	100.00	1.37				1.37
37.	Khadakwaala	X	2002-03	2004-05	Completed		0.62	0.62	100.00	2.78				2.78
38.	Patgaon	X	2004-05	2006-07	Completed		1.99	1.99	99.90	10.75	3.23			13.98
39.	Madan Tank	X	2005-06		2007-08	On schedule	3.28	2.58	78.66	0.00	1.51			1.51
40.	Dongargason	X	2005-06		2008-10	On schedule	2.77	1.18	42.66	0.00	1.51			1.51
41.	Amravati	X	2005-06		2007-08	On schedule	2.61	2.61	100.15	0.00	1.18			1.18
42.	Gul	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	3.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.74			4.74
43.	Bembla	XI	2007-08		2010-11	On schedule	52.54	0.00	0.00	0.00			166.36	166.36
44.	Chandrabhaga	XI	2007-08		2008-09	On schedule	1.92	0.00		0.00			11.49	11.49
45.	Sapan	XI	2007-08		2009-10	On schedule	4.43	0.00		0.00			41.35	41.35
	Total						621.63	265.64	42.73	529.29	167.38	340.69	547.43	1584.79
	MANIPUR													
1.	Khuga	VIII	1996-97		2006-09	Delayed	15.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	31.63	32.56		72.19
2.	Thoubal	IX	1997-98		2006-09	Delayed	29.40	0.00	0.00	3.50	36.77	86.22		126.49
3.	Doialthabi Barrage	X	2002-03		2007-08	Delayed	7.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.81	19.29		21.20
	Total						51.95	0.00	0.00	11.50	70.30	138.07	0.00	219.88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>MEGHALAYA</b>														
1.	Rangai Valley	IX	2000-01		Deferred	Delayed	4.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total						4.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>ORISSA</b>														
1.	Upper Indravati (KBK)	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	86.39	46.98	54.38	17.76	31.62	3.55	72.04	124.97
2.	Rengali	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	35.02	1.36	3.88	0.00	7.47	8.21	9.19	24.86
3.	Subemarekha	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	105.76	2.50	2.36	0.00	12.43	8.96	133.68	155.07
4.	Anandpur Barr/ Integrated Anandpur Barr	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	65.88	5.88	8.92	0.00	1.44	2.25	2.14	5.83
5.	Upper Kolab (KBK)	IX	1997-98	2004-05	Completed		17.95	17.95	100.00	2.14	1.92	0.00		4.06
6.	Titlagarh St-II (KBK)	IX	1998-99		2007-08	Delayed	2.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.10	3.33		7.43
7.	Lower Indira(KBK)	IX	1999-2000		2009-10	Delayed	38.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.54	58.69	46.00	169.23
8.	Lower Suktal(KBK)	IX	1999-2000		2009-10	Delayed	40.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.64	29.70	26.22	69.56
9.	Pottaru(KBK)	IX	2001-02	2004-05	Completed		4.03	4.03	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
10.	Naraj Barrage	IX	2001-02	2005-06	Completed		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
11.	Telengiri(KBK)	X	2003-04		2009-10	Delayed	13.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.10	1.34	12.89	18.33
12.	RET Irrigation(KBK)	X	2003-04		2009-10	Delayed	9.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.92	12.64	33.53	49.09
13.	Kanupur	X	2003-04		2009-10	Delayed	47.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.46	41.58	44.04
14.	Chihalgada Dam	X	2003-04		2009-10	Delayed	3.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.99	0.79	2.79
15.	Improvement to Season Canal System*	X	2002-03	2004-05	Completed		16.28	16.28	100.00	0.00	3.82			3.82
16.	Salandi Left Main Canal- Ambahate*	X	2002-03	2005-06	Completed		3.65	3.65	100.00	0.00				0.00
17.	Improvement to Salid Irrigation* X		2003-04	2004-05	Completed		19.89	19.89	100.00	4.33				4.33
	Total						510.79	118.52	23.20	24.22	148.00	133.12	378.06	683.40
<b>PUNJAB</b>														
1.	Ranjit Sagar Dam	VIII	1996-97	2000-01	Completed		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Remodelling of UBDC	IX	2000-01	2006-07	Completed		118.00	111.49	94.48	0.00	6.00	0.00		6.00
3.	Irr. to H.P. below Talwara	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	0.00	0.00		0.00	6.10	0.00		6.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
4.	Shahpur Kandi	IX	2001-02		XI Plan	Delayed	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
5.	Kandi Canal Extension (Ph.II)	X	2002-03		XI Plan	Delayed	23.33	4.67	20.02	0.00	14.22	0.00		14.22
6.	Rehabilitation of 1st Pataia Feeder and Kotta Branch Project	XI	2007-08		2010-11	On schedule	68.62	0.00		0.00			13.50	13.50
	Total						209.95	116.16	55.33	0.00	26.32	0.00	13.50	39.82
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>														
1.	Jaisamand (Modernisation)	VIII	1996-97	2000-01	Completed		2.40	2.40	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Chhapi	VIII	1996-97	2004-05	Completed		1.70	1.70	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Panchana	IX	1997-98	2004-05	Completed		2.39	2.39	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	IGNP Stage-II	IX	1997-98		2009-10	Delayed	964.00	391.00	40.56	116.47	23.80	0.00		140.27
5.	Bisalpur	IX	1998-99	2006-07	Completed		1.80	1.80	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
6.	Narmada Canal	IX	1998-99		2008-10	Delayed	246.00	32.63	13.26	119.85	46.75	9.67	92.62	268.89
7.	Gambhiri (Modernisation)	IX	1998-99	2000-01	Completed		0.93	0.93	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
8.	Chauli	IX	1998-99	2006-07	Completed		8.96	8.96	99.97	8.83	1.96	1.13		11.92
9.	Mahi Beaj Sagar	IX	1999-2000	2006-07	Completed		27.20	27.20	100.00	37.96	10.90	0.00		48.87
10.	Mod. of Gang Canal	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	69.69	52.92	75.93	69.78	6.89	0.80	7.64	85.11
	Total						1325.07	521.92	39.39	352.90	90.30	11.80	100.26	555.06
<b>TAMILNADU</b>														
1.	WRCP	VIII	1996-97	2006-07	Completed		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Total						0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TRIPURA</b>														
1.	Manu	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	7.80	1.06	13.95	1.13	6.75	0.00		7.88
2.	Gumti	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	5.33	3.16	59.29	0.75	1.35	0.94		3.04
3.	Khowai	VIII	1996-97		2009-10	Delayed	9.32	2.48	26.61	1.13	8.10	0.00		9.23
	Total						22.25	6.70	30.11	3.00	16.20	0.94	0.00	20.14
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>														
1.	Sarda Sahayak	VIII	1996-97	2000-01	Completed		388.46	366.68	94.39	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
2.	Saryu Nahar	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	505.00	472.06	93.48	54.06	45.00	28.55	33.97	161.58
3.	Upper Ganga Ic Madhya Ganga	VIII	1996-97	2003-04	Completed		17.27	17.27	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
4.	Providing Kharif Channel in H.K. Doab	VIII	1996-97	2004-05	Completed		11.04	11.04	99.98	9.27	0.00	0.00		9.27
5.	Bansagar Canal	IX	1997-98		2009-10	Delayed	150.13	0.00	0.00	30.39	32.10	18.90	22.47	103.86
6.	Lakshwar Vyaal	IX	1997-98		Deferred	Delayed	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
7.	Tehri	IX	1999-2000	2006-07	Completed		270.00	162.00	60.00	35.00	25.02	0.00		60.02
8.	Gyanpur Pump Canal	IX	1999-2000	2001-02	Completed		1.50	1.50	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
9.	Eastern Ganga Canal	IX	1999-2000		2007-08	Delayed	72.29	58.14	80.43	36.00	15.22	22.55	14.54	88.32
10.	Rajghat Canal	IX	2000-01		2007-08	Delayed	43.35	39.67	91.49	0.00	7.90	2.22		10.12
11.	Rajghat Dam	VIII	1996-97	1996-97	Completed		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
12.	Gunta Nela Dam	VIII	1996-97	1999-2000	Completed		3.88	3.88	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
13.	Mod. Agra Canal	X	2002-03		2007-08	Delayed	35.00	27.00	77.14	11.20	4.92	5.02	5.98	27.12
14.	Jeraul Pump Canal	X	2003-04	2007-08	Completed		39.75	10.00	25.16	0.00	0.56	0.86		1.42
15.	Mod. of Lachhura Dam	X	2005-06		2008-09	On schedule	14.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.40	3.35	3.98	9.73
16.	Improving Irr. Intensity of Hardoi Branch System	X	2006-07		2008-09	On schedule	306.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.45	11.84	12.29
	Total						1858.24	1169.23	62.92	175.92	133.13	81.90	92.78	483.72
<b>WEST BENGAL</b>														
1.	Teesta Barrage	VIII	1996-97		2008-09	Delayed	174.39	58.91	33.78	13.18	0.00	6.00		19.18
2.	Kangsabati	IX	1997-98	2001-02	Completed		82.06	17.80	21.69	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
3.	Mod. Barrage and Irrigation System of DVC	IX	1997-98	2007-08	Completed		8.00	4.90	61.20	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
4.	Tatko	IX	2000-01		2007-08	Delayed	1.20	0.53	44.24	0.00	0.00	0.32		0.32
5.	Paitoi	IX	2000-01		2008-09	Delayed	2.16	0.12	5.70	0.13	0.00	0.32		0.45
6.	Hanumata	IX	2000-01		2007-08	Delayed	1.25	1.18	94.42	0.15	0.03	0.06		0.24
7.	Subemrekha Barrage ++	IX	2001-02		XI Plan	Delayed	136.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Total						405.07	83.44		13.46	0.03	6.70	0.00	20.19
236.	Grand Total						10403.11	4372.48		2773.13	1709.23	1884.22	2680.91	9047.48

*[English]***Joint Military Exercise with China**

\*64. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian and Chinese troops conducted a joint military exercise in December, 2007 in China;

(b) if so, the details and benefits thereof;

(c) whether such joint exercises with China will continue in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other countries with which such exercises are proposed to be conducted in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The first India-China Joint Military Exercise was conducted from 19-27 December, 2007 at Kunming in Yunnan Province of China. One infantry

company participated in the exercise and a total of 100 troops attended the exercise. The theme of the exercise was Counter Terrorism.

The exercise has given impetus to the ongoing Confidence Building Measures between the two countries and is a positive step towards increased Military to Military interaction.

(c) and (d) The Next Joint Exercise between India and China is likely to be held in September-October, 2008. The Joint Exercises will be hosted alternatively by both countries.

(e) The joint exercises with other friendly foreign countries are considered on case to case basis based on our need to engage them as directed by our National Security guidelines.

**Encouragement to the youth to join  
the Armed Forces**

\*65. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA":  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cadets in National Defence Academy, Kharakwasla and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun has gone down during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage the youths to join the Armed Forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (c) The number of cadets joining National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla, and Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun during the last three years has been fluctuating which cannot be attributed to any specific factor. The details are as follows:

	2005	2006	2007
NDA	596	667	649
IMA	422	479	387

The Armed Forces are making a conscious effort to inspire the youth to choose the services as a career option with wide ranging publicity through print and electronic media aimed at familiarising and relating the opportunities available with the aspirations of the youth. In addition to this, the National Cadet Corps with an authorized strength of thirteen lakh cadets is doing yeoman service in attracting the youth towards the Armed Forces by focusing on the high values of military traditions as part of its training curriculum Besides, the 22 Sainik

Schools, 5 Rashtriya Military Schools and the Rashtriya Indian Military College act as feeder institutions to the Armed Forces by preparing the boys academically, temperamentally and physically for entry into the National Defence Academy. Further, measures like introduction of a technical entry scheme after 10+2 in the Army and Navy, increasing the quota of short service commission officers, selection of competent Junior Commissioned and Non-Commissioned officers to a commissioned rank and improvements in promotional avenues and service conditions are expected to provide thrust to the efforts to attract more talent towards the Armed Forces.

**Bird Flu**

\*66. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outbreak of the bird flu disease has been reported in some States in the country recently;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons thereof indicating the number of districts affected by it;

(c) the losses suffered and compensation provided/proposed to be provided to the poultry farmers affected by this outbreak; and

(d) the reasons for delay in detection of the outbreak alongwith the action taken against those responsible for the lapse and the remedial action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The recent outbreak of Avian Influenza (bird flu) was initially confirmed in some areas of Birbhum and Dakshin Dinajpur districts of West Bengal. Subsequently, some areas in 11 other districts of West Bengal, namely Murshidabad, Burdwan, South-24 Parganas, Nadia, Hooghly, Howrah, Coochbehar, Malda, Paschim Medinipur, Bankura and Purulia were also found to be infected with the disease. The reason for occurrence of bird flu could be one of the following:

(i) Bird to bird contact in border areas;

(ii) smuggling of infected birds;

(iii) Scavenger, wild and migratory birds;

It is not feasible to reach a definite conclusion on actual source of infection.

(c) The poultry farmers affected due to culling of birds as part of control and containment operations against bird flu are to be given compensation at prescribed rates. As per information received from the Government of West

Bengal, funds to the tune of Rs. 1000.17 lakh have so far been paid as compensation to the affected families up to 26th February 2008. Further, Government of West Bengal has decided to grant an interim relief @ Rs. 500/ per family. A total of 3,22,109 households have so far been covered and paid an amount of Rs. 16,10,54,500/ and process of distribution of interim relief to other affected families is underway. A relief package for affected families is also contemplated.

(d) The report of unusual mortality in Birbhum and Dakshin Dinajpur districts of West Bengal was received from the State Government in the evening of 11th January, 2008, though as per available information unusual mortality had started taking place in the first week of January, 2008. The Government of West Bengal was advised to carry out strict surveillance, report unusual mortality within 24 hours of its occurrence and draw samples on a regular basis as prescribed in the 'Action Plan of Animal Husbandry for Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza' circulated to all the State Governments in November, 2006. All other States have also been advised for maintaining strict surveillance and to take all preparatory measures as laid down in the Action Plan.

*[Translation]*

#### **Procurement of Helicopters for Armed Forces**

\*67. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to procure helicopters for the Army, Navy and Air Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard and the names of the companies with which the deals have been proposed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (c) Government constantly review the security environment and accordingly decide to induct appropriate equipment including helicopters for adequate defence preparedness. Presently, proposals for procurement of various types of helicopters, such as, Heavy Lift Helicopters, Medium Lift Helicopters, Advanced Light Helicopters and Reconnaissance & Observation

Helicopters for the Armed Forces are being progressed in accordance with the Defence Procurement Procedure. Divulging names of the companies during the procurement process will not be in the national interest.

*[English]*

#### **Shortage of Foodgrains**

\*68. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:  
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

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

(a) the total quantum of various commodities allocated to the States for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and the Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) during the last three years, State-wise and Category-wise;

(b) whether the Government has effected a cut in the allocation made to the States under PDS/TPDS/AAY and also reduced the quota for Above Poverty Line (APL) families;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor indicating the criterion applied for effecting the cut;

(d) whether this cut has led to a shortage of foodgrains in some States particularly in Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(e) if so, whether such States have requested the Government for restoration and/or additional allocation to tide over this problem; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR):(a) to (f) Commodity-wise details are as under:-

(i) FOODGRAINS: Statement I and II on the total quantum of foodgrains allocated to the States for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) during the last three years, State-wise, year-wise and category-wise are enclosed.

The allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made for BPL, AAY and APL families to all the States/UTs on the basis of 1993-

94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission, projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India, as on 1.3.2000 or the number of families actually identified and ration card issued by each State/UTs, whichever is less.

However, keeping in view of the declining stock position of wheat and rice in the Central Pool, the allocation of wheat and rice under TPDS for the APL category has been rationalized with effect from June, 2006 and April, 2007 respectively, on the basis of offtake figures for the previous 3 years i.e. 2003-04 and 2005-06. While there has been no change in the allocations of foodgrains for AAY and BPL categories, which are made @ 35 kg per family per month, the allocations for APL category have been made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central pool, details are given in statement-III enclosed.

Several States, including the States of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have requested for additional allocation of foodgrains for APL category.

Full quota of foodgrains @ 35 kgs per family per month for the accepted number of families as per entitlement of the States for the BPL and AAY categories is being allocated to the States. As for the APL allocations, in view of the requests received as well as to keep prices of foodgrains in the open market under check, rising demand during the festivals etc., the Government has made adhoc allocations of wheat under APL category for the months of September, 2006 to March, 2008 (except August 2007).

Further, the allocation of APL rice for the North Eastern States and Sikkim have also been increased by 1.5 times, subject to the entitlement keeping in view their special circumstances.

(ii) LEVY SUGAR: Statement-IV showing allocation of levy sugar State-wise and year-wise for 2004-2005 to 2006-2007 sugar season (October-September) enclosed.

The levy sugar is supplied under the Public Distribution System (PDS) to BPL (Below Poverty Line) families in all the States/UTs except the North Eastern States, Hill States and Island Territories where levy sugar is supplied to BPL and APL families with effect from 1.2.2001. Since the levy percentage has been reduced to 10% of the domestic production, the availability of

sugar for levy allocation varies depending upon the levels of domestic production. Therefore, it has not been possible to supply levy sugar as per the levy quota to each State/UT. Keeping in view the tight availability of levy sugar during 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 sugar seasons and also the poor lifting of levy sugar by the State Government from the concerned sugar mills, adhoc reduction in monthly allocation of levy sugar in respect of some of the States was made. Details are given in the statement-V.

No reduction has been made in the monthly levy sugar quota of Kerala and Madhya Pradesh. In case of Chhattisgarh, no allocation of levy sugar during the period February, 2006 to May, 2006 was made to Chhattisgarh. During the period June, 2006 to March, 2007 the allocation of levy sugar was made @ 2480 tonnes per month. This reduction in allocation of levy sugar was made keeping in view the poor lifting of levy sugar by the State Government from the concerned sugar mills. However, the allocation of levy sugar has been restored in full as per the quota fixed for Chhattisgarh since March, 2007 at the request of the State Government.

(iii) PDS KEROSENE: Statement showing allocation of PDS Kerosene State-wise and year-wise for 2004-2005 to 2006-2007 is enclosed as statement- VI.

In accordance with the policy adopted by the Government of India in 2000, Kerosene (SKO) allocation for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/Union Territory. While the initial allotment for 2004-05 was based on the criteria adopted hitherto, additional allocations were made during the year to meet urgent emergent demand. For the year 2005-06, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year. Allocations for first three quarters for 2007-08 have been maintained at the level of 2006-07. On the basis of a detailed study on kerosene demand in the country and as well as to formulate a long-term pricing policy, conducted respectively through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, the Government has decided to restrict the supply of subsidized kerosene to BPL families only.

**Statement-I****Allocation of RICE of for the Year 2004-05, 2006-07 & 2007-08 under TPDS**

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2004-05				2005-06				2006-07			
		BPL	APL	AAY	TOTAL	BPL	APL	AAY	TOTAL	BPL	APL	AAY	TOTAL
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1230.128	2113.088	478.248	3819.444	1088.129	2113.088	620.247	3819.444	1052.088	2113.088	654.288	3819.444
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.99	68.82	9.816	106.626	25.14	63.39	12.936	101.466	22.394	53.688	15.972	92.054
3.	Assam	650.434	475.14	150.086	1275.66	625.416	618.116	175.104	1418.636	476.7	689.604	294.216	1460.52
4.	Bihar	887.712	916.572	168	1972.284	1009.369	1069.364	189.012	2267.745	1373.29	1096.2	386.757	2856.247
5.	Chhattisgarh	476.364	620.7	200.997	1298.061	445.708	694.94	254.82	1395.468	452.368	732.06	295.25	1479.678
6.	Delhi	44.285	282.42	4.795	331.5	42.42	293.444	6.66	342.524	44.544	298.956	6.66	350.16
7.	Goa	6.808	77.976	4.112	88.896	6.54	81.2	5.739	93.479	5.15	79.968	6.108	91.226
8.	Gujrat	190.878	1056.948	33.42	1281.246	175.754	1056.948	51.777	1284.479	273.55	1056.948	141.01	1471.508
9.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	46.697	202.848	0	249.545	69.125	297.24	0	366.365
10.	Himachal Pradesh	81.208	216.6	25.208	323.016	70.828	216.6	35.588	323.016	29.887	196.948	43.519	270.354
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	184.712	261.88	50.225	516.817	167.462	302.896	67.45	537.808	152.282	313.404	82.858	548.544
12.	Jharkhand	483.016	128.316	113.12	724.452	448.992	143.716	168.96	761.668	512.322	151.416	183.34	847.078
13.	Karnataka	790.248	1856.48	261.171	2707.899	719.224	1856.48	326.204	2701.908	640.118	1438.416	407.28	2485.814
14.	Kerala	365.292	1361.04	165.56	1891.892	334.172	1361.04	207.088	1902.3	317.514	1361.04	248.331	1928.885
15.	Madhya Pradesh	198.934	380.304	60.937	640.175	245.9	633.848	80.568	960.316	336.884	702.84	102.646	1142.37
16.	Maharashtra	784.77	1649.856	261.997	2696.623	754.104	1649.856	336.356	2740.316	895.042	1649.856	398.588	2943.486
17.	Manipur	44.064	29.7	10.716	84.5	35.352	32.052	19.436	86.84	45.064	33.228	21.18	99.472
18.	Meghalaya	60.152	37.248	16.708	114.108	53.568	37.248	23.292	114.108	53.508	37.248	23.352	114.108
19.	Mizoram	21.241	81.72	7.439	110.4	18.279	59.9	10.401	88.58	17.64	33.302	10.92	61.862
20.	Nagaland	31.72	44.04	10.112	85.872	28.794	57.885	13.038	99.717	25.894	52.428	16.048	94.37
21.	Orissa	1436.088	795.584	260.604	2492.256	1261.907	804.452	434.785	2501.144	1165.976	683.256	530.716	2379.948
22.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	33.288	294.648	0	327.936	64.392	441.972	9.55	515.914
23.	Rajasthan	8.155	67.38	2.897	78.432	75.574	575.212	3.823	654.609	200.934	810.936	11.32	1023.19
24.	Sikkim	14.076	15.612	4.164	33.852	14.076	18.612	4.164	36.852	11.766	21.097	6.474	39.337
25.	Tamilnadu	1608.365	3667.98	434.011	5710.356	1397.697	3667.98	644.679	5710.356	1259.232	3667.98	783.144	5710.356
26.	Tripura	100.929	131.292	22.971	255.192	95.364	131.292	28.536	255.192	95.364	149.898	28.536	273.798
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1232.797	2179.62	442.646	3855.063	1763.068	2891.364	938.692	5593.124	1850.541	3247.02	1150.938	6248.499
28.	Uttaranchal	113.52	111.912	22.476	247.908	107.229	192.96	32.794	332.983	99.84	211.968	41.832	353.64
29.	West Bengal	808.779	582.66	196.485	1587.924	774.67	2102.508	281.263	3158.441	823.938	2747.136	342.722	4013.796
30.	A&N Islands	4.994	28.2	1.296	34.49	5.136	28.2	1.296	34.632	4.19	17.268	1.506	22.964
31.	Chandigarh	3.18	11.748	0.888	15.816	3.18	19.012	0.888	23.08	2.284	22.644	0.888	25.816
32.	D&N Haveli	4.428	5.592	0.84	10.86	4.142	5.592	1.093	10.827	4.59	5.592	1.592	11.774
33.	Daman & Diu	0.948	8.376	0.168	9.492	0.856	8.376	0.3	9.532	0.924	8.376	0.552	9.852
34.	Lakshadweep	0.372	3.204	0.168	3.744	0.372	3.132	0.168	3.872	0.295	3.265	0.161	3.721
35.	Pondicherry	28.238	12	6.874	47.112	22.862	12	12.25	47.112	21.564	48	13.548	83.112
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>11,924.845</b>	<b>19,099.968</b>	<b>3,427.155</b>	<b>34,451.968</b>	<b>11,899.269</b>	<b>23,100.179</b>	<b>4,969.407</b>	<b>39,968.855</b>	<b>12,501.194</b>	<b>24,474.266</b>	<b>6,261.802</b>	<b>43,237.262</b>



**Statement II***Allocation of Wheat for the Year 2004-2005, 2005-06 & 2006-07 under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2004-05				2005-06				2006-07			
		BPL	APL	AAV	TOTAL	BPL	APL	AAV	TOTAL	BPL	APL	AAV	TOTAL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	153.672	0	153.672	0	153.672	0	153.672	0	81.152	0	81.152
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.69	7.86	0	11.55	3.42	6.36	0	9.78	3.13	8.46	0	11.59
3.	Assam	0	410	0	410	0	337.024	0	337.024	0	254.226	0	254.226
4.	Bihar	1331.472	1374.948	252	2958.42	1157.282	1222.156	283.521	2662.959	645.723	211.04	275.334	1132.097
5.	Chhattisgarh	110.271	425.1	0	535.371	87.104	350.86	0	437.964	31.32	89.33	0	120.65
6.	Delhi	110.985	714.096	11.715	836.796	106.044	703.072	16.656	825.772	103.92	365.72	16.656	486.296
7.	Goa	5.04	40.32	0	45.36	3.681	37.096	0	40.777	0.31	11.222	0	11.532
8.	Gujarat	525.689	1730.616	133.661	2389.966	442.309	1730.616	207.008	2379.933	267.08	387.456	169.838	824.374
9.	Haryana	257.04	1014.204	71.532	1342.776	195.819	811.356	86.056	1093.231	152.026	202.3	109.394	463.72
10.	Himachal Pradesh	53.808	132.3	18.908	204.816	45.82	132.3	26.696	204.816	16.944	122.452	33.287	172.683
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	58.296	165.84	15.851	239.987	52.873	144.824	21.299	218.996	52.795	169.316	21.149	243.26
12.	Jharkhand	318.096	87.964	91.26	497.34	251.232	72.584	136.308	460.124	187.902	38.564	121.928	348.394
13.	Karnataka	197.565	414.12	65.292	676.977	157.093	378.534	81.548	617.175	127.996	155.806	84.07	367.874
14.	Kerala	121.756	447.9	0	569.656	111.388	447.9	0	559.288	86.783	243.42	0	330.183
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1127.288	2155.068	345.317	3627.673	949.415	1901.524	453.573	3304.512	727.654	339.106	547.514	1614.274
16.	Maharashtra	1285.067	3051.024	412.47	4748.561	1160.364	3051.024	493.48	4704.868	1016.042	621.044	434.632	2071.718
17.	Manipur	0	17.76	1.214	18.974	2.428	15.408	2.428	20.264	3.488	8.1	0	11.588
18.	Meghalaya	0	7.776	0	7.776	0	7.776	0	7.776	0	7.696	0	7.696
19.	Mizoram	0	12.12	0	12.12	0	12.12	0	12.12	0	10.36	0	10.36
20.	Nagaland	7.809	78	2.439	88.248	7.023	44.515	3.225	54.763	6.218	24.576	3.92	34.714
21.	Orissa	0	360	0	360	0	351.112	0	351.112	0	155.734	0	155.734
22.	Punjab	166.416	1473.24	30.12	1869.776	130.779	1178.582	32.469	1341.84	73.836	230.438	48.758	353.032
23.	Rajasthan	700.713	2696.376	248.775	3645.864	517.808	2188.544	336.195	3042.547	434.372	526.954	374.394	1335.72
24.	Sikkim	0	10.2	0	10.2	0	7.2	0	7.2	0	6.35	0	5.35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25.	Tamilnadu	0	120	0	120	0	120	0	120	0	95.58	0	95.58
26.	Tripura	0	47.94	0	47.94	0	47.94	0	47.94	0	26.96	0	26.96
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2083.245	4314.84	726.492	7124.577	1182.038	3603.096	600.994	5386.128	916.122	595.68	589.075	2080.878
28.	Uttaranchal	63.6	221.64	9.576	294.816	55.184	140.582	13.965	209.741	49.671	75.802	17.829	143.302
29.	West Bengal	810.166	3506.52	195.11	4511.796	673.299	1986.672	281.308	2941.279	598.128	726.624	278.962	1603.714
30.	A&N Islands	2.438	8.16	0.504	11.1	2.292	8.16	0.504	10.958	0.85	4.802	0.294	5.946
31.	Chandigarh	5.568	63.768	0	69.336	5.568	56.504	0	62.072	0.228	9.162	0	9.39
32.	D&N Haveli	1.116	1.548	0.336	3	1.05	1.548	0.435	3.033	0.358	1.058	0.18	1.596
33.	Daman & Diu	0.48	1.044	0.084	1.608	0.38	1.044	0.144	1.568	0.12	0.524	0.084	0.728
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.504	0	0.504	0	0.228	0	0.228	0	0.433	0	0.433
35.	Pondicherry	0	1.2	0	1.2	0	1.2	0	1.2	0	2.05	0	2.05
TOTAL		9,347.412	25,267.688	2,632.656	37,247.756	7,301.693	21,253.153	3,077.812	31,632.658	5,502.998	5,806.497	3,107.299	14,418.794

**Statement III**

*Allocation (including adhoc/festival allocations) of rice and wheat for APL category during the year 2007-08*

(Thousand tons)

S.No.	State/UT	Rice	Wheat
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2113.07	65.38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	53.70	8.36
3.	Assam	310.20	264.41
4.	Bihar	2.28	25.96
5.	Chhattisgarh	30.61	20.17
6.	Delhi	187.16	389.23
7.	Goa	11.00	10.11
8.	Gujarat	147.36	126.02
9.	Haryana	0.24	120.28
10.	Himachal Pradesh	118.32	143.30

1	2	3	4
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	313.40	201.11
12.	Jharkhand	16.68	35.57
13.	Karnataka	1279.08	93.67
14.	Kerala	307.01	224.99
15.	Madhya Pradesh	25.56	99.99
16.	Maharashtra	34.80	141.58
17.	Manipur	28.18	9.75
18.	Meghalaya	53.25	10.31
19.	Mizoram	46.86	9.62
20.	Nagaland	52.32	26.49
21.	Orissa	66.17	137.21
22.	Punjab	0.00	83.49
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	290.95
24.	Sikkim	23.04	4.51

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
25.	Tamil Nadu	2711.44	94.07	31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.31
26.	Tripura	114.06	25.25	32.	D&N Haveli	4.30	0.55
27.	Uttar Pradesh	11.92	53.59	33.	Daman & Diu	0.72	0.30
28.	Uttamchal	78.23	54.14	34.	Lakhadweep	3.36	0.30
29.	West Bengal	92.40	755.54	35.	Pondicherry	28.44	2.50
30.	A & N Islands	17.27	5.13	Total		8282.43	3534.13

**Statement IV***State-wise/Season-wise (October to September) allocation of levy sugar from 2004-05 to 2006-07*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	120.81	117.48	124.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.24	10.27	10.61
3.	Assam	223.95	224.14	224.2
4.	Bihar	213.17	7.48	77.54
5.	Chhattiegarh	55.37	26.84	42.95
6.	Delhi	35.42	35.84	36.38
7.	Goa	1.58	1.59	1.59
8.	Gujarat	75.32	73.08	75.4
9.	Haryana	29.09	11.91	21.15
10.	Himachal Pradesh	54.51	55.88	56.01
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	86.81	87.07	87.59
12.	Jharkhand	75.16	0.16	0.15
13.	Karnataka	102.64	69	82.71
14.	Kerala	52.92	50.48	49.35
15.	Madhya Pradesh	153.12	156.67	155.98
16.	Maharashtra	161.53	106.55	148.7
17.	Manipur	20.92	21.9	21.91

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Meghalaya	21.08	20.96	20.95
19.	Mizoram	8.35	8.38	8.37
20.	Nagaland	14.51	14.56	14.56
21.	Orissa	103.77	107.36	108.5
22.	Punjab	19.28	6.66	15.67
23.	Rajasthan	83.92	24	55.37
24.	Sikkim	4.74	3.95	4.34
25.	Tamil Nadu	131.7	98.09	125.39
26.	Tripura	32.58	32.72	32.93
27.	Uttar Pradesh	401.38	386.3	365.48
28.	Uttarakhand	70.61	73.03	72.81
29.	West Bengal	171.43	176.01	178.45
30.	A & N Islands	4.74	4.74	4.62
31.	Chandigarh	0.95	0.95	1.01
32.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0.6	0.6	0.6
33.	Daman and Diu	0.12	0.14	0.53
34.	Lakshadweep	1.32	1.4	1.38
35.	Pondicherry	2.04	2.2	2.18
<b>Total</b>		<b>2545.68</b>	<b>2018.39</b>	<b>2229.66</b>

Further allocations and distribution to eligible BPL families in Districts and Panchayat Blocks through Fair Price Shops are done by respective State/UT Governments.

#### **Statement V**

#### *State-wise Reduction and Partial/Full Restoration of Levy Sugar Allocations Since August, 2005*

(Qty. in M.T.)

Sl. No.	State	Monthly levy quota from 1.2.2001	Reduced quota	Difference	With effect from	Partially restored/ Fully restored	With effect from
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9690	6247.1	3442.9	Sept. 05	9690	Dec. 05
2.	Bihar	20516	0.0	20516.0	Aug. 05	7000	Sept. 06
3.	Chhattisgarh	4512	4000.0	512.0	Aug. 05	2480	June 06
			0.0	4512.0	Feb. 06	4512	March 07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Haryana	2485	1000.0	1485.0	Aug. 05	2485	April 07
5.	Jharkhand	6948	3000.0 0.0	3948.0 6948.0	Aug. 05 October 05	0	No request received from State Govt.
6.	Karnataka	8636	5000.0	3636.0	Aug. 05	8636	June 07
7.	Maharashtra	13917.5	6500.0	7417.5	Aug. 05	8000 10000 13917.5	Feb. 06 Sept. 06 April 07
8.	Punjab	1385	700.0	685.0	Aug. 05	1385	June 07
9.	Rajasthan	7342	2000.0	5342.0	Aug. 05	7342	June 07
10.	Tamil Nadu	10820	9000.0	1820.0	Aug. 05	10820	June 07
11.	Uttar Pradesh	33013	24000.0 27956.4	9013.0 5056.6	Aug. 05 May 06	33013 —	Sept. 05 —

**Statement VI***Details of PDS SKO Allocation Made to the States/UTs during the Year 2004-05 to 2006-07*

(Quantity in MTs)

Name of States/UTs	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5816+591*	5816	5725+1024*
Andhra Pradesh	517158+7800*	517158+856*	505057+19883*
Arunachal Pradesh	9257	9257	9257+1167*
Assam	258007	258007+389*	251714+10293*
Bihar	647430	647430	631639+16569*
Chandigarh	13067	13067	13067
Chhattisgarh	146938	146938	143354+3584*
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2782	2782	2782
Daman and Diu	2118	2118	2118
Delhi	168484	168484	168484
Goa	19212	19212	19212+389*

1	2	3	4
Gujarat	743759+3891*	743759+622*	743759+194*
Haryana	145619	145619	142068+3588*
Himachal Pradesh	50537	50537	50537
Jammu and Kashmir	76044+389*	76044+3034*	75487+2658*
Jharkhand	211175	211175	211175
Karnataka	461478+934*	461478+389*	461478
Kerala	216308	216308	211033+10722*
Lakshadweep	795	795	795
Madhya Pradesh	488609+622*	488609+409*	476691+11918*
Maharashtra	1276876+3892*	1276876+7782*	1253530+23346*
Manipur	19907	19907	19907
Meghalaya	20401	20401	20401+289*
Mizoram	6217	6217	6217
Nagaland	13312+300*	13312	12712+700*
Orissa	314977+1167*	314977	307295+8460*
Puducherry	12257	12257+39*	12058+510*
Punjab	237192	237192	232813+4379*
Rajasthan	398913+2334*	398913	396500+2413*
Sikkim	5582	5582	5283+571*
Tamil Nadu	558929+9339*	558929+16342*	545297+26861*
Tripura	30832	30832	30093+739*
Uttar Pradesh	1241772+5136*	1241772+2054*	1211485+51688*
Uttarakhand	89649+4668*	89649+136*	85959+3890*
West Bengal	752103+4046*	752103	748228+8155
Total Allocation	9163712+213990*	9163712+32052*	9013210+45109*

\*Additional allocation.

### Procedure for Spectrum Allocation

\*69. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has forwarded any report to the Union Government in regard to the recommendations made by the Department of Telecom in spectrum allocation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government thereto; and

(c) the details of the procedure adopted in dealing with request for spectrum allocation and the competent authority to deal with such requests?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in its report of 28.08.2007 on "Review of license terms and conditions and capping of number of access providers", had also included recommendations regarding spectrum allocation. The Authority has recommended among others, a revised subscriber based criteria to make more efficient use of spectrum taking into account technological features etc. Accordingly, the spectrum allocation criteria for public mobile telecom services have been revised.

As per the relevant provisions of Unified Access Services license agreement, and eligibility criteria, the spectrum is allotted to the service providers, on first cum first served basis subject to availability of spectrum which is assessed from time to time. The Wireless Planning & Coordination (WPC) Wing of Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications & IT, is the national nodal agency for RF spectrum management, which includes allotment of spectrum, as per guidelines approved by the Government.

### Poor Quality Wheat under PDS

\*70. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:

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

(a) whether complaints have been received from various States regarding supply of poor quality of imported

wheat for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS)/Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other schemes during 2007-2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number and nature of complaints received so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the stocks of foodgrains kept in the godowns in various States were also found to be of substandard quality;

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

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A complaint was received from the State Government of Maharashtra in April, 2007 about the quality of imported wheat being distributed through the TPDS. It was informed by the State Government that samples of imported wheat taken by the State Government in March, 2007 from Ration Shops in Mumbai were found unfit for human consumption on analysis in State Government Laboratories in Vashi and Pune. However, joint samples drawn by officers of FCI and State Governments from Food Storage Depots at Mumbai were found fit for human consumption on analysis in State Government Health Laboratory, Pune.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The imported wheat samples drawn from FCI's depots in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra Region during October, 2007 were found conforming to Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) Standards.

(e) The following remedial measures have been taken by the Government to supply of good quality foodgrains including imported wheat under the TPDS.

(i) The quality of imported wheat is thoroughly checked at the entry port to ensure conformity with PFA Standards and Plant Quarantine Regulations.

(ii) Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations that an officer not below the rank of Inspector should be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from FCI godowns. FCI has been

instructed to ensure that samples are drawn jointly with State Government officials from FCI godowns before issue of foodgrains. Sealed samples are required to be displayed at the Fair Price Shops for the benefit of consumers.

- (iii) The State Government have been advised to ensure that quality of foodgrains is not diluted during storage and transportation or at Fair Price Shop level.

*[Translation]*

#### Import of Foodgrains

\*71. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

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

(a) the details regarding quantity and price of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds imported during the last two years and in 2007-08 alongwith the names of the countries and the payments made for the said imports;

(b) whether a further shortage of foodgrains, pulses

and oilseeds and consequent rise in their prices is expected during the year 2008-09; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure availability of the above items and check their prices during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHIR SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The year-wise details of quantity and price of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds imported during the last two years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and in 2007-08 alongwith the names of the countries and its value, as received from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata, are enclosed as statement I, II & III respectively. Government imported 53.97 lakh tons of wheat in 2006-07 and 18.735 lakh tons in 2007-08 for the Central Pool.

(b) and (c) It is too early to make an assessment of the situation for the whole year 2008-09. However, the Government is keeping a close watch and will take necessary steps, as and when required as was done in 2007-08.

#### Statement I

##### *India's Import of Foodgrains by Countries*

Articles description	Countries	(Apr'05 - Mar'06)	
		Quantity (Tons)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4
Wheat	Nepal	493.91	0.30
Rice	Saudi Arabia	12.47	0.01
	Syria	229.00	0.32
	USA	18.59	0.01
Total Rice		260.06	0.34
Pulses	Canada	672887.79	673.43
	Myanmar	491029.86	913.30
	Pakistan IR	134949.96	226.48
	Australia	91827.84	141.88



1	2	3	4
	USA	52248.21	62.74
	Tanzania REP	48450.07	80.26
	China PRP	39279.70	81.88
	Iran	37251.95	99.10
	France	32266.00	31.25
	Ukraine	31169.00	29.28
	Turkey	18283.89	51.16
	Nepal	15258.55	37.28
	Russia	14843.71	21.31
	Mozambique	5039.00	7.67
	Ethiopia	4627.00	7.09
	Malawi	1912.00	2.71
	Uzbekistan	1481.00	3.70
	Kenya	976.00	1.82
	Thailand	691.00	1.62
	Malaysia	661.00	0.97
	New Zealand	476.20	0.65
	Indonesia	288.27	0.66
	Singapore	272.00	0.27
	U Arab Emts	92.17	0.22
	South Africa	25.00	0.03
	Saudi Arabia	1.50	0.00
	Unspecified	238.00	0.38
	<b>Total Pulses</b>	<b>1696326.64</b>	<b>2477.13</b>
Other FG	Australia	24464.00	25.79
	Argentina	1241.00	2.18

1	2	3	4
	Bhutan	709.00	0.32
	Nepal	486.69	0.49
	USA	454.66	0.95
	Malaysia	24.00	0.08
	U Arab EMTS	6.76	0.01
	Pakistan IR	2.50	0.00
	Thailand	0.06	0.00
	<b>Total other FG</b>	<b>27388.67</b>	<b>29.82</b>
<b>Oil Seeds</b>	Ghana	18914.00	23.06
	Togo	4982.00	5.10
	Somalia	3304.55	8.28
	Australia	2258.21	4.05
	Nepal	973.10	1.57
	Benin	550.00	0.68
	Nigeria	445.00	0.46
	Taiwan	384.00	1.40
	Costa Rica	50.32	0.20
	Turkey	19.00	0.08
	Madagascar	9.50	0.08
	Korea RP	1.15	0.00
	Hong Kong	0.62	0.00
	Singapore	0.18	0.00
	Morocco	0.14	0.01
	Netherland	0.03	0.00
	Unspecified	500.20	2.08
	<b>Total Oil Seeds</b>	<b>32392.00</b>	<b>47.03</b>

**Statement II***India's Import of Foodgrains by Countries*

Article description	April, 06 - March, 07		
	Countries	Quantity (Tons)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4
Wheat	Russia	2081392.97	2033.29
	Canada	1306751.21	1243.08
	Australia	1093582.26	1064.83
	Ukraine	333029.00	313.49
	France	265144.98	261.02
	Hungary	257771.65	239.67
	Romania	250196.00	233.34
	Bulgaria	237907.00	211.75
	Argentina	152220.00	145.98
	Czech Republic	70600.00	69.38
	Kazakhstan	29870.00	33.59
	USA	1000.00	0.99
Nepal	485.59	0.39	
<b>Total Wheat</b>		<b>6079950.66</b>	<b>5850.81</b>
Rice	Saudi Arab	120.00	0.31
	United Arab Emts.	37.00	0.07
	Vietnam Soc. Rep.	2.00	0.01
	Korea RP	1.39	0.01
	Italy	1.20	0.01
<b>Total Rice</b>		<b>161.59</b>	<b>0.41</b>
Pulses	Canada	905325.16	1063.97
	Myanmar	615822.42	1594.58
	Australia	194197.79	363.75

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1	2	3	4
	USA	148350.12	185.84
	Ukraine	121525.87	134.26
	France	106965.00	122.06
	China PRP	59423.10	182.28
	Tanzania Rep.	33266.63	71.72
	Russia	21864.03	24.89
	Germany	12180.00	13.33
	Malawi	10776.00	18.89
	Nepal	7778.48	23.69
	Mozambique	6207.00	10.38
	Ethiopia	6111.12	14.69
	Iran	4635.24	14.94
	Turkey	2969.78	10.95
	Kenya	2941.00	8.81
	Uzbekistan	2419.24	8.44
	Pakistan IR	2108.00	4.28
	Thailand	2057.00	6.92
	Indonesia	1540.89	5.01
	Moldova	1504.00	1.57
	Denmark	650.00	1.24
	Taiwan	498.00	0.65
	Malaysia	477.00	1.17
	South Africa	414.50	1.10
	New Zealand	362.00	0.50
	Singapore	133.00	0.14

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1	2	3	4
	Italy	131.80	0.26
	Djibouti	110.00	0.30
	Madagascar	109.00	0.42
	Peru	77.00	0.33
	Argentina	48.00	0.06
	Brazil	48.00	0.14
	New Caledonia	47.10	0.13
	Uganda	44.00	0.13
	Sri Lanka DSR	37.00	0.07
	Lebanon	1.15	0.00
	UK	1.00	0.00
	Unspecified	9.30	0.01
	<b>Total Pulses</b>	<b>2270965.74</b>	<b>3891.91</b>
Other FG	Australia	4880.00	6.85
	Argentina	1789.96	3.08
	Nepal	668.45	0.88
	USA	209.40	0.55
	Sri Lanka DSR	8.70	0.01
	United Arab Emis.	6.00	0.01
	UK	4.20	0.00
	Korea RP	1.00	0.00
	Thailand	0.61	0.03
	Malaysia	0.30	0.00
	France	0.05	0.00
	Brazil	0.02	0.00
	<b>Total Other FG</b>	<b>7568.70</b>	<b>11.41</b>

1	2	3	4
Oil Seeds	Ghana	46297.00	83.94
	Benin	4296.00	6.67
	Nigeria	2015.00	2.79
	Australia	13141.80	2.51
	Nepal	662.08	1.24
	Somalia	660.70	1.68
	Russia	574.00	0.93
	Malawi	370.00	0.77
	Sudan	323.00	1.12
	Combodia	198.00	0.22
	United Arab Emnts.	191.03	0.26
	Togo	114.00	0.16
	Ethopia	95.00	0.33
	Iran	92.00	0.10
	Turkey	38.00	0.17
	Israel	32.50	0.33
	Egypt. A. Rep.	23.00	0.04
	Malaysia	20.00	0.07
	USA	6.27	0.04
	Pakistan IR	3.50	0.01
	Thailand	1.92	0.58
	Costa Rika	0.83	0.21
	China P. Rep.	0.42	0.00
	Germany	0.12	0.01
	France	0.03	0.00
	Korea	0.02	0.00
	Unspecified	58.65	0.29
<b>Total Oil Seeds</b>		<b>57415</b>	<b>104.47</b>

**Statement III***India's Import of Foodgrains by Countries*

Article description	Countries	April, 07 - July, 07	
		Quantity (Tons)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4
Wheat	Nepal	55.39	0.06
	Pakistan IR	51094.19	50.48
<b>Total Wheat</b>		<b>51149.57</b>	<b>50.54</b>
Rice	Italy	6.00	0.06
	Thailand	21.50	0.04
<b>Total Rice</b>		<b>27.50</b>	<b>0.10</b>
Pulses	Australia	59758.18	114.43
	Brazil	593.00	1.90
	Canada	460360.34	714.07
	China PRP	4387.00	15.08
	Ethiopia	1629.00	3.87
	France	71483.00	101.74
	Germany	119.00	0.25
	Indonesia	12.00	0.04
	Iran	501.00	0.88
	Kenya	5572.00	15.76
	Malawi	2315.00	4.45
	Mozambique	1747.00	3.41
	Myanmar	285517.72	733.19
	Nepal	219.00	0.75
	New Zealand	182.00	0.23
	Pakistan IR	225.00	0.41
Russia	11778.79	16.64	
Singapore	84.00	0.14	
Somalia	130.00	0.29	

1	2	3	4
	Tanzania Rep	4660.13	12.78
	Thailand	250.00	0.84
	Turkey	981.00	2.80
	USA	67601.57	100.93
	Ukraine	14297.84	19.79
	Unspecified	124.00	0.27
	Uruguay	24.34	0.04
	Uzbekistan	359.50	1.22
	<b>Total Pulses</b>	<b>994911.40</b>	<b>1866.20</b>
Other FG	Argentina	318.00	0.54
	Australia	761.00	2.12
	Nepal	148.00	0.29
	Thailand	0.23	0.01
	UK	15.50	0.02
	USA	61.70	0.15
	<b>Total Other FG</b>	<b>1304.44</b>	<b>3.13</b>
Oil Seeds	Cambodia	225.00	0.66
	China PRP	19.50	0.07
	Costa Rica	270.00	0.53
	Ghana	4010.00	9.36
	Iran	40.00	0.06
	Italy	1.25	0.01
	Mali	492.00	0.90
	Nigeria	305.00	0.53
	Somalia	4217.76	11.65
	Tanzania REP	0.43	0.02
	Thailand	240.00	0.41
	Usa	0.06	0.00
	Ukraine	4247.00	6.91
	<b>Total oil seeds</b>	<b>14068.00</b>	<b>24.21</b>



**Consumer Fora**

\*72. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) the number and details of consumer courts functioning in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has reviewed the working of these courts;

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof indicating the number of cases filed and pending in the said courts during each of the last three years and thereafter till date;

(d) the action taken by the Government for early disposal of the pending cases; and

(e) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) At present, one National Commission, 34 State Commissions and 612 District Fora have been established in the country. A statement I showing State-wise details of District Fora is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The working of the Consumer Fora is reviewed by National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (National Commission). Information regarding cases filed & disposed during each of the last three years and cases filed since inception, disposed & pending till date, as made available by National Commission and States/UTs is enclosed as Statement-II.

(d) and (e) In order to facilitate the functioning of the Consumer Fora, the important measures taken by the Government include extending of financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 61.80 crore during 1995-99 and Rs. 10.20 crore during 2004-05 to States to supplement their efforts in strengthening the infrastructure of the Consumer Fora. Additional financial assistance is being extended to States under the Scheme of "Integrated project on Consumer Protection" since 2006-07 to meet the gap in infrastructure. A sum of Rs. 60.62 crore has been released to 19 States so far under this scheme. Similarly, this Department has also undertaken a project for "Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer Fora in the country" through the National Informatics Centre under which all the Consumer Fora would be fully computerized and connected through network for

exchange of information among the Consumer Fora and consumers. This would enable the Consumer Fora to access information faster leading to quicker disposal. As a result of all these measures the overall disposal rate of the Consumer Fora in the country now stands at 88.27%, out of 29.65 lakh cases filed so far.

**Statement I****Information Regarding Establishment of State Commissions & District Fora**

(Update on 25.2.2008)

Sl.No.	States	No. of State Commissions established	No. of District Fora established
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	29
2.	A & N Islands	1	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	16
4.	Assam	1	23
5.	Bihar	1	38
6.	Chandigarh	1	2
7.	Chhattisgarh	1	16
8.	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	2
9.	Delhi	1	10
10.	Goa	1	2
11.	Gujarat	1	26
12.	Haryana	1	19
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1	12
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	2
15.	Jharkhand	1	22
16.	Karnataka	1	30
17.	Kerala	1	14
18.	Lakshadweep	1	1
19.	Madhya Pradesh	1	45
20.	Maharashtra	1	39
21.	Manipur	1	9

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
22.	Meghalaya	1	7	29.	Sikkim	1	4
23.	Mizoram	1	8	30.	Tamil Nadu	1	30
24.	Nagaland	1	11	31.	Tripura	1	4
25.	Orissa	1	31	32.	Uttar Pradesh	1	74
26.	Pondicherry	1	1	33.	Uttaranchal	1	13
27.	Punjab	1	17	34.	West Bengal	1	21
28.	Rajasthan	1	33	TOTAL		34	612

**Statement II***Year-wise Filing & Disposal in National Commission & State Commissions*

1	2005		2006		2007	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2	3	4	5	6	7	
<b>States</b>						
National Commission	3878	4767	5222	4269	4866	4662
Andhra Pradesh	2176	995	1281	281	1933	561
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Arunachal Pradesh	4	0	4	7	7	5
Assam	246	20	302	1	47	24
Bihar	936	585	556	483	623	535
Chandigarh	181	112	976	821	1228	1090
Chhattisgarh	539	874	865	895	728	710
D&N Haveli/Daman & Diu	2	3	1	1	10	8
Delhi	1294	2063	1589	2928	1541	2475
Goa	71	128	131	113	86	70
Gujarat	2177	2265	2294	1888	1314	912
Haryana	2729	769	3025	1395	3570	1792
Himachal Pradesh	1195	851	1664	2040	2180	1935
Jammu and Kashmir	202	43	162	34	169	81
Jharkhand	525	657	442	447	703	149
Karnataka	2276	2823	3451	2516	2685	3294

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kerala	930	697	976	675	316	236
Lakshadweep	0	3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Madhya Pradesh	2433	2534	2970	2780	1522	1165
Maharashtra	2880	1383	3183	2063	3470	2516
Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Meghalaya	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Mizoram	11	28	6	19	22	21
Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Orissa	1119	662	1194	1096	949	1026
Pondicherry	65	69	45	48	26	5
Punjab	1719	1375	1661	1187	1814	1400
Rajasthan	2315	3709	2817	4804	3204	5213
Sikkim	0	1	N.A.	N.A.	1	2
Tamilnadu	3563	934	2676	59	2777	91
Tripura	98	255	79	102	85	82
Uttar Pradesh	2572	1861	3363	1707	1444	1028
Uttaranchal	292	61	241	17	453	23
West Bengal	773	985	659	1196	409	639

N.A.—Not available.

*Year-wise Filing & Disposal in District Forums*

States	2005		2006		2007	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	7489	3414	4117	1526	6749	3345
A & N Islands	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Arunachal Pradesh	7	16	11	9	8	7
Assam	647	255	620	151	N.A.	N.A.
Bihar	3636	3029	1624	2338	3154	2389

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chandigarh	1393	1042	1850	1509	1882	1881
Chhattisgarh	738	824	2187	2084	1606	2797
D & N Haveli/Daman & Diu	13	12	9	4	13	14
Delhi	11312	11833	5082	4786	11770	10528
Goa	216	120	206	358	100	124
Gujarat	7390	6257	16898	16116	5733	5733
Haryana	10149	10023	10619	11871	12299	13139
Himachal Pradesh	1868	1913	2096	1880	2084	2332
Jammu and Kashmir	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Jharkhand	2066	1905	2211	2257	938	782
Karnataka	6634	6271	8398	8535	9540	8096
Kerala	5266	4856	4444	3113	2105	730
Lakshadweep	3	4	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Madhya Pradesh	8006	8007	10850	9597	5712	4515
Maharashtra	10519	12888	10942	14614	8123	9234
Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Meghalaya	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Mizoram	40	58	28	28	N.A.	N.A.
Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Orissa	3471	3526	2844	3083	4057	3582
Pondicherry	94	83	88	88	89	108
Punjab	8001	8735	6302	4663	7089	7031
Rajasthan	12399	13369	14064	13853	14247	12208
Sikkim	11	6	N.A.	N.A.	21	15
Tamilnadu	3961	3994	3194	2742	7529	357
Tripura	16	15	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Uttar Pradesh	19047	19108	17568	14512	11862	14446
Uttaranchal	1064	1272	1413	898	1220	1636
West Bengal	3331	3009	3518	3165	2735	2468

N.A.—Not available.

*Cases Filed/Disposed of/Pending in the National Commission and State Commissions*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of Disposal	As on
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NATIONAL COMMISSION		51725	42220	9505	81.62	31.01.2008
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21673	18849	2824	86.97	31.12.2007
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	81	77	4	95.06	30.11.2007
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	46	34	12	73.91	31.12.2007
4.	Assam	2127	1122	1025	52.75	31.12.2007
5.	Bihar	12374	8481	3893	68.54	31.01.2008
6.	Chandigarh	7263	6983	280	96.14	31.01.2008
7.	Chhattisgarh	4110	3677	433	89.46	31.12.2007
8.	Daman & Diu and D&N Haveli	26	24	2	92.31	31.01.2008
9.	Delhi	27186	26140	1046	96.15	31.01.2008
10.	Goa	1946	1720	226	88.39	31.01.2008
11.	Gujarat	27535	22800	4735	82.80	31.12.2007
12.	Haryana	34217	19256	14961	56.28	31.12.2007
13.	Himachal Pradesh	14843	13931	912	93.85	31.12.2007
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	5410	4603	807	85.08	31.01.2008
15.	Jharkhand	3385	2595	790	76.66	31.01.2008
16.	Karnataka	24430	24048	382	98.44	31.01.2008
17.	Kerala	21301	17316	3985	81.29	31.01.2008
18.	Lakshadweep	14	13	1	92.86	31.01.2008
19.	Madhya Pradesh	28014	25284	2730	90.25	30.11.2007
20.	Maharashtra	39856	23252	16604	58.34	31.10.2007
21.	Manipur	77	63	14	81.82	30.09.2007
22.	Meghalaya	200	141	59	70.50	30.09.2007
23.	Mizoram	132	118	14	89.39	31.12.2007
24.	Nagaland	94	64	30	68.09	31.12.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Orissa	16700	9839	6861	58.92	30.11.2007
26.	Puducherry	836	781	55	93.42	31.01.2008
27.	Punjab	19739	14303	5436	72.46	31.01.2008
28.	Rajasthan	37403	31926	5477	85.36	31.01.2008
29.	Sikkim	31	29	2	93.55	31.01.2008
30.	Tamil Nadu	19413	16965	2448	87.39	31.01.2008
31.	Tripura	1059	997	62	94.15	31.01.2008
32.	Uttar Pradesh	51604	18257	33347	35.38	31.12.2007
33.	Uttarakhand	3154	2333	821	73.97	31.01.2008
34.	West Bengal	12100	11324	776	94.00	31.12.2007

*Cases filed/disposed of/pending in District Fora*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	%of Disposal	As on
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	166737	161565	5172	96.90	31.12.2007
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	503	448	55	89.06	30.11.2007
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	279	245	34	87.81	31.12.2007
4.	Assam	11857	10673	1184	90.00	31.12.2007
5.	Bihar	70402	59997	10405	85.22	30.11.2007
6.	Chandigarh	32920	31857	1063	96.77	31.01.2008
7.	Chhattisgarh	25878	23081	2797	89.19	31.12.2007
8.	Daman & Diu and D&N Haveli	123	103	20	83.74	31.01.2008
9.	Delhi	183956	172252	11704	93.64	31.12.2007
10.	Goa	5487	4741	746	86.40	31.01.2008
11.	Gujarat	129974	109565	20409	84.30	31.12.2007
12.	Haryana	165155	148813	16342	90.11	30.11.2007

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13.	Himachal Pradesh	45971	42977	2814	93.85	31.12.2007
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	19239	16749	2490	87.06	30.06.2006
15.	Jharkhand	27829	25115	2714	90.25	31.01.2008
16.	Karnataka	107704	103208	4496	95.83	31.01.2008
17.	Kerala	153108	143684	9424	93.84	31.01.2008
18.	Lakshadweep	53	53	0	100.00	31.01.2008
19.	Madhya Pradesh	119970	111418	8552	92.87	30.11.2007
20.	Maharashtra	187693	174188	13505	92.80	31.10.2007
21.	Manipur	968	962	6	99.38	30.09.2007
22.	Meghalaya	541	484	57	84.96	30.09.2007
23.	Mizoram	2387	1968	419	82.00	30.09.2007
24.	Nagaland	246	205	41	83.33	30.06.2006
25.	Orissa	71126	66726	4400	93.81	30.11.2007
26.	Puducherry	2446	2400	46	98.12	31.01.2008
27.	Punjab	107292	102091	5201	95.15	31.01.2008
28.	Rajasthan	213650	200146	13504	93.68	31.12.2007
29.	Sikkim	209	196	13	93.78	31.01.2008
30.	Tamil Nadu	85402	78253	7149	91.63	31.01.2008
31.	Tripura	1918	1713	205	89.31	31.12.2007
32.	Uttar Pradesh	439313	363226	76087	82.68	31.12.2007
33.	Uttarakhand	29035	27345	1690	94.18	31.01.2008
34.	West Bengal	65347	60977	4370	93.00	31.12.2007

**Implementation of Poultry and Other  
Central Schemes**

\*73. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated and spent alongwith the details of physical targets set and achieved in respect of central sector schemes for rearing of goats, poultry and piggery in the Tenth Plan Period;

(b) whether Voluntary Organisations and Institutions are also proposed to be involved in the said scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The details regarding funds allocation and expenditure on Central sector schemes for rearing of goats and poultry in the 10th Plan period are as follows:

(Amount in Rs. lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Funds Allocated	Funds spent
1.	Central Sheep Breeding Farm	2,349.75	2,166.47
2.	Central Poultry Development Organizations	6,076.00	4,574.00
3.	Dairy Poultry Venture Capital Fund	2,800.00*	342.14*

\*The allocation is for the entire scheme but the funds spent is for poultry units assisted under the scheme.

The physical targets and achievements under these schemes are as below:

S.No	Attributes	Target	Achievement
1.	<b>Central Sheep Breeding Farm</b>		
	Distribution of Rams	5,100	4,490
	Distribution of Bucks	120	142
	Training in mechanical shearing	350	525
	Training in Sheep husbandry	1,100	1,477
2.	<b>Central Poultry Development Organizations</b>		
	Production of chicks (in 000)	500	1,230.94
	Supply of parent stock chicks (in 000)	350	458.79
	Supply of commercial chicks (in 000)	4,000	4,186.44
	Production of Ducklings (in 000)	500	486.46
	Analysis of feed samples (No.)	10,000	24,376
	Training of farmers	5,000	7,971
	Layer Tests	5	8
	Broiler Tests	10	9
3.	<b>Dairy Poultry Venture Capital Fund</b>		
	Establishment of poultry units	-	84

\*There was no scheme for rearing of pigs during the said period.

(b) and (c) The Voluntary organizations and institutions are eligible for assistance under Dairy Poultry Venture Capital Fund scheme alongwith other eligible beneficiaries.

*[English]*

#### Procurement Prices of Crops

\*74. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swaminathan Committee has recommended certain formulae for fixing the procurement prices of commodities produced by the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the procurement prices of agricultural produces for the year 2008 have been fixed on the basis of the said formulae; and

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



THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) National Commission on farmers (Swaminathan Commission) had not recommended any formulae for fixing the procurement prices. However, the Commission has recommended that Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) should be at least 50 per cent more than the weighted average cost of production. This recommendation has not been accepted by the Government since MSP is recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) who, *inter alia*, takes into account various factors, which include the cost of production of respective crops also before arriving at their recommendations.

It needs to be recognized that there cannot be any mechanical linkage between cost of production and MSP since cost per quintal varies from year to year depending on the yield level. Further, the MSP fixed for the selected crops is uniform for all the States and the designated agencies intervene in the market when the market prices tend to rule below the fixed MSP. Also, in situations when purchases by the designated agencies at given MSP are not adequate to meet the PDS requirement, higher price is offered through granting a bonus over and above the MSP.

The MSPs of crops for 2007-08 Kharif and Rabi seasons have already been announced by the Government and they are not based on the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission.

[*Translation*]

#### Subsidy on Foodgrains

\*75. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy being provided presently on the foodgrains in the country;

(b) the percentage of its increase during the last three years; and

(c) the quantity of subsidised foodgrains released from the central pool during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The amount of food subsidy provided during the financial year 2007-08 (Budget Estimates) is Rs. 25424.89 crore.

(b) The amount of food subsidy released during the last three years and Budget Estimates of current year alongwith its percentage increase is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Food subsidy	% increase over last year
2004-05	25746.45	
2005-06	23071.00	(-)-10.39
2006-07	23827.59	3.28
2007-08 (BE)	25424.89	6.70

(c) The quantity of subsidised rice and wheat lifted from the Central Pool during the years 2004-05 to 2006-07, State-wise are enclosed as statement I and II.

#### Statement I

##### *Distribution of subsidised rice from Central Pool from 2004-05 to 2006-07*

(Quantity in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
		TPDS	OWS	Total	TPDS	OWS	Total	TPDS	OWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2819.95	321.23	3141.18	3166.77	329.44	3496.21	3153.48	373.83	3527.31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	83.87	4.41	88.28	73.77	3.67	77.44	55.24	2.22	57.46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3.	Assam	881.03	90.59	971.62	940.91	86.42	1027.33	1281.87	50.66	1312.58
4.	Bihar	267.53	119.78	387.31	310.85	164.13	474.98	529.53	120.44	649.97
5.	Chhattisgarh	653.56	0.5	654.06	685.76	1.31	687.07	811.51	34.77	846.28
6.	Delhi	140.77	9.71	150.48	103.38	9.36	112.74	146.69	8.24	154.83
7.	Goa	5.04	0	5.04	8.52	0.11	8.63	21.44	0.85	22.29
8.	Gujarat	231.05	28.74	259.79	235.96	30.64	266.60	394.04	32.99	427.03
9.	Haryana	0.00	8.3	8.30	33.18	16.21	49.39	61.63	9.39	71.02
10.	Himachal Pradesh	156.52	18.89	175.41	169.46	15.46	184.92	192.33	18.37	210.70
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	361.35	1.02	362.37	422.56	8.77	431.33	430.48	13.41	443.89
12.	Jharkhand	256.71	62.57	319.28	323.96	87.24	411.20	455.18	72.65	527.83
13.	Karnataka	1760.63	130.92	1891.55	1755.09	132.59	1887.68	1786.55	136.69	1923.24
14.	Kerala	619.43	48.51	667.94	584.21	32.03	616.24	744.13	31.26	775.39
15.	Madhya Pradesh	260.01	49.36	309.37	324.73	52.25	376.98	441.92	40.17	482.09
16.	Maharashtra	884.85	161.71	1046.56	947.63	177.27	1124.90	1124.79	181.15	1305.94
17.	Manipur	39.25	8.96	48.21	44.84	7.92	52.56	70.13	3.7	73.83
18.	Meghalaya	90.13	12.76	102.89	93.06	11.03	104.09	108.39	12.61	121.00
19.	Mizoram	86.97	3.56	90.53	76.00	3.74	79.74	60.06	5.08	65.14
20.	Nagaland	72.21	8.38	80.59	83.65	5.02	88.67	113.49	20.56	134.05
21.	Orissa	1360.71	158.24	1518.95	1249.32	170.80	1420.12	1115.98	153.74	1269.72
22.	Punjab	1.30	0	1.30	2.46	4.90	7.36	31.96	13.34	45.30
23.	Rajasthan	0.35	1.07	1.42	20.69	31.93	52.62	110.46	33.82	144.28
24.	Sikkim	31.84	2.13	33.97	37.76	2.60	40.36	38.81	0.71	39.52
25.	Tamil Nadu	2660.57	130.1	2790.67	3635.05	127.08	3762.13	3349.23	118.83	3468.06
26.	Tripura	164.94	11.25	176.19	158.32	14.72	173.04	203.87	7.69	211.56
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1670.14	214.19	1884.33	2422.33	191.21	2613.54	3001.90	178.31	3180.21
28.	Uttaranchal	153.65	15.15	168.80	150.23	15.13	165.36	158.15	14.36	170.51
29.	West Bengal	744.07	277.51	1021.58	955.47	193.57	1149.04	1107.72	170.23	1277.95
30.	A & N Islands	2.02	0.00	2.02	13.82	0.68	14.50	12.43	0.27	12.70
31.	Chandigarh	0.36	0.00	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00	0.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
32.	D & N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.53	1.14	3.67	4.08	0.12	4.20
33.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.62	0.09	0.71	0.96	0.1	1.06
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.75	0.00	3.75	3.18	0.00	3.18
35.	Pondicherry	3.89	0.00	3.89	24.63	1.17	25.80	17.13	1.25	18.38
Grand Total		16464.67	1899.54	18364.21	19061.06	1929.63	20990.69	21116.99	1861.81	22978.80

TPDS - Targeted Public Distribution System consisting of APL, BPL and AAY.

OWS - Other Welfare Schemes consisting of Mid-Day Meal, Wheat based Nutrition programmes, Nutritional Programme for adolescent girls, Welfare Institutions/Hostels and Emergency Feeding Programme.

(Scheme like SGRY in which foodgrains are lifted at economic cost are not included).

### Statement II

*Distribution of subsidised wheat from Central Pool from 2004-05 to 2006-07*

(Quantity in '000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
		TPDS	OWS	Total	TPDS	OWS	Total	TPDS	OWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35.620	26.60	62.220	50.730	27.76	78.490	55.593	15.09	70.683
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.110	0.00	11.110	7.400	0.00	7.400	5.135	0.00	5.135
3.	Assam	403.036	0.00	403.036	280.240	0.00	280.240	250.049	0.85	250.899
4.	Bihar	934.773	59.52	994.293	807.770	13.97	821.740	494.652	8.75	503.402
5.	Chhattisgarh	125.930	39.35	165.280	132.48	37.32	169.8	55.977	38.47	94.447
6.	Delhi	432.063	5.74	437.803	366.570	8.28	374.850	400.943	8.22	409.163
7.	Goa	0.000	0.00	0.000	3.833	0.40	4.233	5.570	0.08	5.650
8.	Gujarat	533.153	80.08	613.233	605.780	42.41	648.190	468.146	59.86	528.006
9.	Haryana	437.325	69.14	506.465	257.030	10.58	267.610	248.722	9.58	258.302
10.	Himachal Pradesh	155.794	1.05	156.844	160.770	4.19	164.960	178.169	3.78	181.949
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	210.510	0.00	210.510	223.260	0.95	224.210	228.773	0.00	228.773
12.	Jharkhand	297.475	0.14	297.615	360.740	0.00	360.740	285.971	0.03	286.001
13.	Karnataka	361.584	11.9	373.484	376.520	10.36	386.880	298.504	10.21	308.714
14.	Kerala	294.973	1.13	296.103	377.420	0.08	377.500	281.975	0.19	282.165
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1368.057	238.53	1606.587	1554.916	187.86	1742.776	1348.314	210.76	1559.074

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16.	Maharashtra	1553.820	29.47	1583.290	1563.470	40.80	1604.270	1381.121	24.05	1405.171
17.	Manipur	16.720	0.00	16.720	18.140	0.06	18.200	8.236	0.10	8.336
18.	Meghalaya	8.188	1.94	10.128	6.970	0.92	7.890	7.290	0.00	7.290
19.	Mizoram	11.782	0.00	11.782	7.550	0.00	7.550	8.988	0.00	8.988
20.	Nagaland	91.411	0.37	91.781	83.060	0.72	63.780	34.186	5.02	39.206
21.	Orissa	153.516	57.82	211.336	108.350	19.9	128.250	132.290	13.67	145.960
22..	Punjab	157.801	29.16	186.961	95.730	8.82	104.550	118.312	16.02	134.332
23.	Rajasthan	1183.526	138.07	1321.596	953.620	108.17	1061.790	915.414	88.21	1003.624
24.	Sikkim	4.770	0.00	4.770	4.650	1.01	5.660	5.381	0.00	5.381
25.	Tamil Nadu	59.944	17.30	77.244	77.980	13.61	91.590	90.180	17.64	107.820
26.	Tripura	21.279	0.00	21.279	29.940	0.00	29.940	21.474	0.00	21.474
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2240.792	279.50	2520.292	1616.390	185.11	1801.500	1497.246	171.60	1668.846
28.	Uttaranchal	83.439	0.00	83.439	103.985	6.57	110.555	128.276	0.00	128.276
29.	West Bengal	1701.031	5.12	1706.151	1822.700	11.42	1834.120	1290.941	2.00	1292.941
30.	A & N Islands	0.887	0.00	0.887	4.310	0.06	4.370	4.700	0.00	4.700
31.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.000	0.51	0.510
32.	D & N Haveli	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.750	0.12	0.870	0.360	0.00	0.360
33.	Daman & Diu	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.190	0.00	0.190	0.120	0.00	0.120
34.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.030	0.00	0.030	0.050	0.00	0.050
35.	Pondicherry	0.055	0.59	0.645	1.010	0.00	1.010	1.410	0.00	1.410
Grand Total		12890.364	1092.52	13982.884	12044.284	741.45	12785.734	10252.468	704.69	10957.16

TPDS - Targeted Public Distribution System consisting of APL, BPL and AAY. OWS - Other Welfare Schemes consisting of Mid-Day Meal, Wheat based Nutrition programmes, Nutritional Programme for adolescent girls, Welfare Institutions/Hostels and Emergency Feeding Programme (Scheme like SGRY in which foodgrains are lifted at economic cost are not included).

[English]

**Agricultural Growth**

\*76. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:  
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contribution of agriculture to GDP has been declining over the years and is likely to decline further during 2008-09;

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

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

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

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The percentage share of agriculture & allied sectors in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (1999-2000) prices during the last three years is given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Agriculture & Allied Sectors	Total GDP	Agriculture & Allied Sectors(%)
2005-06	511013	2612847	19.6
2006-07	530236	2864310	18.5
2007-08	543984	3114452	17.5

The reason for decline in share of agriculture & allied sector is mainly attributed to faster growth in the share of manufacturing, mining, electricity, construction and services sectors in GDP.

(c) and (d) The rate of growth of production of all crops as well as their productivity measured in terms of Index Numbers (with base triennium ending 1993-94=100) for the last three years is given below:

Year	Rate of Growth in Production	Rate of Growth in Productivity
2004-05	-2.7	-3.4
2005-06	5.4	3.8
2006-07	11.7	10.9

Foodgrains production increased from 198.36 million tonnes in 2004-05 to 208.60 million tonnes in 2005-06 and further to 217.28 million tonnes in 2006-07. As per second advance estimates, the production of Foodgrains during 2007-08 is estimated at 219.32 million tonnes. The productivity measured in terms of yield in kg. per hectare has improved from 1652 kg. per hectare in 2004-05 to 1715 kg. per hectare in 2005-06 and further to 1750 kg. per hectare in 2006-07.

(e) Towards improving the growth in the agriculture sector, recently, the Government has taken following steps:

- Launched the National Food Security Mission with an outlay of Rs. 4,882 crore for the Eleventh Plan period. It aims to produce additional 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of the Eleventh Plan.
- Launched the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), with an outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore for the 11th plan period which aims at achieving 4% annual growth in the agriculture sector during the Plan period, through incentivising the States to invest more in the sector.
- Established National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) to assist and support in planning and implementation of programmes in the rainfed areas.
- National Horticulture Mission is under implementation.
- Provided additional financial resources for irrigation.
- Strategic focus on the national agriculture research efforts.
- National Policy for farmers 2007 was announced in November, 2007.

[*Translation*]

#### Loans to Weavers at Low Rate of Interest

\*77. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to waive off the outstanding loans to the weavers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to provide fresh loans to the weavers at low rate of interest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (d) A committee headed by Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) was formed by this Ministry to look into the problems of high cost of working capital and choking of credit lines in the handloom sector. The

committee prepared a Financial Package in this regard whose proposals *inter-alia* include:

- i. Cleansing of the balance sheet of Apex and Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies (viable and potentially viable) with adequate fund support from Government.
- ii. Waiver of overdue interest and overdue loans of Weavers/PWCSs/Apex Societies as on 31st March, 2006.
- iii. Financing the credit needs of handloom weavers/ societies at 7% rate of interest with interest subvention to NABARD and banks from Government of India.

The above proposals are under consideration of the Government.

*[English]*

**Expansion of List of Hazardous Processes and Occupations**

\*78. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:  
SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of hazardous processes and occupations where employment of children below 18 years is strictly prohibited;

(b) whether the Government proposes to expand the list of hazardous processes and occupations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in 15 Occupations and 57 Processes. The list of occupations & processes is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The expansion of the list of hazardous occupations and processes is a continuous process. Government has been expanding the list of hazardous occupations/processes on the basis of the

recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee constituted for this purpose under the Act. The details of the expansion of this list are as follows:

*Additions to the Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986*

Year	Part-A Occupations		Part-B Processes	
	Additions	Total	Additions	Total
1986	-	5	-	11
1989	1	6	3	14
1994	1	7	4	18
1999	6	13	33	51
2001	-	13	6	57
2006	2	15	-	57

**Statement**

**PART A**

**Occupations**

Any occupation concerned with:-

- (1) Transport of passengers, goods or mails by railways;
- (2) Cinder picking, clearing of an ash pit or building operation in the railway premises;
- (3) Work in a catering establishment at a railway station, involving the movement of a vendor or any other employee of the establishment from the one platform to another or in to or out of a moving train;
- (4) Work relating to the construction of a railway station or with any other work where such work is done in close proximity to or between the railway lines;
- (5) A port authority within the limits of any port;
- (6) Work relating to selling of crackers and fireworks in shops with temporary licenses;
- #(7) Abattoirs/Slaughter House;
- \$(8) Automobile workshops and garages;

- (9) Foundries;
- (10) Handling of toxic or inflammable substances or explosives;
- (11) Handloom and powerloom industry;
- (12) Mines (underground and underwater) and collieries;
- (13) Plastic units and fiberglass workshops;
- \*\* (14) Domestic workers or servants; and
- \*\* (15) Dhabas (roadside cateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea shops, resorts, spas or other recreational centres.

## PART B

## Processes

- (1) Beedi-making.
- (2) Carpet-weaving.
- (3) Cement manufacture, including bagging of cement.
- (4) Cloth printing, dyeing and weaving.
- (5) Manufacture of matches, explosives and fireworks.
- (6) Mica-cutting and splitting.
- (7) Shellac manufacture.
- (8) Soap manufacture.
- (9) Tanning.
- (10) Wool-cleaning.
- (11) Building and construction industry.
- \* (12) Manufacture of slate pencils (including packing).
- \* (13) Manufacture of products from agate.
- \* (14) Manufacturing processes using toxic metals and substances as lead, mercury, manganese, chromium, cadmium, benzene, pesticides and asbestos.
- # (15) "Hazardous processes" as defined in Sec. 2 (cb) and 'dangerous operation' as notice in rules made under section 87 of the Factories Act, 1948 (63 of 1948).

- # (16) Printing as defined in Section 2(k) (iv) of the Factories Act, 1948 (63 of 1948).
- # (17) Cashew and cashewnut descaling and processing.
- # (18) Soldering processes in electronic industries.
- \$ (19) 'Aggarbatti' manufacturing.
- (20) Automobile repairs and maintenance including processes incidental thereto namely, welding, lathe work, dent beating and painting.
- (21) Brick kilns and Roof tiles units.
- (22) Cotton ginning and processing and production of hosiery goods.
- (23) Detergent manufacturing.
- (24) Fabrication workshops (ferrous and non ferrous).
- (25) Gem cutting and polishing.
- (26) Handling of chromite and manganese ores.
- (27) Jute textile manufacture and coir making.
- (28) Lime Kilns and Manufacture of Lime.
- (29) Lock Making.
- (30) Manufacturing processes having exposure to lead such as primary and secondary smelting, welding and cutting of lead-painted metal constructions, welding of galvanized or zinc silicate, polyvinyl chloride, mixing (by hand) of crystal glass mass, sanding or scraping of lead paint, burining of lead in enamelling workshops, lead mining, plumbing, cable making, wiring patenting, lead casting, type founding in printing shops. Store type setting, assembling of cars, shot making and lead glass blowing.
- (31) Manufacture of cement pipes, cement products and other related work.
- (32) Manufacture of glass, glass ware including bangles, florescent tubes, bulbs and other similar glass products.
- (33) Manufacture of dyes and dye stuff.
- (34) Manufacturing or handling of pesticides and insecticides.
- (35) Manufacturing or processing and; handling of corrosive and toxic substances, metal cleaning and photo engraving and soldering processes in electronic industry.

- (36) Manufacturing of burning coal and coal briquettes.
- (37) Manufacturing of sports goods involving exposure to synthetic materials, chemicals and leather.
- (38) Moulding and processing of fibreglass and plastic.
- (39) Oil expelling and refinery.
- (40) Paper making.
- (41) Potteries and ceramic industry.
- (42) Polishing, moulding, cutting, welding and manufacturing of brass goods in all forms.
- (43) Processes in agriculture where tractors, threshing and harvesting machines are used and chaff cutting.
- (44) Saw mill—all processes.
- (45) Sericulture processing.
- (46) Skinning, dyeing and processes for manufacturing of leather and leather products.
- (47) Stone breaking and stone crushing.
- (48) Tobacco processing including manufacturing of tobacco, tobacco paste and handling of tobacco in any form.
- (49) Tyre making, repairing, re-treading and graphite beneficiation.
- (50) Utensils making, polishing and metal buffing.
- (51) 'Zari' making (all processes).
- (52) Electroplating.
- (53) Graphite powdering and incidental processing.
- (54) Grinding or glazing of metals.
- (55) Diamond cutting and polishing.
- (56) Extraction of slate from mines.
- (57) Rag picking and scavenging.
- a. for item (2) the following item shall be substituted, namely:-
- '(2) carpet weaving including preparatory and incidental process thereof.

b. for item (4), the following item shall be substituted, namely:-

"(4) cloth printing, dyeing and weaving including processes preparatory and incidental thereto."

c. for item (11) the following shall be substituted, namely:-

"(11) Building and Construction Industry including processing and polishing of granite stones."

\* Ins. by Notification No. S. O. 404(E) dated the 5th June 1989 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

# Ins. by Notification No. S. O. 263 (E) dated 29th March, 1994 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

\$ Ins. Sr. No. 8-13 in Part A and Sr. No. 19-51 in Part B by Notification No. S. O. 36 (E) dated 27th January 1999 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

● Ins. Sr. No. 52-57 part B by Notification No. S.O. 397 (E) dated the 10th May 2001 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

\*\* Ins. Sr. 14 & 15 in Part A by Notification No. S.O. 1742 (E) dated the 10th October, 2006 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

*[Translation]*

#### **Extension of Telecom Services in Rural Areas**

\*79. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to give more attention to extend the telecom services intensively in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be spent for this purpose during the current financial year;

(d) whether many private telecom companies have come forward to make investments in rural areas in the field of Telecom Sector particularly in the Mobile Sector; and



(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, In order to give more attention to telecom services in rural areas, Government has undertaken the following schemes:-

- (i) Provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in 66,822 uncovered villages under Bharat Nirman through subsidy support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
- (ii) Setting up of 7871 Sharable Infrastructure Sites in 500 districts for provision of mobile services in rural and remote areas through subsidy support from USOF (Phase-1).
- (iii) Second Phase of the Mobile Infrastructure Scheme for setting up 11,049 additional tower to cover the remaining uncovered rural and

remote areas of the country is likely to be launched shortly.

(iv) For creation of general infrastructure for development of telephone facilities, Government has proposed to improve the OFC network between the Block Headquarters and District Headquarters.

(v) Subsidy support through USOF for Rural Direct Exchange Lines (RDEL).

(c) An amount of Rs. 1450 crore is likely to be spent for this purpose during the current financial year.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details of private sector companies, which have come forward for making investment in rural and remote areas in the field of telecom sector particularly in the mobile sector under USO Fund scheme of shared infrastructure, are given in the statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

##### *Companies with which agreements have been signed for setting up Infrastructure (Infrastructure Providers)*

Sl.No	Name of Company	Public/Private sector
1.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	Public
2.	GTL Infrastructure Limited	Private
3.	Hutchison Essar Cellular Limited	Private
4.	Hutchison Essar South Limited	Private
5.	National Information Technologies Limited	Private
6.	Quipo Telecom Infrastructure Limited	Private
7.	Reliance Communications Infrastructure	Private

##### *Companies with which Agreements have been signed for Provision of Mobile Services (Universal Service Providers)*

Sl.No	Name of Company	Group Company	Public/Private Sector
1	2	3	4
1.	Bharati Airtel Limited	Bharti	Private
2.	Bharti Hexacom Limited	Bharti	Private
3.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	BSNL	Public

1	2	3	4
4.	Aircel Limited	Dishnet	Private
5.	Dishnet Wireless Limited	Dishnet	Private
6.	Aircel Digilink India Limited	Vodafone	Private
7.	Fascel Limited	Vodafone	Private
8.	Hutchison Essar Cellular Limited	Vodafone	Private
9.	Hutchison Essar South Limited	Vodafone	Private
10.	BTA Cellcom Limited	Idea	Private
11.	Idea Cellular Limited	Idea	Private
12.	Idea Mobile Communications Limited	Idea	Private
13.	Reliance Communications Limited	Reliance	Private
14.	Reliance Telecom Limited	Reliance	Private

#### **Elections in the Cooperative Sector**

\*80. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether elections to various rural and urban units of the cooperative sector not held on time and the service tenure of administrators is not fixed which defeats the basic principle of democracy in the cooperative sector;

(b) the present list of States holding timely elections for the said units;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make legal provisions for making time-bound elections mandatory in the cooperative sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR):(a) "Cooperative Societies" is a State Subject under Entry 32 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. The States, therefore, have enacted their own Cooperative Societies Acts to regulate the functioning, *inter-alia*, holding the elections, of cooperative societies coming within their territorial jurisdiction. The Central Government has no legislative or executive jurisdiction over the cooperative societies registered under the State Acts. However, in many of the States, elections to the cooperative societies

are not held in time and the Administrators continue to manage the affairs of such cooperative societies. It is felt that the frequent and en-mass supersession of board of directors of cooperative societies and continuation of Administrators for a long period is against the basic principle of democratic management of the cooperative institutions.

(b) The information is being collected and the same would be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) and (d) In order to ensure the autonomous functioning and democratic management of cooperatives, the Government has introduced the Constitution (106th Amendment) Bill, 2006 in this House on 22.5.2006. The Amendment Bill, *inter alia*, provides for conduct of elections before expiry of the term of the board. The Bill also provides for supersession of board for a limited period, on reasonable and tangible grounds, in the cases where the Government have share holding or have provided loan or financial assistance or any government guarantee, for a period not exceeding one year for the cooperative societies doing the business of banking and six months for other cooperative societies.

[English]

#### **Manufacturing of Modern Aircraft**

583. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	42654	335800	44021	31827	50862	35	0	8487	25037	0	0	0	0	538523
5.	Bihar	365736	325323	7223	865128	162381	164344	0	430	516812	0	0	0	0	2407177
6.	Chandigarh	3257	1116	0	0	13127	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17500
7.	Chhattisgarh	203581	295104	12863	32304	56601	0	0	0	82	0	0	0	0	800336
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	336456	250265	10395	44029	143692	30228	0	812	7686	0	0	881	0	824442
11.	Gujarat	162696	52109	3710	15985	22848	0	0	0	787	0	0	0	538331	797466
12.	Goa	351	94	1051	33100	4295	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38891
13.	Haryana	139552	3270	23458	53157	30432	43384	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	293253
14.	Himachal Pradesh	91896	3434	11621	24321	0	688	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	131960
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	28633	8252	0	1684	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36589
16.	Jharkhand	301442	141112	34310	116974	387702	27876	0	910	54548	0	349	568718	0	1643841
17.	Karnataka	22979	95293	77938	19451	135489	3462	0	0	0	32456	0	0	0	387088
18.	Kerala	152460	71289	658573	216885	133896	11257	0	48731	0	0	0	0	0	1283093
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Maharashtra	525650	447969	39402	100494	410497	0	0	0	0	2324	0	0	0	1526336
21.	Madhya Pradesh	547361	222754	11691	51442	17492	131	0	0	0	0	0	0	108809	857680
22.	Manipur	5549	1437	0	135	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7121
23.	Meghalaya	0	527	0	900	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1427
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Orissa	461974	315423	28257	143064	728743	15149	0	0	0	0	2144	0	0	1685754
27.	Punjab	264821	82975	9087	182740	53046	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	582689
28.	Pondicherry	77	47	127	1179	0	0	398	0	771	0	0	0	0	2589
29.	Rajasthan	448480	24593	25545	179882	238580	1745	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	916845
30.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Tamilnadu	92639	217574	254841	172517	145647	3006	611108	0	10730	0	0	0	0	1508082

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
32.	Tripura	39	5461	63407	39	0	0	0	0	0	51692	0	0	0	120638
33.	Uttar Pradesh	449443	303589	16921	44345	190287	900	0	432	7353	0	0	0	42000	1055270
34.	Uttarakhand	102982	8663	8046	5199	735	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125825
35.	West Bengal	136514	498650	1127497	576365	251227	1071035	0	547133	15079	646288	31127	0	0	4900915
Total		6215797	3954012	2678473	3442239	3338491	1373268	611506	606935	639962	732760	33620	569599	688140	24884802

**Note:**

1. Though SEWA's affiliated unions are registered in 3 States only *i.e.* Gujarat, U.P. & M.P. but their membership is spread over in Seven (7) States *i.e.* Delhi, Kerala, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
2. Though LPF's affiliated unions are registered in 2 States *i.e.* Pondicherry & Tamilnadu only but their membership is spread over in Eleven (11) States *i.e.* M.P., New Delhi, Gujarat, U.P., Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Orissa, Kerala, Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.
3. Though NFITU-DHN's affiliated unions are registered in 2 States *i.e.* Delhi & Jharkhand only but their membership is spread over in Six (6) States *i.e.* Delhi, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar, U.P. and M.P.

**Diversion of Agricultural labour**

585. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to crash in prices of agricultural output and rise in the cost of agricultural input farmers are getting adversely affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether agricultural labour is being diverted to other fields which has resulted in decline in agricultural production; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Prices of agricultural output has not crashed but shown an increasing trend during 2004 and 2006. Yearly Wholesale Price Index (Base Year 1993-94=100) for foodgrains (Cereals and pulses) has increased from 176.6 in 2004 to 201.2 in 2006. Cost of production for major crops like wheat has increased only marginally from Rs. 541.52 per quintal in 2005-06 to Rs. 573.58 per quintal in 2006-07. The same for paddy has increased from Rs. 557.60 per quintal in 2005-06 to Rs. 589.45 per quintal in 2006-07.

(c) and (d) Both the number of agricultural labour quantity of agricultural production increased over the years. As per Population Census 1991, the total number of agricultural labourers in the country was 85.99 million, which has increased to 106.78 million in 2001 Population Census. Production of foodgrains also increased from 198.36 million tonnes in 2004-05 to 219.32 million tonnes in 2006-07.

**Incentive for Wheat and Rice Production**

586. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of rice is unlikely to meet domestic needs and that the country may have to resort to import to rice;

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

(c) whether the production of wheat is sufficient to meet the requirement of those rice eaters switching to wheat;

(d) if not, the steps being taken to ensure self-sufficiency in rice and wheat;

(e) whether the shortfall in rice production would result in rice-eaters switching to wheat;

(f) whether any specific incentives are given to the farmers of the wheat and rice growing areas to ensure enhanced productions; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and expenditure incurred/likely to incur thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) On the basis of the monthly per capita quantities of consumption reported in the National Sample Survey 61st Round Report on "Household Consumption of Various Goods and Services in India, 2004-05" and the population projections given by the Office of the Registrar General of India, the consumption requirement of rice in the country during 2007-08 is estimated at 89.47 million tonnes which includes seed, feed and wastage. As against this requirement, the production of rice during 2007-08 (2nd advance estimates) is estimated at 94.08 million tonnes. India is a net exporter of rice.

Following the said approach, consumption requirement of wheat in the country during 2007-08 is estimated at 68.59 million tonnes as compared to its production of 75.81 million tonnes during the crop year 2006-07 which is available for consumption during marketing year 2007-08. The country imported 6.08 million tonnes of wheat during 2006-07 to augment the buffer stock.

To increase the production of rice and wheat, the Integrated Cereals Development Programmes (ICDP) in rice and wheat based cropping systems have been under implementation since October 2000 in the country. However, in order to increase the production of rice and wheat further, recently a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission" (NFSM) has also been launched from 2007-08 in the country. It aims at increasing the production of rice by 10 million tonnes and wheat by 8 million tonnes by the end of the Eleventh Plan, i.e., by 2011-12 through area increase and productivity enhancement in targeted districts of the country.

(f) and (g) The Government extends price support (Minimum Support Price) to paddy and wheat through the Food Corporation of India and State Agencies. For the marketing season 2007-08, an incentive bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal was given over and above the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs. 750 per quintal for wheat and Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1112.8 crore. In case of paddy, an incentive bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal was given over and above the MSP of Rs. 645 per quintal (Common variety) and Rs. 675 per quintal (Grade-A variety) and Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 4054.0 crore.

### Services Under Telecom Sector

587. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

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

(a) the details of the services provided in the country under Telecom Sector especially in the State of Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(b) the number of villages in which WLL services have been provided in the country, especially in Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(c) the number of villages which are still deprived of WLL services in the country especially in Gujarat, State-wise and location-wise;

(d) whether the telephone density in rural areas is less than in urban areas in Gujarat;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(f) the time by which WLL services are likely to be provided in all villages of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Various services provided in the country under telecom sector especially in Maharashtra and Gujarat are; Basic [Wired line and Wireless in Local Loop (WLL)], Cellular Mobile, Broadband, Internet etc.

(b) As on 31.1.2008, BSNL has covered 4,15,213 villages with WLL services in the country. 26,658 and 11,933 villages have been covered with WLL services in Maharashtra and Gujarat respectively by BSNL.

(c) Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) WLL coverage is planned to cover Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA) wise, not village-wise by BSNL. The Circle-wise details of SDCAs which are still deprived of WLL services in the country are enclosed as statement.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As on 31.12.2007, the rural teledensity is 14.68% and the urban teledensity is 55.84% in Gujarat. The reasons are:

(i) Poor availability of infrastructure in rural areas which is not conducive to the development of telecom facilities.

- (ii) Socio economic status of rural populace.
- (iii) Most of the demands of telephone connections in rural areas are from far-flung scattered areas where laying telecom network is techno-commercially non-viable.

(f) As on 31.1.08 out of the 2642 SDCAs in the country, 2573 SDCAs have already been covered by CDMA WLL services. Except for few SDCAs where WLL is techno commercially non-viable, the WLL coverage in the remaining SDCAs will be provided in a progressive manner.

**Statement**

*Circle-wise details of SDCAs deprived of WLL services in the country as on 31.1.2008*

Sl.No.	Name of Circle/Telecom District (TD)	Number of SDCAs	Number of SDCAs covered with WLL Services	Number of SDCAs not covered with WLL Services
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	2	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	243	240	3
3.	Assam	46	46	-
4.	Bihar	104	104	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	112	103	9
6.	Gujarat	161	160	1
7.	Haryana	54	54	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	33	31	2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	34	29	5
10.	Jharkhand	75	74	1
11.	Kanataka	180	179	1
12.	Kerala	58	48	10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	249	248	1
14.	Maharashtra	304	304	-
15.	North East-I	30	27	3
16.	North East-II	56	37	19
17.	Orissa	120	118	2
18.	Punjab	55	55	-
19.	Rajasthan	258	249	9

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Tamil Nadu	122	122	-
21.	U.P. (East)	164	164	-
22.	U.P. (West)	64	64	-
23.	Uttarakhand	38	35	3
24.	West Bengal (Telecom Circle)	71	71	-
25.	Kolkata (TD)	1	1	-
26.	Chennai (TD)	8	8	-
Total		2642	2573	69

### Export of Computer Software

588. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has contributed the most to the country's export of computer software and services during the year 2006-07 with the southern region itself accounting for 61.23% of the total export earnings;

(b) if so, whether Karnataka continues to be on the top in terms of its contribution to the total exports at 33.36% during the year 2006-07 though there is a drop in its share from 36.67% in the previous fiscal year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of assistance being provided by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the software exports in the country particularly in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. As per Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) the software exports from STP units in Karnataka (registered with STPI, Bangalore) is around Rs. 48700 crores, during 2006-07. Exports from STP Units of Southern region consisting of Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh accounted for 61.59% of total export during 2006-07.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The IT exports reported from STP units in Karnataka registered with STPI-Bangalore

during 2005-06 was Rs. 37600 crores contributing around 35% of exports from the country and during 2006-07 it was Rs. 48700 crores contributing around 38% of exports from the country.

(d) and (e) Steps taken by the Government to promote the IT sector is given in the statement enclosed.

### Statement

#### *Steps taken by the Government to promote the IT Sector*

1. Approvals for all foreign direct investment proposals relating to the Information Sector, with the exception of Business-to-consumer (B2C) e-commerce are under the automatic route.
2. Peak rate of customs duty has been reduced to 10%. Customs duty on ITA-1 items (217 items) has been abolished from 1.3.2005. All goods required in the manufacture of ITA-1 items have been exempted from customs duty subject to Actual user condition. Information Technology (IT) Software is exempted from Customs duty.
3. Excise duty on computers is 12%. Microprocessors, Hard Disc Drives, Floppy Disc Drives, CD ROM Drives, DVD Drives/DVD writers, Flash Memory and Combo-Drives have been exempted from excise duty.
4. Supplies of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items and notified zero duty telecom/electronic items in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) by Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP)/Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/ Special



Economic Zone (SEZ) units are counted for the purpose of fulfilment of positive Net Foreign Exchange Earnings (NFE).

5. Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are being set up to enable hassle free manufacturing and trading for export purposes. Sales from Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) to SEZs are being treated as physical export. This entitles domestic suppliers to Drawback/DEPB benefits, CST exemption and Service Tax exemption. 100% Income Tax exemption on export profits is available to SEZ units for 5 years, 50% for next 5 years and 50% of ploughed back profits for 5 years thereafter.
6. Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme (EPCG) allows import of capital goods on payment of 5% customs duty. The export obligation under EPCG Scheme can also be fulfilled by the supply of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items to the DTA provided the realization is in free foreign exchange.
7. 100% depreciation is available to computers and computer peripherals over a period of 5 years for units under EOU/STP/SEZ schemes.
8. Second hand capital goods are freely importable.
9. Weighted deduction of 150% of expenditure incurred on in-house R & D in case of a company engaged in the business of electronic equipment, computers and telecommunication equipment is available under clause (1) of sub-section (2AB) of Section 35 of the Income Tax Act.
10. Income by way of dividends or long-term capital gains of a Venture Capital Fund (VCF) or Venture Capital company from investment made by way of equity shares in a Venture Capital Undertaking, which has been expanded to include the Software and IT sectors, will henceforth not be included in computing the total income. To give thrust to Venture Capital finance SEBI has been made the single point nodal agency for registration and regulation of both domestic and overseas venture capital funds.
11. Information Technology Act 2000 dealing with Cyber Security; Cyber Crime and other information security related legal aspects is in place to encourage expansion of e-commerce through Internet.
12. Special Incentive Package Scheme (SIPS): A Special Incentive Package Scheme (SIPS) to encourage investments for setting up Semiconductor Fabrication and other micro and nano technology manufacture industries in India, has been announced by the Government vide Gazette Notification dated 21st March, 2007. An Appraisal Committee has been constituted by the Department of Information Technology (DIT). A set of guidelines have also been issued on 14.9.2007.
13. Promotion of Research & Development: Department of Information Technology has put in place the following Schemes:
  - Support International Patent Protection in Electronics & IT (SIP-EIT): Under this scheme SMEs and Technology Start-up units will be reimbursed costs incurred in filing international patent applications in Electronics & ICT domain for their indigenous inventions to the extent of 50% of the actual cost incurred by the applicant on filing International Patent, subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs per application.
  - Multiplier Grants scheme: The objective of the scheme is to encourage industry to collaborate with premier Academic and Government R & D institutions for development of innovative and commercially viable products/packages. Under this scheme, the Government would provide grants up to the maximum of twice the amount invested by the industry/industry consortium/association towards the innovation at academic/R & D institution.

#### **Role of NCC Cadets in Defence Preparedness**

589. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched new schemes/programmes for improvement in the efficiency of National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets keeping in view the defence preparedness of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds issued to Karnataka for the purpose of N.C.C. activities during the current financial year and utilisation thereof,

(d) whether any proposal of the State Government is pending with the Centre at present; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) The training presently being imparted to NCC cadets meets the aims of NCC. Training in weaponry and warfare techniques to improve the defence preparedness of the nation falls beyond the scope of training to be imparted to the NCC cadets.

(c) Funds allocated to NCC Directorate, Karnataka & Goa under the heads of Office Contingency Grant (OCG), Information Technology (IT), Hiring of Civil Transport (HCT) and Camp Training out of Central budget are as under:-

	Head	Funds allocated (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds utilized (Rs. in lakhs)
(i)	OCG	25.00	18.00
(ii)	IT	22.00	19.30
(iii)	HCT	8.78	8.19
(iv)	Camp Training	263.50	207.24

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of the answer at (d) above.

#### **Agreement with Hungary**

590. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has entered into any agreement with Hungary to enhance cooperation in the Agriculture Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the country is likely to be benefited by the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Agreement with Hungary was signed on 18th January, 2008. The Agreement *inter-alia* provides for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors and include cooperation in agricultural research and technology, production and food processing, animal husbandry including dairying & aquaculture and

phytosanitary issues relating to trade in plant and animal genetic resources and standards and certification.

(c) Like any other bilateral agreement, both countries are likely to mutually benefit from strengths of each other in the field of agriculture and allied sectors and enhanced economic and trade cooperation by addressing phytosanitary issues.

#### **Connection Through Non-Exchange Line**

591. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to connect horizontal offices through Non-Exchange Line (NEL) in Districts and Taluks (Tehsils) which can also be extended to the villages in the country, particularly in the State of Gujarat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has set up NICNET connecting various Government offices upto district level only including horizontal connectivity within the districts Headquarters. NICNET is operational in 602 districts of the country including Gujarat providing support to various e-Governance projects.

[Translation]

#### **Allocation of Spectrum**

592. SHRI KIREN RIJJU:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

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

(a) whether the Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC) constituted for allotment of spectrum has taken itself out from spectrum allotment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has framed any policy to ensure fair and transparent allotment of spectrum; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The spectrum allotment for all wireless users in the country is carried out by Wireless Planning & Coordination (WPC) Wing of Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications & IT, as the national nodal spectrum management agency. Hence, the question of Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC) taking itself out from spectrum allotment, does not arise.

(c) and (d) The initial spectrum for public mobile telecom services is allotted in accordance with the provisions of the telecom service license agreement. The criteria for allotment of additional spectrum are framed taking into account various related aspects, including studies carried out by TEC.

*[English]*

#### Model Hospitals

593. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced any scheme to develop Model Hospitals by Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC);

(b) if so, the names of the hospitals which are likely to be declared as Model Hospitals, State-wise;

(c) whether a proposal sent by Government of Karnataka in this regard is pending with Union Government for its consideration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be cleared by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. The ESI Corporation in its meeting held on 16.02.2001 decided to convert one existing ESI hospital of the State into a model hospital and the entire expenditure incurred on the running of the Model Hospital shall be borne by the ESIC outside the ceiling.

(b) At present, 18 hospitals are being run as Model Hospitals by the ESI Corporation. The details are furnished

in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. As per the proposal sent by the State Government, ESI Hospital, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore had already been taken over by the ESI Corporation for running as a Model Hospital.

#### Statement

##### *List of ESI Model Hospitals*

Sl.No.	State	Place
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nacharam, Hyderabad
2.	Assam	Beltola, Guwahati
3.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
4.	Karnataka	Rajajinagar, Bangalore
5.	Kerala	Asaramam, Kollam
6.	Orissa	Rourkela
7.	Punjab	Ludhiana
8.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
9.	Uttar Pradesh	Noida
10.	Bihar	Phulwari Sharif, Patna
11.	Gujarat	Bapu Nagar, Ahmedabad
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	Bari Brahma, Jammu
13.	Delhi	Basaidarapur
14.	Maharashtra	Chinchwad, Pune
15.	West Bengal	Joka, Kolkata
16.	Tamil Nadu	KK Nagar, Chennai
17.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
18.	U.T. Chandigarh	Chandigarh

#### Monetary Allowance to Gallantry Award Winners

594. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the monetary allowance given to the gallantry award winners is too meager;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to revise the same; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the revision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):  
 (a) to (d) The monetary allowance attached with gallantry awards has been revised from time to time. It may not be feasible to prescribe any time frame for the next revision. The details of existing monetary allowance of various gallantry awards is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

*The monetary allowances for the pre-independence and post-independence gallantry awardees*

(i) Pre-Independence Gallantry Awards

Sl.No.	Name of Award	Monthly allowance (Rs. per month)
1.	Victoria Cross	80
2.	George Cross	—
3.	Distinguished Service Order/Indian Order of Merit/Indian Distinguished Service Medal	350
4.	Distinguished Service Cross/Military Cross/Distinguished Flying Cross (for officers)	200
5.	Distinguished Service Medal/Military Medal/Distinguished Flying Medal (For Other Ranks)	70/90/50

(ii) Post-Independence Gallantry Awards

Sl.No.	Name of Award	Monthly allowance (Rs. per month)
1.	Param Veer Chakra	1500/-
2.	Ashok Chakra	1400/-
3.	Maha Vir Chakra	1200/-
4.	Kirti Chakra	1050/-
5.	Vir Chakra	850/-
6.	Shaurya Chakra	750/-
7.	Sena Medal/Nav Sena Medal/Vayu Sena Medal	250/-

*[Translation]***BSNL Pre-Paid Sim Card**

595. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending applications for subscribing to the BSNL pre-paid Sim card in the country especially in Bihar, as on date, location-wise;

(b) the time by which these Sim Cards will be made available to the applicants;

(c) the reasons for the non-availability of Sim Cards to the applicants so far; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide Sim cards on demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, 11237 applications are pending in Tripura Secondary Switching Area (SSA) as on 25.02.2008 in North East Telecom Circle Service Area for providing pre-paid Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) connections. Pre-paid GSM connections are available on demand in all the remaining Licensed Service Areas of BSNL.

(b) to (d) BSNL has already initiated action to provide these 11237 connections by 31.03.2008 subject to verification of identity of applicants. There is no shortage of SIM cards and the same are being provided to applicants progressively after verification of their identity.

*[English]***NABARD Fund to NGOs**

596. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds provided by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in West Bengal during 2007-08;

(b) whether the Government has received any complaints in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Details of funds provided by NABARD to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in West Bengal during 2007-08 are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) No such complaint has been received by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

NABARD has sanctioned grant support to the NGOs in West Bengal during 2007-08 for the following purposes:

- (i) 20 Rural Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (REDPs) involving grant assistance to the tune of Rs. 10,31,040/-.
- (ii) 43 Skill Development Programmes involving grant support to the tune of Rs. 23,80,500/-.
- (iii) Grant support to the tune of Rs. 18,02,000/- for implementation of Cluster Development Programme in 6 Clusters.
- (iv) Grant support to the tune of Rs. 3,90,000/- to 4 NGOs/Agencies for facilitating setting up of Rural Marts.
- (v) Grant support to the tune of Rs. 1,32,000/- for implementation of women specific programme under Assistance to Rural Women for Non-Farm Development (ARWIND) and Assistance for Marketing of Non-Farm Products of Rural Women (MAHIMA) Schemes.
- (vi) Grant support to the tune of Rs. 10,57,750/- to enable NGOs and artisans to participate in various exhibitions/melas in various parts of the State/country.

Besides the above, 28 NGO partners in West Bengal State have so far been provided grant assistance amounting to Rs. 36.995 lakh for promoting and credit linking 1925 SHGs.

Capital/Equity support amounting to Rs. 100 lakh from the Micro Finance Development and Equity Fund (MFDEF) has been sanctioned to Sreema Mahila Samity (NGO-MFI) during the year.

In addition, financial assistance has been extended to 2 NGOs under Tribal Development Fund (TDF) as per details furnished in the following table:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Name of NGO	District	No. of families covered	Total outlay (Rs.)	Government contribution (Rs.)	Amt. released during 2007-08
(i)	Gramin Vikas Trust	Purulia	1,000	425.35	177.73	50.27
(ii)	Nari Bikas Sangh	Bankura	1,000	431.46	180.51	

Both the projects are implemented and monitored by Government of West Bengal and NABARD.

#### Special Package for Handloom Industry

597. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced a special package for assistance to different sectors of textile industry particularly for its export oriented products;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to revive the textile industry, Sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) For promotion of handloom textile exports, the Government of India has announced a Scheme under the name of Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme for implementation in the country during the 11th plan. The Scheme provides financial assistance to the handloom agencies for development of exportable handloom textile products and domestic as well as international marketing thereof.

(c) Apart from the above scheme, the Government of India has also been implementing the following schemes for the overall development of handloom textile industry:-

(a) Integrated Handloom Development Scheme.

(b) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme.

(c) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

(d) Mill Gate Price Scheme.

#### MSP of Cotton

598. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to enhance the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. Government has fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Cotton for 2007-08 season at Rs. 1800/- for F-414/H-777/134 (Medium Staple) variety and Rs. 2030/- for H-4 (Long Staple) variety and has no proposal to enhance it further for the season.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Induction of High Yielding Milch Animals

599. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided Rs. 253 crores for induction of high yielding milch animals

and related activities in distressed districts in four States during 2007-08; and

(b) if so, the quantum of money spent in suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Union Government has provided Rs. 170 crore for the 'Special Livestock and Fisheries Package' for implementation in 31 suicide-prone districts of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka & Kerala during 2007-08. Out of Rs. 170 crore, an amount of Rs. 159.50 crore has been allocated for induction of high yielding animals and related activities in these States.

(b) An amount of Rs. 41.35 crore has been spent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh till January 31, 2008.

#### Production of Cotton

600. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of cotton in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the production of the same has been steeply declined during the above period;

(c) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the production of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The State-wise details of production of cotton in the country, including Tamil Nadu, during the last three years (2004-05 to 2006-07) is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A Technology Mission on Cotton is under implementation in the cotton growing States of the country since 2000-01 for increasing the productivity and production of cotton by focusing on increasing availability of cotton seeds, covering more area under hybrids, thrust for evolving area specific technology, popularization of integrated pest management, increasing efficient use of irrigation water, field demonstrations for transfer of technology to farmers and farmers' training.

The Central Institute for Cotton Research and the Centres of the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project are developing high yielding varieties/hybrids to increase the production of cotton in the country. These organizations also produce breeder seeds of varieties and parental lines of hybrids for further multiplication by seed producing agencies for supply of certified seeds to cotton growers.

#### Statement

##### *Estimates of Production of Cotton*

State	Production ('000 Bales of 170 Kgs. each)		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2190.0	2108.0	2181.0
Assam	1.0	0.6	0.6
Chhattisgarh	0.8	0.4	0.2
Gujarat	4724.8	6772.0	8787.0

1	2	3	4
Haryana	2075.0	1499.0	1814.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.1	Negligible	0.1
Karnataka	688.0	554.0	610.0
Kerala	4.4	3.5	2.0
Madhya Pradesh	626.1	745.1	828.6
Maharashtra	2939.0	3160.0	4618.0
Meghalaya	7.8	7.8	7.7
Mizoram	1.3	0.2	5.2
Nagaland	0.2	1.7	0.2
Orissa	111.2	144.8	107.9
Punjab	2087.0	2395.0	2678.0
Rajasthan	764.6	880.5	746.8
Tamil Nadu	194.8	213.3	220.9
Tripura	1.5	1.6	1.6
Uttar Pradesh	5.1	5.2	7.0
West Bengal	3.0	6.0	14.7
Pondicherry	2.9	0.3	0.3
All-India	16428.6	18499.0	22631.8

#### **Surrender of Telephone Connections**

601. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for the early execution of Broadband Internet Services through fixed line as well as WLL in various parts of Assam especially in Lakhimpur and Dhemaji under Tezpur Secondary Switching Area (SSA) in Assam;

(b) the number of subscribers who have surrendered the BSNL services for Mobile and Land-line Connections in Assam Telecom circle for last two years, as on date, Secondary Switching Area (SSA) wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to upgrade the BSNL Services for Mobile and WLL in North East Region to make it compatible with private service providers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, Broadband services through fixed line is already available in Lakhimpur, Broadband services are planned in Dhemaji during 2007-08 and expected to be made available by 31-3-2008. Internet service through Fixed line is already available in Lakhimpur and Dhemaji. Also Internet services through WLL is available in Lakhimpur and Dhemaji (upto 144 Kbps). The WLL Enhance Variable Data Optimize (EVDO) Base Transceiver Station (BTS) are also planned at both the sites during 2008-09 for providing Bandwidth upto 2 Mbps.



The status of Broadband services in Assam Circle is furnished in enclosed statement-I.

(b) The number of subscribers who have surrendered the BSNL mobile and landline connections in Assam Telecom Circle for the last two years up to 31-01-2008 SSA-wise is furnished in enclosed statement-II.

(c) The steps taken by BSNL to update the Mobile and WLL services in NE Region are detailed below:

(i) Mobile Service: Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has made a plan to increase the mobile network with 11.6 lakh lines in the North East Region under new mobile expansion project to upgrade the BSNL Mobile Service.

(ii) WLL Service: To upgrade WLL services in the country including North East Region, BSNL has taken the following steps:

- BSNL has planned upto 3 BTSs per Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA) to increase coverage of WLL services which will cover almost the entire country and also improve the quality of service,
- Battery charger of Fixed Wire Telephone (FWT) modified to operate in the voltage range of 90v-300v,
- Provision of high capacity external maintenance free battery with FWT for providing larger talk time and standby time.

**Statement-I**

*Broadband status of Assam Telecom Circle*

S.No.	SSA	City Name	Installed Capacity	WKG
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bongaigaon	Bongaigaon	480	182
2.		Dhalligaon	480	142
3.		Barpeta Road	480	66
4.		Salakati	64	
5.		Goalpara	480	
6.		Kokrajar	480	
7.	Dibrugarh	Dibrugarh	1620	658
8.		Tinsukia	1764	677
9.		Digboi	984	249
10.		Duliajan	720	157
11.		Doomdooma	216	26
12.		Margherita	216	32
13.		Moran	216	9
14.		Dinjan	120	
15.		Lahoal	64	
16.		Naharkatia	108	7

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Jorhat	Jorhat	1572	788
18.		Numligarh	648	130
19.		Sibsagar	480	61
20.		Nazira	480	6
21.	Nagaon	Nagaon	816	418
22.		Morigaon	480	9
23.		Diphu	480	0
24.	Silchar	Silchar	1440	453
25.	Tezpur	Dhekiajuli	120	8
26.		Lakhimpur	480	1
27.		Mangaldoi	480	5
28.		Karupetia	120	
29.		B. Charali	120	
30.		Udalguri	120	
31.		Tezpur	1200	
32.	Kamrup	Guwahati	11892	
33.		Rangia	480	
34.		Damdama	120	
35.		Bijoynagar	240	

**Statement-II***Surrender of Telephone Connections*

SSA	Mobile			Landline		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (Upto 31.01.08)	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (Upto 31.01.08)
JRT	1	1648	16078	1965	3162	4768
SC	530	1181	16612	5230	4777	8499
NGG	105	235	26708	1878	4289	13277
DR	11	4558	11285	2905	14119	9513
TZ	16	141	22554	1334	5635	17936
KMP	0	859	11465	18513	8274	24478
BGN	1288	4742	18415	3121	2426	4135
<b>Total</b>	<b>1951</b>	<b>13364</b>	<b>123117</b>	<b>34946</b>	<b>42682</b>	<b>82606</b>

**On-Line Trade in Commodities**

602. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of items in respect of which on-line trade is permitted in the country at present;

(b) whether essential commodities are exempted from on-line trade;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether on-line trading has led to exorbitant rise in price of some items including edible oil; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Futures trading has been permitted in 105 commodities by the Government. The details of items are given in the statement enclosed. The three National Multi Commodity Exchanges namely, (i) National Commodities Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX), Mumbai (ii) Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), Mumbai and (iii) National Multi Commodity Exchange (NMCE), Ahmedabad have provided the online facility for futures trading in commodities.

(b) to (d) Some of the commodities listed in the statement are agricultural commodities which may be classified as foodstuffs that are classified as essential commodities. Presently futures trading in wheat, rice, tur and urad is not taking place.

(e) and (f) The online futures trading in commodity at recognized commodity Exchanges only provide a trading platform. A trading platform per se is not directly responsible for any increase or fall in prices of commodities. The prices of commodities are mainly governed by demand and supply factors in the physical market.

**Statement**

*List of Commodities Notified Under Section 15 of the F.C. (R.) Act 1952*

Sl.No	Commodity
1	2
<b>Fibres and Manufactures</b>	
1.	Art Silk Yarn
2.	Cotton Cloth
3.	Cotton pods
4.	Cotton Yarn
5.	Indian Cotton (Full pressed, half pressed or loose)
6.	Jute goods (Hessian and Sackings and cloth and/or bags, twines and/or yarns mfd by any of the mills and/or any other manufacturers of whatever nature made from jute)
7.	Kapas
8.	Raw Jute (including Mesta)
9.	Staple Fibre Yarn
<b>Foodgrains and Pulses</b>	
10.	Arhar Chuni
11.	Bajra
12.	Barley
13.	Gram
14.	Gram Dal
15.	Guar
16.	Jowar
17.	Kulthi
18.	Lakh (Khesari)
19.	Maize
20.	Masur
21.	Moth

1	2
22.	Mung
23.	Mung Chuni
24.	Mung dal
25.	Peas
26.	Ragi
27.	Rice or Paddy
28.	Small Millets (Kodan Kulti, Kodra, Korra, Vargu, Sawan Rala, Kakun, Samai, Vari & Banti)
29.	Tur Dal (Arhar Dal)
30.	Tur (Arhar)
31.	Urad (Mash)
32.	Urad dal
33.	Wheat
	<b>Metals</b>
34.	Copper, Zinc, Lead or Tin
35.	Gold
36.	Silver
37.	Silver Coins
	<b>Oilseeds and Oils</b>
38.	Celeryseed
39.	Copra Oil/Coconut Oil
40.	Copra Oilcake/Coconut Oilcake
41.	Copra/Coconut
42.	Cottonseed
43.	Cottonseed Oil
44.	Cottonseed Oilcake
45.	CPO Refined
46.	Crude Palm Oil
47.	Crude Palm Olive

1	2
48.	Groundnut
49.	Groundnut Oil
50.	Groundnut Oilcake
51.	Linseed
52.	Linseed Oil
53.	Linseed Oilcake
54.	Rapeseed Oil/Mustard Oil
55.	Rapeseed Oilcake/Mustard Oilcake
56.	Rapeseed/Mustardseed
57.	RBD Palmolein
58.	Rice Bran
59.	Rice Bran Oil
60.	Rice Bran Oilcake
61.	Safflower
62.	Safflower Oil
63.	Safflower Oilcake
64.	Sesamum (Til or Jiljilli)
65.	Sesamum Oil
66.	Sesamum Oilcake
67.	Sly meal
68.	Soy Oil
69.	Soybean
70.	Sunflower Oil
71.	Sunflower Oilcake
72.	Sunflower Seed
	<b>Spice</b>
73.	Aniseed
74.	Betelnuts
75.	Cardamom

1	2
76.	Chillies
77.	Cinnamon
78.	Cloves
79.	Coriander seed
80.	Ginger
81.	Methi
82.	Nutmegs
83.	Pepper
84.	Turmeric
	<b>Others</b>
85.	Camphor
86.	Castorseed
87.	Chara or Berseem (including charaseed or berseemseed)
88.	Crude Oil
89.	Gram Husk (Gram Chilka)
90.	Gur
91.	Khandsari Sugar
92.	Polymer
93.	Potato
94.	Rubber
95.	Seedlac
96.	Shellac
97.	Sugar
98.	Furnace Oil
99.	Ethanol
100.	Cocking Coal
101.	Electricity
102.	Natural Gas
103.	Onion
104.	Thermal Coal
105.	Carbon Credit

**Export of Milk Products**

603. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which milk and milk products are being exported at present;

(b) the quantum and value of the said items exported during each of the last three years;

(c) whether there is a vast scope to increase the export of these items; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As per the information received from Export Inspection Council of India the name of the Countries to which milk and milk products being exported are:

Afghanistan, Angola, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Laos, Mauritius, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sultanate of Oman, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Taiwan, USA, UAE, United Kingdom, West Indies, Yemen and Zanzibar.

(b)	Year	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
	2004-05	42160.06	358.89
	2005-06	59745.73	552.28
	2006-07	37391.11	395.15

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Export Inspection Council (EIC) is in dialogue with the European Commission to recognize EIC's system of inspection and quality control of milk products. In addition, agreements are proposed with China, Israel.

Mauritius, New Zealand etc countries. India has already signed Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with Singapore and Nepal for the export of milk Products. These agreement are expected to streamline and increase exports of milk products to these countries.

*[Translation]*

#### **Killing of Workers in Nasik**

604. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any complaint regarding deaths of some workers in an explosion in the factory at Pasta Village near Nasik;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(e) whether any order was given to the said factory for producing or storing explosive materials;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 21 workers dies in the explosion which occurred on 5th May, 2007 in M/s Premier Explo Chem Ltd. Pasta Village, Taluka Sinnar, Distt. Nasik, Maharashtra as per the report of the Expert Committee constituted by Government of Maharashtra.

(c) Yes, Sir. An enquiry has been conducted through an Experts Committee set-up by Government of Maharashtra under Section 90 of the Factories Act, 1948.

(d) Details are given in statement enclosed.

(e) and (f) The Controller of Explosives which regulates manufacture and storage of explosive material had given permission to M/s Premier Explo Chem Ltd., for producing and storing explosive materials. However, the premises was not registered under the Factories Act, 1948 and no licence was issued to the occupier of the premises carrying out the manufacturing process.

(g) The Government of Maharashtra is the competent authority to enforce the provisions contained in the Factories Act, 1948 and the Rules made thereunder. Accordingly, the Government of Maharashtra has initiated prosecution against the occupier/manager of the factory on 10.7.2007 in the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Nasik.

#### **Statement**

The Committee has stated in their report that M/s. Premier Explo Chem Ltd., engaged in the manufacturing of emulsion explosives. The main raw materials used were Paraffin Wax/Lash, Sorbitan Mono Oleate (SMO), DG-6, Sodium Nitrite, Sulphur, Ammonium Nitrate, Zinc Nitrate and Sodium Nitrate. In the process of manufacturing, the Oxidizer Blend (OB) consisting of Ammonium Nitrate, Sodium Nitrate and Zinc Nitrate at 85°C and Fuel Blend (FB) consisting of Paraffin Wax and SMO (emulsifier) at 80°C are separately made and both are pumped into pre-mixture in the ratio of 94:6. The emulsion so formed is then pumped into holding tanks which is at an elevation of about 13-15 ft. from the pre-mixture. The emulsion mixture is dropped from the holding tank into a blender by gravity. Prilled Ammonium Nitrate and Sulphur/atomized Aluminium powder are also added manually in the blender. After thorough blending, the mix is then dropped into the hopper. From hopper the emulsion matrix is bifurcated into two separate roto pumps. Each roto pump pushes the emulsion into cartridge machine through static mixer. The gassing agent (Sodium Nitrite Solution) is also injected online into the emulsion which sensitizes the emulsion Matrix. The small dia cartridges are made in Cartridge Machine (KP machine) and transferred onto dry conveyor belt for cooling and packaging. The conveyor belt speed is adjusted such that cartridges residence time on conveyor belt is limited to 3-4 minutes and final product density attains 1.15-1.2 gm/cc. Then cartridges are further cooled in cold water and then dried and packed.

On the day of the explosion, the temperature of the FB tank material was lower than required. This led to decrease in the temperature of in-process material leading to thickening more than normal. This temperature decrease was more in the blender material where prilled ammonium nitrate at room temperature was added. Due to the lowering of temperature and thickening of the process material, the discharge flow roto pumps probably stopped and the pumps continued to run therein leading to high temperature and pressure in the process material trapped inside the roto pumps. This abnormal situation may have caused an explosion in one or more pumps generating a shockwave, which caused immediate explosion of the entire material in the manufacturing shed. In the above accident, 21 persons/workers including 3 adolescents have died.

*[English]*

#### **Setting up of Small IT Parks**

605. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for setting up of small Information Technology Parks in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. DIT (Department of Information Technology) has not received any such proposal.

However, as per the Government of Kerala a proposal has been submitted during November, 2007 to the Planning Commission, New Delhi to set up District IT Parks in the following 12 Districts of Kerala:

- (1) Kollam
- (2) Alappuzha
- (3) Pathanamthitta
- (4) Kottayam

(5) Idukki

(6) Thrissur

(7) Palakkad

(8) Kozhikode

(9) Wayanad

(10) Malappuram

(11) Kannur

(12) Kasargod

Also as per Software Technology Park of India (STPI), the Government of Kerala has requested STPI to establish the communication gateway & Incubation facility in the districts of Calicut and Palakkad.

#### **Forward Trading of Fruits and Vegetables**

606. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow forward trading of fruits and vegetables pulp on commodity exchanges;

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

(c) whether any action plan has been worked out for its implementation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

(b) to (e) In view of the reply to part (a), does not arise.

*[Translation]***Disease in Banana Crop**

607. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey in regard to damage caused by Sigatoka disease to banana crop in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of estimated loss suffered by the banana producing farmers;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give some financial aid to the farmers for the damage caused by the said disease to their crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) A team comprising Officers from Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine & Storage (DPPQ&S) Faridabad; Central Integrated Plant Management Centre, Nagpur, a sub office of the DPPQ&S, Horticulturist, Banana Research station, ICAR, Jalgaon, and an officer from State Agriculture Department, Maharashtra was constituted to survey the disease affected areas and assess the loss caused by the disease, in consultation with the Director of Horticulture, Government of Maharashtra.

(b) The team has reported that the older plantation is more severely attacked by the disease. The damage in young plantation is 10 to 15%. Mahalaxmi variety seems to be more susceptible, where higher damage was observed.

(c) and (d) Under State Plant Protection Scheme, grant of Rs. 21 lakh has been released to A.D.O, Zilla Parishad, Jalgaon, for supply of recommended fungicides on 50% subsidy at block level to the farmers. The Government of India as well as the State are taking appropriate measures for protecting the Banana crop including widespread dissemination of information on the disease, its management and corrective action.

*[English]***Supply of Information in Local Language by BSNL**

608. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:  
SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

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

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Bangalore supplies the information in Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and in Kannada at the end thus relegating the local language to the last;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been protests in Karnataka on this act of BSNL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) No, Sir.

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

**Attack of Anthrax Disease**

609. SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Anthrax disease has been noticed in Sheep and Cattle in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the spread of Anthrax disease in neighbouring places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Anthrax in cattle, buffalo, sheep and



goat occurs sporadically in the country. It has been reported by the Government of Andhra Pradesh that during the month of January, 2008, in Jandlapeta village and in Chittoor Municipality of Chittoor district, 5 numbers of Sheep and 4 numbers of cattle have died due to Anthrax.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to check the spread of Anthrax:-

- Scientific disposal and burial of carcass.
- Disinfection of the cattle shed and premises where outbreak has been confirmed.
- All susceptible Animals are vaccinated with live spore Anthrax vaccine within a radius of 5 Kms from the site of outbreak of Anthrax disease. The same vaccine will be repeated for every nine months for a period of 3 years.
- Village wise awareness camps were organized with audio visuals on Anthrax disease in animals and its symptoms, prevention, disposal of carcass and disinfection of the premises.
- As the disease is of Zoonotic importance, awareness is also created about Anthrax Disease in human beings about symptoms, prevention and treatment measures through Pamphlets, print media and electronic media.

*[Translation]*

#### **Scanning and Uploading of Written Material on Computers**

610. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to formulate a scheme to scan and upload on computers the books and other valuable written material of various universities, IITs, research centres, Libraries of Archives and other centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of the scheme as on date; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Government recognizes the need for provision for secure data and resource sharing among the knowledge institutions.

Further, Ministry of Culture has initiated a proposal to set up a National Mission on Libraries. Digitalization of old and rare books and manuscripts available with public libraries is one of the activities to be undertaken by this Mission. The Planning Commission has given in principle approval for the National Mission on Libraries. This mission will be set up as soon as necessary approvals are accorded.

#### **Interlinking of Rivers**

611. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE:  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the National River Interlinking Project in the country as on date;

(b) the progress of different phases of this project, location-wise, phase-wise and cost-wise;

(c) the details of rivers included in this project, phase-wise; and

(d) the reasons for slow pace of the works under this project alongwith the likely time for completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWAD) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the

proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, FRs. of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed. Further, Central Government entrusted the work of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the link *viz* Ken-Betwa link under Peninsular Component to NWDA.

(b) and (c) The progress of works of various links under Peninsular Component and Himalayan Component indicating the rivers and States concerned is given as

statement I & II. As per preliminary estimate, Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) programme is estimated to cost about Rs. 5,60,000 crore at 2002-03 price level. At present no Interlinking project is under implementation.

The total expenditure on various studies for firming up Inter Basin Water Transfer link proposals up to FR level and also for preparation of DPR of Ken-Betwa link up to 31st January, 2008 is Rs. 218.73 crore.

(d) The implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States and agreements with the neighbouring countries.

### *Statement I*

#### *Details of the Links Under Peninsular Component Showing Their Present Status*

Sl.No	Name	States concerned	States benefited	Status of works
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Mahanadi (Manibhadra)-Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Orissa, Maharashtra, AP, Karnataka & Chhattisgarh	AP & Orissa	FR completed
2.	Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) link #	Orissa, Maharashtra, AP, Karnataka & Chhattisgarh	AP	FR completed
3.	Godavari (Inchampalli)- Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Orissa, Maharashtra, MP, AP Karnataka & Chhattisgarh	-do-	FR completed
4.	Godavari (Inchampalli)- Krishna (Pulichinatala) link	-do-	-do-	FR completed
5.	Kishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link	Maharashtra, AP & Karnataka	-do-	FR completed
6.	Krishna (Srisailem)-Pennar Link	-do-		FR completed
7.	Kishna (Aimatti)-Pennar link	-do-	AP & Karnataka	FR completed
8.	Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Pondicherry	AP, Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	FR completed
9.	Cauvery (Kattalai)- Vaigai-Gundar link	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Pondicherry	Tamil Nadu	FR completed
10.	Parbati-Kalisindh—Chambal link#	MP, Rajasthan & UP (UP requested to be consulted during consensus building)	MP & Rajasthan	FR completed

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Damanganga-Pinjal Link#	Maharashtra & Gujarat	Mharashtra (Only water supply to Mumbai)	FR completed
12.	Par-Tapi-Narmada Link #	-do-	Gujarat	FR completed
13.	Ken-Betwa link #	UP & MP	U.P & M.P.	FR completed DPR taken up
14.	Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar link	Kerala & Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	FR completed
15.	Bedti-Varda link	Maharashtra, AP & Kamataka	Kamataka	FR completed
16.	Netravati-Hemavati link	Kamataka, Tamil Nadu & Kerala	Kamataka	PFR Completed

DPR-Detailed Project Report; FR-Feasibility Report; PFR-Pre-feasibility Report.

**Statement-II**

*Details of the Links Under Himalayan Component Showing Their Present Status*

SI.No.	Name of the Link	States concerned	States benefited	Status of works
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kosi-Mechi link	Bihar & W.B	Bihar	FR taken up
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Bihar & U.P.	Bihar & U.P	FR taken up
3.	Gandak-Ganga link	-do-	U.P	FR taken up
4.	Ghaghra-Yamuna link	-do-	U.P	FR completed (Indian portion)
5.	Sarda-Yamuna link	Bihar, U.P., Haryana, Rajasthan & Uttaranchal	U.P & Uttaranchal	FR completed (Indian portion)
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	U.P., Gujarat, Haryana & Rajasthan	Haryana and Rajasthan	FR taken up
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	-do-	Rajasthan & Gujarat	FR taken up
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Bihar & U.P.	Bihar & U.P.	FR taken up
9.	Sone Dam-Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Bihar & Jharkhand	Bihar & Jharkhand	FR taken up

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Assam, W.B. & Bihar	Assam, W.B. & Bihar	FR taken up
11.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	-do-	Assam, W.B. & Bihar	FR taken up
12.	Farakka-Sunderbans link	W.B.	W.B.	FR taken up
13.	Ganga (Farakka)-Damodar-Subemarekha link	W.B., Orissa & Jharkhand	W.B., Orissa & Jharkhand	FR taken up
14.	Subemarekha-Mahanadi link	W.B. & Orissa	W.B. & Orissa	FR taken up

DPR-Detailed Project Report; FR-Feasibility Report; PFR-Pre-Feasibility Report.

*[English]*

#### **Compulsory Packaging In Jute Bags**

612. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:  
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has continued reservation for 100% jute packing for foodgrains and sugar;

(b) if so, whether the Government is aware that such reservation affects the plastic woven sack industries;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to dilute/repeal such provisions;

(d) whether the Standing Advisory Committee had recommended 75% reservation for foodgrains and 20% for sugar under the Jute Packaging Material Act, 1987 for the Jute Year 2006-07; and

(e) if so, the final decision taken on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Compulsory packaging in jute bags has been provided for only two commodities foodgrains & sugar and that too for packaging in bags for weight between 25.00 kgs. to 100.00 kgs. All other commodities, besides

foodgrains and sugar in bags of weight less than 25.00 kgs or more than 100.00 kgs may be packed in any other kind of bags. The reservation for jute packaging of foodgrains and sugar only affects the plastic woven sack industries, minimally.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Standing Advisory Committee had recommended 75% reservation for foodgrains and 70% (not 20%) for sugar for the jute year 2006-07.

(e) The Government after considering the recommendations of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) decided for 100% packaging of both foodgrains and sugar in jute bags, with certain exemptions and issued orders accordingly.

#### **Increase in Retirement Age in JCI**

613. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to increase the retirement age for the employees and officers of Jute Corporation of India (JCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) No, Sir. The Government has at present no proposal regarding increase in retirement age in JCI.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Inadequate Manpower in EPFO**

614. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether inadequate manpower in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has resulted in a manifold increase in customer complaints, particularly with regard to recoveries and pension funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Productivity Council (NPC) has suggested adding of more than 31,000 people at the regional, sub-regional and accounts offices; and

(d) if so, the follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Presently, the EPFO is equipped with full-fledged facilitation centre, public relation officers and supporting staff to handle customer complaints particularly with regard to recoveries and pension funds. All field offices have been directed to conduct Bhavishya Nidhi Adalats every month to settle subscribers' complaints on the spot.

A study to develop workload norms was taken up by engaging the National Productivity Council (NPC) as Consultant. The NPC had submitted its report in March 1999. However, the norms developed by it were not approved by the Executive Committee, Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund. Another study was conducted by the Xavier Labour Research Institute, Jamshedpur which has since submitted a report on restructuring of EPFO.

(d) Does not arise in view of above.

#### **Agriculture in Naxal Infected Area**

615. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some special steps have been taken by the Government for the development of agriculture in Maoist influenced areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether crops such as pulses, oil seeds, medicinal plants and vegetables etc. can also be developed in these areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing the production and productivity in the agriculture sector all over the country including the Maoist influenced areas. However, no specific steps for these areas are envisaged.

(b) to (d) A statement indicating the steps taken under the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation usual schemes for agricultural development in the Maoist influenced areas is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

**Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme:** This scheme has been formulated with the objective to ensuring that the Central Assistance is spent on focused and specific interventions for development of agriculture in areas of priority of different States. It became operational in 2000-01 in all States and UTs. The Scheme provides sufficient flexibility to the States to develop and pursue the programmes on the basis of their regional priorities mainly connected with development of rice, wheat, sugarcane and coarse cereals through an appropriate mix of measures aimed at enhancement of soil health, supply of quality seeds and other inputs and promotion of agricultural mechanization. The Scheme also lays special emphasis on natural Resource Management through watershed development management approach.

**Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC-Mini Mission-II):** This Mission has been in operation since 2000-01. Its main objectives are to improve production, productivity, quality of cotton; to reduce cultivation costs in the country; and to rice the income of the farmers. It is being implemented in 13 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra,

Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The Mission envisages an end-to-end approach comprising varietal improvement; increased production/productivity; marketing infrastructure and processing facilities.

**Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM):** In order to provide flexibility to the States in implementation based on regionally differentiated approach, to promote crop diversification and to provide focused approach to the programmes, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 1.4.2004 by merging the four erstwhile schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP); National Pulses Development Project (NPDP); Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP).

**National Horticulture Mission:** The Mission was launched in 2005-06 in order to give a new impetus/momentum to development of horticulture to generate employment and enhance farm incomes. The Mission aims at addressing problems related to generation of technology, production, post harvest management and processing and marketing under one umbrella in the horticulture sector.

**Micro Irrigation:** In dry land/rainfed areas it is necessary to increase water use efficiency for optimum utilization of available water, reduce the cost of production and to stabilize the production. In order to ensure optimum utilization of water resources a scheme called Micro Irrigation was approved for implementation in March, 2006. Its main objective is to increase the area under efficient methods of irrigation *viz* drip and sprinkler irrigation as these methods have been recognized as only alternative for efficient use of surface as well as ground water resources.

**Agricultural Extension:** For improving and strengthening agricultural extension services in the private sector, efficient use and easier availability of the inputs and utilization of skilled and technical manpower in the agriculture sector, a scheme of Agri-clinics and Agri-Business Centres has been taken up. Besides, a scheme

of Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension is being implemented to provide information to farmers on matters related to agriculture production, In order to help the farmers in tackling problems relating to pest attack, plant disease, use of inputs, a scheme of 'Kissan Call Centres' is being implemented. A new centrally sponsored scheme entitled "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" was launched in March, 2005 with the objective to making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of promoting new institutional arrangements namely Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) for technology dissemination particularly at District level and below.

**National Food Security Mission:** Government of India, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has approved the launching of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" to enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The NFSM has three components *viz*. NFSM-Rice, NFSM-Wheat and NFSM-Pulses. The salient aspect of the Mission is that it has been conceptualized to target those districts which lower productivity than the State average productivity but have the potential to augment the productivity and production of the three crops, *i.e.* rice, wheat and pulses. The scheme is operational. The Plan outlay for National Food Security Mission is Rs. 4500 crore for the Eleventh Plan period.

The following districts of Naxalite affected States are covered under NFSM-rice (Khammam, Gaya, Rajanandgaon, Surguja, Gumla, Hazaribagh, West Singhbhum, Gudchiroli, Deogarh, Malkangiri and Sonebhadra); NFSM- wheat (Jamui, Rohtas, Balaghat and Sonebhadra) and NFSM-pulses (Khammam, Aurangabad, Rajnandgaon and Surguja).

**Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) under State Plan:** Department has launched a new scheme "Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana" (RKVY) for its implementation during the 11th Five year Plan with a Plan Outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore. The scheme envisages a quantifiable increase in agriculture and allied sector production, productivity and farm income and reduction in yield gaps. The scheme was approved by the CCEA on 16th August 2007. The operational guidelines of the scheme have also been issued. The new scheme is providing flexibility and

autonomy to States in the process of planning and executing Agriculture and allied sector schemes.

*[Translation]*

### **Distribution of Foodgrains**

616. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains released to the States under the Public Distribution System (PDS) during the last three years and the current year as on date, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of the fodgrains out of the above distributed under the PDS;

(c) the details of the remaining quantity of the foodgrains left with each State during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the manner in which it has been utilised or is proposed to be utilised, State-wise;

(e) whether any policy has been formulated for proper implementation of PDS in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Details of the total quantity of foodgrains allocated to the States/UTs and lifted by the States/UTs for distribution under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), for the last three years and the current year, are given in statement I, II, III and IV enclosed.

(d) to (f) TPDS is operated under joint responsibility of Central and State and UT Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and allocation of foodgrains upto the PD Centres in the States/UTs. The State and UT Governments are responsible for identification of families of APL and BPL (Below Poverty Line), issue of ration cards, undertake review of the lists of BPL and Antyodaya families for the purpose of deletion

of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families and, distribution of the foodgrains through the network of the Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

As per the provision of the PDS (Control Order) 2001, the States/UTs are required to furnish Utilisation Certificates in respect to the allocations of foodgrains made under the TPDS within a period of 60 days for the month of allocation. Further to ensure that foodgrains reach the targeted beneficiaries, a Nine Point Action Plan is also under implementation in the States/UTs as under:

1. Continuous review of the BPL and AAY lists to eliminate bogus ration cards and to ensure coverage of only eligible BPL and Antyodaya families.
2. Ensuring leakage-free and diversion-free distribution of PDS commodities, regular inspection by different levels of functionaries, strict action against guilty persons/agencies.
3. Involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in PDS operations-PRI representatives on Advisory Committees, running of fair price shops by Panchayats and effective representation of Panchayati Raj representatives on Vigilance Committees.
4. Ensuring transparency in working of PDS, display of BPL and AAY lists by fair price shops, observance of notified timings by fair price shops.
5. Use of Information Technology, Computerization of TPDS operations, display of fair price shop-wise and district-wise allocations of PDS commodities on web-sites for public scrutiny.
6. Carryout door step delivery of PDS commodities to fair price shops.
7. Ensuring timely availability of and issuance of foodgrains by fair price shops.
8. Creating awareness among public about PDS operations, training Vigilance Committees of intricacies of PDS operations.
9. Making fair price shops financially viable entities—allowing them to sell non PDS items etc.

**Statement-I****Allocation and Offtake of Rice & Wheat for the Year 2004-05 Under TPDS**

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,230.128	2,266.740	476.248	3973.116	1261.816	1137.642	456.115	2855.573	102.576	50.188	95.773	71.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.680	76.680	9.816	118.176	31.61	54.709	8.661	94.98	99.779	71.347	88.233	80.37
3.	Assam	650.434	885.140	150.086	1685.66	623.762	521.126	139.178	1284.066	95.899	58.875	92.732	76.18
4.	Bihar	2,219.184	2,291.520	420.000	4930.704	809.91	10.312	382.079	1202.301	36.496	0.450	90.971	24.38
5.	Chhattisgarh	586.635	1,045.800	200.997	1833.432	556.72	42.368	180.399	779.487	94.901	4.051	89.752	42.52
6.	Delhi	155.270	996.516	16.510	1168.296	148.735	410.117	13.984	572.836	95.791	41.155	84.700	49.03
7.	Goa	11.848	118.296	4.112	134.256	0	0	5.04	5.04	0	0	122.568	3.75
8.	Gujarat	716.567	2,787.564	167.081	3671.212	556.091	93.809	114.301	764.201	77.605	3.365	68.411	20.82
9.	Haryana	257.040	1,014.204	71.532	1342.776	217.587	154.641	65.097	437.325	84.651	15.248	91.004	32.57
10.	Himachal Pradesh	134.816	348.900	44.116	527.832	118.553	152.004	41.755	312.312	87.937	43.567	94.648	59.17
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	243.008	447.720	66.076	756.804	235.598	292.756	43.508	571.862	96.951	65.388	65.845	75.56
12.	Jharkhand	801.112	216.300	204.380	1221.792	365.914	20.607	167.666	554.187	45.676	9.527	82.036	45.36
13.	Karnataka	987.813	2,070.600	326.483	3384.876	972.701	848.631	300.882	2122.214	98.470	40.985	92.164	62.70
14.	Kerala	487.048	1,808.940	165.560	2461.548	493.64	264.047	156.714	914.401	101.353	14.597	94.567	37.15
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1,326.222	2,535.372	406.254	4267.848	1225.005	22.732	380.325	1628.062	92.368	0.897	93.618	38.15
16.	Maharashtra	2,069.837	4,700.880	674.467	7445.184	1773.019	67.391	598.26	2438.67	85.680	1.434	88.701	32.75
17.	Manipur	44.084	47.460	11.930	103.474	29.035	18.305	8.631	55.971	65.963	38.569	72.347	54.09
18.	Meghalaya	60.152	45.024	16.708	121.884	60.389	21.808	16.119	98.316	100.394	48.436	96.475	80.66
19.	Mizoram	21.241	93.840	7.439	122.52	21.644	70.007	7.098	98.749	101.897	74.603	95.416	80.80
20.	Nagaland	39.529	122.040	12.551	174.12	42.787	108.915	11.922	163.624	108.242	89.245	94.988	93.97
21.	Orissa	1,436.088	1,155.564	260.604	2852.256	1141.878	132.305	240.04	1514.223	79.513	11.449	92.109	53.09
22.	Punjab	166.416	1,473.240	30.120	1669.776	110.983	25.348	22.766	159.097	66.690	1.721	75.584	9.53
23.	Rajasthan	708.868	2,783.756	251.672	3724.296	651.375	301.545	230.951	1183.871	91.889	10.911	91.767	31.79
24.	Sikkim	14.076	25.812	4.164	44.052	14.022	18.532	4.058	36.612	99.616	71.796	97.454	83.11



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25.	Tamilnadu	1,808.365	3,787.980	434.011	5830.356	1665.081	630.638	424.791	2720.51	103.526	16.648	97.876	46.66
26.	Tripura	100.929	179.232	22.971	303.132	104.67	60.168	21.376	166.214	103.707	33.570	93.056	61.43
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3,316.042	6,494.460	1,169.138	10979.84	2777.114	7.763	1126.056	3910.933	83.748	0.120	96.315	35.62
28.	Uttaranchal	177.120	333.552	32.052	542.724	178.697	16.772	41.62	237.089	100.890	5.028	129.851	43.69
29.	West Bengal	1,618.945	4,089.180	391.595	6099.72	1259.8	924.827	260.473	2445.1	77.816	22.616	66.516	40.09
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	7.430	36.360	1.800	45.59	0.687	2.023	0	2.91	11.938	5.564	0	6.38
31.	Chandigarh	8.748	75.516	0.868	85.152	0.17	0	0.191	0.361	1.943	0	21.509	0.42
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.544	7.140	1.176	13.86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman & Diu	1.428	9.420	0.252	11.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0.372	3.708	0.168	4.248	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	28.238	13.200	6.874	48.312	2.62	0.085	1.235	3.94	9.278	0.644	17.966	8.16
<b>Total</b>		<b>21,272.257</b>	<b>44,367.656</b>	<b>6,059.811</b>	<b>71,699.724</b>	<b>17,451.813</b>	<b>6,431.833</b>	<b>5,471.291</b>	<b>29,355.037</b>	<b>82.040</b>	<b>14.497</b>	<b>90.288</b>	<b>40.942</b>

**Statement-II***Allocation and Offtake of Rice & Wheat for the Year 2005-06 Under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,088.129	2,266.740	620.247	3973.116	1101.87	1507.07	608.56	3217.5	101.449	66.486	96.116	80.98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	28.580	69.750	12.936	111.246	25.52	43.25	12.4	81.17	89.356	62.007	95.857	72.96
3.	Assam	625.416	955.140	175.104	1755.66	595.48	444.58	181.09	1221.15	95.213	46.546	103.419	69.56
4.	Bihar	2,168.851	2,291.520	472.533	4930.704	672.01	25.55	421.06	1118.62	31.016	1.115	89.107	22.69
5.	Chhattisgarh	532.812	1,045.800	254.820	1833.432	536.803	52.25	229.189	818.242	100.749	4.996	89.942	44.63
6.	Delhi	148.464	996.516	23.316	1168.296	145.19	302.61	22.16	469.95	97.795	30.367	94.999	40.23
7.	Goa	10.221	118.296	5.739	134.256	3.804	6.103	2.447	12.354	37.217	5.159	42.638	9.20
8.	Gujarat	618.063	2,787.564	258.785	3664.412	471.11	178.29	192.34	841.74	76.224	6.396	74.324	22.97
9.	Haryana	242.516	1,014.204	86.056	1342.776	195.25	18.07	76.89	290.21	80.510	1.782	89.349	21.61

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10.	Himachal Pradesh	116.648	348.900	62.284	527.832	95.56	179.07	55.6	330.23	81.922	51.324	89.269	62.56
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	220.335	447.720	88.749	756.804	225.77	346.96	73.09	645.82	102.467	77.495	82.356	85.34
12.	Jharkhand	700.224	216.300	305.268	1221.792	390.91	21.16	282.63	684.7	54.398	9.783	92.584	56.04
13.	Karnataka	876.317	2,035.014	407.752	3319.083	875.89	877.57	378.35	2131.61	99.928	43.124	92.789	64.22
14.	Kerala	445.560	1,808.940	207.088	2461.588	438.973	323.932	200.722	961.627	98.073	17.907	96.926	39.07
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1,195.315	2,535.372	534.141	4264.828	1217.046	153.02	509.58	1879.646	101.818	6.035	95.402	44.07
16.	Maharashtra	1,914.468	4,700.880	829.836	7445.184	1647.21	127.48	736.41	2511.1	86.040	2.712	88.742	33.73
17.	Manipur	37.780	47.460	21.864	107.104	33.93	14.89	13.96	62.78	89.809	31.374	63.849	58.62
18.	Meghalaya	53.568	45.024	23.292	121.884	54.7	22.61	22.72	100.03	102.113	50.218	97.544	82.07
19.	Mizoram	18.279	72.020	10.401	100.7	17.65	55.89	10.01	83.55	96.559	77.603	96.241	82.97
20.	Nagaland	35.817	102.400	16.283	154.48	35.61	94.66	16.44	146.71	99.422	92.441	101.088	94.97
21.	Orissa	1,261.907	1,155.564	434.785	2852.256	797.408	109.77	450.493	1357.671	63.191	9.499	103.613	47.80
22.	Punjab	164.067	1,473.240	32.469	1668.776	71.11	8.84	18.24	98.19	43.342	0.600	56.177	5.88
23.	Rajasthan	593.382	2,763.756	340.018	3697.156	489.57	204.17	300.57	974.31	79.135	7.387	88.398	26.35
24.	Sikkim	14.076	25.812	4.164	44.052	14.05	24.04	4.32	42.41	99.815	93.135	103.746	96.27
25.	Tamilnadu	1,397.697	3,787.960	644.679	5830.356	1391.6	1663.797	657.63	3713.027	99.564	43.923	102.009	63.68
26.	Tripura	95.364	179.232	28.536	303.132	92.77	66.96	28.53	188.26	97.280	37.359	99.979	62.10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2,945.106	6,494.460	1,539.686	10979.252	2560.263	40.166	1438.289	4038.718	86.933	0.618	93.414	36.79
28.	Uttaranchal	162.413	333.552	46.759	542.724	166.282	53.316	34.615	254.213	102.382	15.984	74.029	46.84
29.	West Bengal	1,447.969	4,089.180	582.571	6099.72	1294.459	1029.41	454.3	2778.169	89.398	25.174	80.754	45.55
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	7.428	36.360	1.800	45.588	1.81	15.79	0.53	18.13	24.367	43.427	29.444	39.77
31.	Chandigarh	8.748	75.516	0.888	85.152	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5.192	7.140	1.528	13.86	1.67	0.89	0.72	3.28	32.165	12.465	47.120	23.67
33.	Daman & Diu	1.236	9.420	0.444	11.1	0.44	0.15	0.22	0.81	35.599	1.592	49.550	7.30
34.	Lakshadweep	0.372	3.360	0.168	3.9	0.47	2.98	0.33	3.78	126.344	88.690	196.429	96.92
35.	Pondicherry	22.862	13.200	12.250	48.312	12.53	5.2	7.91	25.64	54.807	39.394	64.571	53.07
Total		19,200.982	44,353.332	8,067.219	71,621.513	15,642.518	8,020.484	7,442.335	31,105.347	81.487	18.083	92.254	43.430

**Statement-III***Allocation and Offtake of Rice & Wheat for the Year 2006-07 Under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,052.088	2,194.220	654.288	3900.596	1054.631	1497.672	656.771	3209.074	100.242	68.255	100.379	82.27
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	25.524	62.148	15.972	103.644	16.264	35.045	9.069	60.378	63.720	56.390	56.781	58.26
3.	Assam	476.700	943.830	294.216	1714.746	479.337	760.534	272.045	1511.916	100.535	80.580	92.464	88.17
4.	Bihar	2,019.013	1,307.240	662.091	3988.344	448.589	9.257	566.332	1024.178	22.218	0.708	85.537	25.68
5.	Chhattisgarh	483.688	821.360	295.250	1600.328	521.047	33.377	313.059	867.483	107.724	4.083	106.032	54.21
6.	Delhi	148.464	664.676	23.316	836.456	146.481	378.265	22.864	547.63	98.664	56.910	98.147	65.47
7.	Goa	5.460	91.190	6.108	102.758	4.4	18.67	3.94	27.01	80.586	20.474	84.506	26.29
8.	Gujarat	540.630	1,444.404	310.848	2295.882	493.911	108.286	259.993	862.19	91.358	7.497	83.640	37.55
9.	Haryana	221.151	499.540	109.394	830.085	202.689	4.739	102.921	310.349	91.862	0.949	94.083	37.39
10.	Himachal Pradesh	46.831	319.400	76.806	443.037	45.312	247.94	77.244	370.496	96.756	77.627	100.570	83.63
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	205.077	482.720	104.007	791.804	209.473	351.349	98.433	659.255	102.144	72.785	94.641	83.26
12.	Jharkhand	700.224	189.980	305.268	1195.472	427.972	13.912	299.266	741.15	61.119	7.323	98.034	62.00
13.	Karnataka	768.116	1,594.222	491.350	2853.688	768.531	851.32	465.2	2085.051	100.54	53.400	94.678	73.07
14.	Kerala	404.277	1,604.460	248.331	2257.068	401.026	375.769	246.313	1026.108	99.196	23.420	100.395	45.46
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1,064.538	1,041.946	650.160	2756.644	1049.59	136.652	603.987	1790.229	98.596	13.115	92.898	64.94
16.	Maharashtra	1,911.084	2,270.900	833.220	5015.204	1637.217	169.94	698.753	2505.91	85.670	7.483	83.862	49.97
17.	Manipur	48.552	41.328	21.180	111.06	37.784	22.171	18.411	78.366	77.822	53.646	86.926	70.56
18.	Meghalaya	53.508	44.944	23.352	121.804	53.435	38.895	23.352	115.682	99.964	86.541	100.000	94.97
19.	Mizoram	17.640	43.662	10.920	72.222	17.64	40.158	11.246	69.044	100.000	91.975	102.985	95.60
20.	Nagaland	32.112	77.004	19.968	129.084	37.656	87.041	22.976	147.673	117.265	113.034	115.064	114.40
21.	Orissa	1,165.976	838.990	530.716	2535.682	676.996	137.985	433.288	1248.271	58.063	16.447	81.642	49.23
22.	Punjab	138.228	672.410	58.308	868.946	62.856	53.848	33.563	150.267	45.473	8.008	57.562	17.29
23.	Rajasthan	635.306	1,337.890	385.714	2358.91	516.875	160.975	348.024	1025.874	81.358	12.032	90.229	43.49
24.	Sikkim	11.766	26.447	6.474	44.687	11.766	25.948	6.474	44.188	100.000	98.113	100.000	98.88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25.	Tamilnadu	1,259.232	3,763.560	783.144	5805.936	1159.002	1505.038	775.366	3439.406	92.040	39.990	99.007	59.24
26.	Tripura	95.364	176.858	28.536	300.758	83.159	116.723	25.458	225.34	87.202	65.998	89.214	74.92
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2,766.663	3,842.700	1,720.014	8329.377	2481.039	325.775	1692.331	4499.145	89.676	8.478	98.391	54.02
28.	Uttaranchal	149.511	287.770	59.661	496.942	134.665	102.36	47.404	284.429	90.070	35.570	79.456	57.24
29.	West Bengal	1,522.066	3,473.760	621.684	5617.51	1044.249	838.775	515.641	2398.665	68.607	24.146	82.943	42.70
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5.040	22.070	1.800	28.91	2.64	13.67	0.82	17.13	52.381	61.939	45.556	59.25
31.	Chandigarh	2.512	31.808	0.888	35.208	0.21	0	0.07	0.28	8.360	0	7.883	0.80
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4.948	6.650	1.772	13.37	2.54	1.52	0.38	4.44	51.334	22.857	21.445	33.21
33.	Daman & Diu	1.044	8.900	0.636	10.58	0.46	0.25	0.37	1.08	44.061	2.809	58.176	10.21
34.	Lakshadweep	0.295	3.698	0.161	4.154	0.24	2.83	0.16	3.23	81.356	76.528	99.379	77.76
35.	Pondicherry	21.564	50.050	13.548	85.182	9.59	1.81	7.14	18.54	44.472	3.616	52.702	21.77
Total		18,004.192	30,282.763	9,369.101	57,656.056	14,239.274	8,468.499	8,661.684	31,369.457	79.089	27.965	92.449	54.408

**Statement-IV***Allocation and Offtake of Rice & Wheat for the Year 2007-08 under TPDS (upto December, 2007)*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	789.066	1,637.719	490.716	2917.501	789.698	1316.887	490.193	2596.778	100.060	80.410	99.893	89.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.143	47.037	11.979	78.159	11.263	26.597	6.801	44.661	58.836	56.545	56.774	57.14
3.	Assam	356.664	433.920	221.523	1012.107	354.478	467.432	223.582	1045.492	99.387	107.723	100.929	103.30
4.	Bihar	1,289.853	24.567	764.991	2079.411	557.569	7.999	647.066	1212.634	43.227	32.560	84.585	58.32
5.	Chhattisgarh	357.266	39.252	226.458	622.976	323.834	22.582	232.706	579.122	90.642	57.531	102.759	92.96
6.	Delhi	98.700	426.224	30.135	555.059	102.226	380.36	21.487	504.073	103.572	89.239	71.302	90.81
7.	Goa	4.095	17.011	4.581	25.687	4.073	15.926	3.716	23.715	99.463	93.622	81.118	92.32
8.	Gujarat	403.776	207.741	255.060	866.577	361.719	49.45	226.264	637.433	89.584	23.804	88.710	73.56
9.	Haryana	156.429	87.102	92.115	335.646	147.943	0.19	87.597	235.73	94.575	0.218	95.095	70.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10.	Himachal Pradesh	99.855	201.594	62.055	363.504	90.602	192.498	59.07	342.17	90.734	95.488	95.190	94.13
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	151.272	387.581	80.541	619.394	151.835	321.727	80.521	554.083	100.372	83.009	99.975	89.46
12.	Jharkhand	498.412	37.949	255.707	792.068	370.644	7.504	226.425	604.573	74.365	19.774	88.549	76.33
13.	Karnataka	585.788	1,031.517	377.919	1995.224	580.571	480.161	361.622	1422.354	99.109	46.459	95.688	71.29
14.	Kerala	301.761	394.666	187.695	884.122	301.797	360.434	187.713	849.944	100.012	91.326	100.010	96.13
15.	Madhya Pradesh	786.760	98.940	497.597	1383.297	765.041	76.95	480.994	1322.985	97.239	77.774	96.663	95.64
16.	Maharashtra	1,272.277	143.217	762.951	2178.445	1055.329	90.988	625.658	1771.975	82.948	63.532	82.005	81.34
17.	Manipur	36.414	27.785	15.885	80.084	34.36	22.902	15.704	72.966	94.359	82.426	98.861	91.11
18.	Meghalaya	35.532	45.287	22.113	102.932	33.856	39.877	21.366	95.099	95.283	88.054	96.622	92.39
19.	Mizoram	13.230	41.835	8.190	63.255	13.079	34.822	8.191	56.092	98.859	83.237	100.012	88.68
20.	Nagaland	24.084	60.117	14.976	99.177	23.638	65.404	16.133	105.175	98.148	108.795	107.726	108.05
21.	Orissa	874.179	151.454	398.340	1423.973	716.208	107.439	314.082	1137.709	81.929	70.938	78.843	79.90
22.	Punjab	100.829	53.489	46.573	200.891	45.471	25.538	24.661	95.67	45.097	47.744	52.951	47.62
23.	Rajasthan	462.149	210.071	293.616	965.836	414.525	165.815	272.95	853.29	89.695	78.933	92.962	88.35
24.	Sikkim	8.478	21.042	5.202	34.722	8.474	22.607	5.206	36.287	99.953	107.438	100.077	104.51
25.	Tamilnadu	944.424	2,110.297	587.358	3642.079	941.217	1284.887	591.064	2817.168	99.660	60.867	100.631	77.35
26.	Tripura	58.867	101.190	34.058	194.115	61.495	84.668	27.343	173.506	104.464	83.672	80.264	89.38
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2,074.275	51.877	1,289.610	3415.762	1830.293	42.286	1240.512	3113.091	88.238	81.512	96.193	91.14
28.	Uttaranchal	109.242	105.114	47.637	281.993	108.974	80.941	44.695	234.61	99.755	77.003	93.824	89.55
29.	West Bengal	1,165.185	604.220	486.263	2235.668	988.052	556.341	396.778	1941.171	84.798	92.076	85.097	86.83
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.780	17.346	1.350	22.476	2.869	10.212	1.011	14.092	75.899	58.672	74.889	62.70
31.	Chandigarh	2.205	0.300	0.666	3.171	2.438	0.119	1.085	3.622	110.567	39.067	159.910	114.22
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.393	3.661	1.647	8.721	0.423	0.781	0.243	1.447	12.467	21.217	14.754	16.59
33.	Daman & Diu	0.783	0.840	0.477	2.1	0.257	0.199	0.163	0.608	32.822	22.500	34.172	29.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.524	2.820	0.341	3.685	0.415	2.02	0.632	3.067	79.196	71.631	185.337	83.23
35.	Pondicherry	16.173	23.280	10.161	49.614	8.779	0.796	5.609	15.184	54.282	3.419	55.201	30.60
Total		13,104.863	8,848.082	7,566.486	29,519.431	11,203.445	6,365.329	6,948.803	24,517.577	85.491	71.940	91.837	83.056

*[English]***Flight Testing of LCA**

617. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flight test programme of the Light Combat Aircraft Tejas has been inordinately delayed due to non-availability of strategic partner to share their technological expertise with the Aeronautical Development Agency or lack of coordination among the Defence Research and Development Organization, Hindustan Aeronautical Limited and Indian Air Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to complete the project at earliest; and

(d) total amount spent by the Government on development of Light Combat Aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Flight test programme of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Tejas is progressing as per the schedule. So far, 829 flight tests have been completed. Efforts are being made to accelerate the flight tests. Regular review meetings are being conducted involving Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Indian Air Force (IAF) and other concerned agencies to take collective decisions and coordination. Presently, no need is felt for strategic partner.

(c) To complete the project at the earliest, a top level review is being conducted by the Chief of Air Staff (CAS) once in every quarter and review by the Deputy Chief of Air Staff (DCAS) once in every month.

(d) So far, Rs. 4806.312 cr. have been spent on development of various versions of Light Combat Aircraft.

**Policy for Farmers**

618. SHRI M. APPADURAI:  
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new policy for farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether small and marginal farmers are likely to get special benefits under the said policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The National Policy for Farmers 2007 has already been approved by the Government and was laid on the Table of the House in November 2007. This policy is based on the recommendations made by the National Commission on Farmers as contained in the "Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers", submitted by the Commission to the Government.

(b) to (d) The National Policy for Farmers provides, *inter-alia*, for asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bioresources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural biosecurity system; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material; issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women like creches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and modified farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of Information and Communication Technology and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of MSP across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiatives for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy, etc. The policy prescriptions are expected to benefit the entire community of farmers including small and marginal farmers, in improving the economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers apart from increasing the production and productivity in agriculture and allied sectors.

From the policy, the small and marginal farmers are expected to get the benefits which include provision of productive asset or market driven skills to farmer households in villages, distribution of ceiling surplus land and wasteland, availability of timely and adequate water for irrigation, pro-small farmer research strategy, provision of adequate inputs and services, timely and adequate farm credit at reasonable interest rates, introduction of a comprehensive national social security scheme for livelihood security of farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural workers, establishment of community foodgrain banks, value addition to agricultural produce, introduction of cooperative farming, group farming through Self Help Groups, setting up of small holders' estates, contract farming and farmers' companies to improve the efficiency and economies of scale for small and marginal farmers and a rural non-farm employment initiative.

#### Increase/Decrease in Production of Foodgrains

619. SHRI B. MAHTAB:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:  
SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of foodgrains is likely to increase during 2007-08 over the previous year;

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

(c) the details of the production of various foodgrains alongwith the extent of increase or decrease over the previous year;

(d) whether the per capita production and consumption of rice and wheat has increased in the Eleventh Five Year Plan as compared to the previous plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken by the Government for diversification of the cropping pattern;

(g) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of States on the production of foodgrains; and

(h) if so, the comparative details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the 2nd advance estimates released on 7th February 2008, production of foodgrains during 2007-08 is estimated at 219.32 million tonnes which is 2.04 million tonnes more than the 217.28 million tonnes of foodgrains production during 2006-07. The State-wise details of production of foodgrains during 2007-08 in major producing States are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Table below presents the production of various foodgrains alongwith the extent of increase or decrease over the previous year:

Crop	Production		Extent of Increase/Decrease(-)
	2007-08*	2006-07	
Rice	94.08	93.35	0.73
Wheat	74.81	75.81	-1.00
Coarse Cereals	36.09	33.92	2.17
Pulses	14.34	14.20	0.14
Foodgrains	219.32	217.28	2.04

\*2nd advance estimates released on 7.2.2008.

(d) and (e) During the 10th Five Year Plan (2002-03 to 2006-07), the average per capita production was 78.63 kilograms for rice and 64.58 kilogram for wheat and it is estimated to be 82.66 kilogram for rice and 65.73 kilogram for wheat during the first year, i.e., 2007-08, of the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

As per the National Sample Survey (NSS) 62nd Round Report on "Household Consumer Expenditure in India, 2005-06", the all-India monthly per capita quantity of consumption of rice was 6.54 kilograms in rural areas and 4.79 kilograms in urban areas compared to 6.55 kilograms in rural areas and 4.53 kilograms in urban areas and 4.85 kilograms in urban areas during NSS 61st Round (2004-05). The all-India monthly per capita quantity of consumption of wheat was reported as 4.35 kilograms in rural areas and 4.53 kilograms in urban areas (NSS 62nd Round) as compared to 4.29 kilograms in rural areas and 4.65 kilograms in urban areas (NSS 61st Round).

(f) A number of schemes including Integrated Cereals Development Programmes (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals; Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Technology Mission on Cotton and recently launched National Food Security Mission are in place for diversification of the cropping pattern.

(g) and (h) The Government reviews the performance of the States on a continuous basis in the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group Meetings held in the Ministry. The comparative details of production of foodgrains are given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

**Foodgrains**

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)	
	2nd Advance Estimates 2007-08*	Final Estimates 2006-07
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	17531.0	16229.0
Assam	2364.0	3060.0
Bihar	9609.0	11098.6
Chhattisgarh	5944.0	5805.0
Gujarat	7284.0	6499.0
Haryana	15366.0	14763.0
Himachal Pradesh	1582.0	1382.2
Jammu and Kashmir	1433.0	1572.7
Jharkhand	3685.0	3686.8
Karnataka	10874.8	9599.0
Kerala	612.0	640.5
Madhya Pradesh	10919.0	13747.0
Maharashtra	14522.0	12645.1
Orissa	7499.0	7344.7
Punjab	25687.0	25313.1
Rajasthan	14489.0	14208.9
Tamil Nadu	8223.0	8263.0

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	41139.0	41214.5
Uttarakhand	1867.0	1737.0
West Bengal	16289.0	15974.5
Others	2403.0	2498.5
All-India	219322	217282.1

\*Released on 7.2.2008.

**Lack of Facilities in ESIC**

620. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated an amnesty scheme for withdrawal of cases against defaulting employers and employees under Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints have been received regarding lack of proper medical treatment to beneficiaries in ESIC hospitals due to paucity of facilities and medicines;

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

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b): The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has formulated an Amnesty Scheme for withdrawal of cases against defaulting employers and employees. The New Amnesty Scheme will be in force from 1st January, 2008 to 31st December, 2008 and will also be available to those employers/insured persons who have already availed of the benefits of earlier Amnesty Schemes. The details of the Scheme are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) Some complaints/suggestions for improvement in the medical facilities are received from time to time. The action taken for improvement of medical facilities in Employees' State Insurance Hospitals are as under:

1. Modernization & upgradation of hospitals by providing modern equipments for diagnostic and



clinical services. To facilitate early sanction of equipments for hospitals, Senior State Medical Commissioners/State Medical Commissioners have been delegated powers to sanction equipments up to Rs. 15 lacs per unit at the State level itself.

2. The ESI Corporation has increased the ceiling for providing medical care from Rs. 900/- to Rs. 1,000/- per Insured Person (IP) family unit per annum w.e.f. 01.04.2007 to enable State Governments to improve medical services in ESI Hospitals. Besides this, an additional incentive of Rs. 50/- per I.P. per family unit is offered to the State Government on fulfilling stipulated terms and conditions for improvements of medical scheme.
3. Apart from this, the ESI Corporation is incurring entire expenditure on construction/repair and maintenance of hospital buildings at its sole cost and sharing expenditure on equipments costing above Rs. 25,000/- per unit outside the ceiling.
4. The ESI Corporation has introduced the Scheme of Revolving Fund for providing advance/reimbursement for super speciality/speciality treatment, purchase of drugs and dressings and purchase, repair and maintenance of equipments.
5. Tie-up arrangements have been made with other reputed Govt./non-Govt. hospitals for providing super speciality/speciality services, which are not available in ESI hospitals.
6. For ensuring regular supply of medicines, the ESI Corporation formulates rate contracts for allopathic and ayurvedic drugs and the same are sent to all State Governments for procurement of medicines.
7. The ESI Corporation has got seven ESIC Hospitals graded by professional agencies and the process for grading of other ESIC hospitals also has been initiated.
8. The ESI Corporation is in the process of obtaining ISO 9001-2000 certification for its hospitals. One ESI hospital and one ESI dispensary in Delhi has already been granted ISO Certification.
9. The ESI Corporation is encouraging computerization and incurs total expenditure on provision of computers to ESI hospitals.

### Statement

#### 1. Cases filed against the Insured Persons under Section 84 of ESI Act:

Prosecutions filed against the IPs under Section 84 of the ESI Act for giving wrong declarations resulting in excess payment to him/her may be withdrawn subject to the condition that-

- (i) Entire amount paid in excess to the IP is refunded in full by him/her to the Corporation.
- (ii) An undertaking is also given by IP to the effect that he/she would not give wrong declaration in future.

#### 2. Cases filed against the Employers under Section 85 and 85-A of ESI Act:-

All the prosecution cases filed against the employers under Section 85 and 85-A of the ESI Act upto 31st December, 2007 may be withdrawn subject to the conditions:-

- (i) The employer shall pay both the Employees' and Employers' share of contribution in full for the period under prosecution and he shall comply with other provisions of the Act.
- (ii) The interest due for the period of prosecution is paid in full by the employer.
- (iii) The employer shall pay 25% of the damages levied or leviable for the period of prosecution.
- (iv) The employer shall also furnish an undertaking to the Corporation to the effect that he/she shall be regular in compliance with the provisions of ESI Act in future or also he/she shall forfeit the right to avail of such Amnesty Scheme.

#### 3. Cases filed by employers under Section 75 of the Act.

The Amnesty Scheme shall also include those cases in which the employer has disputed the coverability or determination of contribution in the Employees' Insurance Court, under Section 75 of the Act subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

- (i) The employer shall pay both the Employees' and Employers' share of contribution in full for

the period under litigation and he shall comply with other provisions of the Act.

- (ii) The interest due for the period of litigation is paid in full by the employer.
- (iii) The employer shall pay 25% of the damages levied or leviable for the period of litigation.
- (iv) The employer shall also furnish an undertaking to the Corporation to the effect that he/she shall be regular in compliance with the provisions of ESI Act in future and there shall be no default on their part in any subsequent period.

**Death of Navy Personnel due to  
Leakage of Toxic Gas**

621. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Navy personnel died due to inhalation of toxic gas on board the Navy ship Jalashwa as reported recently;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted inquiry into the incident; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):  
(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. On the 1st February, 2008, when the Indian Navy ship, INS Jalashwa, was at sea, one officer and five sailors of the Indian Navy, who were aboard the ship, died after inhalation of toxic gas, which, apparently, leaked accidentally. A Board of Inquiry has been convened in the matter.

*[Translation]*

**Daily Allowance to ESI Employees**

622. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the daily allowances to the employees covered under

Employees State Insurance Corporation in case of their illness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment has been made about the total number of employees likely to be benefited therefrom; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation in its meeting held on 23.12.2006 has taken a decision to enhance the daily rate of Sickness Benefit from the existing 100% to 120% of the Standard Benefit rate. The enhanced rate has been made effective with effect from 01.12.2007 vide Government of India Gazette Notification No. 685 (E) dated 31.10.2007.

(c) and (d) As per assessment made for number of Insured Persons as on 31.03.2007, there were 1.01 crore Insured Persons covered under the ESI Scheme. All these Insured Persons are likely to be benefited in case they are eligible to avail sickness benefits.

**Lower Consumption of Foodgrains  
by BPL Families**

623. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

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

(a) whether the consumption of foodgrains cereals, pulses, edible oil and sugar by the people living below the poverty line in the country particularly in Maharashtra is much less than their availability in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the per capita availability of the said commodities alongwith their allocation under Public Distribution System (PDS) and consumption by various categories during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD

SINGH): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

#### Financial Assistance for Agricultural Infrastructure

624. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided financial assistance to the States during the last three years for the development and upgradation of agricultural infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to announce a Rs. 5000 crore package for agriculture to deal with natural disasters;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the contribution of Centre and States therein;

(f) whether the Government also proposes to generate extra resources for National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to increase its refinancing capabilities; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Plan expenditure during the last three years under various schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation for development of agriculture including upgradation of agricultural infrastructure is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Actual expenditure on Plan Schemes
2004-05	2676.77
2005-06	3848.16
2006-07	4675.03
2007-08 (upto 31st January, 2008)	5428.30

(c) In view of the reply to parts (a) and (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of the reply to part (d) above, question does not arise.

(f) and (g) Information is being collected.

[*Translation*]

#### Non-Working of Mobile Sets

625. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the large number of mobile phone sets provided by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have been surrendered by the subscribers due to non-functioning of such mobile phone sets properly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of BSNL and MTNL Mobile phone subscribers during the last three years, as on date;

(d) whether the private Mobile Phone Service Providers are providing better services in rural areas in various States of the Country while the BSNL subscribers are facing networking and cross-connection problems;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) does not provide handsets to its Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) based cellular mobile subscribers and as such question does not arise.

(c) The number of GSM cellular mobile connections of BSNL are as follows:

Sl.No.	As on	No. of GSM based cellular mobile subscribers	
		BSNL	MTNL
1.	31.03.2005	94,47,357	8,81,696
2.	31.03.2006	1,71,63,761	19,41,155
3.	31.03.2007	2,74,28,658	27,46,814
4.	31.03.2008	3,37,48,599	30,13,199

(d) to (f) GSM based Cellular Mobile Telephone Service being provided by BSNL is working satisfactorily and is, in general, meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), which displays it on its website. BSNL is augmenting its mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage to further improve the Quality of Service. BSNL is also optimizing its network continuously for its performance. Monitoring of the network has also been strengthened to ensure performance as per the QoS parameters prescribed by TRAI.

*[English]*

#### Activities by ICAR

626. PROF. M. RAMADASS:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agriculture and Research (ICAR) aims to intervene to enhance production;

(b) if so, the details of the research and developmental activities undertaken by ICAR during the last three years;

(c) the details of other agencies involved in Planning, Research and Development, Value addition and marketing of agricultural produce;

(d) whether involvement and suggestion of various agencies regarding agricultural production leaves the farmers confused; and

(e) if so, the steps are being taken by the Government to bring clarity in the conception of thoughts of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is mandated to generate, validate and demonstrate farm technologies through its 95 Institutes, 61 All India Coordinated Research Projects, 16 Networks and 558 Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The focus of research during last three years has been evolution of high yielding varieties/hybrids of crops, resource conservation technologies, integrated farming, organic farming, input use efficiency, quality seed and human resource, improved farm machinery and implements, improved livestock and fisheries.

(b) The ICAR is an apex research organization in agriculture at national level and mandated to conduct and coordinate education, research and its application in agriculture including animal science and fisheries. During X Five Year Plan the ICAR launched several new projects/programmes to address emerging issues and concerns to support farming and farmers in the country. Some of these initiative include launching of 'National Agricultural Innovation Project', with the support of the World Bank, to promote production to consumption system and improved livelihood security of rural people; 'Indo-US Knowledge Initiative', to explore and work on mutually reinforcing priority areas of agricultural education, research, service and commercial linkage; 'National Fund for Basic and Strategic Research in Agricultural Sciences' to strengthen basic and strategic research; and Project on 'quality seed production in agricultural crops and fisheries'. Network Programmes were initiated on 'Insect Bio-systematics', 'Transgenics', 'Impact, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to Climate Change', 'Organic Farming', 'Veterinary Type Culture', 'Prospecting, employment and management of agriculturally important microorganisms'. A National research Centre on Pomegranate at Solapur was also established to give boost to the process of diversification of agriculture towards enhancing the farm production, income and nutritional security. To protect the intellectual property and commercialize agriculture-technology/product, the ICAR guidelines on 'Intellectual Property Management and Transfer/Commercialization of Agricultural Technology' were put in place.

(c) The other agencies which are involved in Planning, Research and Development activities include Planning Commission, sisters Departments of Ministry of Agriculture,

Scientific Departments and Organizations such as Department of Science and Technology and Department of Biotechnology, Central Scientific and Industrial Research, University Grants Commission; Central Ministries of Human Resource Development; Environment and Forest; Water Resources; and Finance; State Agricultural Universities and line departments.

(d) Commodity centric research and transfer of technology coupled with multiplicity of sources of information may sometimes puzzle the users of technology.

(e) The efforts are on to bring convergence in the technology dissemination system at district level through establishing and strengthening Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Agricultural Technology Management Agency.

*[Translation]*

#### **Scheme for Promotion and Development of Handloom Industry**

627. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for promotion and development of handloom industry during the Eleventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated/likely to be allocated for such schemes during the Eleventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have formulated following schemes for promotion and development of handloom industry during the Eleventh Five Year Plan:-

- (i) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme
- (ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme
- (iii) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme
- (v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme

(c) The Plan outlay for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period are under consideration. The Plan outlay for the Handloom sector for the year 2007-08 is Rs. 315 crores.

*[English]*

#### **Jatropha Cultivation**

628. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:  
SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has earmarked 40 hectares of waste land for cultivation of Jatropha to produce bio fuel;

(b) if so, whether the plants will be cultivated through some Government Agency or through private organisations;

(c) the percentage of bio-diesel being produced in the country as against total consumption;

(d) the area of land under Jatropha cultivation in the country, State-wise;

(e) the number of bio diesel production plants in the country, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government proposes to set up National Bio Fuel Development Board; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and incentives given to farmers for the cultivation of bio fuel crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government of Rajasthan has identified 40495 hectares of waste land for cultivation of Jatropha. Jatropha cultivation in waste land is proposed to be undertaken through Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Gram Panchayats and Co-operative Societies.

(c) As the production of bio-diesel is yet to start in an organized manner in the country, no authentic data about the production of bio-diesel is available.

(d) The plantation of Jatropha has been undertaken by National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development, (NOVOD) Board under Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds Scheme in the country. The details of State-wise Jatropha plantations undertaken by the Board are given in the statement enclosed.

(e) The Government has not installed any bio-diesel production plant in the country.

(f) and (g) There is a proposal before the Government for setting up of the National Bio Fuel Development Board to oversee the implementation of National Bio-fuel Policy in coordination with all the concerned Ministries/ Departments, States and various other stakeholders. Beneficiaries including farmers are to be encouraged to undertake plantations that provide the feedstock for bio-diesel, bio-ethanol and other bio-fuels.

**Statement**

*State-wise Jatropha plantations undertaken by the NOVOD Board under Central Sector Scheme "Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds"*

S.No.	Name of State	Area under Jatropha plantations (in ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	355
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	185
3.	Bihar	10
4.	Chhattisgarh	604
5.	Gujarat	1429
6.	Haryana	479
7.	Jharkhand	700
8.	Karnataka	374
9.	Kerala	50
10.	Manipur	250
11.	Mizoram	500
12.	Meghalaya	113
13.	Maharashtra	1634
14.	Madhya Pradesh	823
15.	Nagaland	440
16.	Rajasthan	176
17.	Tamil Nadu	464
18.	Uttar Pradesh	779
19.	Uttarakhand	618
20.	West Bengal	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10083</b>

**Compensation to Families of Personnel Killed in Terrorist Attacks**

629. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Armed Forces personnel killed/ injured in terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the country during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) the number of Armed Forces personnel killed due to insurgent activities led by National Socialist Council of Nagaland and other groups in North-Eastern States;

(c) whether the families and dependents of those personnel have been taken care of and necessary compensation, reward or award paid by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):  
(a) to (d) Details of Army personnel killed and injured due to terrorist action in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the country during the last three years and till 27.2.2008 are given below:-

Year	Army personnel killed	Army personnel injured
2005	136	267
2006	89	138
2007	83	213
2008 (till 27.2.2008)	5	8

Details of Army personnel killed due to terrorist action in North-Eastern States are as follows:-

Year	Army personnel killed
2005	30
2006	8
2007	6
2008 (till 27.2.2008)	1

Following pensionary benefits are admissible to the Next of Kins (NOKs) of Armed Forces personnel who die due to terrorist attacks and insurgent activities:-

**1. Liberalised Pensionary Awards:-****(a) Officers:**

- (i) in case of widows, Liberalised Family Pension equal to the last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased.
- (ii) The dependent parents of officers, if the deceased was a bachelor or did not leave behind a widow/child, family pension at the rate of 75% of last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased for both parents and 60% of the Liberalised Family Pension for single parent.

**(b) Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR):** Equal to the last reckonable emoluments drawn by the deceased in all cases.

- 2. **Gratuity:-** It depends on number of years of service subject to a minimum of twice the last pay drawn, subject to a maximum of Rs. 3.5 lakhs.
- 3. **Ex-Gratia:-** Rs. 5.00 lakhs to Rs. 7.5 lakhs.
- 4. **Armed Forces Group Insurance Fund (AGIF):-** Rs. 15 lakhs to the NOK of Commissioned Officer and Rs. 7.5 lakhs to the NOK of PBOR.

**Issue of Telephone Directory**

630. SHRI SARDINHA FRANCISCO COSME: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the telephone directory has not been published by Goa Telecom circle;
- (b) if so, the time by which the last telephone directory was published by Goa Telecom circle;
- (c) the time by which the new telephone directory is likely to be published; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the telephone directory is published regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, the last telephone directory for Goa Telecom District was published in the year 2002.

(c) The new telephone directory for Goa Telecom District is likely to be published by April, 2008.

(d) BSNL has awarded the contract for publication of directory of Goa Telecom District. The main directory is likely to be published by April, 2008 and thereafter two supplementary directories containing additional entries, modifications and deletion by April, 2009 and April, 2010.

*[Translation]*

**Number of Account Holders in Post Offices**

631. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

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

- (a) the number of account holders of saving bank accounts in post offices on October 31, 2007;
- (b) the deposited amount of money in these saving bank accounts on October 31, 2004 and October 31, 2007;
- (c) whether the postal department has not paid any attention towards interest rates due to which people have withdrawn their money from post offices and are not taking interest in depositing money in post offices;
- (d) whether any officer has been found guilty in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, the figures of No. of SB Accounts in the Post Offices are compiled at the close of each financial year by the Department for recovery of commission from Ministry of Finance. As such the No. of SB Accounts (all types of savings schemes) as on 31-03-2007 is 17.55 Crores.

(b) Sir, the deposit amount in SB Accounts as on 31st October 2004 was Rs. 70079.35 Crores and as on 31st October 2007 was Rs. 57290.85 Crores.

(c) Sir, the policy relating to small saving schemes including fixation of interest rate in this regard is

determined by Ministry of Finance. Department of Posts is operating these schemes only as an agency function and is remunerated by Ministry of Finance at the rate fixed by them from time to time. Department of Posts has also taken up the matter with Ministry of Finance for increasing the rate of interest in various small saving schemes at par with public sector banks.

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

**Decline in Employment Opportunities Due to Appreciation of Rupee**

632. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN:  
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment opportunities are on the decline during the last three years due to the appreciation of rupee as against the dollar;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof along with the estimated decline in employment opportunities in the country during the said period, sector-wise; and

(d) the details of the sectors where the said decline taken place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per last two quinquennial rounds of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on employment and unemployment, employment opportunities on usual status basis have increased from 397 million in 1999-2000 to 459.1 million in 2004-05. No study has been conducted by the Ministry of Labour & Employment to assess the impact of appreciation of rupee against dollar.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Crop Losses**

633. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make farmers aware of global warming and consequential danger to crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to train the farmers in marketing skills and crop planning so as to enable them to get remunerative prices for their produce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has initiated the Net-Work Programme on Impact Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to Climate Change during 10th Plan with a main aim to study the impact of climate change on agriculture systems including livestock, fisheries, horticulture and forestry in the country.

As per recommendations of the National Conference on Climatic change on Indian Agriculture held during October 12-13, 2007 at New Delhi, the Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is formulating a training programme for public awareness on the impact of climate change, mitigate the affect of global warming and consequential affect on crops.

The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in various States to make farmers aware of modern agriculture technologies and other related information including awareness to global warming through training of farmers and extension workers, demonstrations on production technology and publicity through electronic and print media, exposure visits, exhibitions, Krishi Meals, seminars etc. The important Schemes having above mentioned components include Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, Macro Management of Agriculture Development, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National



Horticulture Mission and National Food Security Mission. In the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, the States have been empowered to approve any activities required for the integrated development of agriculture in their respective States.

#### **Family Accommodation to Jawans**

634. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide family accommodation to the jawans of Army;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of units in which jawans can be allowed to have family with them at present; and

(d) the time by which the said facility is likely to be extended to all the units?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (d) Married soldiers above 25 years of age are provided married accommodation according to the scales of Authorised Married Establishment (AME). Soldiers at peace/modified field stations are authorized to keep their families with them. Additional accommodation under Married Accommodation Project is also being constructed to increase availability.

*[English]*

#### **National Coastal Protection Project**

635. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Coastal Protection Programme (NCP) alongwith the funds allocated, released and spent during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether any proposal from Tamil Nadu is awaiting clearance in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The anti-erosion measures are taken up by the respective State Governments through their

own resources and according to their own priorities. Realizing the severity of sea erosion problems, a National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) has been envisaged for seeking external funding. Based on details received from various States including Tamil Nadu, an approach paper was forwarded to Department of Economic Affairs for posing the same to an external funding agency, who in turn forwarded the same to Asian Development Bank (ADB) for consideration.

Aide Memoire of the Fact Funding Mission of ADB mentions about a multi phase investment programme for a national project on sustainable coastal protection and management covering all maritime States.

In the first phase, the ADB has agreed to provide Technical Assistance (TA) to the States of Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra in preparing technically, economically, environmentally and socially viable investment proposal and introduce procedures for sustainable coastal protection and shoreline management under the Sustainable Coastal Protection and Management Project.

*[Translation]*

#### **Setting up of Mobile Tower**

636. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile service of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is not working properly in the State of Jharkhand especially in Dhanbad, Bokaro, Ranchi and Jamshedpur;

(b) if so, whether the Government is taking any concrete steps to improve this service;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of mobile connections allotted and functioning in the State, location-wise; and

(e) the total number of BSNL mobile towers functioning in the State of Jharkhand and the details of expenditure made for this purpose during the year 2006-07, as on date, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, GSM based cellular

mobile telephone service being provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is working satisfactorily in Jharkhand including in the said places in general. However, there are few interruptions sometimes in long distance media due to various developmental activities by different agencies like road widening etc. which are attended promptly.

(b) and (c) BSNL is augmenting its mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage, capacity and

to further improve the Quality of Service (QoS). BSNL is also optimizing its network continuously for its performance. Monitoring of the network has also been strengthened to ensure performance as per the QoS parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

(d) and (e) Information is given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Number of Mobile connections and Mobile Towers functioning in Jharkhand  
(as on 31.01.2008)*

Sl. No.	Name of SSA (Secondary Switching Area)	Radio Capacity Allotted	Radio Capacity Existing	No. of Working Connections*	No. of Working Mobile Towers	Expenditure in 2006-07	Expenditure in 2007-08 Upto Jan. 08
1.	Ranchi	358376	140057		136	10964408	69455789
2.	Jamshedpur	274795	112000		100	4728099	10685828
3.	Dhanbad	296894	120000		94	11908168	11415031
4.	Hazaribag	213103	80000		95	1569744	1569744
5.	Dumka	212637	65000		75	3343673	18221008
6.	Daltonganj	127595	33000		35	4707823	4712723
<b>Total</b>		<b>1483400</b>	<b>550057</b>	<b>517019</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>37221915</b>	<b>116060123</b>

\*A GSM based cellular mobile telephone subscriber belongs to whole of the Service Area and not to a particular village/town in the Service area. As such, location wise figures for subscribers have not been given.

**Increase in Complaints of BSNL Services**

637. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complaints regarding incorrect billing, lesser number of towers, frequent disconnection, issuance of large number of SIM Cards, disturbance in voice etc. In Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) services have increased in comparison to the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a wide difference between targets of issuing new connections and achievements due to these problems;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of Basic and Mobile Telephone connections surrendered by the subscribers during the last three years, as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. In general, such complaints have not increased in comparison to those of last year.

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

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.
- (e) Information is being collected.

*[English]*

#### **Cultivation of Turmeric**

638. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems faced by the cultivators of turmeric in the State of Andhra Pradesh on account of steep fall in prices of turmeric;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government has directed NAFED to start procurement of the turmeric from farmers at a remunerative price;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was slight fall in prices of turmeric in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last two years and current year (2006, 2007 and 2008) but steep fall in prices of turmeric not noticed during the above period.

During 2006-07, Andhra Pradesh MARKFED has procured 1100 quintals of turmeric @ Rs. 2100 to Rs. 2200 from Nizamabad and Metpally (Karimnagar) market centres. During current year, Andhra Pradesh MARKFED have opened up procurement centres at Armoor, Nizamabad districts to procure turmeric @ Rs. 3,000/- per quintal.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) through NAFED for procurement of agriculture and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme. Turmeric is one of the commodity procured under MIS. The scheme implemented on the specific request of the State/UT Government, willing to share the loss on 50:50 basic. The loss is restricted to

the 25% of the procurement cost. The basic aim of the scheme is to avoid distress sale of the produce by farmers in case of glut in production and the prices fall below the economic level.

#### **Soil Erosion**

639. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute and the National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land use planning, soil erosion is responsible for the decline in agricultural output; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Soil erosion is one of the factors responsible for the decline in agricultural output in the country.

(b) As per latest estimates nearly 73 and 12 million ha. are under water erosion and wind erosion, respectively. Rough estimates show production loss of about 12 million tonnes per annum due to soil erosion in the country.

The Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, Dehradun has developed several location specific erosion control measures which are being implemented through different integrated watershed management programmes run by various agencies to prevent decline in agricultural productivity. The institute organizes regular training courses to field functionaries for popularizing various erosion control measures.

#### **Job Loss Due to Appreciation of Rupee**

640. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:  
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of workers engaged in textile sector have been rendered jobless and retrenched due to the impact of appreciation of rupee during the last three years;

(b) if so, the detail thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to assist the textile sector like cash compensation and credit facilities, etc. to prevent the job loss in the industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose during 2007-08 and 2008-09; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) The Report of the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) indicates that stagnation of exports in 2007-08 due to the unprecedented appreciation of the rupee, and the consequent downturn in textiles exports will lead to a loss of around 5.79 lakh potential new jobs. The loss in direct employment in the textiles and clothing industry will be to the tune of 2.72 lakh jobs. The Report of the CITI has not quantified any job loss that may have already occurred.

(c) to (e) Government has taken the following steps to mitigate the deceleration of exports:-

- (i) Rate of refunds for textiles export products under Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme of Duty Drawback Scheme have been increased;
- (ii) Immediate refund of terminal Excise Duty has been ordered;
- (iii) Concessional export credit with extended periodical coverage has been effected;
- (iv) Refund of Service Tax in various sectors related to exports of goods, has been notified.

#### **Purchase of Foodgrains**

641. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established any mechanism for monitoring Multi-National Companies (MNCs) and private traders involved in purchase of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the quantum of wheat purchased by the MNCs and private traders during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether wheat and wheat products are being sold at international price at zero duty basis on the same terms and conditions of import as are applicable to Government of India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) As per the present policy, farmers are free to sell their produce to the Government agencies at MSP or to the private parties, including Multinational Companies as is advantageous to them. No restriction on quantity of procurement by Multinational Companies has been imposed and details regarding purchase of foodgrains by private trade are not maintained by Government. However, to keep a watch on bulk purchases of wheat by private trade and to check evasion of taxes, a notification titled "Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2007 was issued under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 on 1.3.2007 making it mandatory for private traders to declare purchases of wheat in excess of 50,000 MTs during 2007-08. Similar orders for reporting purchase of rice in excess of 10,000 MTs by private traders during October 2007 to September 2008 and wheat in excess of 10,000 MTs during 2008-09 have been notified on 27.11.2007 and 11.2.2008 respectively.

(d) Details regarding total purchases by MNCs and private traders are not maintained by the Government.

(e) and (f) Government has allowed import of wheat and wheat flour by private trade also at zero import duty as applicable to imports on Government account. However, as the international prices of wheat are substantially higher than the domestic prices, there is little likelihood of import of wheat by private trade.

*[Translation]*

#### **Low Cost Technique for Small Land Holdings**

642. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has developed any low cost technique for small pieces of agricultural land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether fragmentation of land and shrinking land holdings are making agriculture unviable; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and preventive steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed several location specific and cost effective techniques like water harvesting, micro irrigation, in situ water conservation, vermicomposting, biofertilizers, biopesticides and simple farm tools and implements for small land holdings. A publication on "System based low cost production technologies for small farmers" has also been released.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) and (e) The fragmentation of land and shrinking land holdings affect adversely the various farm operations in terms of cost, time and labour besides reducing yields. Government is promoting land consolidation and cooperative/contract farming to make land holdings viable.

#### **Sugarcane Dues**

643. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

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

(a) whether crores of rupees of sugarcane farmers and workers are still due against sugar mills at present;

(b) whether the farmers in many States have committed suicide due to non payment of arrears to them by sugar mills;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided by the Government to the sugar factories for clearing their dues;

(d) whether the Government is considering to explore the alternative uses of sugarcane in other products so that sugarcane farmers may get remunerative price for their produce;

(e) whether the Government has received any memoranda in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The outstanding cane price arrears of farmers for the last sugar season 2006-07 stood at Rs. 1651.45 crore as on 30.11.2007. Information on dues of workers is, however, not maintained by this Department.

(b) No case of suicide by sugarcane farmers due to non-payment of sugarcane dues has been reported by any State Government in the current sugar season.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Sugarcane is crushed mainly for production of sugar, gur and khandsari. However, the Government has recently amended the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 vide Notification dated 28.12.2007 permitting sugar factories to produce ethanol directly from sugarcane juice. No other proposal is under consideration of the Government to explore alternative uses of sugarcane in other products.

(e) No such memorandum has been received in recent days.

(f) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Grain Gene Banks**

644. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether older seeds of grain like rice are dying out;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to establish grain gene banks for preservation of such seeds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Low yielding old varieties of grain crops are being replaced by new high yielding varieties/hybrids to meet the food demands.

(b) National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), established at New Delhi has a national mandate of collecting and safely conserving the traditional land races and related wild and weedy species of all crop plants.

(c) The national gene bank (seed gene bank) of NBPGR, New Delhi presently holds a total of 83,066 accessions of rice land races and their wild relatives.

#### Joint Research with Farmers

645. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to take up joint research with farmers instead of confining the research activities to laboratories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This Department through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes, generate farm worthy technologies based on the feed back received from the end users. These technologies are first tested by the Institutes at their own experimental farm and then jointly with the farmers. The ICAR has created a vast network of 558 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country for technology assessment, refinement and demonstration. The validated technologies are then passed-on to the farmers. During 2007-08 a total of 71,640 frontline demonstrations were organized including oilseeds (18,306) pulses (13,042), cotton (6206) and other important crops (31,248) covering an area of 25000 ha. Besides 2838 demonstrations on various enterprises were also conducted.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Agricultural Census

646. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has completed Seventh Agricultural Census in the country to identify the data need for planning and development requirements of world class Census of Agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the strategies planned for improving the situation on Agriculture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Seventh Agriculture Census with reference year 2001-01 has already been completed and the data is available for public use on the Department's website (<http://agcensus.nic.in>).

(b) As per Agriculture Census 2000-01, the number of operational holdings, operated area and average size of holdings were 119894 thousand hectares, 159394 thousand hectares and 1.33 hectares respectively.

(c) The revitalization of the agriculture sector, improvement of agricultural production and productivity and enhancement of the income of the farmers are some of the major thrust areas identified by the Government for focused and concerted action. The National Policy for farmers, 2007 incorporating the key recommendations of the National Commission for farmers has been approved by the Government of India in order to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers. Two new schemes, i.e. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, with an Objective, *inter alia*, to incentivise the States to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors and the "National Food Security Mission" to enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses, with overall proposed allocation of Rs. 25,000 crore and Rs. 4882.48 crore respectively, have been launched recently. A comprehensive credit policy is in place to enhance flow of credit for agriculture and debt restructuring of outstanding loans for farmers in distress. Government of India has also taken up Marketing reforms being implemented by State Governments. Natural

Resources Management has been given focused attention for sustainable agricultural development in the country. National Rainfed Area Authority has been formed to provide knowledge inputs for development of rainfed areas of the country. The diversification of agriculture into horticulture has been promoted in a big way by implementing the National Horticulture Mission for whole of the country.

#### **Speed Post Gold Service**

647. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the new service Speed Post Gold launched by the Government recently is successful;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to extend the service throughout the country; and
- (c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Speed Post Gold Service is in operation in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore in the nature of a test run. The performance and business potential of the service is under assessment. The question of further extension of the service will be taken thereafter.

#### **MSP for Fruits and Vegetables**

648. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Minimum Support Price exist for procurement of many of the agricultural products seasonal fruits like mangoes, oranges, melons etc.;
- (b) if so, whether this scheme is being implemented effectively to the benefit of farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the steps being taken for its proper implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The Government fixes Minimum Support Prices for 25 agricultural products. MSPs for fruits like mangoes, oranges, melons etc. are not fixed. However, Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on the request of a State/UT Government for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, generally perishable in nature and not covered under the Price Support Scheme. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production.

#### **Check on Cyber Crime**

649. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details alongwith the number of cyber crimes that have come to the notice the Government during the last three years as on date;
- (b) whether the Government has set up any mechanism to check cyber crimes in the country;
- (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 (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As per the data maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the incidence of cyber crimes registered in States/UT under the Information Technology Act 2000 and Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections, during the year 2004, 2005 and 2006 are 347, 481 and 453 cases respectively. The number of cases registered under the provision of IT Act 2000 along with other Acts by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) are 4 cases in the year 2005, 3 cases in the year 2006 and 12 cases in the year 2007 respectively.

(b) and (c) The flight against cyber crime is a coordinated effort on the part of several agencies in the Government on an on going basis, involving law Enforcement Agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation, Intelligence Bureau, State Police Organizations and other specialized organizations. Some of the specific steps taken by the Government are:

1. The Information Technology Act 2000 together with the Indian Penal Code, 1860 provides legal framework for countering cyber crimes.

2. The Government has introduced the Information Technology (Amendment) Bill 2006 in the Parliament, which *inter alia* provides for new forms of cyber crimes like publishing of material containing sexually explicit act in electronic form, video voyeurism, breach of confidentiality and leakage of data by service providers, e-commerce frauds through impersonation commonly known as phishing, identity theft and offensive messages through communication service.
3. The India Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is engaged in developing appropriate Security Guidelines and other best practices for securing the Information Technology infrastructure.
4. Central Bureau of Investigation and other police organizations have set up cyber Crime Cells manned by officers who have been specially trained to handle such crimes.
5. The Government conducts several awareness and training programmes on cyber laws and cyber crimes for Judicial Officers, Law Enforcement Agencies, Cyber Forensic Scientists and others.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Flood Control in Bihar**

650. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has approved flood control schemes for Bihar and allocated two thousand crore of rupees for the same:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for timely completion of the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) During the 91st meeting of Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources, held on 7.11.2007, four Flood Control Schemes, namely, (i) Revised Flood Control Component on Bagmati Multi-Purpose Project amounting to Rs. 792 crore; (ii) Raising

and Strengthening of Embankments along Kamala River in Bihar amounting to Rs. 52.09 crore; (iii) Flood Control Embankments in Mahananda Basin/Sub-basin in Bihar amounting to Rs. 603.88 crore and (iv) Raising, Strengthening and extension of Existing Left & Right Bank Embankments in Chandan River System in Bhagalpur & Banka Districts of Bihar amounting to Rs. 147.68 crore were discussed and agreed to, in principle.

Based upon the request of the State Government of Bihar, Planning Commission has accorded investment clearance for (i) First phase of Raising and Strengthening of Embankments along River Bagmati amounting to Rs. 135.16 crore and (ii) Raising and Strengthening of Embankments along Kamala River in Bihar amounting to Rs. 52.09 crore vide Planning Commission letter No. 2(221)/06-WR dated 15.02.2008.

The above said schemes would be implemented by the State Government of Bihar during XI Plan Period.

#### **Bharat Nirman Rashtriya Rozgar Yojana**

651. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:  
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement Bharat Nirman Rashtriya Rozgar Yojana in the country;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof; and

(c) the number of persons are likely to be benefited during the year 2008 under said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government. However, National Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) is being implemented in 330 districts at present and is to cover all the rural districts of the country with effect from 01.04.2008. 2.57 crore households have been provided employment during current financial year till December, 2007.

#### **Guidelines for Ban on Child Labour**

652. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:



(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently issued some guidelines in regard to ban on child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments are not complying with the aforesaid guidelines;

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

(e) the action being taken by the Union Government to ensure compliance the aforesaid guidelines by such States; and

(f) the outcome of the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has not issued any such guidelines recently with regard to ban on child labour.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

#### **Withdrawal of Subsidy**

653. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD *ALIAS* SADHU  
YADAV:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

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

(a) whether due to withdrawal of Government subsidy Landline rural telephone expansion programme of BSNL is likely to be discontinued;

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

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to provide telephone facility to poor rural people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, BSNL is fulfilling various social obligations of Government and has to operate in loss making rural areas. Earlier, BSNL was getting recoupsments through various financial subsidies

and assistances, such as Access Deficit Charges (ADC) levy, reimbursement of licence fee etc. for discharging the social obligations of Government. Now TRAI has declared to phase out the ADC from 1st April, 2008 onward. The reimbursement of licence fee by Government has already been stopped to BSNL from 2006-07 onwards. Further, BSNL has received only Rs. 4650 crore from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) during 2002-07 whereas it has contributed Rs. 8031 crores towards USOF. BSNL, thus is net contributor to USOF though it is the main provider of telecom services in Rural areas.

Due to withdrawal of various subsidies as above and net contribution to USO Fund, the existing rural landlines connections of BSNL are becoming unsustain be. This may also adversely impact the landline rural expansion programme of BSNL.

(c) The details of various projects undertaken by the Government funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) are given below:

- (i) USOF support for provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in unconnected villages in the country.
- (ii) Provision of subsidy support for provision of Rural Direct Exchange Lines (RDELs) in 1685 commercially unviable Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs).
- (iii) Provision of subsidy support for Rural Community Phones (RCPs) in villages with population more than 2000 and where there are no Public Call Offices(PCOs).
- (iv) Subsidy support for the innovative scheme of sharing of infrastructure by USO Fund to set up 7,871 number of infrastructure sites (in 500 districts) spread over 27 States for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there is no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage.
- (v) Subsidy support to neary 90.5 lakh RDELs installed pisor to 1.4.2002 towards the rental differential between the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) prescribed rental and the rental charged by the service provider for a limited period of 1.4.2002 to 31.1.2004.

**Mechanized Poultry Plants**

654. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to set up mechanized poultry plant in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), under its Plan scheme, provides 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs to poultry processing units for Setting up/Modernization/Expansion etc., which includes mechanized poultry processing plants also. During the 11th Five Year Plan, the MFPI proposes to consider mechanized poultry slaughter and processing plants recommended by the State Governments for financial assistance under the scheme of 'Modernization of Abattoirs/setting up of Modern abattoirs' as one of the components of modern slaughter line.

**Employment to Women**

655. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether women are engaged in low productivity jobs in agriculture which aggravated the problem of women unemployment;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Rural women are engaged in agriculture sector mainly as agricultural labourers. According to 2001 Census, there are 42.95% female agricultural labourers as compared to 27.51% male.

The Government has taken several steps to empower women in agriculture by making special provisions for them under ongoing schemes/programmes of DAC, MoA which include:

- 30% allocation for women beneficiaries under the scheme 'Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal and National Horticulture Mission'.
- 33% allocation in 'National Food Security Mission'.
- 30% allocation in 'Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton'.
- 30% allocation in 'Mini Mission of Jute Technology Mission'.
- 30% allocation in programmatic activities under 'Support to States for Extension Reforms'.

Important provisions in favour of women have also been made under National Policy for Farmers launched in 2007, the details of which are given in statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Policy provisions incorporated in the National Agriculture Policy on Farmers 2007 for empowering the women in farming and allied activities*

- (a) Asset reforms will ensure that every farmer household in villages possesses and/or has access to productive asset like land, livestock, fish pond, homestead farm and or income through enterprise and/or market-driven skills, so that the household income is increased substantially on a sustainable basis.
- (b) Training and capacity building centres are to impart training to fisher families and fisher women in all aspects of the capture/culture/consumption chain, quality literacy for hygienic handling and other aspects.
- (c) The research strategy of science and technology in agriculture is to be pro-nature, pro-small farmers and gender sensitive.
- (d) Promoting women friendly implements/tools for women farmers to reduce drudgery save time and enhance output.

- (e) Women working in the farms need appropriate support services like creches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training, etc. For funding such activities, existing schemes of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Agriculture would be augmented and utilized and new schemes would be introduced, if required.
- (f) Kisan credit cards would be issued to women speedily with joint pattas for homestead/agricultural land. For the cases without joint pattas indemnity bonds/guarantees from husband and relatives would be considered by the banks for extending credit and kisan credit cards to the women farmers.
- (g) The agriculture/farm universities would restructure the curricula in a manner that gender roles in farming are recognized.
- (h) Increase in small farm productivity and creating multiple livelihood opportunities through crop-livestock integrated farming systems as well as agro-processing would be supported for increasing farmers' incomes.

#### USO Fund for landline Telephone Connections

656. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private telecom contractors who have won the contracts to roll out fixed line telephones in rural household have sought support from the Universal Services Obligation (USO) Fund;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Telecom had also signed agreement with Reliance Communications and

Tata Telecom Service in the year, 2005 to provide support from the USO Fund for setting up fixed line telephone across 1685 districts;

(c) if so, whether the Government has provided the amount to these telecom operators;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the latest position for fixed telephone lines in rural households; and

(f) the time by which Landline phone lines in households in rural areas will be fully completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has entered into an agreement with M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), M/s Reliance Communications Limited (RCL), M/s. Tata Teleservices Limited (TTL), M/s TTL (Maharashtra) for installation of Individual Rural Direct Exchange Lines (RDELs) in 1685 commercially unviable Short Distance Changing Areas (SDCAs) in the country. The share of SDCAs among these companies was 1267, 203, 172 and 43 respectively. RDELs installed during the period 1.4.2005 and 31.3.2007 are eligible for subsidy support under these agreements.

Subsidy support is also being provided at the same rates for the RDELs installed in the eligible SDCAs during the period 1.4.2002 and 31.3.2005. Agreements to this effect were signed with M/s BSNL and M/s RCL in May, 2005 and August 2005 respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The amount of subsidy disbursed to private telecom operators is given below:-

Name of Telecom Operator	Total amount of subsidy disbursed for RDELs installed during 01.04.2005 to 31.03.2007	Total amount of subsidy disbursed for RDELs installed during 01.04.2002 to 31.3.2005
RCL	278.92	19.22
TTL	184.90	0
TTL (Mah)	123.29	0

(e) 25,64,577 RDELs have been provided with subsidy from USO Fund during the period from 01.04.2005 to 31.3.2007. In addition, 18,65,690 RDELs have been provided with subsidy support from USOF during the period from 01.04.2002 to 31.03.2005.

(f) The target date for installation of RDELs under this scheme has been extended by one year period from 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008.

#### **AIDS Among Defence Personnel**

657. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Defence personnel infected with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) at present, service-wise;

(b) whether some infected personnel have been removed from the Services;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government had received any protest/representation from the National AIDS Control Organization against the removal of such persons from the Services; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) The data of AIDS cases for the year 2007 is under compilation. The number of AIDS cases in the three services during the last three years are as follows:

	Army	Navy	Air Force	Total
2004	132	08	04	144
2005	67	06	03	76
2006	30	02	03	35

Service personnel with HIV infection are not removed from service. Only those personnel who develop disabling manifestation of WHO stage IV are invalidated out of service based on the laid down criteria. The details of individuals affected with AIDS invalidated out of service during the last three years are as under:-

	Army	Navy	Air Force	Total
2004	98	04	02	104
2005	29	04	03	36
2006	14	01	01	16

National AIDS Control Organization has not sent any protest/representation in this regard.

#### **Assistance for Setting up New Industrial Training Institutes**

658. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from various State Governments particularly from the Government of Kerala for financial assistance to set up new Industrial Training Institutes under National Skill Development Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Union Government in this regard, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether any fund has been sanctioned by the Union Government for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Proposals for financial assistance have been received from two States to set up new Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) under the proposed National Skill Development Mission. This includes setting up of 40 new ITIs in the State of Kerala at cost of Rs. 214 crore and 105 ITIs in State of Bihar.

However, the setting up of the proposed National Skill Development Mission is still under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### **Area under Pulses**

659. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase area under pulses cultivation in Orissa particularly in the scheduled districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fund allocation and actual amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) to increase the area under pulses cultivation in the country including scheduled districts of the State of Orissa. Under ISOPOM, financial assistance is provided for various critical inputs *viz.* seeds, plant protection chemicals, sprinkler sets, water carrying pipes, gypsum etc.

Besides ISOPOM, financial assistance is also provided to the State of Orissa including some of the scheduled districts of the State under recently launched National Food Security Mission (NFSM)—Pulses for bringing additional area under pulses.

An allocation of Rs. 750.00 lakhs has been made to the State of Orissa under ISOPOM during 2007-08 out of which an amount of Rs. 710.00 lakhs has been utilized by the State including expenditure incurred in the scheduled districts. The State of Orissa has also been allocated an amount of Rs. 456.760 lakhs under NFSM-Pulses during 2007-08.

#### **NTC Land for Expansion of Railways**

660. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request/representation from the Ministry of Railways regarding handing over of land belonging to the National Textile Corporation, Coimbatore for the expansion of Railways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Decline in Profit of MTNL**

661. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

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

(a) whether the MTNL reported a 53 per cent year-on-year decline in its net profit in the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the reasons for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether MTNL has continued to lose the market share to more aggressive rivals such as Bharati Airtel Ltd. and Reliance Communications Ltd. in the market of Mumbai and Delhi;

(f) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) whether MTNL has acres of land lying vacant in Delhi and Mumbai;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the manner in which the Government is going to utilise these vacant land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details regarding net profit for the current financial year will be available only after close of financial year on 31.03.2008. However, for the financial year 2006-07, MTNL reported increase in net profit by 17.48%.

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

(e) and (f) No, Sir. Market share of MTNL in Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) has grown from

4.56% as on 31.03.2003 to 17% (approx.) as on 31.03.2007. MTNL is facing the competition very boldly. Lots of measures have been taken by MTNL to maintain its customer base as well as to improve its share in telephone services in its service area.

- (i) MTNL has planned to expand cellular mobile network by one million each in Delhi and Mumbai in 2007-08. Purchase Order has already been placed for 750K lines each for Delhi and Mumbai. Network is in advance stage of commissioning.
  - (ii) Nearly 300 Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) each in Delhi and Mumbai has been planned for installation to further improve coverage and capacity.
  - (iii) MTNL is providing a lot of Value Added Services for both Public Switching Telephone Network (PSTN) and Mobile subscribers like news, songs, astrology, e-ticketing, SMS, Voice SMS, Internet, Broadband, Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) etc. in line with emerging trends.
  - (iv) New tariff plans, both in landline and cellular based Public Call Office (PCOs), are launched to retain PCO holders and attract new PCO franchisees.
  - (v) MTNL is also taking care of its customers by opening Sanchar Haat, customer service centre, appointment of Dealers and Agents and special care for corporate customers.
  - (vi) MTNL has been reviewing its tariff from, time to time various products and services so as to make them customer friendly and to suit various segments of the society.
  - (vii) MTNL has already launched Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) services to provide ISD calls at lower tariffs.
  - (viii) MTNL has introduced broadband services w.e.f. 14.01.2005 which has been a great success. 5.21 lakhs broadband connections are working as on 31.01.2008. MTNL plans to provide 5 lakhs lines additional capacity of broadband network in current year.
- (g) to (i) MTNL has 37 plots in Delhi. In 24 plots, telephone exchanges/BTS are operational in temporary

structure and 4 plots are being used for cable store. MTNL Delhi has planned to construct permanent buildings for telephone exchange/staff quarters etc. on these plots in a phased manner.

In MTNL, Mumbai, 7 plots are vacant and are proposed to be used for construction of telephone exchange building to house Remote Station Unit (RSU)/ Main exchange and also commercial exploitation etc.

#### **Reduction in Tariff**

662. SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to reduce the tariff for using the Broadband Internet facility for the rural areas and in domestic areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Tariff for Broadband Internet facility comes under the forborne category and all service providers (including BSNL & MTNL) have the flexibility to determine the tariff for the service as per market conditions.

#### **Introduction of Mobile Phone Repairing Courses in ITIs**

663. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to start/ introduce Mobile Phone Repairing Courses in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which said course is likely to be started in ITIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Under Craftsman Training Scheme being implemented through ITIs, a trade of two year duration namely "Information Technology &

Electronics System Maintenance" (IT&ESM) has been included where mobile phone repairing and maintenance is part of the course's curriculum. Similarly a short term course on "Repair and Maintenance of Cellular Phones" has been included under the scheme "Skill Development Initiatives" being implemented through Vocational Training Providers including ITIs.

#### **National Defence University**

664. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of establishment of Indian National Defence University in the country;

(b) whether the various training courses provided to the Defence personnel are recognized by other institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):  
(a) The Committee on National Defence University has recommended establishment of an Indian National Defence University. This will include existing institutes namely National Defence College (Delhi), National Defence Academy (Khadakwasla), Institute of Defence Management (Secunderabad) and Defence Services Staff College (Wellington) and new institutes namely National Institute of Strategic Studies, College of National Security Policy, Institute for Advanced Technology Studies (Bangalore). No final decision on location of the proposed university has been taken as yet.

(b) and (c) The courses conducted at the tri-Services training institutions, training institutions of the three Services and the National Defence College are recognized for award of diplomas/degrees by various universities across the country and All India Council for Technical Education. Details are given in the statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

##### **(i) National Defence College**

All officers undergoing the NDC Course and possessing a Masters' degree are eligible for admission to the M. Phil programme of the University of Madras.

##### **(ii) Tri-services training institutions:**

Sl.No.	Name of the Institutions	Degree	University
1.	National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla	B.A./B.Sc.	Jawahar Lal Nehru University
2.	Defence Services Staff College, Wellington	M.Sc.	University of Madras
3.	College of Defence Management, Secunderabad	M.M.S.	Osmania University

##### **(iii) Higher Command Course:**

Sl.No.	Name of Institution	Degree	University
1.	Army War College, Mhow	M.Phil.	Indore University
2.	College of Naval Warfare, Mumbai	M.Phil.	University of Mumbai
3.	College of Air Warfare	M.Phil.	Osmania University

(iv) All technical courses being conducted at various training institutions of the three services are also recognized for award of diploma/degree by all India Council for Technical Education, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi and by various other Universities across the country.

#### Migration of Labour Force

665. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had conducted any survey/study regarding problem of unemployment in different States of the country;

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

(c) whether there is large scale migration of labour force from one State to another State;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of labourers and to create new employment sources/opportunities in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour

force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05.

(b) State-wise details of unemployment rates are given in the enclosed statement I.

(c) The inter-State migrants numbering 411.7 lakh as per census 2001, including workers and persons seeking/available for work, constitute 13.1% of the total migrants recorded during the same period in the country.

(d) State-wise number of total and inter-State migrants are given in the enclosed statement II.

(e) Inter State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1979, besides other labour laws, protects particularly the interest of migrant labourers. Keeping in view the high incidence of unemployment both in rural and urban areas, Government has been implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes. Some of these are Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY); Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY); Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY); Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA), etc. for generating gainful employment opportunities in the country. Approach Paper to Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million jobs during the 11th Plan.

#### Statement-I

##### State-Wise Unemployment Rate During 2004-05

S.No.	State/Union Territory	State-wise unemployment rate* 2004-05					
		Rural			Urban		
		Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.0	0.4	0.7	3.6	3.8	3.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.1	0.6	0.9	1.1	2.8	1.2
3.	Assam	2.4	3.1	2.6	6.9	9.1	7.2
4.	Bihar	1.8	0.2	1.5	6.7	4.1	6.4



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Chhattiegarh	0.8	0.3	0.6	3.8	2.4	3.5
6.	Delhi	2.0	0	1.9	4.6	6.4	4.8
7.	Goa	9.1	15.7	11.1	7.8	11.8	8.7
8.	Gujarat	0.8	0.2	0.5	2.3	2.9	2.4
9.	Haryana	2.8	1.0	2.2	3.2	7.5	4.0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.7	10.1	3.8
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.7	1.3	1.5	3.7	10.9	4.9
12.	Jharkhand	2.0	0.1	1.4	7.5	2.3	6.5
13.	Karnataka	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.9	5.7	2.8
14.	Kerala	5.1	20.1	10.7	6.2	33.4	15.6
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.7	0.1	0.5	3.1	1.6	2.8
16.	Maharashtra	1.5	0.3	1.0	3.5	4.1	3.6
17.	Manipur	1.4	0.7	1.1	5.2	6.3	5.5
18.	Meghalaya	0.1	0.5	0.3	3.5	3.5	3.5
19.	Mizoram	0.5	0.1	0.3	1.6	2.6	1.9
20.	Nagaland	2.2	1.4	1.8	4.6	7.2	5.5
21.	Orissa	3.1	8.3	5.0	9.0	26.6	13.4
22.	Punjab	3.3	4.9	3.8	2.9	14.0	5.0
23.	Rajasthan	1.2	0.1	0.7	2.8	2.9	2.9
24.	Sikkim	2.8	1.5	2.4	3.6	4.3	3.7
25.	Taminadu	1.2	1.1	1.2	2.9	4.8	3.5
26.	Tripura	9.6	32.0	13.3	16.6	56.8	28.0
27.	Uttaranchal	2.0	0.4	1.3	4.2	10.2	5.4
28.	Uttar Pradesh	0.7	0.3	0.6	3.5	2.5	3.3
29.	West Bengal	2.2	3.3	2.5	5.8	8.4	6.2
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.7	12.3	6.2	6.5	17.2	8.8
31.	Chandigarh	2.5	4.8	2.6	3.1	7.5	4.0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.1	3.6	3.3	1.3	9.1	3.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
33.	Daman and Diu	0.4	0	0.3	2.8	3.3	3.0
34.	Lakshadweep	0.9	57.1	7.5	11.1	51.5	25.0
35.	Pondicherry	9.4	3.2	7.0	4.1	19.5	8.1
	All India	1.6	1.8	1.7	3.8	6.9	4.5

Source: Reports of National Sample Survey Organisation, 2004-05.

\*As per usual status approach.

Unemployment rate is the percentage of unemployed with reference to Labour Force.

### **Statement II**

#### *State Wise Number of Total Migrants and Inter State Migrants According to Census 2001*

(In lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	Number of migrants		%
		Total migrants	Inter State migrants	
1	2	3	4	5
	<b>India</b>	<b>3145.4</b>	<b>411.7</b>	<b>13.1</b>
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.7	0.8	48.4
2.	Andhra Pradesh	234.6	10.3	4.4
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.1	1.4	33.1
4.	Assam	67.9	4.1	6.0
5.	Bihar	204.8	16.2	7.9
6.	Chandigarh	5.8	5.5	95.7
7.	Chhattisgarh	69.1	9.4	13.6
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.8	0.7	85.8
9.	Daman and Diu	0.7	0.6	86.0
10.	Delhi	60.1	53.2	88.5
11.	Goa	7.9	2.3	29.2
12.	Gujarat	192.2	21.8	11.4
13.	Haryana	75.7	26.8	35.3
14.	Himachal Pradesh	21.9	3.5	16.0
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.1	1.6	8.7

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Jharkhand	74.3	17.3	23.3
17.	Karnataka	165.6	20.7	12.5
18.	Kerala	91.9	4.5	4.9
19.	Lakshadweep	0.2	0.1	30.1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	182.2	21.7	11.9
21.	Maharashtra	417.2	73.1	17.5
22.	Manipur	3.8	0.1	3.9
23.	Meghalaya	3.8	0.8	21.9
24.	Mizoram	2.7	0.4	13.1
25.	Nagaland	3.8	0.8	21.4
26.	Orissa	110.5	6.6	6.0
27.	Pondichery	4.6	2.5	54.8
28.	Punjab	91.9	17.5	19.0
29.	Rajasthan	163.9	17.4	10.6
30.	Sikkim	1.9	0.5	24.6
31.	Tamilnadu	158.2	7.3	4.6
32.	Tripura	9.6	0.8	6.6
33.	Uttar Pradesh	412.2	28.2	6.9
34.	Uttaranchal	30.7	8.6	28.0
35.	West Bengal	251.0	24.6	9.8

Source: Census of India, 2001.

Note: Percentage has been computed on the basis of absolute figures.

[*Translation*]

#### Theft of Telephone Cable

666. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of theft of BSNL cables have increased unexpectedly since the private companies were permitted to provide telecom services;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, as on date, State-wise;

(c) the number of incidents for which guilty persons have been identified during the said period in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government has instructed the State Governments to prevent the attempts of blocking of telephone service through cable theft; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, there has been an increase in the number of theft cases of BSNL cables but it cannot be ascertained that increase is due to Private Companies permitted to provide Telecom services.

(b) State-wise details of theft of cables during the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) During the years 2005, 2006 and 2007, number of incidents where guilty persons have been identified are 1, 8 and 16 respectively.

(d) and (e) Sir, matter has been taken up by BSNL

with State Governments as well as Police Authorities to prevent such large scale thefts.

In addition, the following steps have been taken up by BSNL to curb such incidences of theft-

- i. Regular patrolling of important cable routes.
- ii. Lodging FIRs at concerned Police Stations.
- iii. Persuasion with the Police to check theft of cables.
- iv. Posting of security guards at cable dumps.
- v. Coordination with local bodies to minimize the theft.

#### **Statement**

#### *State-Wise no. of Incidences of Cable Theft and no. of Incidences for Which Guilty Persons Have Been Identified*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Incidences of cable theft			No. of incidences for which guilty persons have been identified		
		2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	214	546	516	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.	Assam	140	89	612	NIL	NIL	NIL
3.	Bihar	405	1290	1080	NIL	NIL	NIL
4.	Chattisgarh	19	15	13	NIL	NIL	NIL
5.	Gujarat	61	377	441	-	1	3
6.	Haryana	4	37	43	1	1	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	618	1399	2237	NIL	NIL	NIL
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	3	34	NIL	NIL	NIL
9.	Jharkhand	44	429	249	-	-	1
10.	Karnataka	46	147	122	-	-	2
11.	Kerala	18	23	48	-	1	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	25	18	NIL	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Maharashtra (excluding Mumbai)	138	528	815	-	3	6
14.	Goa	-	-	4	NIL	NIL	NIL
15.	Meghalaya	7	14	71	NIL	NIL	NIL
16.	Mizoram	-	-	57	NIL	NIL	NIL
17.	Tripura	33	24	64	NIL	NIL	NIL
18.	Manipur	3	22	444	NIL	NIL	NIL
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	24	157	NIL	NIL	NIL
20.	Nagaland	-	1	62	NIL	NIL	NIL
21.	Orissa	54	267	250	NIL	NIL	NIL
22.	Punjab	42	319	663	NIL	1	NIL
23.	Rajasthan	20	164	163	NIL	NIL	NIL
24.	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai)	172	149	163	-	1	1
25.	Uttaranchal	5	5	14	NIL	NIL	NIL
26.	Uttar Pradesh (East & West)	182	747	759	NIL	NIL	NIL
27.	West Bengal (including A & N & Kolkata)	113	349	1632	NIL	NIL	NIL
28.	Sikkim	17	25	9	NIL	NIL	NIL
	BSNL	2360	7018	10740	1	8	16

[English]

**Common Communications Convergence Regulator**

667. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the major recommendations of the Sub-Group ongoing digital to regulate all issues related to Communications and Broadcast etc.;

(b) whether multiple Departments and Ministries are involved in dealing with radio frequency requirements, spectrum planning and allotment;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up a Common Communications Convergence Regulator to coordinate and regulate the radio frequency and spectrum requirements of different stakeholders and enact a comprehensive law on issues related to different communication sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The major recommendations of the Sub-Group ongoing digital cover broadcasting and

non broadcasting issues. The major recommendations include, among others, roadmap for migration from analogue to digital Broadcasting, commencement of indigenous production of digital Set Top Boxes (STBs) including digital receivers, identification of spectrum requirements for broadcasting and other services and encouraging fast spread of Broadband Wireless connectivity, etc. The Sub-Group had also recommended a common communications convergence regulator with separate bureaus under it to deal with content and carriage.

(b) No, Sir. WPC (Wireless Planning and Coordination) Wing of Department of Telecommunications is the nodal agency for spectrum management within the country for all radio communication services including Broadcasting services. The spectrum requirements of other Departments and Ministries for various services are examined and appropriate spectrum is allotted by WPC Wing keeping in view national policies and international radio regulatory procedures.

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

[Translation]

#### Non-Utilisation of Funds

668. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have failed to utilize the funds provided to them for flood control during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith funds released and utilised out of funds provided;

(c) whether the funds allocated for water management has not been fully utilised in States; and

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned and utilised state-wise, year-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Implementation of flood management schemes is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The name of the States, who have failed to utilize the funds provided to them for the flood control, along with the details of funds released and utilized by

them during the last three years are furnished as enclosed statement I.

(c) and (d) The Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme is mainly for the purpose of improving the on-farm development works under the major and medium irrigation projects with the objective of developing micro level infrastructure for efficient farm water management; to enhance agricultural production and productivity and is implemented in all the States. Funds under the CADWM Programme are released to the States as Central Assistance with a matching share by the States. The States that have not utilized the funds along with the amounts sanctioned during the last three years is furnished as statement II.

#### Statement I

*Details of funds released and utilised by the States, who have not utilised the funds fully, provided for flood control during last three years*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Release of Central Assistance during 2004-007	Utilisation up to 31.3.2007
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.450	4.280
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.376	13.496
3.	Bihar	101.215	68.123
4.	Himachal pradesh	3.660	3.400
5.	Jharkhand	4.300	2.300
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	15.50	0.00
7.	Manipur	7.911	6.840
8.	Meghalaya	2.635	0.000
9.	Mizoram	6.198	4.110
10.	Sikkim	8.595	7.668
11.	Tripura	12.764	9.438
12.	Uttar Pradesh	30.273	26.983
13.	West Bengal	50.584	45.442

**Statement II**

*Details of amount sanctioned and utilised by the States, who have not utilised the funds fully, provided for Commands Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme during last three years*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Amount Sanctioned during 2004-07	Amount utilised up to 31.3.2007
1.	Bihar	6.301	1.090
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1.040	0.000
3.	Kerala	3.590	1.335
4.	Meghalaya	1.640	0.000
5.	Tripura	0.075	0.000

**Soil Conservation Schemes**

669. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes being run for soil conservation in the country particularly in Orissa.

(b) the amount of money allocated in the last two years for Soil Conservation Schemes; and

(c) the success achieved by the Government under the said schemes during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Government of India is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP) and (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) for the conservation of soils in the country. Out of above programmes, the programmes namely; NWDPR, RVP & FPR, DPAP and IWDP are being implemented in Orissa.

Under the above programmes Rs. 3304.57 crore has been spent and 116.89 lakh ha area have been developed during 2005-06 and 2006-07 in the country. In case of Orissa, an amount of Rs. 189.81 crore has been utilized and 3.73 lakh ha. area has been developed in last two years.

**Mobile Service in Andhra Pradesh**

670. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the population and area covered under Mobile Telephone Services in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of the expansion and development works of Mobile Telephone Services in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Mobile Service is not working satisfactorily;

(d) if so, whether any review has been carried out regarding the working of BSNL officials; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per Cellular Mobile Telephone Service/Unified Access Services License conditions, these Service Providers have to cover 10% of the District Headquarters (DHQs)/towns within one year and 50% of the District Headquarters/towns within three years of the effective date of license agreement.

The choice of the DHQs/towns to be covered and further expansion beyond 50% of the District Headquarters shall lie with the Licensee depending on their business decision. There is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas. As on 31.01.2008 the mobile tele-density in Andhra Pradesh is 23.14% for the population of 82306583 and number of Mobile Telephone per square km is 69.24.

(c) to (e) Mobile Telephone Service being provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is working satisfactorily in its Licensed Service Areas including Andhra Pradesh and is in general, meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). However, there are few locations in the State of Andhra Pradesh where at times, congestion

in the network exceeds the benchmarks laid down by TRAI. Action has already been initiated by BSNL for expansion of the network to overcome this.

The functioning of BSNL officials are being assessed regularly and their performance is quite satisfactory resulting in overall positive growth of BSNL's network across the country.

#### **Import of Foodgrains**

671. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the largest importer of pulses, oil seeds and foodgrains in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to the negligence of the cultivation of pulses, farmers are not getting the benefits of improved variety of seeds developed by scientists in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has formulated any plan to boost the production of pulses and oilseeds in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) As per FAO data, India is the largest importer of pulses in the world. Details of value of import of pulses, oilseeds and foodgrains are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (f) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)" for increasing the production and productivity of these crops in the country and to make the country self-sufficient. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided 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 rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity, etc. to encourage farmers to grow these crops.

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 Indian Council of Agriculture and Research.

Government of India has also launched National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for wheat, rice and pulses from Rabi 2007-08. Enhancement of productivity and production through various interventions has been envisaged under the NFSM-Pulses.

#### **Statement**

##### *Import of Foodgrains*

(Rs. in Crores)

Commodity	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (upto September 2007)
Pulses	2476.25	3851.45	2216.21
Oilseeds	47.03	104.68	35.5
Rice	0.34	0.41	0.23
Wheat	—	5850.49	159.93
Other Cereals	30.09	11.62	9.12

#### **Remunerative Prices to Farmers**

672. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers of Jharkhand are not getting remunerative prices for their produce in comparison to the cost involved in it;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government is considering to provide any package for the farmers of Jharkhand;



(d) if so, the details thereof; and

[*English*]

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Setting up of STD/ISD/PCO Booths**

673. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCO Booths set up in the country especially in Kamataka during the last three years, as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of such booths proposed to be set up in the country especially in Kamataka during the year 2008-09, State-wise; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production, and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices. The price policy also seeks to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure in the perspective of the overall needs of the economy.

The Government decides on the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices. The CACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers a number of important factors which includes cost of production. The MSPs announced by the Government are applicable through the country, including Jharkhand.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The data of Public Telephone Booths (Public Call Offices (PCO)) excluding Village Panchayat Telephones is maintained circle-wise and not State-wise by BSNL/MTNL. The number of PCOs functioning in all the circles including Kamataka during the last three years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (upto 31.1.2008) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The circle wise targets fixed by BSNL for provision of PCOs during 2008-09 are given in enclosed statement II. MTNL has not fixed any target for Delhi and Mumbai as the PCOs are available on demand in these cities.

(c) No separate fund is earmarked for this purpose by the BSNL/MTNL as the expenditure on PCO forms part of normal Direct Exchange Lines (DELs).

(c) to (e) Information is being collected.

**Statement I**

*Circle-wise Gross Number of PCOs provided during last three years  
i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (upto 31-1-2008)*

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Gross No. of PCOs provided during			
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (upto 31-1-08)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	121	410	11	30
2.	Andhra Pradesh	65560	130902	65552	37338

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	4285	3838	2431	1014
4.	Bihar	8786	11225	10672	2783
5.	Chhattisgarh	3224	7524	90	183
6.	Gujarat	40041	20169	5629	4078
7.	Haryana	6922	3538	1706	2462
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2059	1753	1216	683
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1871	1456	1804	647
10.	Jharkhand	79159	62398	1196	634
11.	Karnataka	21720	29371	40823	66182
12.	Kerala	9775	6567	20944	11279
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1839	2078	5379	18633
14.	Maharashtra	70198	52002	112096	30426
15.	North East-I	1137	1170	644	1193
16.	North East-II	648	1970	746	616
17.	Orissa	5695	3284	3383	1500
18.	Punjab	4969	4001	2354	2151
19.	Rajasthan	11882	11832	6086	3435
20.	Tamil Nadu	55799	62257	38146	41868
21.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	13996	13503	19303	15525
22.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	11023	4355	1612	1337
23.	Uttaranchal	3052	1523	515	269
24.	West Bengal	9447	18122	9026	5647
25.	Calcutta	10814	1055	2952	4650
26.	Chennai	12403	13222	9377	1767
27.	MTNL Delhi	21003	7597	6826	9504
28.	MTNL Mumbai	33578	13464	4035	2310
<b>Total</b>		<b>510986</b>	<b>490586</b>	<b>374554</b>	<b>268144</b>

**Statement II***[Translation]**Circle-wise Targets for PCOs of BSNL for 2008-09*

S.No.	Name of Circle/ Metro District	Target
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	200
2.	Andhra Pradesh	50000
3.	Assam	6600
4.	Bihar	13400
5.	Chhattisgarh	1800
6.	Gujarat	22000
7.	Haryana	5400
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2400
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3000
10.	Jharkhand	3800
11.	Karnataka	50000
12.	Kerala	26000
13.	Madhya Pradesh	106000
14.	Maharashtra	62000
15.	North East-I	1600
16.	North East-II	1400
17.	Orissa	5800
18.	Punjab	6000
19.	Rajasthan	12600
20.	Tamilnadu	40000
21.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	23000
22.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	8800
23.	Uttaranchal	2600
24.	West Bengal	13000
25.	Calcutta	11600
26.	Chennai	16400
	<b>Total</b>	<b>400000</b>

Note: No target has been fixed by MTNL for PCOs for Delhi and Mumbai.

**Faulty Telephone Bills**

674. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of faulty telephone bills have been delivered to the subscribers of telephones in the country especially in rural areas of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, as on date, location-wise;

(c) the number of officers found guilty in this regard alongwith action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such problems being faced by the rural telephone subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. Out of a very large number of bills issued by BSNL to its subscribers in the country only a very small percentage i.e. 0.0014% of such bills were found to be faulty, due to computer error and data mismatch. In Maharashtra, one of the Secondary Switching Areas (SSAs) issued 1064 faulty bills due to computer error in respect of a new scheme launched for WLL customers. These are 0.027% of the total connections in Maharashtra.

(b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No individual has been found guilty by BSNL, therefore the question of taking action against them does not arise.

(d) There are Standing instructions to prevent occurrence of such problems, which are re-iterated from time to time to keep it at barest minimum and also necessary software checks are exercised from time to time.

**Statement***Number of faulty Telephone Bills delivered to the subscribers in the country*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of cases		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Andhra Pradesh	166	561	983
3.	Assam	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	106	15	9
6.	Gujarat	289	1161	1030
7.	Haryana	6	20	11
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
14.	Maharashtra & Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Mizoram, Tripura & Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Orissa	199	414	947
20.	Punjab	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Rajasthan	Nil	54	578
22.	Tamil Nadu	252	88	23
23.	Pondicherry	Nil	9	Nil
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Uttaranchal	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
26.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Number of faulty bills		1018	2322	3581
Total number of bills issued (for landline other than PCOs)		252261451	252629327	254110873
Percentage of faulty bills		0.0004%	0.0009%	0.0014%

[English]

#### Pre-Mature Withdrawal In Post Offices

675. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA": Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Post Office Senior Citizen Scheme, premature withdrawal is not allowed and the Senior Citizens who do not have PAN cannot avail the benefits of the said scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to amend the scheme so as to remove requirement PAN and permit premature withdrawal;

(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 (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, facility of premature withdrawal is available in Senior Citizen Savings Scheme and Senior Citizens who are not assessed to income tax, may open account by furnishing a self declaration, that their income from all sources (including the interest income from the account to be opened vide this application) does not cross the exemption limit and the applicant is not required to obtain PAN under Income Tax Act 1961, as amended from time to time.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Labour Related Issues

676. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have suggested that the Labour related issue should be withdrawn from Concurrent List and moved to the State List; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour and Employment has neither any proposal of its own nor have received any proposal from the State Governments/Union Territories for transfer of subject relating to labour from the Concurrent List to the State List.

#### Distribution Through PDS

677. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of wheat, sugar, rice and pulses released for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS) to the State during October to December 2007;

(b) whether some States have failed to lift some of these items;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(d) whether certificates in token of distribution of these items have been received from States particularly the North Eastern States;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the action being taken to get the certificates from these States; and

(g) the monitoring system in vogue to ensure that these goods reach the actual beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH SINGH): (a) to (g) The commodity-wise details are as follows:

(i) *Foodgrains*: The details of allocation and offtake (lifting by the State/UTs) of the total quantity of foodgrains (rice and wheat) released to the State/UTs under PDS during October to December, 2007 are given in the enclosed statement.

As per the guidelines, the foodgrains allocated to the State are required to be lifted/released within the validity period, subject to timely deposit of the payment by the State and availability of the foodgrains in the designated godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). However, sometime, the State Govts. are unable to lift the allocated quantities on account of reasons such as resource crunch faced by a State Government, administrative or logistical problems created by natural calamities, etc. Requests for extension of the validity period for lifting of foodgrains are also considered, as and when received. Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under joint responsibility of the Central and State and UT Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and allocation of foodgrains upto the PD Centres in the States/UTs. The State and UT Governments are responsible for identification of families of APL and BPL (Below Poverty Line), issue of ration cards, undertake review of the lists of BPL and Antyodaya families for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families and, distribution of the foodgrains through the network of the Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

As per the provisions of the PDS (Control Order) 2001, the States/UTs are required to furnish Utilisation Certificates (UCs) in respect to the allocations of foodgrains made under the TPDS within a period of 60 days of the month of allocation. These instructions are impressed upon the States/UTs from time to time. Position of UCs in respect of States/UTs, including the North-Eastern State is given in the Statement II

Further, to ensure that foodgrains reach the targeted beneficiaries, a Nine Point Action Plan is also under implementation in the State/UTs as under:

1. Continuous review of the BPL and AAY lists to eliminate bogus ration cards and to ensure coverage of only eligible BPL and Antyodaya families.
2. Ensuring leakage-free and diversion-free distribution of PDS commodities, regular inspection by different levels of functionaries, strict action against guilty persons/agencies.
3. Involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in PDS operations-PRI representatives on Advisory Committees, running of fair price shops by Panchayats and effective representation of Panchayati Raj representatives on Vigilance Committees.
4. Ensuring transparency in working of PDS, display of BPL and AAY lists by fair price shops, observance of notified timings by fair price shops.
5. Use of Information Technology, Computerization of TPDS operations, display of fair price shops-wise and district-wise allocations of PDS commodities on Web-sites for public scrutiny.
6. Carryout door step delivery of PDS commodities to fair price shops.
7. Ensuring timely availability of and issuance of foodgrains by fair price shops.
8. Creating awareness among public about PDS operations, training Vigilance Committees of intricacies of PDS operations.
9. Making fair price shops financially viable entities-allowing them to sell non PDS items etc.

(ii) *Levy Sugar*: The details of State-wise allocation of levy sugar under PDS during October to December 2007 are given in enclosed Statement III. Levy sugar is allocated to the State Government/Food Corporation of India as per the quota fixed by the Central Government on monthly basis. It is the responsibility of the State Government concerned to lift the levy sugar from sugar mills and in case of FCI operated States from FCI depots for distribution among PDS beneficiaries of the State. Submission of utilization certificates by States/UT Government has not been prescribed.

(iii) *Pulses*: Pulses are not included amongst the commodities distributed under the PDS from Central Pool.

**Statement IA***Allocation and offtake of wheat from October, 2007 to December, 2007 (P) under TPDS*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.000	16.393	0.000	16.393	0.000	14.016	0.000	14.16	0.000	85.500	0.000	85.500
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.768	2.385	0.000	3.153	0.725	2.169	0.000	2.864	94.401	90.943	0.000	91.786
3.	Assam	0.000	84.138	0.000	84.138	0.000	80.978	0.000	80.978	0.000	96.244	0.000	96.244
4.	Bihar	111.936	6.653	102.000	220.589	92.728	5.096	99.672	197.496	82.840	76.597	97.518	89.531
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.830	4.656	0.000	12.486	6.575	1.900	0.000	8.475	83.972	40.808	0.000	67.876
6.	Delhi	20.171	115.079	9.973	145.223	20.279	109.126	7.160	136.565	100.535	94.827	71.794	94.038
7.	Goa	0.000	3.305	0.000	3.305	0.000	2.104	0.000	2.104	0.000	63.661	0.000	63.661
8.	Gujarat	55.131	33.809	46.119	135.059	57.325	9.518	41.132	107.975	103.980	28.152	69.187	79.947
9.	Haryana	34.773	34.896	30.705	100.374	34.109	0.190	29.343	63.642	98.090	0.544	95.564	63.405
10.	Himachal Pradesh	11.895	39.868	8.865	60.628	12.286	43.047	9.056	64.389	103.267	107.979	102.155	106.207
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.543	60.370	5.266	78.189	12.444	53.698	5.394	71.526	99.211	88.932	102.043	91.467
12.	Jharkhand	40.299	8.189	37590	86.078	35.413	3.001	33.793	72.207	87.876	36.647	69.899	83.886
13.	Karnataka	28.136	17.403	21.846	67.385	28.135	14.123	21.509	63.767	99.998	81.153	98.457	94.631
14.	Kerala	20.869	63.998	0.000	84.867	20.861	65.534	0.000	66.395	99.866	102.400	0.000	101.776
15.	Madhya Pradesh	168.018	26.330	140.049	334.397	180.794	30.720	137.427	348.941	107.604	116.673	98.128	104.349
16.	Maharashtra	199.294	36.193	130.218	365.705	207.430	30.553	119.559	357.542	104.082	84.417	91.814	97.768
17.	Manipur	0.318	2.550	0.000	2.868	0.325	2.579	0.000	2.904	0.000	101.137	0.000	101.255
18.	Meghalaya	0.000	2.235	0.000	2.235	0.000	1.925	0.000	1.925	0.000	86.130	0.000	86.130
19.	Mizoram	0.000	2.808	0.000	2.808	0.000	2.741	0.000	2.741	0.000	97.614	0.000	97.614
20.	Nagaland	1.551	8.430	0.978	10.959	2.068	10.069	1.304	13.441	133.333	119.442	133.333	122.648
21.	Orissa	0.000	37.070	0.000	37.070	0.000	35.747	0.000	35.747	0.000	96.431	0.000	96.431
22.	Punjab	31.715	30.653	17.419	79.787	20.300	20.273	9.800	50.373	64.008	66.137	56.260	63.134
23.	Rajasthan	96.785	80.317	94.650	271.752	100.181	71.263	90.504	261.948	103.509	88.727	95.820	96.392
24.	Sikkim	0.000	1.104	0.000	1.104	0.000	1.104	0.000	1.104	0.000	100.000	0.000	100.000
25.	Tamil Nadu	0.000	24.025	0.000	24.025	0.000	27.024	0.000	27.024	0.000	112.483	0.000	112.483

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
26.	Tripura	0.000	7.018	0.000	7.018	0.000	3.399	0.000	3.399	0.000	48.433	0.000	48.433
27.	Uttar Pradesh	227.586	10.531	141.468	379.585	289.152	12.304	202.439	503.895	127.052	116.836	143.099	132.749
28.	Uttaranchal	12.129	12.047	4.746	26.922	12.129	16.710	4.482	33.321	100.000	138.707	94.437	115.210
29.	West Bengal	149.274	229.680	68.148	438.102	145.403	200.578	56.809	402.790	94.407	90.891	83.361	91.940
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.183	1.413	0.063	1.659	0.071	1.062	0.011	1.144	38.798	75.159	17.460	68.957
31.	Chandigarh	0.102	0.050	0.000	0.152	0.102	0.000	0.000	0.102	100.00	0.000	0.000	67.105
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.048	0.119	0.039	0.206	0.032	0.030	0.026	0.088	66.667	25.210	66.667	42.718
33.	Daman & Diu	0.021	0.050	0.015	0.086	0.016	0.000	0.013	0.029	76.190	0.000	66.667	33.721
34.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.100	0.000	0.100	0.000	200.00	0.000	200.000
35.	Pondicherry	0.000	0.600	0.000	0.600	0.000	0.436	0.000	0.436	0.000	72.667	0.000	72.667
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1231.395</b>	<b>995.413</b>	<b>860.177</b>	<b>3086.985</b>	<b>1278.883</b>	<b>873.107</b>	<b>869.433</b>	<b>3021.423</b>	<b>103.856</b>	<b>87.713</b>	<b>101.076</b>	<b>97.876</b>

**Statement-IB***Allocation and Offtake of Rice from October, 2007 to December, 2007 (p) under TPDS.*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	263.022	528.267	163.572	954.861	263.522	449.870	163.236	876.428	100.190	85.122	99.795	91.786
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.163	11.425	3.993	21.031	5.400	9.869	3.926	19.195	96.205	86.381	98.322	91.270
3.	Assam	118.806	84.600	73.923	277.329	111.440	0.000	113.279	218.184	32.987	0.000	74.040	46.266
4.	Bihar	318.015	0.570	152.997	471.582	104.905	0.000	113.279	218.184	32.987	0.000	74.040	46.266
5.	Chhattisgarh	106.592	11.532	75.486	193.610	96.291	8.467	72.323	177.081	90.336	73.422	95.810	91.463
6.	Delhi	8.812	46.791	3.989	59.592	8.745	43.582	2.853	55.180	99.240	93.142	71.522	92.596
7.	Goa	1.365	5.500	1.527	8.392	1.353	4.137	1.220	6.710	99.121	75.218	79.895	79.957
8.	Gujarat	73.461	36.840	38.901	149.202	56.862	11.114	37.437	100.813	77.404	17.682	98.237	67.568
9.	Haryana	17.370	0.060	0.000	17.430	15.489	0.000	0.000	15.489	89.171	0.000	0.000	88.864
10.	Himachal Pradesh	21.390	29.580	11.820	62.790	23.551	29.968	12.211	65.730	110.103	101.312	103.308	104.682
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	37.881	78.351	21.561	137.793	38.542	60.876	21.449	120.867	101.745	77.697	99.481	87.716



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12.	Jharkhand	114.690	4.170	58.794	177.654	89.311	0.161	42.488	111.960	60.433	3.861	72.266	63.021
13.	Karnataka	152.460	323.637	104.127	580.224	152.113	149.465	98.992	400.570	99.772	46.183	95.069	69.037
14.	Kerala	79.698	74.002	62.585	216.265	79.705	73.890	62.675	216.270	100.009	99.849	100.176	100.002
15.	Madhya Pradesh	84.036	6.390	26.016	116.442	75.511	7.035	25.326	107.872	89.856	110.094	97.438	92.640
16.	Maharashtra	206.949	8.700	126.615	342.264	135.026	6.285	88.538	229.849	65.246	72.241	69.927	67.155
17.	Manipur	11.820	9.140	5.295	26.255	8.680	5.337	4.242	18.239	73.266	58.392	80.113	69.469
18.	Meghalaya	11.844	15.980	7.371	35.195	10.199	11.028	6.620	27.847	86.111	69.011	89.811	79.122
19.	Mizoram	4.410	11.780	2.730	18.920	5.364	7.977	2.731	16.072	121.633	67.716	100.037	34.947
20.	Nagaland	6.477	13.071	4.014	23.582	6.477	13.571	4.232	24.280	100.000	103.825	105.431	103.047
21.	Orissa	291.393	16.542	132.780	440.715	210.050	5.528	103.408	318.986	72.085	33.418	72.879	72.379
22.	Punjab	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
23.	Rajasthan	50.598	0.000	3.222	53.820	37.451	0.000	1.711	39.182	74.017	0.000	53.104	72.765
24.	Sikkim	2.826	5.775	1.734	10.335	2.826	6.071	1.734	10.631	100.000	100.000	105.126	102.864
25.	Tamilnadu	314.808	677.859	195.786	1188.453	308.324	276.400	197.061	781.785	97.940	40.775	100.651	65.782
26.	Tripura	19.095	31.110	11.880	62.085	18.776	20.873	8.041	47.690	98.329	67.094	67.685	76.814
27.	Uttar Pradesh	463.839	2.880	288.402	755.121	264.964	0.744	191.918	457.626	57.124	25.833	66.545	60.603
28.	Uttaranchal	24.285	19.557	11.133	54.957	25.374	11.292	9.973	46.639	104.484	57.739	89.591	84.837
29.	West Bengal	239.121	23.100	87.273	349.494	173.557	15.413	73.612	262.582	72.581	66.723	84.347	75.132
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	1.077	4.317	0.387	5.781	0.887	2.135	0.359	3.381	82.358	49.456	92.765	58.485
31.	Chandigarh	0.633	0.000	0.222	0.855	0.572	0.000	0.111	0.683	90.363	0.000	50.000	79.883
32.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1.083	1.074	0.510	2.667	0.361	0.451	0.067	0.879	33.333	41.993	13.137	32.958
33.	Daman & Diu	0.240	0.180	0.144	0.564	0.138	0.114	0.110	0.362	57.500	63.333	76.389	64.184
34.	Lakshadweep	0.189	0.840	0.123	1.152	0.200	0.830	0.492	1.522	105.820	98.810	400.000	132.118
35.	Pondicherry	5.391	7.110	3.387	15.888	2.808	0.000	1.795	4.603	52.087	0.000	52.997	28.972
Total		3059.289	2090.730	1682.279	6832.298	2314.837	1303.878	1425.904	5044.619	75.866	62.365	84.760	73.835

**Statement-II**

*Names of the States/UTs, and Months for which utilization Certificates for Allocation of Foodgrains, under TPDS have not been received*

*(as on 28-02-08)*

S.No.	State/UT	Months for which UCs have not been received
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	November, 07 onwards till date.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	April, 07 onwards till date.
3.	Assam	October, 07 onwards.
4.	Bihar	April, 01 and April, 2007 onwards till date.
5.	Chhattisgarh	August, 07 onwards till date.
6.	Delhi	June, 07 onwards till date
7.	Goa	February, 08 onwards till date
8.	Gujarat	April, 07 onwards till date
9.	Haryana	January, 08 onwards till date.
10.	Himachal Pradesh	July, 07 onwards till date.
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	April, 07 onwards till date.
12.	Jharkhand	Sept, 2001 and January, 08 onwards till date.
13.	Karnataka	June, 07 and August, 07 onwards till date.
14.	Kerala	June, 07 and August, 07 onwards till date.
15.	Madhya Pradesh	April, 07 onwards till date.
16.	Maharashtra	March 04 onwards till date.
17.	Manipur	March 05 onwards till date.
18.	Meghalaya	November, 07 onwards till date.
19.	Mizoram	September, 07 onwards till date.
20.	Nagaland	August, 07 onwards till date.
21.	Orissa	April, 07 onwards till date.

1	2	3
22.	Punjab	September and October, 07 January, 08 onwards till date.
23.	Rajasthan	April, 07 onwards till date.
24.	Sikkim	September, 07 onwards till date.
25.	Tamil Nadu	July, 07 onwards till date.
26.	Tripura	April, 07 onwards till date.
27.	Uttar Pradesh	October, 07 onwards till date.
28.	Uttaranchal	September, 2001 and October, 07 onwards till date.
29.	West Bengal	September, 07 onwards till date.
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	April, 07 onwards till date.
31.	Chandigarh	September, 07 onwards till date.
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	September, 02 onwards till date.
33.	Daman & Diu	October, 01 onwards till date.
34.	Lakshadweep	October, 06 onwards till date.
35.	Pondicherry	September, 07 onwards till date.

**Statement-III***State-wise and month-wise Allocation of Levy Sugar during October to December '07*

(In '000' Tonnes)

S.No.	State/UT	October, 2007	November, 2007	December, 2007
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra pradesh	13.53	9.72	9.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.90	0.84	0.87
3.	Assam	19.17	19.17	18.45
4.	Bihar	7.05	7.05	7.05
5.	Chhattisgarh	4.51	4.51	4.51
6.	Delhi	4.01	2.83	2.83
7.	Goa	0.12	0.12	0.19
8.	Gujarat	8.31	5.88	5.88

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Haryana	3.50	2.50	2.51
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.01	4.70	4.70
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	7.76	7.31	7.29
12.	Jharkhand	0.01	0.01	0.01
13.	Karnataka	11.37	8.69	8.69
14.	Kerala	4.11	4.11	4.11
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15.29	12.51	12.53
16.	Maharashtra	13.95	13.95	13.95
17.	Manipur	1.93	1.90	1.81
18.	Meghalaya	1.73	1.83	1.73
19.	Mizoram	0.71	0.69	0.74
20.	Nagaland	1.24	1.20	1.25
21.	Orissa	8.73	8.73	8.73
22.	Punjab	2.72	1.52	1.53
23.	Rajasthan	10.00	10.00	10.00
24.	Sikkim	0.39	0.39	0.39
25.	Tamil Nadu	14.22	10.83	10.83
26.	Tripura	2.72	2.72	2.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	40.65	33.06	33.07
28.	Uttaranchal	6.44	6.03	6.04
29.	West Bengal	14.23	14.23	14.23
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0.42	0.38	0.38
31.	Chandigarh	0.13	0.06	0.06
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.05	0.05	0.05
33.	Daman & Diu	0.01	0.01	0.01
34.	Lakshadweep	0.11	0.11	0.11
35.	Pondicherry	0.17	0.17	0.17
36.	Bhutan	0.31	0.31	0.31
G. Total (All India)		225.51	198.12	197.45

### Decline in Agricultural Produce

678. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether water levels are shrinking in the rainfed areas of the country adversely affecting agricultural produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether poverty and distress are rampant in the rainfed areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Authority for Sustainable Development of Rainfed Areas for managing all the watershed programmes funded by the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) A comparison of depth to water level of the observation well of CGWB for pre-monsoon (May, 2006) with respect to decadal mean (1996-2005) reveals that there is general rise in water level in the range of 0-4 m in peninsular India, Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. In Northern India there is rise in the water level in the Northern part of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. In Central India, Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. In Northern India there is general fall in water level in the range of 0-2 m. However, there is rise in the water level in the Northern part of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. In Central India, there is mixed trend of rise and fall in water level. In addition, isolated patches of rise or fall of water level in the range of 0-2 m have been observed through out the country. Similarly a comparison of depth to water level during post monsoon (November, 2006) with decadal mean (1996-2005) reveals that there is general rise in water level in the range of 0-2 m in peninsular India, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat. However in some parts of Karnataka, South Andhra Pradesh and isolated pockets of Maharashtra a fall in the range of 0-2 m have been recorded. In Northern India, there is general fall in water level in the range of 0-2 m.

(c) and (d) The rainfed areas are generally subject to wind and water erosion and are in different stage of degradation, thus prohibiting intensive agricultural production in these areas. These areas depend on monsoon rains for agricultural production and are characterized with peculiar hydrological and pedological problems. They are also characterized with low levels of productivity and low input use. The lower productivity in these areas is further compounded by uncertainty of production in successive crop years. These areas also face high variability of rainfall, resulting in wide variations and instability in agricultural yields. These areas also have a low credit absorption capacity since uncertainty prevails in production in these areas. Therefore, the farmers in these areas are by and large at a disadvantage and therefore, are poor. In the recent past some cases of distress have been noticed in 31 districts of four states viz., Andhra Pradesh (Guntur, Prakasam, Nellore, Kumool, Cuddapah, Chittoor, Anantapur, Ranga Reddy, Medak, Nalgonda, Mahbub Nagar, Warangal, Khammam, Karim Nagar, Nizamabad and Adilabad), Karnataka (Belgaum, Shimoga, Chitradurga, Hassan, Chikmagalur and Kodagu), Kerala (Palakkad, Wayanad and Kasargod) and Maharashtra (Akola, Wardha, Amaravathi, Buldhana, Wasin and Yawatmal).

(e) and (f) The Government of India has set up the National Rainfed Areas Authority (NRAA) on 03.11.2006 with an objective to focus on the problems of farmers in rainfed areas. The Authority is a two tier structure. The first tier is the Governing Board to provide necessary Leadership and appropriate coordination in implementation of programmes. The Governing Board is chaired by the Union Agriculture Minister and co-chaired by the Union Rural Development Minister. The Union Ministers and of Water Resources and Environment & Forests, Member (Agriculture) Planning Commission, Secretaries of Ministries/Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Rural Development, Water Resources, Environment & Forests, Panchyati Raj Chairman of NABARD, One Farmer's representative/organization and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NRAA are the other members. The second tier is the Executive Committee which is headed by CEO, NRAA. Five eminent Experts on full time basis in the field of water management, agriculture/horticulture, animal husbandry & fisheries, forestry and watershed development, one representative each from Ministries of Rural Development, Agriculture, Environment & Forests, Panchayati Raj and Water Resources, Advisor (Agriculture) Planning Commission, Director of Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI, Jodhpur), Director of Central

Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad are other members of the Executive Committee. The Authority is expected to provide much needed knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of country's rainfed agriculture. The Authority is a Policy making and monitoring body charged with the role of examining guidelines of various existing schemes. Its mandate is wider than mere water conservation and covers all aspects of sustainable and holistic development of rainfed areas, including appropriate farming and livelihood system approaches.

#### Transfer of Management

679. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to handover the management of the corpus of the Post Office Life Insurance and the Rural Post Office Life Insurance to the Asset Management Companies of existing mutual funds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two public sector Asset Management Companies will be engaged.

[Translation]

#### Subscribers of Wireless Phone and Broadband Connections

680. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of consumers opting for wireless phone and broadband connection is constantly increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of consumers of landline phones is sliding as against the increasing number of wireless phone consumers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of wireless phone customers in the country, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of subscriber base of wireless phones and broadband connections for the past five months are given below:

Item	Subscriber base (in million) at the end of				
	Sept.07	Oct. 07	Nov. 07	Dec. 07	Jan. 08
Wireless Telephone	209.09	217.14	225.46	233.63	242.40
Broadband connections	2.61	2.70	2.80	3.01	3.24*

\*The Broadband figure for Jan. 08 is provisional.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of subscriber base of fixed phones

and wireless phones for the past five months are given below:

Item	Subscriber base (in million) at the end of				
	Sept. 07	Oct. 07	Nov. 07	Dec. 07	Jan. 08
Fixed Telephones	39.58	39.41	39.31	39.25	39.22
Wireless Telephones	209.09	217.14	225.46	233.63	242.40

(e) The number of wireless phone customers in the country, as on 31.12. 2007, Company-wise are as given below:

Sl.No.	Name of Company	Number of wireless subscribers as on 31.01.2008 (in million)
1.	BSNL	37.99
2.	Bharti Airtel	57.42
3.	Reliance Telecom. Ltd.	42.57
4.	Vodafone	41.14
5.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	22.54
6.	Idea Mobile Communications	21.95
7.	Aircel	9.93
8.	MTNL	3.29
9.	Spice Communications	3.94
10.	BPL Mobile	1.26
11.	HFCL Infotel Ltd.	0.27
12.	Shyam Telelink Ltd.	0.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>242.40</b>

#### Waiting List for Telephone Connections

681. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of applicants waiting for telephone connections in various telephone exchanges under Districts Banka and Jamuyi of Bihar is very high;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide telephone connections expeditiously to the waiting applicants and for extension of the telephone exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. The waiting list is not very high. Total waiting list of Banka district is 407 and total waiting list for Jamuyi district is 84 only.

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

(c) The waiting list is quite low and is being cleared progressively by giving connection on WLL and landline.

*[English]*

#### Bio Piracy

682. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of bio-piracy were detected recently by ICAR officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to check bio-piracy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There is no case of biopiracy detected/reported by the ICAR officials.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) To check bio-piracy, the Govt. of India has enacted the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 which is primarily aimed at regulating access to biological resources and associated traditional knowledge from the country. So as to secure equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their use. The Act inter alia provides for prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) before obtaining any biological resources and associated knowledge from India, and also for applying for any intellectual property rights based on biological resource and associated knowledge from India. The NBA grants approval subject to terms and conditions, which secure equitable sharing of benefits.

#### **Watershed Project**

683. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented some watershed projects in the Kalahandi Bolangir Kolhapur (KBK) District in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Watershed Development Programmes are being implemented in the KBK districts (Kalahandi, Nuapada, Bolangir, Sonapur, Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri and Nabarangpur) under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, like; National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA), Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of the Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project/Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Integrated Wasteland Development Projects (IWDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP). The Watershed Development Programmes are also implemented with the Additional Central Assistance (ACA) received under Revised Long Term Action Plan (RLTAP) for KBK districts. Besides, one Externally Aided Project (funded by DFID), viz; Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project (WORLP) is also currently being implemented.

Under the above Watershed Programmes so far, 499552 ha has been developed in the KBK districts. The scheme-wise details of above projects are given in the enclosed statement. These watershed projects have resulted in increase in soil moisture, cropping intensity, production and productivity, ground water recharge,

reduction in soil loss, additional area brought under cultivation etc.

#### **Statement**

S.No.	Name of project/ Scheme	No. of Watersheds	Area Developed
1.	NWDPPRA	158	30537
2.	RVP & FPR*	20	58340
3.	IWDP	377	103503
4.	DPAP	778	122417
5.	ACA	314	126000
6.	WORLP	250	58755
<b>Total</b>		<b>1897</b>	<b>499552</b>

\*The figures are area developed in Macchkund-Sileru Catchments which include KBK districts.

[*Translation*]

#### **Installation of Telecom Towers**

684. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to install telecommunications towers in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be sanctioned by the Government in this regard during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A scheme has been launched by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for provision of subsidy support for setting up and managing 7,871 number of infrastructure sites (towers) in 500 districts spread over 27 States for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there is no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage.



(c) An amount of Rs. 1450 crore has been allocated under Revised Estimates (RE) for the current financial year for various activities undertaken by USOF. However, since no claims are likely to be received for this activity in the current financial year, no amount is likely to be disbursed on this account.

*[English]*

#### **Bird Flu Vaccine**

685. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has developed a vaccine to combat the deadly H5N1 bird flu virus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure adequate availability and affordability of the new vaccine; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed a killed H5N1 field strain virus isolated from the outbreaks in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Assessment for efficacy and potency of Avian Influenza vaccine through experimental studies have shown good protective antibody titre.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Department has developed a vaccine bank arrangement with the capacity of 45 million doses of Avian Influenza vaccines. Till date, Government has not opted for vaccination against Avian Influenza. However, Government is maintaining the strategic reserve, if vaccination is to be introduced in future. However, the steps have been initiated by ICAR to make the availability of the indigenous vaccine through transfer of technology to commercial producers. Moreover, production of Avian Influenza vaccine requires bio-containment condition for handling such virus.

*[Translation]*

#### **Impact of Corporate Sector Entry in Retail Business**

686. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

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

(a) whether the Government has engaged any agencies to conduct survey and prepare a report on the impact of entry of corporate sector big/retailers on small retail shops in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of the said agencies, date on which they were engaged and the amount paid to them for the purpose;

(c) the districts where the said survey was conducted or is proposed to be conducted;

(d) whether the said agencies have since submitted their report;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which the agencies are likely to submit their report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) Government has instituted a study to assess the impact of organized retail trade through Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). The terms of reference of the study are given in the enclosed statement. Government has also commissioned a study to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on Growth linkages of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India which would focus on the impact of FDI on rural economy.

(f) ICRIER was to submit the final report in July, 2007 but has sought change in time schedule to enable additional survey for the study. The final report by NCAER is scheduled to be submitted by May, 2008.

**Statement**

No. 12 (47)/2006-FC  
 Government of India  
 Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
 Deptt. of Industrial Policy & Promotion  
 (FC Section)

New Delhi, date the 2nd March, 2007

To

The Director & Chief Executive,  
 Indian Council for Research on  
 International Economic Relations (ICRIER)  
 Core 6A, 4th Floor,  
 India Habitat Centre,  
 Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

Subject: The impact of Organized Retailing on the  
 Unorganized Retail Sector-A Study by ICRIER.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the sanction of the Government of India to a Study to be assigned to the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) on the Impact of organized retailing on the unorganized retail sector.

**Objective of the Study**

2. There has been considerable growth unorganized retailing in the country in recent years and estimates show a much faster growth in the future. Major industrial houses have entered this area and have announced the future expansion plans. Transnational corporation are also seeking to come to India and set up retail chains in collaboration with Indian big companies. Divergent views have been expressed on the impact of the growth in the organized retail in the country. Concerns have been raised that the growth of organized retailing may have an adverse impact on the retailers in the unorganized sector. It has also been argued that growth of organized retailing the retailers in the unorganized sector. It has also been argued that growth of organized retailing will yield efficiencies in intermediary stages enabling higher prices or access to markets to producers (including farmers or small producers) or lower prices to consumers. To reconcile such variations, an in-depth analytical study on the possible effects of organized retailing in India is essential.

**Terms of Reference**

3. In order to assess the impact of growing organized retail on different aspects of the economy, ICRIER is appointed to carry out a study on organized retail focused on the following:

- (i) Effect on small retailers and vendors in the unorganized sector keeping in mind the likely growth in the overall market
- (ii) Effect on employment
- (iii) Impact on consumers
- (iv) Impact on farmers and manufacturers
- (v) Impact on prices
- (vi) Overall impact on economic growth

ICRIER will analyse the above in the context of a growth scenario of 7-10 per annum in the next 5 year and in the light of practice in other fast growing market economies.

**Methodology**

4. The study by ICRIER will involve the following:
- Literature survey of existing studies
  - 4-5 case studies of established retail chains
  - Interviews of major players in the organized retailing, manufacturers, and of producers including associations of farmers
  - Questionnaire-based survey of unorganized retailers, including vendors especially around organized retail shops
  - Questionnaire-based survey of consumers around the organized retail outlets

**Timeline**

5. The study is proposed to be time-phased as follows:

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1. Inception                                  | 1 March    |
| 2. Literature survey and Questionnaire design | 30 March   |
| 3. Pilot Survey                               | 1-15 April |

4. Review Workshop-1	30 April
5. Survey	1 May-15 June
6. Interim Report	30 June
7. Review Workshop-2	7 July
8. Final Report	12 July

**Budget**

6. Government has approved the budget for the above study is at Rs. 59.80 lakhs which would be met by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

7. This issues with the concurrence of IF Wing vide their Diary No. 4160/AS&FA dated 1.3.2007.

Yours faithfully,  
sd/-

(Pramila Raghavendran)  
Under Secretary to the Government of India  
Telefax: 23062327

[*English*]

**Interim Relief to Journalists**

687. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the journalists or the Indian Journalists Union for payment of interim relief to journalists and other media persons; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Government has received representations from some employees unions including Indian Journalists Union for payment of interim relief. The demand has been referred to the Wage Boards for Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspaper Employees for examination.

**Sea Food Parks**

688. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to develop sea food parks in the coastal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to enter in joint venture with foreign firms for development of such parks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

**Farmers Debt Relief Commission**

689. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI SURAJ SINGH:  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received suggestions to constitute a farmers debt relief commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal with the Government of India for constitution of a Farmers Debt Relief Commission under the Kerala Farmers' Debt Relief Commission Act 2006.

**Nationalisation of Rivers**

690. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:  
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to adopt some rivers as national assets;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the funds allocated for projects on such rivers and the time frame fixed for their implementation;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide 90 per cent funding for these projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Central Government has declared 14 water resources projects as National Projects subject to working out the mode of financing in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission. For these projects it is proposed to provide 90% project cost of irrigation and drinking water component of the project as Central Grant after techno-economic appraisal of the Detailed Project Report and Investment clearance by the Planning Commission. The details of the 14 National Projects are given in the enclosed statement. The irrigation benefits from these projects is estimated to be about 21 lakh ha apart from additional indirect irrigation benefits and availability of drinking water.

#### **Statement**

##### *National Projects*

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	State
1	2	3
1.	Teesta Barrage	West Bengal
2.	Shahpur Kandi	Punjab
3.	Bursar	Jammu & Kashmir
4.	2nd Ravi Vyas Link	Punjab
5.	Ujh multipurpose project	Jammu & Kashmir
6.	Gyspa project	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Lakhvar Vyasi	Uttarachal
8.	Kishau	Himachal Pradesh/Uttaranchal
9.	Renuka	Himachal Pradesh
10.	Noa-Dehang Dam Project	Arunachal Pradesh

1	2	3
11.	Kulsi Dam Project	Assam
12.	Upper Siang	Arunachal Pradesh
13.	Gosikhurd	Maharashtra
14.	Ken Betwa	Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

#### **Regularisation of Contract Employees/Workers**

691. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contractors are hiring employees/workers in various Central Government Departments on contract basis;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps/measures to regularise such employees/workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Visit of Central Team to Bird Flu affected Areas**

692. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO  
GAWALI:  
SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:  
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
 DR. K. DHANARAJU:  
 SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
 SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:  
 PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
 SHRI B. MAHTAB:  
 SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
 SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:  
 SHRI SURESH ANGADI:  
 SHRI PUSP JAIN:  
 SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
 SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
 SHRI KIREN RIJIJU:  
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
 SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA":

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central team visited the affected areas to study the cause and impact of the outbreak and the details of observations and suggestions made by the team;

(b) whether any external assistance has been sought by the Government to check the outbreak and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the bird flu in various parts of the country and the steps taken by the Government to ensure complete eradication of the bird flu disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Central team visited the affected areas of West Bengal to aid and assist the State Government's efforts to control and contain the disease, not to study the source of occurrence of infection.

(b) The Union Government has not sought any external assistance to check the outbreak of Avian Influenza in West Bengal.

(c) The most recent outbreak of Avian Influenza in the country was reported on 15.1.2008 in Birbhum and Dakshin Dinajpur districts of West Bengal. The disease spread to 11 more districts of the State namely, Murshidabad, Burdwan, South-24 Parganas, Nadia, Hooghly, Howrah, Coochbehar, Malda, Paschim Medinipur, Bankura and Purulia. The last incidence is reported on 2nd February 2008, after which there has been no further outbreak of the disease in any part of the country.

The control and containment operations in West Bengal were undertaken on an unprecedented scale. The strategy followed to control, contain and stamp out the disease in the state has been to cull all poultry within 5 kms of the foci of infection. All the affected areas were sealed to prevent any movement of poultry and poultry products to other areas.

As many as 39.33 lakhs poultry birds have been culled in West Bengal till 26.02.2008. Further 14.91 lakh eggs and over 80,000 kg feed material have also been destroyed in these operations.

In order to prevent spread of the disease to neighbouring states, creation of a poultry depopulated zone by preventive culling up to 5 kms in the border districts of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa with West Bengal was notified on 1st February 2008. Preventive culling operation has been completed in the States of Assam, Bihar and Jharkhand. Culling operation is yet to start in Orissa.

#### **Committee's Report on Grievances of Postal Employees**

693. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted any committee to prepare a Report on the matters of grievances of Extra Departmental (ED) staff of post offices in the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the committee has submitted its report in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A one-man committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.S. Natraja Murti, Retired Member of the Postal Services Board, Department of Posts has been constituted with the approval of Hon'ble MOS&IT to look into the emoluments and service conditions of Gramin Dak Sevaks. The terms of reference of this Committee were finalized in consultation with Department of Expenditure, Ministry

of Finance. Accordingly, Resolution No. 6-1/2006-PE.II dated 23 July, 2007 was published in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) after the approval of Hon'ble MOC& IT.

(c) No, Sir. The Committee has not submitted its report in this regard.

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

*[Translation]*

**Schemes under Cotton Corporation of India**

694. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has failed to achieve its objectives;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the schemes being run by the CCI State-wise;

(d) whether any review of the said schemes has been made;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The Schemes being run by the CCI are not State-specific. The schemes are following:

- Technology Mission on cotton
- Front Line Demonstrations
- Integrated Cotton Cultivation (Contract Farming)

In addition to the above the CCI is undertaking price support operations in the event of market prices of kapas touching the Minimum Support Price (MSP) level announced by the Government of India.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) There has been a qualitative and quantitative change in the production and productivity of cotton in various States of the country as may be seen in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise area, Production and Yield of Cotton in India*

*(Area in lakh hectare; Production in lakh bales 170 kgs; Yield in Kgs per hectare)*

Year	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07			2007-08		
	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Area	Area	Production	Yield
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Punjab	5.09	16.50	551	5.57	21.00	610	6.07	26.00	728	06.48	24.00	630
Haryana	6.21	15.50	424	5.83	14.00	379	5.30	16.00	513	04.78	16.00	569
Rajasthan	4.38	11.00	427	4.71	11.00	397	3.50	8.00	389	03.68	09.00	416
Gujarat	19.06	73.00	651	19.06	89.00	794	23.90	101.00	718	25.16	110.00	743
Maharashtra	28.40	52.00	311	28.75	36.00	213	30.70	52.00	288	31.91	60.00	320
Madhya Pradesh	5.76	16.00	472	6.20	18.00	494	6.39	18.00	479	06.62	21.00	539
Andhra Pradesh	11.78	32.50	469	10.33	30.00	527	9.27	35.00	612	10.96	43.00	667

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Karnataka	5.21	8.00	261	4.13	6.50	268	3.75	6.00	272	03.71	08.00	367
Tamil Nadu	1.29	5.30	725	1.40	5.50	668	1.22	5.00	697	01.23	05.00	691
Others	0.68	1.00	250	0.79	1.00	215	0.87	1.00	195	00.77	02.00	442
Loose Lint	-	12.00	-	-	12.00	-	-	12.00	-	-	12.00	-
Total	87.86	243.00	470	86.77	244.00	478	91.42	280.00	521	95.30	310.00	553

Source: Cotton Advisory Board (CAB)

[English]

### Road-Map for Rejuvenation of Agriculture

695. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will The Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Farmers has recommended any road-map/programme for rejuvenation of Agriculture Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Based on the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers submitted by the National Commission on Farmers, Government has approved the National Policy for Farmers, 2007. Various recommendations made by the Commission for rejuvenation of agriculture and allied sectors, as accepted by the Government, have been incorporated in the National Policy for Farmers. The Policy provides, inter-alia, for asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bioresources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies;

agricultural biosecurity system; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material; issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women like creches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and modified farmer-farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of Information and Communication Technology and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of MSP across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiatives for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy, etc. The policy prescription are expected to benefit the entire community of farmers in improving the economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers apart from increasing the production and productivity in agriculture and allied sectors.

Many of the provisions contained in the National Policy for Farmers 2007 are already under implementation by various Central Ministries and Departments and the States through several on-going schemes and programmes. Recently Government launched two new schemes i.e. National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi provisions of the National Policy for Farmers 2007 through state specific de-centralized strategy taking into account the agro-climatic and other local conditions for development of agriculture sector.

*[Translation]***Insurance Cover by BSNL**

696. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:  
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

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

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has implemented a free personal accidental insurance coverage policy for its subscribers;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;

(c) the manner in which BSNL is managing funds for the said scheme;

(d) whether existing subscribers are also likely to be covered under the scheme in future;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(g) the benefits likely to be accrued to the Union Government and the subscribers from such scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details and salient features are:

(i) Applicability:

Individual subscribers of working Landline, WLL and Postpaid Mobile services.

(ii) Coverage:

Accidental death and Permanent total Disability due to accident.

(iii) Sum assured per connection: Rs. 50,000/-

(iv) Period of Insurance: 14.01.2008 to 13.01.2009.

(c) BSNL will manage the amount of premium from its revenue.

(d) and (e) Scheme is automatically applicable to all the existing individual subscribers of working landline, WLL and Postpaid mobile services, initially for the period of one year i.e. working landline, WLL and Postpaid mobile services, initially for the period of one year i.e. from 14.01.2008 to 13.01.2009. Subscribers who join in the intervening period shall be eligible to get insurance coverage from the date of provision/installation of connection.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.

(g) This insurance scheme has been launched for promotion of BSNL Landline, WLL and Mobile service. Thereby, general customers are insured without any additional cost to them.

*[English]***National Land Commission**

697. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Land Commission for formulating land policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the agricultural land is shrinking day by day and land holding have become uneconomical for the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details of the present pattern of land shrinkage and data regarding average land holdings State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has set up a National Council for Land Reforms under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister of India. The other members of the Council include Union Ministers of Rural Development, Agriculture, Environment & Forests, Panchayati Raj, Tribal Affairs, Social Justice & Empowerment, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa,



Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh & West Bengal and other distinguished members. This Council will lay down broad guidelines and policy recommendations on agrarian relations and land reforms.

(c) and (d) The total cultivable land was 185.09 million

ha. in 1980-81 which has reduced to 182.57 million ha. in 2005-06. During the same period, land under non-agricultural uses has increased from 19.66 million ha. to 24.94 million ha. The details are given in enclosed. The details of State-wise average land holdings are given in enclosed statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Distribution of land under different Usages in India during 1980-81 and 2005-06*

(Area in Million hectares)

S.No.	Classification of area	Land under Different usages in India	
		1980-81	2005-06
1.	Geographical Area	328.73	328.73
(i)	Forests	67.47	69.72
(ii)	Not Available for Cultivation		
	(a) Area Under Non-Agricultural Uses	19.66	24.94
	(b) Barren & Un-Culturable land	19.96	17.54
(iii)	Other Uncultivated Land Excluding Fallow Land		
	(a) Permanent	11.97	10.42
	Pastures & Other Grazing Lands		
	(b) Land Under Miscellaneous	3.60	3.37
	Crops and Groves Not included in Net Area Sown		
	(c) Culturable Waste Land	16.74	13.16
(iv)	Fallow Lands		
	(a) Fallow Land Other	9.92	10.41
	Than Current Fallows		
	(b) Current Fallows	14.83	14.03
(v)	Net Area Sown	140.00	141.60
(vi)	Total cultivable land (iii (b) +iii(c) +iv+ v)	185.09	182.57

**Statement-II***State-wise Average Land holdings  
(Agricultural Census 2000-01)*

S.No.	State/UTs	Average Land Holdings (ha)
1	2	3
1.	A & N Islands	2.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1.25
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.69
4.	Assam	1.15
5.	Chandigarh	1.44
6.	Chattisgarh	1.60
7.	D & N Haveli	1.48
8.	Daman & Diu	0.59
9.	Delhi	1.52
10.	Goa	0.84
11.	Gujarat	2.33
12.	Haryana	2.32
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1.07
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.67
15.	Karnataka	1.74
16.	Kerala	0.24
17.	Lakshadweep	0.27
18.	Madhya Pradesh	2.22
19.	Maharashtra	1.66
20.	Manipur	1.15
21.	Mizoram	1.24
22.	Nagaland	7.28
23.	Orissa	1.25
24.	Pondicherry	0.70
25.	Punjab	4.03

1	2	3
26.	Rajasthan	3.65
27.	Sikkim	1.57
28.	Tamil Nadu	0.89
29.	Tripura	0.56
30.	Uttar Pradesh	0.83
31.	Uttaranchal	0.95
32.	West Bengal	0.82
All India		1.41

**Catalytic Development Programme for Silk Industry**

698. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) proposed to be launched during the Eleventh Plan to promote silk industry in the country;

(b) whether the Union Government has asked the State to submit their proposals under CDP;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of States that have submitted their proposals alongwith the action taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) the funds earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The Catalytic Development Programme is a unique and effective tool for transfer of technologies in the field evolved by the Research Institutes and is being implemented by Central Silk Board (CSB) through the respective State Departments. The objectives of the programme are to enhance the production of raw silk through vertical and horizontal expansion of sericulture especially Mulberry bivoltine silk and Vanya silks, to create greater opportunities for gainful employment in rural and backward areas especially for women and other marginalized sections of the society, to produce high quality silk of international grade for import substitution and increasing export earnings and to improve productivity and quality at all levels of production processes starting

from leaf production to fabrics through technological interventions, skill up-gradation and integrated extension support etc.

During XI Plan, the CDP is proposed to be implemented through Project mode approach in the form of packages mainly under 3 sectors viz. Seeds, Cocoon and Post-cocoon sectors supported by the service sectors, which are common to all packages to achieve the targets and the objectives of the XI Plan. Within each package, flexibility can be built-in to cater to the specific needs of different seric zones in the country.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government through CSB has requested the State departments to submit proposals under CDP for the current year 2007-08, for considering release of CSB share. The proposals received from the States were discussed during the Apex monitoring Committee meeting held at Bangalore on 8-2-2008. As the proposals received did not contain requisite details, as decided during the said meeting, the States have been requested to furnish the additional details taking into consideration the revised targets, unit cost, sharing pattern etc., as approved by the Government of India.

(d) The revised proposals from the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have been received in the Project mode and considered for release for CSB share during the current year 2007-08.

(e) A provision of Rs. 81.01 crores has been earmarked towards implementation of CDP in various States during the current year 2007-08, which includes Rs. 37.45 crores allotted for the North Eastern States.

#### **Agricultural Research**

699. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research done in the agricultural sector has not been able to meet the requirements of farmers in the country as reported in the "Hindustan" dated January 24, 2008;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make changes in the syllabus of agriculture education in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The technologies generated through the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) have contributed significantly in enhancing productivity and production in agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and livestock. The country recorded an all time high production of food grains (217.28mt), sugarcane and cotton during the year 2006-07. The horticulture, livestock and fisheries also showed an impressive performance. The agriculture is becoming more and more knowledge intensive and hi-tech. By and large, the technologies generated under NARS have met the requirements of farmers, however, the challenges are enormous and the research system is re-oriented continually to address the emerging issues.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The course curricula and syllabi for undergraduate programmes has been revised and recommended for implementation in all agricultural universities during 2007 for enhancing the quality, acceptability and relevance of education and the employability of graduates.

*[Translation]*

#### **Revival of NTC Mills**

700. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:  
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Textile Corporation mills functioning in various sectors in the country separately, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number out of them lying closed during each of the last five years, sector, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether a large number of the workers have been rendered jobless as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government proposes to revive/re-open the closed mills and rehabilitate the workers who have lost their jobs;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(g) the funds allocated for the purpose during the Eleventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) National Textile Corporation (NTC) has 117 mills after transfer of 2 mills to the Government of Pondicherry. Out of these, 40 NTC mills are presently functioning in different states. Details are given in enclosed Statement I. 67 mills have been closed after approval of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under ID Act since the year 2002. Details are given in the enclosed Statement II. Balance 10 mills are having no production activity as most of the workers have opted for Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS).

(c) and (d) The Revival Scheme being implemented by NTC provides for an attractive compensation to the employees affected by the closure of unviable mills under MVRS. Till date, 58100 employees have been paid a sum of Rs. 2065.66 crores under the scheme. State and Union-Territory-wise details of employees who availed MVRS are given in enclosed statement-III. Besides, Department of Public Enterprises has formulated a Scheme for counselling, retraining and redeployment (CRR) of employees of Public Sector and NTC employees are exposed to such CRR programmes.

(e) and (f) The mills have been closed after approval by BIFR which is based on Techno Economic Viability Studies (TEVS) done by Textile Research Associations (TRAs). The Scheme envisages revival of viable mills from the funds generated from the sale of total assets of closed mills and surplus assets of viable mills. There is no proposal to revive/re-open the closed mills. NTC has released payment of MVRS to willing employees.

(g) No funds have been allocated for the purpose during the Eleventh Plan period.

**Statement-I**

*Number of Mills with NTC*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Mills As on 1.1.2002	Mills closed From 2002 to 2007	Functioning Mills As on 1.4.2007	Functioning Mills As on 1.2.2008
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Maharashtra	35	20	15	15
2.	Gujarat	11	9	2	-
3.	Uttar Pradesh	11	9	2	1
4.	Punjab	4	2	2	-
5.	Rajasthan	4	1	3	1
6.	Chattisgarh	1	1	-	-
7.	Madhya Pradesh	6	4	2	2
8.	Andhra Pradesh	6	4	2	1
9.	Karataka	4	2	2	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Kerala	5	-	5	5
11.	Pondicherry	3	-	3	1
12.	Assam	1	-	1	1
13.	Bihar	2	1	1	-
14.	Orissa	1	-	1	1
15.	West Bengal	12	9	3	3
16.	Tamil Nadu	13	5	8	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>119(*)</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>50(**)</b>	<b>40</b>

(\*) Presently 117 mills as 2 mills have been transferred to State Govt. of Pondicherry

(\*\*) 10 mills are lying closed with no production activity as most of the employees have opted for MVRs.

**Statement-II**

*List of 67 Mills closed under ID Act*

S.No.	Name of the Mills	Date of Closure
1	2	3
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
1.	Edward Mills	06.05.2002
<b>Punjab</b>		
2.	Dayalbagh Mills	01.09.2003
3.	Panipat Woollen Mills	15.05.2004
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
4.	Kalyanmal Mills	31.05.2002
5.	Swadeshi Textile Mills	31.05.2002
6.	Hira Mills	31.10.2002
7.	Indore Mahwa Unted mills	31.03.2003
<b>Chattisgarh</b>		
8.	Bengal Nagpur Cotton mills	31.10.2002
<b>Maharashtra</b>		
9.	Kohinoor Mills No. 2	01.06.2002
10.	Kohinoor Mills No. 3	01.06.2002

1	2	3
11.	India United Mills No. 4	31.10.2002
12.	India United Mills No. 2	31.03.2004
13.	Indian United Mills No. 3	31.03.2004
14.	Jam Mfg. Mills	31.03.2004
15.	Shri Sitaram Mills	31.03.2004
16.	Model Mills	05.06.2004
17.	R.S.R.G. Mills	05.06.2004
18.	Vidharbha Mills	05.06.2004
19.	Kohnoor Mills No.1	27.12.2006
20.	Indian United Mills No. 6	24.01.2007
21.	Bharat Textile Mills	01.04.2004
22.	Digvijay Textiles Mills	01.04.2004
23.	Elphinstone Spg. & Wwg. Mills	01.04.2004
24.	Jupiter Textile Mills	01.04.2004
25.	Mumbai Textile Mills	01.04.2004
26.	New Hind Textile Mills	01.04.2004
27.	Podar Processors	01.04.2004

1	2	3
28.	Shree Madhusudan Mills Gujarat	01.04.2004
29.	Petiad Textile Mills	06.05.2002
30.	Rajkot Textile Mills	06.05.2002
31.	Virangam Textile Mills	31.07.2002
32.	New Maneekchowk Textile Mills	31.07.2002
33.	Mahalaxmi Textile Mills	30.09.2002
34.	Rajnagar Textile Mills	31.10.2002
35.	Ahmedabad Jupiter Mills	31.03.2003
36.	Hmadari Textile Mills	30.09.2003
37.	Jehangir Textile Mills Andhra Pradesh	30.06.2004
38.	Adoni Cotton Mills	06.05.2002
39.	Natraj Spinning Mills	06.05.2002
40.	Netha Spinning & Weaving Mills	06.05.2002
41.	Azam Jahi Mills Karnataka	31.10.2002
42.	Mysore Mills (merged with Minerva Mills)	—
43.	M.S.K. Mills West Bengal	06.05.2002
44.	Bangasri Cotton Mills	06.05.2002
45.	Bengal Fine S&W Mills No. II	06.05.2002
46.	Manindra S.T. Mills	06.05.2002
47.	Jyoti Wvg., Factory	06.05.2002
48.	Central Cotton Mills	06.05.2002
49.	Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton Mills	06.05.2002
50.	Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills	25.10.2003
51.	Rampooria Cotton Mills	25.10.2003
52.	Bengal Fine S & W Mills No. I	25.10.2003

1	2	3
	Bihar	
53.	Gaya Cotton & Jute Mills Tamil Nadu	06.05.2002
54.	Kishnaveni Textile mills	31.05.2002
55.	Om Parasakathi Mills	31.05.2002
56.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' Unit	21.07.2002
57.	Somsundaram Mills	31.10.2002
58.	Belaramvarma Mills Uttar Pradesh	06.01.2003
59.	Atherton Mills	11.03.2004
60.	Bijli Cotton Mills	11.03.2004
61.	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills	11.03.2004
62.	Lord Krishna Tex. Mills	11.03.2004
63.	Muir Mills	11.03.2004
64.	New Victoria Mills	11.03.2004
65.	Rae Bareli Tex. Mills	11.03.2004
66.	Shri Vikram Cotton Mills	11.03.2004
67.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	11.03.2004

**Statement-III**

*Statement showing number of employees retired under MVRS as on 01.02.2008, Mill-wise & State-wise.*

S.No.	Name of the Mills	No. of employees retired under MVRS
1	2	3
	NTC (APKKM)	
	Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Azam Jahi Mills	455
2.	Netha Mills	126
3.	Ananthapur Mills	286

1	2	3
4.	Adoni Mills	104
5.	Natraj Mills	59
6.	Tirupathi Mills	4
<b>Karnataka</b>		
7.	M.S.K. Mills	751
8.	Minerva Mills	1703
9.	Mysore S & W Mills	Already merged with Minerva Mills
10.	Sree Yallamma Mills	313
<b>Kerala</b>		
11.	Cannanore Spg.	0
12.	Kerala Laxmi	1
13.	Vijay Mohni	0
14.	Algappa Mills	108
15.	Parvathi Mills	504
<b>Pondicherry</b>		
16.	Cannahore Mahe	6
	RMD	184
	Corporate office	91
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4785</b>

**NTC (DPR)****Punjab**

17.	Suraj Textile Mills	530
18.	Dayal Bagh Mills	505
19.	Kharar Textile Mills	577
20.	Panipat Wooien	631

**Rajasthan**

21.	Udapur Mills	366
22.	Sri Bijay Cotton	408

1	2	3
23.	Mahalaxmi Mills	296
24.	Edward Mills	260
	RMD	113
	Corporate Office	31
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3737</b>

**NTC (GUJARAT)**

25.	Amd. New Textile Mills	1158
26.	Jahangir Textile Mills	1115
27 & 28.	Rajnagar No. 1 & 2	1401
29.	New Manekchow Mills	778
30.	Himadri Textile Mills	515
31.	Ahd. Jupter Mills	784
32.	Viramgam Textile Mills	732
33.	Petlad Textile Mills	376
34.	Mahalaxmi Textile Mills	725
35.	Rajkot Textile Mills	307
	RMD	21
	Corporate Office	48
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7970</b>

**NTC (MP)****Madhya Pradesh**

36.	Indore Mahwa Mills	1844
37.	Swadeshi Mills	617
38.	Katyanmal Mills	1446
39.	New Bhopal Mills	329
40.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	747
41.	Hira Mills	878
<b>Chattisgarh</b>		
42.	Bengal Nagpur Mills	1223

1	2	3
	RMD	25
	Corporate Office	35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7144</b>
<b>NTC (MN)</b>		
<b>Maharashtra</b>		
43.	Indu No. 1	1109
44.	Indu No. 2	813
45.	Indu No. 3	490
46.	Indu No. 4	592
47.	Indu No. 5	342
48.	Indu No. 6	321
49.	Model Mills	1306
50.	R.S.R.G. Mills	621
51.	Savalram Mills	196
52.	R.B.B.A. Mills	539
53.	Vidarbha Mills	528
54.	Kohinoor Mills 1	510
55.	Kohinoor Mills 2	83
56.	Kohinoor Mills 3	16
57.	Tala Mills	275
58.	Jam Mills	702
59.	Podar Mills	334
60.	Shri Sitaram Mills	292
	RMD	21
	Corporate Office	19
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9109</b>
<b>NTC (SM)</b>		
61.	Apollo Mills	618
62.	Digvijay Mills	869

1	2	3
63.	Bharat Textile Mills	809
64.	Jupiter Mills	739
65.	Mumbai Mills	805
66.	New Hindi Textile Mills	889
67.	Aurangabad Mills	17
68.	Chalisagaon Mills	588
69.	Nanded Mills	150
70.	Barshi Mills	6
71.	Dhule Mills	339
72.	Podar Processors	431
73.	Finlay Mills	1071
74.	Gold Mohur Mills	741
75.	Elphinstone Mills	702
76.	New City Mills	972
77.	Sri Madhusudan Mills	512
	RMD	4
	Corporate Office	30
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10292</b>
<b>NTC (TN&amp;P)</b>		
<b>Tamilnadu</b>		
78.	Somasundam Mills	642
79.	Colmbetore Murguon	9
80.	Om Parasakthi Mills	284
81.	Coimboodia Mills	244
82.	Krishnavani Mills	223
83.	Sri Rangavilas Mills	17
84.	Pankaja Mills	8



1	2	3
85.	Pioneer Mills	3
86.	Balaramverma Mills	292
87.	Kaleeswarar-A	216
88.	Kaleeswarar-B	3
89.	Sri Sarda Mills	14
90.	C.S & W. Mills	225
	Central Texting Lab	4
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	
91.	Sri Bharthi Mills	
92.	Swadeshi Mills	206
	RMD	97
	Corporate Office	58
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2545</b>
	<b>NTC (UP)</b>	
	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	
93.	Muir Mills	1248
94.	New Victoria Mills	1276
95.	Swadesi, Kanpur	1118
96.	Shri Vikram Cotton Mills	475
97.	Lord Krishna Mills	513
98.	Swadeshi, Naini Mills	882
99.	Swadeshi Rae	164
100.	Swadeshi Mau	418
101.	Bijli Cotton Mills	116
102.	Laxmirattan Mills	1143
103.	Atherton Mills	982
	RMD	218
	Corporate Office	18
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1571</b>

1	2	3
	<b>NTC (WBABO)</b>	
	<b>West Bengal</b>	
104.	Rampooria Mills	207
105.	Bengal Luxmi Mills	192
106.	Jyoti Mills	101
107.	Arati Mills	292
108.	Central Cotton Mills	288
109.	Bengal Fine No. 1	175
110.	Bengari Mills	75
111.	Laxmi Narayan Mills	421
112.	Sodepur Mills	316
113.	Shree Mahaluxmi Mills	152
114.	Benal Fine No. 2	52
115.	Manindra Mills	103
	<b>Assam</b>	
116.	Associated Mills	156
	<b>Bihar</b>	
117.	Bihar Coop.	337
118.	Gaya Cotton Mills	153
	<b>Orissa</b>	
119.	Orissa Cotton Mills.	165
	RMD	382
	Corporate Office	272
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3839</b>
	<b>NTC (HC)</b>	<b>108</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>58100</b>

[English]

**Reduction in Postal Saving Schemes**

701. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:  
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

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

(a) whether there is any reduction in deposits in postal Saving Schemes in the country during the last two years;

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

(c) whether several lakhs of small account holders have withdrawn money from various postal saving schemes;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make postal saving schemes more attractive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme-wise details of postal saving schemes in which reduction in deposit was noticed during the last two years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) There is an overall increase in number of account holders of post office small savings bank schemes. However, increasing trend in the amount of withdrawal in these schemes is also observed.

(d) The increasing trend in withdrawals refer to *inter alia*, investor's choice of alternative instruments for effecting personal savings.

(e) In the recent past, the Government has taken following steps to make the small savings schemes more attractive and investor friendly:

(i). The restriction on opening of more than one account during a calendar month under the

Senior Citizens Savings Scheme has been removed with effect from 24th May, 2007.

- (ii) All categories of pensioners have been allowed to open and maintain 'pension Account' under Post Office Savings Account Rules, with effect from 11th July, 2007.
- (iii) The penalty on pre-mature withdrawal of deposits under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme has been rationalized from 3.5% to 2% on withdrawal on or before expiry of three years and 1% on withdrawal after expiry of three years.
- (iv) The maximum deposit ceilings of Rs. 3.00 lakh and Rs. 6.00 lakh under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme has been raised to Rs. 4.50 lakh and s. 9.00 lakh in respect of single and joint accounts respectively.
- (v) Bonus at the rate of 5% on the deposits made under Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme on or after 8th December, 2007 upon the maturity of the deposit, has been reintroduced.
- (vi). The benefit of Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been extended to the investments made under 5-Year Post Office Time Deposits Accounts and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, with effect from 01.01.2007.
- (vii) Various measures are also taken to promote and popularize these these schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars and meeting, providing training to the various agencies involved in mobilizing collection in Small Savings Schemes etc.
- (viii) A website of the National Savings Institute under Government of India, Ministry of Finance has also been launched to facilitate interface with the public through wider dissemination of information on small savings and on-line registration and settlement of investors grievances. The website address is [nsiindia.gov.in](http://nsiindia.gov.in).

**Statement***Deposits in different Scheme of Savings Bank for the last three years*

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Time Deposit (TD)	Monthly Income Scheme (MIS)	National Savings Scheme (NSS)	Senior Citizen Scheme (SCSS)	Public Provident Fund (PPF)
2004-05	20429.29	48691.8	571.30	8818.14	3112.94
2005-06	20526.45	47272.63	293.47	7435.42	3024.47
2006-2007	19799.86	26480.37	317.28	7238.19	3797.87
Increase/ decrease (-) in 2005-06 over 2004-05	97.16	-1419.17	-277.83	-1382.72	-88.47
Increase/ decrease (-) in 2006-07 over 2005-06	-726.59	-20812.26	23.81	-197.23	773.40

*Deposits in Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) National Saving Certificate (NSC)—VIII Issue for the last three years*

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the Certificate	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Increase/ Decrease (-) in 2005-06 over 2004-05	Increase/ Decrease (-) in 2006-07 over 2005-06
KVP	23600.73	29281.00	23495.00	5680.27	-5786.00
6yr. NSC VIII Issue	10246.88	10539.91	8971.00	293.03	-1568.91

*[Translation]***National Flood Management Commission**

702. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has since finalised the details of setting up of National Flood Management Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely objectives of constitution of this Commission; and

(d) the time by which this Commission is likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Setting up of National Flood Management Commission (NFMC) is envisaged in the XI Plan with the objective of preparing comprehensive flood management plans and co-ordinating various activities related to flood management at the national level.

*[English]***National Agricultural Insurance Scheme**

703. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to increase the coverage of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to 80-90 per cent; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government have not fixed coverage target of 80-90 per cent. However, Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) which is the Implementing Agency of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), keeps on making various efforts including publicity campaign for increasing the coverage under the scheme.

**Deadline for Setting up of Textile Parks**

704. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:  
SHRI BHUPENDRASINGH SOLANKI:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to extend the deadline for meeting the target of setting up 25 Textile Parks under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELAGOVAN): (a) No, Sir. This Ministry has not received any such communication from State Government of Gujarat.

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

**Mobile Towers in West Bengal**

705. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has set up Mobile Towers in Basirhat sub-division area of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is planning to install more mobile towers in those regions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. BSNL has set up Mobile towers at 18 places in Basirhat sub-division area (SDCA) of West Bengal.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement I.

(c) Yes, Sir. BSNL has planned to install 10 mobile towers in Basirhat sub-division area (SDCA).

(d) Details are given in the enclosed Statement II.

**Statement I***Details of working Mobile Towers in Basirhat SDCA*

Sl.No.	Name of BTS
1	2
1.	Baduria
2.	Basirhat-I
3.	Basirhat-II (Collegepara)
4.	Basirhat Market
5.	Haroa
6.	Malancha
7.	Nazat
8.	Swarupnagar
9.	Taki-I
10.	Sandeshkhali
11.	Bhebia
12.	Chakla

1	2
13.	Katiahat
14.	Irinda
15.	Basirhat Hospital Mor
16.	Sarberia
17.	Bithari
18.	Gopalpur (Basirhat)

**Statement II***Detail of Planned Mobile Towers in Basirhat SDCA*

Sl.No.	Name of BTS
1.	Jadurhati
2.	Kachua
3.	Kholpara
4.	Arbella
5.	Chaital
6.	Dhanpota Bazar
7.	Ghusighata
8.	Gopalpur
9.	Kalinagar-I
10.	Masla

**Hotel Industry under Factories Act, 1948**

706. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring Hotel Industry within the ambit of the Factories Act, 1948; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Insurance Scheme through Post Office**

707. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce an attractive insurance scheme for girls through the Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Department of Posts has already introduced Child Policy for the children of the PL/RPLI policy holders with effect from 20 January 2006. This scheme is equally applicable for girl child also.

(b) The salient features of the Children Policy are as under:—

(i) The Scheme is envisaged to provide life insurance cover to the children of such PL/RPLI policy holders, who opt for it.

(ii) Maximum two children in a family will be eligible to take children policy.

(iii) Children between the age of 5 and 20 years are eligible and maximum sum assured is Rs. 1 lakh or equivalent to the sum assured of the main policy holder whichever is less.

(iv) The main policy holder should not have attained the age of 45 years.

(v) No premium shall be required to be paid on the death of the main policy holder and full sum assured with the accrued bonus shall be paid to the child after the completion of the term of the child policy. In case of any eventuality of the child, full sum assured with the accrued bonus shall be payable to the main policy holder.

(vi) Main policy holder shall be responsible for payment for the Children Policy. No loan is admissible on Children Policy, however, the policy shall have facility for making it paid up

provided the premium are paid continuously for 5 years.

- (vii) No Medical examination of the child is necessary, however the child should be healthy on the day of proposal and the risk coverage shall start from the date of acceptance of proposal.
- (viii) The policy shall attract the bonus at the rate applicable to Endowment Policy. The POIF Rules amended from time to time shall be applicable to Children Policy.

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

#### **Number of PLI Policy**

708. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Postal Life Insurance (PLI) policy in various schemes have been taken by the people for the last one year, as on date, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to boost the PLI among the public to compete with other private insurance companies;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to make join compulsory for all employees of State Government to any PLI scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Number of Postal Life Insurance policy taken by the people for the last one year (01.04.2006 to 31.03.2007) is, PLI-318058 and RPLI-1285790. The State-wise number of policy is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Following steps were taken to boost PLI business:

1. Strengthening the number of sales force by allowing Departmental officials of remaining categories to procure PLI business on commission/incentive.
2. Outsider persons have been empanelled as direct agents like other insurance companies.

3. The incentive/commission structure of the Agents and Departmental sales force made attractive,
4. Planned publicity through print and electronic media.
5. Improving after sales service through computerized processes.
6. Placing hoardings at Post offices.
7. Organizing Melas.
8. Sending Direct mail to customers.
9. Distribution of pamphlets and leaflets

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise Number of Polices Issued*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	Number of polices issued during 2006-07	
		PLI	RPLI
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7946	268875
2.	Assam	4062	5003
3.	Bihar	5045	79665
4.	Chattisgarh	3850	12672
5.	Delhi	6871	—
6.	Gujarat	37677	39132
7.	Haryana	3820	13418
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4764	12199
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5994	6833
10.	Jharkhand	8228	33746
11.	Karnataka	17743	71398
12.	Kerala	6532	13562
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3544	15941
14.	Maharashtra	46218	150221

1	2	3	4
15.	North-East	1593	1039
16.	Orissa	7134	58265
17.	Punjab	1070	16964
18.	Rajasthan	9818	33825
19.	Tamil Nadu	28497	243263
20.	Uttar Pradesh	3465	108621
21.	Uttaranchal	7671	19122
22.	West Bengal	9698	82020
23.	A.P.S	89530	—
Grand Total		318058	1285790

#### Financial Assistance for Hirakud Dam

709. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing financial assistance for the modernization of Hirakud Dam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any foreign financial institution is also providing the funds for the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The State Government of Orissa has informed that they have decided to take up the modernization work of Hirakud dam with its distribution system. As a short term measure, Rs. 2.00 crore has been provided during the financial year and there is a budget provision of Rs. 50.00 crore during 2008-09, the same is to be met from State's own resources. Besides, Rampur Berkeley Distributary, which is part of Hirakud Distribution system with an estimated cost of Rs. 26.42 crore is under progress through NABARD assistance.

(c) Presently no foreign financial assistance is being provided for the same.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Training of CPO and State Police Forces to check Naxals

710. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Army has been asked to provide training to the Central Police Organisation and State Police Forces to tackle Naxal menace;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to deploy Army in the Naxal affected areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The Army within the framework of the Government's Counter Naxal Strategy is extending training and advice to Central Police Organisations (CPOs)/State Police Forces in Naxal affected States. 139 companies of State Police Forces/CPOs have been trained so far.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to deploy Army in the Naxal affected areas.

[*Translation*]

#### Export of Textiles

711. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
SHRI AJIT JOGI:  
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made by the Government regarding decline in export of textiles and handicrafts during quarter of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage increase or decrease in export registered during the above period in comparison to each quarter of previous years;

(d) the target faced and achieved regarding quantum and value of textile export during each quarter of the current financial year in comparison to each quarter of previous year, item-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to arrest the declining trend in export of textiles and other textile commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) to (c) As

per data of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata, India's textiles exports, including handicrafts, have declined during the current financial year over the corresponding period of the previous year, as per the details below:-

*Textiles Exports (including handicrafts, jute and coir)*

Period	2006-07		2007-08		Variation(%)	
	Rs. Crore	US\$ Million	Rs. Crore	US\$ Million	In Rupee terms	In US\$ terms
1st Quarter (Apr-Jun)	21250.62	4673.47	16555.28	4014.92	-22.10	-14.09
2nd Quarter (Jul-Sept)	21126.55	4554.89	20808.11	5124.92	-1.51	12.51
<b>Total</b>	<b>42377.17</b>	<b>9228.36</b>	<b>37363.39</b>	<b>9139.84</b>	<b>-11.83</b>	<b>-0.96</b>

(d) The target for textiles exports is fixed in coincidence with the financial year. The targets, item-

wise, for textiles exports and achievement during the current and previous financial year are as follows:-

(US\$ Million)

Year	2006-07		2007-08	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement*
Readymade Garments	9500	8075.57	12065	4413.88
Cotton Textiles	5000	5485.04	6350	2816.26
Man-made Textiles	2300	2361.17	2921	1689.93
Woolen Textiles	500	445.47	635	377.45
Silk Textiles	700	689.61	890	384.78
Handicrafts	500	371.75	635	233.97
Carpets	800	887.42	1018	485.24
Coir	130	156.38	165	92.23
Jute	300	257.52	381	179.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>19730</b>	<b>18729.93</b>	<b>25060</b>	<b>10672.75</b>

\*April-October



(e) The Government has taken a number of steps to arrest the declining trend observed in the export of textiles items recently, which include an increase in Duty Entitlement Pass Book and Duty Drawback rates, exemption from service tax on select services, reduction in interest rates of pre-shipment and post-shipment credit, and faster clearance of arrears of terminal excise duties and Central Sales Tax.

*[English]*

**Review of National Horticulture Mission/Horticulture Technology Mission**

712. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Horticulture Mission/Horticulture Technology Mission is being implemented in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has made any review on the implementation of the National Horticulture and Horticulture Technology Mission;

(e) if so, the State-wise and year-wise achievement made in the implementation of these national schemes; and

(f) the further steps being taken to achieve better success in implementing these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on (i) Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States (TMNE) including Sikkim since 2001-02, which was extended to Jammu &

Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand during the year 2003-04; and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in the remaining States and Union Territories from 2005-06, for the holistic development of horticulture sector.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The implementation of TMNE scheme is being regularly reviewed and monitored by a Central Steering Committee headed by Secretary, Agriculture & Cooperation. The Mini Mission-wise programmes are being reviewed and monitored by the concerned Steering Committees, headed by Director General, ICAR (for Mini Mission-I), Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (for Mini Mission-II & III) and Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (for Mini Mission-IV). State-wise details of physical targets and achievements for major components and funds released and expenditure incurred under TMNE scheme during 2001-02 to 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement I.

The performance of NHM scheme has been reviewed thrice since the launch of the scheme by the General Council of NHM headed by the Union Agriculture Minister. Besides, the performance of implementation of scheme in terms of physical and financial progress is reviewed regularly by the Executive Committee of NHM under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A & C). In addition, Joint Inspection Teams constituted by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation conducts regular field visits to the individual States. State-wise details of the physical targets and achievements for major components under NHM during 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement-II. State-wise details of funds released and expenditure incurred during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given in the enclosed Statement III

(f) To achieve better success in implementing these two schemes, the following steps are being taken:-

(i) Focus on providing good quality planting material to farmers.

(ii) Dovetailing of various programmes of other Ministers/Departments with NHM programme.

(iii) Strengthening of infrastructure of State implementing agencies in terms of manpower and other facilities at the State as well as district levels for effective implementation and monitoring of the Scheme.

**Statement-I****Physical and Financial Progress under TMNE Scheme from 2001-2007**

Component/Activity		Anuchal Pradesh														
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	2739	2679	5799	5717	4038	4038	6260	6260	4120	4120	6782	6782	29875	29946	
B.	Productivity improvement															
	1. Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	30	30	50	50	200	200	200	200	200	200	125	125	805	805
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	2	2	30	30	30	30	50	50	50	50	50	50	212	212
	(iii) Drip irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	110	110	100	100	248	250	500	500	500	500	320	320	1778	1780
	2. Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	300	100						900	900	1200	1200	2400	2200	
	3. Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit	10	10	50	50	100	100	100	100	200	200	40000	40000	40460	40460
	Nursery Total			15	0	14	27	27	0	0	2	2	10	10	54	68
D.	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		914	914	1520	1520	1420	1420	0	0	1520	1520	2520	2520	7894	7894
E.	Agri. Equipments		545	220	1025	1023	1026	1026	240	200	1025	1025	0	1000	3761	4494
F.	Women Empowerment															
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer														
MM-III																
	I. Market infrastructure															
	(1) Whole Sale Markets															6
	(2) Rural Primary Markets															24
	(3) Apri Mandies															
	(4) State Grading Laboratories															2
	(5) Ropeways															
MM-IV																
	J. Processing infrastructure															
	(1) New units															
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
	(3) Promotional Activities														1	1
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	929.80	928.10	1089.00	1089.20	1220.00	1220.00	1645.55	1645.55	1492.50	1392.50	1612.90	1612.90	7999.55	7998.05	

Component/Activity		Assam														
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1350	1110	2660	2281	2140	1162.6	5545	3959	4656	4656	6598	6538	23208	19931	
B.	Productivity improvement															
	1. Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	51	50	40	26	215	108	50	50	45	45	30	30	431	310
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	15	5	210	210	200	200	50	50	375	375	200	200	1050	1040
	(iii) Drip irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	20	22	30	16	70	21	100	94	138	138	200	200	558	491
	2. Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	502	1000	200	200	500	1000					600	600	2802	1800
	3. Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit				30			119	160	160				190	279
	Nursery Total		5	5	0	16	28	1	34	18	8	8	5	5	80	53
D.	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		1760	2695	4320	4670	4020	0	3680	0	3112	3112	3020	3013	20212	13480
E.	Agri. Equipments		1298	732	1525	1385	3509	1218	150	121	787	784	460	459	7729	4699
F.	Women Empowerment															
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer	600	920	2150	900	1500	1500	2000		2220	2220	2000	1500	10470	7040
	MM-III															
	I. Market infrastructure															
	(1) Whole Sale Markets				2										2	
	(2) Rural Primary Markets				25										25	
	(3) Apri Mandies															
	(4) State Grading Laboratories			7											7	
	(5) Ropeways															
	MM-IV															
	J. Processing Infrastructure															
	(1) New units															
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
	(3) Promotional Activities														3	
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	628.18	627.16	1867.83	1236.00	1400.00	1400.00	1425.00	871.00	1466.25	1358.25	1480.00	1400.00	7877.24	6890.31	

Component/Activity		Manipur														
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1460	1158	1980	1122	1160	1023	4388	3570	4315	4288.4	7391	7385	20929	18700	
B.	Productivity improvement															
	1. Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	100000/unit	22	23	50	75	224	135	50	139	274	159	119	119	739	650
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	10	14	14	10	25			50	30	101	101	200	155	
	(iii) Drip Irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	20	10	85	20	25	100		250	250	100	100	580	380	
	2. Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	600	300	400	6	400	201	450	100	610	513		218	2460	1338
	3. Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit			23	5	10		10		344	344	20000	20000	20387	20349
	Nursery Total		0	11	0	41	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	2	4	58
D.	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		415	475	766	1221	360	250	1110	250	1720	802	2462	2462	6833	5460
E.	Agri. Equipments		522	530	996	997	575	559	72	0	955	880	1200	1192	4320	4158
F.	Women Empowerment														0	0
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer			300	300	250	250	2000	490	500		2000	2468	5050	3508
	MM-III															
	I. Market infrastructure															
	(1) Whole Sale Markets															
	(2) Rural Primary Markets															
	(3) Apri Mandies															
	(4) State Grading Laboratories															
	(5) Ropeways															
	MM-IV															
	J. Processing infrastructure															
	(1) New units				3			1								7
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
	(3) Promotional Activities															
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	531.20	529.70	687.36	685.00	853.76	853.76	1286.25	1286.25	1700.00	1500.00	1700.00	1700.00	6758.57	6554.71	

Component/Activity		Meghalaya														
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1665	1670	2273	1596	810	810	2582	2582	3575	3575	5000	5000	16075	15360	
B.	Productivity improvement															
	1. Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	20	28.00	30.00	15	119	50	61	61	42	42	100	100	372	296
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	40	35		36	15	58	58	67	67	200	199	400	374	
	(iii) Drip irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	20	28		56	25	58	58	621	621	280	280	1034	1012	
	2. Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	2000	1761	3000	1400	250	125	907	907	150	150	1140	1140	7447	5483
	3. Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit	20	14	166	83	8	4	191	191	143	143	51	51	579	486
	Nursery Total		0	7	0	6	0	4	18	17	12	12	22	22	52	68
D.	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		916	846	462	345	670	427	780	780	540	540	1110	1110	4478	4048
E.	Agri. Equipments		260	240	771	596	477	228	265	265	386	386	886	886	3023	2581
F.	Women Empowerment															
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer			71	71	1000								1071	71
	MM-III															
	1. Market Infrastructure															
	(1) Whole Sale Markets					2										2
	(2) Rural Primary Markets					11										11
	(3) Apri Mandies															
	(4) State Grading Laboratories							2								2
	(5) Ropeways															
	MM-IV															
	J. Processing Infrastructure															
	(1) New units					3										3
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
	(3) Promotional Activities															
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	734.08	734.08	666.1	776.85	842.00	842.00	1385.99	1385.99	2000.00	1700.00	2079.00	2079.00	8167.15	7829.90	

		Mizoram														
Component/Activity		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1350	1332	4458	3725	3568	4249	6780	6809	4821.6	4421.6	11889	11889	33007	32574	
B.	Productivity improvement															
	1. Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit of 10 ha	30	160	100	237	166	200	200	100	100	207	207	904	803	
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	40		50		200	200	200	200	400	400	650	840		
	(iii) Drip Irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha		50	50	40	20	150	162	162	428	428	680	810		
	2. Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	500	1000	500	250	5000	3292	3292			1567	6359	10609		
	3. Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit		10	10	20	20	69	402	402	197500	197500	197932	198001		
	Nursery Total		0	3	0	4	6	3	0	2	1	1	0	0	7	13
D	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		0	543	561	511	510	510	0	820	820	820	1488	1488	3379	4692
E	Agri. Equipments		0	397	640	200	280	250	0	64	1617	1617	1600	1600	4117	4128
F.	Women Empowerment															
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer	1000	500	500	1043	700	500	600	500	665	665	2708	3865		
	MM-III															
	I. Market Infrastructure															
	(1) Whole Sale Markets		4		2			4							10	
	(2) Rural Primary Markets		19		28		4	33				3			87	
	(3) Apri Mandies															
	(4) State Grading Laboratories		2												2	
	(5) Ropeways															
	MM-IV															
	J. Processing Infrastructure															
	(1) New units															
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units		2												2	
	(3) Promotional Activities															
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	730.85	728.45	1438.76	1174.70	1259.00	1352.01	2168.85	2168.85	2000.00	1808.00	3385.00	3385.00	10894.56	10821.01	

		Nagaland														
Component/Activity		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1530	1480	3257	3719	1935	1935	3426	3426	6323.6	6323.6	6936.8	6339	23410	23822	
B.	Productivity improvement															
1.	Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	80	80	129	129	241	241	85	85	150	150	221	221	886	886
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	30	30	80	80	100	100	74	74	80	80	400	400	764	764
	(iii) Drip Irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	60	60	55	55	100	100	25	25	120	120	281	281	641	641
2.	Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	800	800	1000	1000	200	200			500	500	500	500	3000	3000
3.	Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit			6	6	10	10	12	12	15	15	74323	74323	74366	74366
	Nursery Total		3	3	37	37	14	14	3	3	15	15	10	10	82	82
D.	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		1010	1010	920	920	1020	1020	413	413	1330	1330	1675	1675	6368	6368
E.	Agri. Equipments		760	760	730	730	750	750	80	80	930	930	1300	1300	4530	4530
F.	Women Empowerment															
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer	1000	1000	200	200						500	500	1700	1700	
MM-III				5	0		2		1						8	
	I. Market Infrastructure			0	0		28		13		38		15		94	
	(1) Whole Sale Markets			0	0		16		10		17		7		50	
	(2) Rural Primary Markets			0	0		0		0						0	
	(3) Apri Mandies															
	(4) State Grading Laboratories															
	(5) Ropeways															
MM-IV																
	J. Processing infrastructure														1	
	(1) New units															
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
	(3) Promotional Activities															
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	880.62	888.12	979.00	979.00	1582.08	1582.08	1576.80	1576.55	2240.00	1940.00	2589.75	2589.75	9670.05	9388.50	

Component/Activity		Sikkin														
		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1610	1970	2851	3089	3982	3626	3756	4106.9	3720	4336	9830	8357	27501	26399	
B.	Productivity improvement															
	1. Water Management															
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	30	20	50	50	120	44	130	150	200	200	315	285	845	749
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit														
	(iii) Drip irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	30	30	30	30		60	50	45	50	50	125	75	285	290
	2. Integrated Pest Management															
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	202	400	400	4	300		4700	2028	1000	1000		500	6602	3932
	3. Protected cultivation															
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit		102	50	108	50	102	100	86	550	550	43770	43770	44520	44716
	Nursery Total		0	6	0	12	10	13	25	21	16	15	15	44	66	111
D	Transfer of technology															
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		3310	3310	2480	2480	720	3292	2400	2347	3580	3536	3202	3202	15652	16147
E	Agri. Equipments		1006	1002	1203	1203	1000	1000	30	0	300	300	505	505	4044	4010
F.	Women Empowerment															
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer			300	300	360		800	800	2000	1850	3500	3500	6990	6450
	MM-III															
	I. Market Infrastructure															
	(1) Whole Sale Markets			1		0		0		0						1
	(2) Rural Primary Markets					0		0		0						0
	(3) Apri Mandies			14		0		0		0						14
	(4) State Grading Laboratories			3		0		0		0						3
	(5) Ropeways															
	MM-IV															
	J. Processing Infrastructure															
	(1) New units															
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
	(3) Promotional Activities															
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)		791.700	700.270	867.140	886.00	1000.000	1000.000	1150.000	1180.000	1800.000	1800.000	2331.000	2331.000	7630.840	7630.270



Component/Activity	Tripura														
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A. Area expansion	1280	1019	2750	1142	2706	2818	4850	7801	4244	3114.8	4000	1032	20110	17085	
B. Productivity improvement															
1. Water Management															
(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	20	10	91	10	108	32	70	245	400	400	250	243	940	940
(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit		10	100	10	40	27	530	85	200	280	200	77	1070	409
(iii) Drip irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	20				20	4		10			300		340	14
2. Integrated Pest Management															
(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha	200	100	200	200	200	124	430	600	500	500	1000	1000	2530	2524
3. Protected cultivation															
(ii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit	6				6	4	200	106	200	200	10000		10412	309
Nursery Total		0	4	0	4	17	0	0	7	13	13	9	6	39	34
D. Transfer of technology															
Training of Farmer/Trainer		1010	530	1810	389	610	1527	1800	3633	2480	2480	2520	2476	10010	11017
E. Agri. Equipments		280	115	562	313	630	543	1100	6648	675	675	660	506	3897	8800
F. Women Empowerment															
(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer			500		285		235	440	440		500	0	500	
MM-III															
I. Market infrastructure															
(1) Whole Sale Markets			0		0		0		0						0
(2) Rural Primary Markets			0		0		0		0						0
(3) Agri Mandies			0		0		0		0						0
(4) State Grading Laboratories			0		0		0		0						0
(5) Ropeways															
MM-IV															
J. Processing infrastructure															
(1) New units															
(2) Upgradation of Existing units															
(3) Promotional Activities															
4. Financial (Rs. in lakhs)		512.4	512.4	821.5	785	900	900	1111.3	1111.3	1400	1500	1400	1400	6145	6208.7

		JAMMU AND KASHMIR										
Component/Activity		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	2277	2277	4142	4194	4000	4084	9500	9388	19919	19923	
B.	Productivity improvement											
1.	Water Management											
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	1000000/unit	155	155	228	111	40	94	440	153	861	513
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit	222	222	276	161	264	208	837	333	1599	924
	(iii) Drip Irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	1	1	155						156	1
2.	Integrated Pest Management											
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha										
3.	Protected cultivation											
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit										
	Nursery Total		37	37	55	49	2	28	18	30	112	144
D	Transfer of technology											
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		0	0	2105	553	1280	552	1808	499	4991	1804
E	Agri. Equipments		0	0	1848	1814	3000	2953	9200	169	14048	4936
F.	Women Empowerment											
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer			775	498	400	316	850	561	2025	1375
	MM-III											
	1. Market infrastructure											
	(1) Whole Sale Markets							15				15
	(2) Rural Primary Markets											
	(3) Apri Mandies											
	(4) State Grading Laboratories											
	(5) Ropeways											
	MM-IV											
	J. Processing infrastructure											
	(1) New units										0	1
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units											
	(3) Promotional Activities											
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	650.00	650.00	1233.00	1233.00	3884.70	1934.70	3600.00	2933.00	9267.70	6750.70	

		Himachal Pradesh										
Component/Activity		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1661.2	1661.2	3418	3775	2683	2944	9192	9192	16974	17592	
B.	Productivity improvement											
	1. Water Management											
	(i) Community Tanks (Hec.)	100000/unit	200	200	100	104	170	180	594	594	1019	1033
	(ii) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit			100	101	263	263	504	504	867	868
	(iii) Drip irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha	150	150	200	220	108	107.7	74	74	532	552
	2. Integrated Pest Management											
	(i) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha			500	200			200	200	700	400
	3. Protected cultivation											
	(iii) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit					40500	40500	160772	160772	201272	201272
	Nursery Total		0	0	22	22	11	11	15	15	48	48
D	Transfer of technology											
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		1270	1270	3610	3670	3000	3555	5683	5683	13563	14178
E	Agri. Equipments		1800	1800	0	1550	1490	1488	5991	5991	9281	10829
F.	Women Empowerment											
	(i) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer	500	500	1070	1080	1306	1361			2876	2941
	MM-III											
	I. Market infrastructure											
	(1) Whole Sale Markets			0	0							
	(2) Rural Primary Markets			0	0				1		1	
	(3) Apni Mandies			0	0							
	(4) State Grading Laboratories			0	0							
	(5) Ropeways											
	MM-IV											
	J. Processing infrastructure											
	(1) New units							1		2	3	
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units											
	(3) Promotional Activities											
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	650.00	650.00	1300.00	1300.00	4039.39	1139.00	4013.31	4013.31	10002.70	7102.31	

Component/Activity		Uttaranchal										
		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		Total		
		Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	
A.	Area expansion	1404	1404	3480	3581	4440	4440	13198	13198	22520	22621	
B.	Productivity Improvement											
1.	Water Management											
	(I) Community Tanks (Hec.)	100000/unit	5	5	20	24	50	50	400	400	475	479
	(II) Tube Wells/units	12500/unit			50	52	200	200	320	320	570	572
	(III) Drip Irrigation (max/units)	28500/ha			300	100	210	210	700	700	1210	1010
2.	Integrated Pest Management											
	(I) Adoption of IPM	1000/ha			300	170			830	830	1130	1000
3.	Protected cultivation											
	(III) Green House (500 sq.m.)	40000/unit			50	5	100	100	37500	37500	37650	37605
	Nursery Total		0	0	14	7	15	15	27	27	56	49
D	Transfer of technology											
	Training of Farmer/Trainer		70	70	2265	1701	710	821	6700	6700	9745	9292
E	Agri. Equipments		0	0	125	144	440	440	1100	1100	1665	1684
F.	Women Empowerment											
	(I) Training of Women (5 days)	1000/trainer	1250	1250	2250	1422			4000	4000	7500	6672
<b>MM-III</b>												
	I. Market Infrastructure											
	(1) Whole Sale Markets											
	(2) Rural Primary Markets											
	(3) Apni Mandies											
	(4) State Grading Laboratories						2				2	
	(5) Ropeways							31			31	
<b>MM-IV</b>												
	J. Processing Infrastructure											
	(1) New units							6			6	
	(2) Upgradation of Existing units											
	(3) Promotional Activities											
4.	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)	564.72	564.72	1300.00	975.00	4005.00	1106.00	4378.09	4378.10	10247.81	7022.82	

**Statement-II****State-wise Physical Progress under NHM during 2005-06 and 2006-07**

S.No.	State	Area Coverage (ha)		Rejuvenation (ha)		Nurseries (Nos)		Organic Framing (ha)		Integrated Pest Management/ Integrated Nutrient Management (ha)		Post Harvest Management (PHM) (No.)		Markets (No.)	
		Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.
1.	Andhra pradesh	67034.36	76341	17440	15709	71	30	2150	113	42250	31681	48	4	37	6
2.	Bihar	15532.00	5939	13367	2	45	99	1000	0	6500	500	3	0	0	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	20173.00	12700	3870	0	17	1	1100	0	14500	8000	7	0	0	0
4.	Delhi	160.00	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0
5.	Goa	905.64	259	1550	552	4	10	750	0	500	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	43418.40	33734	578	8	69	44	150	197	10002	8932	2	4	0	0
7.	Haryana	8286.85	8080	1139	524	22	12	440	484	2381	2150	13	14	0	0
8.	Jharkhand	17400.00	7339	0	0	138	57	150	0	500	0	12	0	12	0
9.	Karnataka	51460.40	27776	2932	812	284	104	10300	2986	45000	0	0	7	48	2
10.	Kerala	37430.00	8111	22500	7000	168	14	4819	1235	7101	2509	1	0	0	0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	13060.00	19767	3895	3728	47	72	2868	3402	21000	20319	0	4	0	0
12.	Maharashtra	101576.30	129782	19300	12486	101	34	9750	4554	34127	14522	90	104	0	5
13.	Orissa	36700.00	36756	5933	1303	77	103	1100	540	1400	0	11	0	24	0
14.	Punjab	5537.00	6278	3350	5833	7	0	1000	0	0	0	1	4	11	11
15.	Rajasthan	34196.00	29098	188	533	40	45	1200	1629	5293	14991	6	0	4	4
16.	Tamil Nadu	49482.10	33428	1160	2921	59	159	4780	5250	10900	24701	0	0	0	0
17.	Uttar Pradesh	14940.00	7470	4850	1398	11	10	1050	13952	400	1300	150	13	0	0
18.	West Bengal	26846.60	15870	4200	4012	218	5	6500	2021	21000	10000	74	57	70	0
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	334.00	20	50	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>544473</b>	<b>456744</b>	<b>108071.16</b>	<b>68822</b>	<b>1382.00</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>49087</b>	<b>35742</b>	<b>222254</b>	<b>137596</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>211.00</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>28.00</b>

**Statement-III**

*Statewise details of amount released and expenditure incurred under NHM during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rupee in lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Amount Released				Expenditure incurred			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (upto 18-02-2008)	Total	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (upto 18-02-2008)	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4420.96	7500.00	7639.04	19560.00	1781.14	7137.47	9062.42	17981.03
2.	Bihar	3100.00	3500.00	269.72	6869.72	3.02	2403.91	2874.46	5281.39
3.	Chattisgarh	2367.83	5500.00	6252.41	14120.24	353.96	4560.66	2061.87	6976.49
4.	Goa	315.20	200.00	3.19	518.39	112.91	26.57	107.18	246.66
5.	Gujarat	3239.28	2577.03	1954.24	7770.55	1011.24	2823.55	1868.23	5703.02
6.	Haryana	1050.00	3480.00	6476.49	11006.49	180.33	3539.38	2803.32	6323.03
7.	Jharkhand	3030.00	4000.00	781.00	7811.00	-	2383.52	2132.36	4515.88
8.	Karnataka	4455.17	8448.25	8499.48	21402.90	322.72	6461.32	7200.11	13984.15
9.	Kerala	3533.98	7959.53	1091.72	12585.23	400.14	2471.72	8577.72	11449.58
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2839.77	4291.75	5537.50	12669.02	481.67	4400.26	2321.55	7203.48
11.	Maharashtra	8280.28	14492.65	9224.97	31977.90	3228.67	12999.79	11949.95	28178.41
12.	Orissa	3611.91	4450.00	3812.16	11874.07	2572.76	3286.59	2851.51	8710.86
13.	Punjab	2668.82	1150.00	2397.51	6416.33	697.21	1736.88	736.34	3170.43
14.	Rajasthan	2259.57	3837.93	5673.19	11770.69	1833.31	3306.96	3705.05	8845.32
15.	Tamil Nadu	3891.67	6450.00	6036.82	16378.49	2462.47	6498.23	6691.08	17651.78
16.	Uttar Pradesh	5340.25	1500.00	8224.19	15064.44	537.97	2257.78	6174.81	8970.56
17.	West Bengal	4035.31	4600.00	681.82	9317.13	3629.59	395.40	2655.64	6680.63
18.	Delhi	-	300.00	0.00	300.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Lakshadweep	-	63.00	29.90	92.90	-	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	85.00	0.00	85.00	-	1.22	0.00	1.22
<b>Total</b>		<b>58620.00</b>	<b>84385.13</b>	<b>74585.35</b>	<b>217590.48</b>	<b>19609.11</b>	<b>68691.21</b>	<b>73573.60</b>	<b>161873.92</b>

**Export of Rice**

713. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government agencies enjoyed a monopoly over procurement of paddy directly from the farmers;

(b) if so, whether the monopoly has now been relegated;

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

(d) the quantum of paddy procured by these agencies directly from farmers and private traders separately during each of the last three years;

(e) whether the present procurement by Government agencies is sufficient to meet the demand in the country during the current year;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the steps taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Under the existing policy, the Central Government extends price support to paddy through the Government agencies (Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies). Paddy conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres is bought by the public procurement agencies. The farmers have the option to sell their paddy either to FCI/State Agencies at Minimum Support Price, or to the private as is advantageous to them, and so there is no monopoly of the Government agencies over procurement of paddy directly from farmers.

(d) Paddy is procured by Government Agencies directly from farmers or through Cooperative Societies/Arthiyas. Paddy is not procured directly from private traders. Paddy procured by Government Agencies (FCI & State agencies) during last three Kharif Marketing Seasons (KMS) is as follows:

	(in lakh tonnes)		
Paddy procured	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	176.9	242.2	236.9

(e) and (f) The procurement of rice in the current KMS 2007-08 (as on 28.2.2008) is 200.3 lakh tonnes against the corresponding procurement of 192.5 lakh tonnes in KMS 2006-07. Rice procurement is expected to be sufficient to manage the requirement of Targeted Public Distribution Scheme and other Welfare Scheme in the current year.

(g) Does not arise.

**Funds for Brahmaputra Board**

714. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total outlay status of various protection works taken-up by the Brahmaputra Board in Assam during financial year 2007-08;

(b) whether the works awarded in Assam by the Brahmaputra Board are held-up due to non-availability of funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure completion of the works before the ensuing monsoon season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The approved outlay in the form of Budget Estimate (BE) and Revised Estimate (RE) for the financial year 2007-08 for the Brahmaputra Board against works and establishment is as below:

Sl.No.	Activity	BE 2007-08 (In lakh)	RE 2007-08 (In lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	River management activity and works related to border areas.		
	(a) Salaries	1042.00	1196.00
	(b) Medical treatment	30.00	50.00

1	2	3	4
	(c) Domestic travel expenses	56.00	56.00
	(d) Office expenses	57.00	57.00
	(e) Publications	1.50	2.50
	(f) Other administrative expenses	132.50	118.00
	(g) Other charges	77.00	77.00
	(h) Major works	1379.00	1693.00
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2775.00</b>	<b>3250.00</b>
2.	<b>Pagladiya Dam Project</b>	100.00	135.00

The amount of outlays for various protection works taken up by Brahmaputra Board in Assam during the year 2007-08 is Rs. 1693.50 lakh as per revised estimate.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The following steps have been taken by Brahmaputra Board to ensure the completion of works before the ensuing monsoon season.

- (i) All the required personal are in place for execution of the awarded works.
- (ii) All the contractors are in place and carrying the works in full swing.
- (iii) All the concerned responsible officers have been instructed to carry out the works to complete before ensuring monsoon.

#### Production of Foodgrains

715. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
 PROF. M. RAMADASS:  
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
 SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foodgrains grown in the country during the last three years, Crop-wise;

(b) whether the quantity grown is adequate to meet the needs of the country, if so, the details thereof including the consumption of various foodgrains, Crop-wise;

(c) the details of the foodgrains, pulses imported from various countries since to meet the shortfall in agricultural production;

(d) whether there is a need to devise agricultural equipments that would reduce manned labour and increase production; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Table below presents the crop-wise details of the foodgrains production and consumption during the years 2004-05 to 2006-07:

Crop	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Production	Household Consumption	Production	Household Consumption	Production	Household Consumption
Rice	83.13	85.77	91.79	87.01	93.36	88.25
Wheat	68.64	65.59	69.35	66.60	75.81	67.60
Coarse Cereals	33.46	15.53	34.07	15.74	33.92	15.95
Pulses	13.13	10.53	13.38	10.70	14.20	10.86
Foodgrains	198.36	177.42	208.60	180.05	217.28	182.65

Note: The household consumption is based on the National Sample Survey 61st Round Report on "Household Consumption of Various Goods and Services in India, 2004-05" and the population projection given by the Office of the Registrar General of India. It includes seed, feed and wastage.



The quantity of different crops grown is adequate to meet the needs of the Country.

(c) Country imported 6.08 million tonnes of wheat during 2006-07 to augment the buffer stock. In case of pulses, a quantity of 1.34 million tonnes in 2004-05, 1.70 million tonnes in 2005-06 and 2.26 million tonnes in 2006-07 were imported to meet the overall demand.

(d) and (e) Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme "Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training, Testing and Demonstration" under which frontline and field demonstrations are conducted for transfer of technical know how of the agricultural equipment developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other Research and development organizations. The improved agricultural equipments are also being promoted among farmers through the incentive in the form of subsidy under macro Management Scheme, National Food Security Mission and Rashtrya Krishi Vikash Yojna.

#### **Crash of Surya Kiran Aircraft**

716. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Surya Kiran aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed at the Bhubaneswar airport recently during practice session;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any investigation to find out the reasons for the accident;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One Surya Kiran aircraft, Kiran MK-II of the Indian Air Force met with an accident on 22nd December, 2007 at Bhubaneswar airport on a ferry from Bhubaneswar to Vizag.

(c) to (e) Each crash is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly to check their recurrence in future.

#### **Investment in Agriculture**

717. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public as well private sector companies have proposed to invest funds for the development of agriculture;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance investment in the agricultural sector by encouraging the states to allocate funds in the same ratio as the centre; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Public as well as private sector participation is encouraged in developing agricultural marketing infrastructure and in providing alternate marketing channels for agri-produce in order to facilitate establishment of private markets, allow direct marketing and contract farming to improve post-harvest management under the Central Sector Scheme for Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization. Under the Scheme, credit linked investment subsidy is provided at the rate of 25 percent of capital cost of the project subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs for each project. Under the Central Sector Scheme "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds", assistance is provided for boosting seed production in the cooperative, public and private sector. Capital subsidy is provided to State Seeds Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, private companies, individual entrepreneurs, self-help groups and seed co-operatives at the rate of 25 per cent of the project cost on seed infrastructure, development.

(c) and (d) Government has launched Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), a State Plan Scheme, for the Eleventh Plan period to incentivise the states to increase

public investment in Agriculture and allied sectors. The eligibility for assistance under the scheme would depend upon the amount provided in State Plan Budgets for Agriculture and allied sectors, over and above the base line percentage expenditure incurred by the State Governments on Agriculture and allied sectors. The funds under the RKVY would be provided to the States as 100 per cent grant by the Central Government. An outlay of Rs. 1,500 crore for the Scheme for 2007-08, along with an allocation of Rs. 25,000 crore for five years has been approved.

#### **Regulator for BPO Companies**

718. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to appoint a regulator for BPOs companies in view of their unregulated growth leading stress to their employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. DIT (Department of Information Technology) has no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) ITES-BPO sector is de-licensed and the operations are governed by the mutual agreement between the parties.

#### **Rural Community Phones**

719. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Rural Community Phones (RCPs) provided by the private Telecom operators in the country as per the contractual obligation as on December 31, 2006;

(b) the target fixed by the Government for provision of RCPs;

(c) the achievement made by the private operators during each of the last three years, as on date; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against those private operators who have failed to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) entered into an agreement with M/s. Reliance Communications Limited (RCL) for provision of 21,421 Rural Community Phones (RCPs) in villages having population more than 2000 and not having a Public Call Office (PCO) by September 2007. As on 31st December, M/s. RCL has provided 14,620 RCPs.

(b) and (c) As per the roll-out conditions of the agreement entered between USOF and M/s. RCL, 20% of RCPs are to be provided by September, 2005, another 40% by December, 2006 and the remaining 40% by September, 2007.

The targets fixed by the Government for provision of RCPs vis-a-vis the achievements made by M/s. RCL during each of the last three years are given below:-

Year of Agreement	Target	Achivement
First year of Agreement (upto September, 2005) (20%)	4286	4820
Second year of Agreement (Upto December, 2006) (40%)	8572	9800
Third year of Agreement (Upto September, 2007) (40%)	8573	1321
Achivement as on 31.01.2008	-	307
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,431</b>	<b>16,248</b>

(d) The agreements entered between USOF and M/s. RCL provide for levying of Liquidated damages in case of delay in provisioning of RCPs beyond the stipulated time. The Liquidated damages are being levied wherever applicable as per the terms and conditions of agreements.

#### **Maternity Benefit to Women Workers in Unorganised Sector**

720. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to provide maternity leave and benefit to women workers employed in unorganised sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to create a corpus fund and to pay a fix amount to women workers during pregnancy to protect the dignity of motherhood; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Under an ongoing scheme, financial assistance @ Rs. 1000/- per delivery for first two deliveries is provided to the unorganised sector women workers engaged in Beedi, Cine sector and certain Non-Coal Mines under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, Cine Workers Welfare Fund, Limestone and Dolomite Labour Welfare Fund and Iron Ore, Mangese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund administered by the Labour Welfare Organisation under the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

(c) There is no proposal to create a corpus fund at present.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Value Addition for Coconut

721. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched schemes for value addition of coconut;

(b) if so, the details regarding the parts of cocnut and coconut tree being used for such value addition; and

(c) the encouragement being given to private enterpreneurs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Parts of coconut and coconut tree being used for value addition are furnished in the Statement.

(c) Financial assistance is being provided for Research Projects for development of technologies for processing and product diversification and for technology acqusition, training & demonstration, to the extent of

100% of the cost in respect of Government institutions and 50% of the cost for private institutions and organizations, limited to Rs. 75.00 lakhs and Rs. 35.00 lakhs, respectively.

Financial assistance is also being provided to entrepreneurs through the Coconut Development Board (CDB) for setting up of integrated coconut processing units for production of value added coconut products @ 25% of the cost limited to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakh.

Financial assistance is also provided for Market Promotion to the extent of 100% of the cost in respect of public institutions and 50% of the cost in respect of cooperatives/NGO's/private institutions and limited to Rs. 25 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs, respectively.

The CDB, under sponsored research programme has developed technologies for new value added coconut products, which is being transferred to entrepreneurs for setting up commercial production units.

The CDB is also imparting training for women entrepreneurs and self help' groups and other voluntary agencies for coconut based convenience foods at the Technology Development Centre, Aluva, Kerala.

#### Statement

Part of coconut/ coconut tree	Value added products
1	2
Coconut Kernel	1. Virgin coconut oil
	2. Desiccated coconut
	3. Coconut cream
	4. Coconut milk based beverages like Pina-Cola
	5. Desiocted coconut powder
	6. Spray dried coconut milk powder
	7. Edible copra
	8. Coconut based diary foods
	9. Coconut based coconut chips, chutney powder and convenient foods, Biscuit, cookies, toffee etc.

1	2
	10. Multi-filtered premium grade, packed, branded coconut oil
Tender Coconut	1. Preserved and packed tender coconut in pouches/aluminum cans. 2. Snow ball tender coconut 3. Minimally processed tender coconut.
Matured Coconut Water	1. Coconut Vinegar 2. Nata-De-Coco 3. Coconut water based beverages
Coconut Shell	1. Shell charcoal 2. Activated carbon 3. Shell powder 4. Handicrafts
Coconut Wood	1. Furniture 2. Handicrafts 3. Panellings 4. Flooring tiles 5. Raillings
Husk	1. Coir and coir products-(coming under the purview of Coir Board) 2. Coir pith compost
Coconut Inflorescence sap	Neera and downsteam products of Neera, viz. coconut sap honey, jaggery, and granulated coconut inflorescence sap.

#### Special Package for Animal Husbandry

722. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has granted relief and rehabilitation package for development of Animal Husbandry for Tsunami victims of Andaman & Nicobar Islands who lost their livestock in the calamity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds released so far under package and those yet to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 25.70 crore has been sanctioned by the Government of India under the Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for the Animal Husbandry Sector in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Out of this Rs. 3.83 crore has been released.

#### Single Markets for Farmers

723. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up single markets and State of the art marketing centres alongwith an Indian Trade Organisation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Marketing is a State Subject under the Constitution and the Central Government is pursuing with the States to amend their State Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC) Regulation Acts to facilitate setting up of private markets, e-trading facilities, direct marketing etc. So that a single market can emerge for agricultural products. So far, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura have made the suggested amendments in their respective Acts and reportedly the existing Act in Tamil Nadu also facilitates setting up of such marketing systems. In the States of Bihar, Karala, Manipur and Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshdweep, there are no APMC Acts and, therefore, no restrictions. States which have amended their Acts, have also been requested to set up state of the art modern terminal market complexes for horticultural produce and State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab and UT Administrations of Chandigarh have initiated the process of selection of setting up such markets in 17 locations. Government has no intention to establish an Indian Trade Organization.

**Purchase of Fruits and Vegetables by Private Companies**

724. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies have started bulk purchase of seasonal fruits and vegetables from various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the orchards in the country have been taken on lease by these companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the periods of this lease;

(e) whether this has resulted in shortage of good quality fruits and vegetables and consequent rise in their prices in the domestic market; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to control this crisis of non-availability of good quality fruits throughout the year in the local market for the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Governments have been requested by the Central Government for amending their State Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC) Regulation Acts to facilitate direct marketing so that retail suppliers/traders, processors, exporters etc. can purchase fruits and vegetables from the farmers directly. So far, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland, NCT of Delhi, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura have made the suggested amendment in their respective Acts and reportedly the existing Act in Tamil Nadu also facilitates the suggested amendment in their respective Acts and reportedly the existing Act in Tamil Nadu also facilitates direct purchase of horticultural produce. In the States of Bihar, Kerala, Manipur and Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshdweep, there are no APMC Acts and, therefore, no

restrictions. The direct marketing of fruits and vegetables is helping farmers in fetching better prices for their produce and through the efficient cold chain, it is making fruits and vegetables available to the consumers at reasonable prices even beyond the harvesting seasons of the concerned crops.

(c) and (d) The information relating to the leasing of orchards by the owners to the companies is not maintained by the Government.

(e) and (f) There is no shortage reported to the Government regarding supply of good quality fruits and vegetables and consequent rise in their prices in the domestic market.

**Utilisation of Consumer Welfare Fund**

725. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total corpus of Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) as on date;

(b) whether the Government has failed to utilise the entire corpus of the fund earmarked under the CWF during the last three years and the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount earmarked and utilised during each of the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the utilisation certificates in respect of the funds released to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) Voluntary Consumer Organisations (VCOs) since 1994-95 under the said scheme have not been received;

(e) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted to assess the violation and misuse of Government funds; and

(f) if so, the details and outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The total corpus of Consumer Welfare Fund as on 28.2.2008 is Rs. 91,86,58,000/-.

(b) and (c) The information is as under:-

Year	Amount available (BE)	Amount Utilised
2004-05	19,57,00,000	17,42,95,000
2005-06	31,50,00,000	8,51,14,000
2006-07	9,85,00,000	6,71,56,354
2007-08	18,26,00,000	7,61,64,328 (upto 28.2.2008)

The reasons for less utilization is due to:—

- (i) Adequate number of viable projects not received.
- (ii) Proposals for setting up State Consumer Welfare Funds and Consumer Clubs from all the States were not received.

(d) to (f) 113 Utilisation Certificates for settlement of grants released to various Voluntary Consumer Organizations/Non Governmental Organizations since 1994-95 are awaited. The matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments for taking up necessary action against these Organisations. Due to this as on 28.2.2008, the number of outstanding Utilisation Certificates are now reduced to 81.

#### Garuda and Dolphin Mobile Service

726. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Garuda and Dolphin Mobile Services provided by the public sector undertaking have not been popular as compared to their counterparts in the private sector in the present competitive scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has recently undertaken any study on their slow growth; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Dolphin Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) service of MTNL has been quite popular. The status of Garuda and Dolphin network of MTNL as on 31.01.2008 is given below:

Type	Capacity	Working connections
Dolphin (Prepaid and Postpaid)	23,50,000	30,13,199
Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA)	10,61,500	2,74,106*

\* Includes Garuda and Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) (fixed).

It is thus seen that Dolphin capacity is fully utilized. Secondly, MTNL's Dolphin connection has grown to 720% in last four years (01.04.2003 to 31.03.2007) whereas the connections of Bharti, Idea, Hutch (now Vodafone) have grown by 213%, 280% and 172% respectively during the same period.

Further, MTNL has started the GSM services in 2001 only, whereas the private operators have been providing this service from 1995. Nevertheless, the market share of MTNL in 31.03.2008 to meet the demand. The equipment is in advance stage of testing.

Garuda (CDMA) service of MTNL is picking up and MTNL is now providing nearly 450 WLL connections per day.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### Strike in BSNL

727. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Joint Forum of BSNL employees Unions and Associations have strongly objected the decision of the Government to dilute 10% share in BSNL, a profit making company;

(b) if so, whether they have also called for indefinite strike in BSNL against this decision from 26th February, 2008;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Joint Forum of BSNL Unions/Associations of Non-Executives and Executives had given a notice for indefinite strike in BSNL with effect from 26th February, 2008. Secretary (Telecommunications) met the representatives of the Joint Forum on 19th February, 2008 and apprised them that there is no immediate proposal for IPO (Initial Public Offer) in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. The Joint Forum has since deferred the proposed indefinite strike.

**Comprehensive Insurance Scheme  
for Handloom Weavers**

728. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the number of handloom weavers have been covered under the Comprehensive Insurance Scheme in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (i) Health Insurance Scheme and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana were in operation during 2005-06 and 2006-07 of X Plan. The number of weavers covered during last three years is as follows:-

**(A) Health Insurance Scheme**

Period	No. of beneficiaries
November, 05 to July, 06	297558
August, 06 to November, 07	401127
November, 07 to January, 08	980976

**(B) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana**

Period	No. of beneficiaries
2005-06	196337
2006-07	403514
2007-08 (upto January, 08)	359989

(ii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme has come into operation from 2007-08 (November, 2007) only and will continue during the entire 11th Plan with the components of erstwhile Health insurance Scheme and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana for the welfare of handloom weavers. Till January, 2008, 9.81 lakh weavers under Health Insurance Scheme and 3.60 lakh weavers under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana have been covered under the Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

(iii) During the currency of these schemes, details of state-wise weavers covered during 2005-06 & 2006-07 and from November, 07 to January, 08 under both the schemes is as under

Name of State	Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana			Health Insurance Scheme		
	2005-06	*2006-07	*2007-08 (Upto Jan.08)	2005-06	*2006-07	2007-08 (Upto Jan. 08)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	14238	89293	49025	54253	34831	-
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1474	2133	12318
Assam	3123	13017	10616	-	-	338033
Bihar	-	738	3413	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	-	1223	1166	1191	82	-
Delhi	-	-	-	215	-	-
Gujarat	804	2735	26	1013	1170	-
Haryana	-	189	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Himachal Pradesh	3505	1426	280	1929	316	-
Jammu & Kashmir	366	520	231	400	89	-
Jharkhand	-	-	-	11000	661	18830
Karnataka	4220	18746	23433	18007	20000	-
Kerala	1711	7263	706	5699	4703	-
Madhya Pradesh	1692	1883	972	1522	822	-
Maharashtra	5631	368	59	17	-	-
Manipur	-	-	-	725	7455	14883
Orissa	20505	8282	7386	14011	21331	34105
Rajasthan	2405	3790	2132	2292	2395	-
Tamil Nadu	117724	193611	217220	141045	143890	-
Tripura	-	-	-	599	62	16036
Uttar Pradesh	16016	17165	7600	27101	88372	381796
Uttarakhand	411	766	293	3300	5299	-
West Bengal	3986	42499	35431	11765	67516	166975
<b>Total</b>	<b>196337</b>	<b>403514</b>	<b>359989</b>	<b>297558</b>	<b>401127</b>	<b>980976</b>

\*Number of weavers enrolled includes renewals also

#### Participatory Research Programme

729. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:  
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a farmers participatory research programme was launched by the Government as part of Water Year, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of success achieved;

(c) whether the programme is likely to continue in the coming year;

(d) if so, the number of villages to be covered;

(e) the details of the priorities in the Eleventh Plan for the development of water resources; and

(f) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Water Resources has sanctioned implementation of 5,000 programmes in 2 to 3 crop seasons through 63 identified institutes at the cost of Rs. 24.4685 crore with the objective of demonstrating the technologies available to the farmers for increasing productivity and profitability of agriculture through generating synergy among water, crops and their varieties, agronomic practices, soil nutrients and implements in 26 States/UTs.



(e) and (f) The Eleventh Plan document has identified the Acceleration Irrigation Benefits Programme; Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies; Command Area Development and Water Management and Flood management as important core programme for which appropriate outlays have been made.

#### Payment under NAIS

730. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the share of Central Government in compensation payable to farmers under Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments have made requests to reduce the present premium rate of different crop; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per provision of the scheme actuarial rates of premium are being charged for annual commercial/horticultural crops which varies from State to State and year to year. Keeping in view relatively high premium rate in some years, State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have requested to reduce the premium rate of cotton crop. It may be clarified that actuarial rates are worked out on the basis of standard methodology which can not be changed arbitrarily.

#### New Technologies to Farmers

731. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made to determine the percentage of farmers having access to new technologies including Seed, Fertilizer and Genetically Modified (GM) Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which such an assessment is likely to be made; and

(d) the details of farmers with different sizes of land holding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report no. 499 of National Sample Survey Organization, 2003 reveals as under:

"There were only three sources which were accessed by more than 10% farmer households; "other progressive farmers" (16.7%), "input dealers" (13.1%) and "radio" (13.0%). Television serves as a source of information on modern agricultural technology to 9.3% households and newspapers to 7.0% Whereas, 5.7% households had received information from extension workers, 3.6% received information from primary cooperative societies. Output buyers/food processors, village fairs, government demonstrations, and credit agencies each served as a source of information to about 2% of farmer's house holds. The source wise details of percentage of farmer house holds accessing modern agricultural technology is given in the enclosed statement I.

(d) As per Agricultural Census, 2000-01, there are 11.99 crore land holdings with 159394258 hectares of area. The details of farm families with different size of land holdings is given in the enclosed statement II

#### Statement I

##### Source-wise Percentage of Farmer House Holds Accessing Modern Agricultural Technology

Source	% of House Holds
1	2
Participation in training	0.9
Krishi Vigyan Kendra	0.7
Extension workers	5.7
Television	9.3

1	2	1	2
Radio	13.0	Para-technicians/private agency/NGO	0.6
Newspapers	7.0	Primary Cooperative Society	3.6
Village fair	2.0	Output buyers/food processor	2.3
Government demonstrations	2.0	Credit agency	1.8
Input dealers	13.1	Others	1.7
Other progressive farmers	16.7	Any source	40.4
Farmers' study tour	0.2		

**Statement-II***Agricultural Census, 2000-01**Table: Number and Area of Holding by Size Class*All India  
Gender: TotalSocial Group: All Social Groups  
Number in Absolute Units

Area in absolute Hectares

Sl.No.	Size of Holding (in ha.)	Individual Holdings		Joint Holdings		Sub-Total (Individual+Joint)		Institutional Holdings		Total Holdings	
		Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Below 0.5	4478042 (87.39) [43.10]	10673219 (86.57) [8.06]	6340644 (12.26) [40.36]	1635085 (13.26) [6.49]	51120686 (99.76) [42.74]	12308304 (99.83) [7.81]	122289 (0.24) [44.95]	21149 (0.17) [1.17]	51242975 (100) [42.74]	12329453 (100) [7.74]
2.	0.5-1.0	20882989 (86.48) [20.10]	15110503 (86.46) [11.41]	3228741 (13.37) [20.55]	2340189 (13.39) [9.28]	24111730 (99.85) [20.16]	17450692 (99.85) [11.07]	35413 (0.15) [13.02]	28491 (0.15) [1.47]	24147143 (100) [20.14]	17477182 (100) [10.96]
3.	1.0-2.0	19840155 (87.45) [19.09]	28098638 (87.46) [21.23]	2811579 (12.39) [17.89]	3980165 (12.39) [15.79]	22651734 (99.85) [18.94]	32078803 (99.85) [20.36]	34833 (0.15) [12.80]	48978 (0.15) [2.71]	22686567 (100) [18.92]	32127780 (100) [20.16]
4.	2.0-3.0	8270901 (86.66) [7.96]	19779922 (86.55) [14.94]	1254190 (13.14) [7.96]	3027315 (13.25) [12.01]	9525091 (99.80) [7.96]	22807237 (99.79) [14.47]	19456 (0.20) [7.15]	46994 (0.21) [2.60]	9544547 (100) [7.96]	22854232 (100) [14.34]
5.	3.0-4.0	3775876 (84.48) [3.63]	12944264 (84.49) [9.78]	682643 (15.27) [4.34]	2338389 (15.26) [9.28]	448519 (99.76) [3.73]	15282653 (99.76) [9.70]	10787 (0.24) [3.97]	37438 (0.24) [2.07]	4489306 (100) [3.73]	15320090 (100) [9.61]
6.	4.0-5.0	2203818 (83.95) [2.12]	9741540 (83.88) [7.36]	419533 (15.75) [2.63]	1837413 (15.82) [7.29]	2617351 (99.70) [2.19]	11578953 (99.70) [7.35]	7927 (0.30) [2.91]	34967 (0.30) [1.94]	2625278 (100) [2.19]	11613920 (100) [7.29]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7.	5.0-7.5	2344047 (82.92) [2.26]	14115364 (82.84) [10.66]	472377 (16.71) [3.01]	2859032 (16.78) [11.34]	2816424 (99.63) [2.35]	16974396 (99.62) [10.77]	10540 (0.37) [3.87]	64860 (0.38) [3.59]	2828964 (100) [2.36]	17039254 (100) [10.69]
8.	7.5-10.0	900487 (80.33) [0.87]	7657835 (80.27) [5.78]	213741 (19.07) [1.36]	1824768 (19.13) [7.24]	1114228 (99.40) [0.93]	9482603 (99.39) [6.02]	6689 (0.60) [2.46]	57875 (0.61) [3.21]	1120917 (100) [0.93]	9540477 (100) [5.99]
9.	10.0-20.0	772676 (76.93) [0.74]	10103324 (76.42) [7.63]	220544 (21.96) [1.40]	2959223 (22.38) [11.74]	993220 (98.89) [0.83]	13062547 (98.81) [8.29]	11183 (1.11) [4.11]	157675 (1.19) [8.74]	1004403 (100) [0.84]	13220221 (100) [8.29]
10.	20.0 & above	138430 (61.39) [0.13]	4153762 (52.77) [3.14]	74154 (32.88) [0.47]	2409665 (30.61) [9.56]	212584 (94.27) [0.18]	6563427 (83.38) [4.16]	12918 (5.73) [4.75]	1308218 (16.82) [72.49]	225502 (100) [0.19]	7871643 (100) [4.94]
11.	All Classes	103909421 (86.67) [100]	132378373 (83.05) [100]	15712146 (13.11) [100]	25211237 (15.82) [100]	119621567 (99.77) [100]	157589610 (98.87) [100]	272035 (0.23) [100]	1804646 (1.23) [100]	119893602 (100) [100]	159394258 (100) [100]

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Figures in square brackets are %ages to all classes.

Neg: Negligible.

Figures in brackets are relating to their respective totals.

#### Agriculture Parks

732. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal regarding setting up of Agricultural parks in the country particularly in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Kuttanad Package

733. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accepted the Kuttanad Package proposed by Dr. M.S.Swaminathan

Committee set up by the Government to study on the Agrarian and ecological crises of Wetlands of Alappuzha District of Kerala State:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted the detailed project for the implementation of the Kuttanad Package; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Government has discussed the Report submitted by M.S. Swaminathan Foundation on development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-System with the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and the Government of Kerala. However, final decision in the matter has not yet been taken.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

### **Statement**

*Summary of Implementation Plan submitted by the State Government of Kerala on the Recommendations of the Study Report by the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation.*

For the purpose of integrated implementation, the 15 tasks identified in the report of the Foundation has been grouped into three categories viz. Ecological security, agriculture and livelihood opportunities and infrastructure development.

#### **1. Ecological Security**

The following five tasks have been grouped for strengthening ecological security:—

- (i) Protection and ecological restoration of the water spread area
- (ii) Measures for pollution control
- (iii) Total elimination of aquatic weeds
- (iv) Measures for augmenting biodiversity in the backwaters
- (v) Improving health and sanitation

The Government has initiated a major environment awareness programme in the current year and has created a new Department for Environment to coordinate the field level activities. More coordinated activities is proposed to be taken up by Environment Management Agency in collaboration with local Government in Kuttanad area. under Pamapa Action Plan, the State Government has already been entrusted with the task of cleaning up the river that flows into the Vembanad lake. The cleaning process has already been initiated and it is expected that quality of water discharged by Pampa into Vembanad lake will improve considerably improving the overall pollution level of Vembanad lake. The Department of Water Resources of the State Government has already taken up programme that aims at cleaning the drinking, water sources. The project area is proposed to be brought under the umbrella of new organic farming policy. This will help in checking the use of pesticides.

A coordinated system in controlling pollution in association with local Government and the stakeholders would be evolved for addressing the pollution issues on a comprehensive and sustained manner.

The tasks which deal with environmental awareness, sanitation issues, removal of aquatic weeds, promotion of bio diversity, mangrove planting, rainwater harvesting, participatory approach. The implementation framework proposed to be adopted is one, which ensures scientific inputs, enthusiastic stakeholder participation and time bound execution. Several Government Departments, Government agencies, peoples representatives, scientific bodies, Kerala Agricultural University, local bodies and NGOs will be involved in the conceptualization, implementation and evaluation of the programmes. In order to accomplish this set of tasks, it is proposed to constitute an Environment Task Team under the overall format of the Kuttanad Wetland Restoration Project. The Task Team will have a non-official Chairman and an official Secretary, who will be the Task Leader. Besides, there will be a Task Support Group to support the Task leader who will be responsible for the execution of the decisions of the Task Team, with least bureaucratic delay and utmost public participation.

#### **2. Agriculture and Livelihood Opportunity**

The tasks included under this head covers the following:

- (i) Declaring Kuttanad as special agricultural zone
- (ii) Part of infrastructure support to paddy
- (iii) Enforcing a crop calendar
- (iv) Strengthening Research and Extension
- (v) Strengthening Economic Viability
- (vi) Coconut based enterprises and integrated farming
- (vii) Action to promote fishery wealth of Vembanad Kayal
- (viii) Promoting Fishing Infrastructure, capacity and fishermen welfare
- (ix) Farm tourism

The State Government has proposed to declare Kuttanad as a Special Agricultural Zone. It has proposed to adopt IT enabled services for market intelligence and technology support. The Government will introduce crop calendar and undertake measures for strengthening economic viability of farm activities. Massive coconut revival programme will be undertaken.

### 3. Infrastructure Development

The task included for infrastructure support for paddy and associated infrastructure projects are grouped as follows:

- (i) Infrastructure development for paddy cultivation
- (ii) Restoration of rivers, canals, drains and water bodies
- (iii) Construction of permanent salt water barriers
- (iv) Modernizations of Thannermukkom barriers
- (v) Improving the efficiency of Thottappally spill way
- (vi) Regulation of flood water in Kayal area near C & D and Ranichithira Block
- (vii) Construction of AC Canal
- (viii) Supporting a research study on TMB operation and Kayal ecology

#### *Implementation Arrangement*

The implementation arrangement suggested by the State Government are mentioned below:

- (i) It is suggested set up a Kuttanad and Alappuzha Prosperity Council (KAPCO) chaired by Chief Minister for providing Policy guidance and monitoring of task implementation. The Ministers from the Kuttanad region, the Minister of Agriculture, Finance, Water Resources and other key Ministers, elected representatives of the region etc. will be the Members. The Council will evolve a coordinated strategy for project formulation and implementation. Mid term corrections may also be introduced depending on the requirements. The Council may also coordinate various project activities of the local governments pertaining to the tasks. So as to deliver the outputs in a time bound manner. Wherever expert advises are required in project formulation, all the available expertise inside the state or outside may also be mobilize.
- (ii) A Task Implementation and Management Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary will be set up to leverage all concerned governmental institutions under single command line for task implementation. All the key

secretaries, department heads as well as other stakeholders will be the members of the Committee. The Committee will discuss the technical and administrative issues in implementation as well as to spell out the fast track mechanism in implementing the projects. The monitorable targets will be finalized. A project management system will be introduced as part of streamlining the implementation. A visual documentation of all projects will be introduced to track the monitoring of the projects.

- (iii) A Project Management Unit is proposed to set up in the District Collector. All the research institutions under the Kerala Agricultural University in the Kuttanad region viz. Regional Agricultural Research Station, Kumarakom, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Kayamkulam and Rice Research Station, Momcombu, will be closely associate with the PMU to provide technical support for the tasks. A separate technical support group will be formed under the PMU to help in Project formulation and implementation. The PMU will introduce online monitoring system. The professionals in Project Management will be selected for the management of the unit.
- (iv) The implementation plan has identified monitorable targets and key deliverables.

#### **Amount on USO Fund**

734. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund is being collected as tax;
- (b) if so, the average amount of said fund collected annually during the last three years as on date;
- (c) the amount disbursed on an average out of the amount received; and
- (d) the details of the utilisation made with the allocated amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Universal Service Obligation

(USO) Fund is being collected as Universal Service Obligation Levy (USOL).

(b) An average amount of Rs. 3,734.07 crore was collected annually during the last three years from 2004-05 to 2006-07.

(c) An average amount of Rs. 1,527.15 has annually been disbursed during the last three years from 2004-05 to 2006-07 out of an average amount of Rs. 3,734.07 crore collected as USOL during the last three years.

(d) The details of the utilization made with the allocated amount are given below:-

Year	Funds allocated	O&M of VPT	Repl. of MAR RVPT	RCP	VPTs in Uncovered villages	REELs prior to 1.4.2002 to 31.3.2005	RDELs installed 1.4.2002 to 31.3.2007	RDELs installed 1.4.2005 to 31.3.2007	Total utilisation
2004-05	1314.59	65.13	72.09	0	0	1062.78	114.59	0	1314.59
2005-06	1766.85	83.39	108.17	31.89	29.86	0	1393.44	120.10	1766.85
2006-07	1500.00	81.54	106.19	41.72	55.40	0	342.74	872.41	1500.00
Average									1527.15

**Full form of abbreviations**

O&M	Operation and Maintenance
VPT	Village Public Telephone
MARR	Multi Access Radio Relay
RCP	Rural Community Phone
RDEL	Rural Direct Exchange Line

*[Translation]*

**Induction of Submarine INS Sindhujay**

735. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Navy has refused to induct the submarine INS Sindhujay in its fleet after its failure in testing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) INS Sindhujay has already been inducted to Indian Navy, Its delivery after Medium-Refit-cum-upgradation is awaited.

*[English]*

**Suicides by Grape Growers**

736. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA": Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in cases of suicide by grape growers particularly in Maharashtra, due to heavy debt;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) A statement indicating the total number of suicides by farmers as reported by the respective State Governments, is enclosed. The State Governments, particularly, the Government of Maharashtra has not specifically reported any case of suicide by grape growers. As reported by the State Governments the cause for suicide farmers are broadly crop failure, indebtedness, drought, social and economic insecurity.

To address the problem of suicide by farmers, Government of India has approved a Rehabilitation Package amounting to Rs. 16978.69 crore, for 31 districts spread over the states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. The Package consisting of short term and long term measures is being implemented since July, 2006. It aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services and subsidiary income opportunities.

In order to address the problems of farmers and for revitalization of agriculture sector, Government has

launched two new Scheme namely, National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains in the country and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) with an objective to incentivise the states so as to increase public investment in Agriculture and allied sectors and to provide flexibility and autonomy to state in the process of planning and executing Agriculture and allied sector schemes, with an outlay of Rs. 4882.48 and Rs. 25,000 crore respectively during 11th Plan initiatives/programmes announced in the Budget 2008-09 have been taken/initiated to address the problems faced by the farmers.

### **Statement**

#### *Cases of suicide by farmers as received from State Government upto 14.02.2008*

S.N.	Name of the State	Period	No. (Based on the figures reported by the Govts)	
1	2	3	4	
1.	Andhra pradesh	2004	1251	
		2005	632	
		2006	514	
		2007 (upto 30.06.2007)	142	
2.	Karnataka	2004-05	271	
		2005-06	163	
		2006-07	320	
		2007-08 (upto 10.7.2007)	73	
3.	Maharashtra		Total	Vidarbha
		2004	632	441
		2005	595	431
		2006	2355	1448
		2007	1985	1230
	2008 (upto to Jan 2008)	110	72	
4.	Kerala	2001 to 2006	841	
		2007 (upto 31.10.2007)	64	

1	2	3	4
5.	Tamil Nadu	2000-2007 (upto March 2007)	26
6.	Punjab*	2004	11
		2005	6
		2006	3
7.	Gujarat	2004	7
		2005	125
		2006	149

\*The information reported vide State Government letter No. 4/39/06 Agri.2 (10)/7257 dt. 21.03.06 relates to the cotton belt of Punjab. Government of Punjab has also reported vide their letter no. 4/15/07-Agr.2 (10)/3943 dt. 11.05.07, that number of suicides due to debt burden in the year 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 was 2, nil, 3 and 3 respectively.

NB1: The Nil report has been received from the states namely, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Goa, Haryana, Sikkim, J & K, Mizoram, Chattisgarh, Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and all UTs

#### **National Agricultural Insurance Scheme**

737. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the crops presently covered under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(b) whether the Government proposes to include certain other perennial crops under the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), at present, covers all food crops (cereals, millets, pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops.

Perennial horticultural crops are not yet covered under the scheme due to their peculiar nature and non-availability of past yield data. However, the Joint Group constituted by this Department to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes, have inter-alia recommended for providing insurance coverage to perennial horticultural and vegetable crops as a

separate scheme. Agriculture Insurance implementing some crop specific insurance scheme like Coffee Insurance Mango Insurance, Coconut Insurance etc.

*[Translation]*

#### **Losses to Sugarcane Growers**

738. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugarcane farmers are facing great hardships due to depressed prices and a big portion of their produce lying un-procured with them after a bumper crop during the current year;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps being taken by the Government to procure the entire produce of the sugarcane farmers and ensure remunerative price to them; and

(d) the other steps being taken by the Government to mitigate the problems of sugarcane farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)



to (c) The all time high sugar production and sugar inventory in the last sugar season 2006-07 and anticipated high sugar production for the current sugar season 2007-08 has resulted in decline in sugar prices in the domestic market which restrained the capacity of the sugar mills in making timely payment of remunerative price of sugarcane to the cane growers.

(d) Government has taken a number of steps to help the sugar industry and sugarcane farmers. These include:

- A buffer stock of 20 lakh tonnes has been created for a period of one year from 01.05.2007 to 30.04.2008 and additional buffer stock of 30 lakh tonnes has been created for a period of one year from 01.08.2007 to 31.07.2008.
- Export assistance is also being provided to defray expenditure on internal transport, marketing and handling charges and ocean freight @ Rs. 1350 per ton for sugar factories located in costal states and Rs. 1450 per ton for sugar factories located in non-coastal states (subject to actuals for export by road/rail to neighbouring countries) for a period of one year with effect from 19th April, 2007.
- The requirement of obtaining release orders for the purpose of export has been dispensed with effect from 31st July, 2007 till 30.09.2008. This would help the sugar factories to undertake exports expeditiously and improve their liquidity position.
- A decision has been taken to extend the moratorium on outstanding term loans as on 01.04.2005 announced in September, 2005 for co-operative sugar factories, from 2 years to upto 5 years and to include cooperative sugar mills, not included in the earlier package, for availing the benefits of the earlier package.
- The Central Government has decided to give loans from the banks to the sugarmills—private, public and cooperative sector under a special scheme titled 'Scheme for Extending Financial Assistance to Sugar Undertakings-2007.'

*[English]*

#### **Sale of Medicines Through Post Office**

739. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some pharma companies have requested to the Government for sale of medicines through post offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the revenue of postal department through various sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Some companies have approached the Department to sell their herbal and medicinal products through the post offices. The Circles have made arrangement with those companies for sale of their products. Details of the arrangements are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Department of Posts is offering a few selected services besides postal services with an objective to leverage its network and to utilize its existing infrastructure optimally. These services are broadly as below:

- (i) The Department has started a pilot to provide financial inclusion in rural areas under the scheme of Business Correspondent in collaboration with the State Bank of India.
- (ii) A Pilot for extending disbursement of micro credit to self help groups has also been started in collaboration with the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development.
- (iii) The Department is providing a platform to facilitate payment of various bills by the customers for telecommunications companies and other utility service providers.
- (iv) The Department is providing a platform to facilitate payment of various bills by the customers for telecommunication companies and other utility service providers.
- (v) The Department is distributing financial instruments like mutual Funds etc on behalf of financial institutions like UTI, SBI, Franklin Templeton, Reliance Mutual Funds, etc. The Department is also distributing the Non Life products of Oriental Insurance Company Ltd.

- (vi) The Department provides the facility of receiving remittances from 205 countries through the International Money Transfer Service.
- (vii) The disbursement of wages to the beneficiaries of the NREG Act, 2005, is done through the post offices in some states.
- (viii) The payment of Old Age Pension under the National Social Assistance Programme is being undertaken by the Department of Posts in some states.

### **Statement**

#### *Details of tie up with pharma companies*

Sl.No.	Name of the circle	Details
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Tie up with M/s Sriram Gopalraju Pharma (P) Ltd. Puttur, for sale of Dr. K. Gopalraju's Puttur Thailam through all Head Post Offices in the Circle with effect from 03.12.07.
2.	Maharashtra	The sale of herbal medicines of M/s Herbolab (I) Pvt. Ltd. is being undertaken through 125 post being undertaken through 125 post offices in Mumbai region of the Circle.
3.	Uttarakhand	Sale of herbal health products of Divya Pharmacy of Divya Pharmacy of Divya Yog Mandir Trust through the branch post offices of the Circle on a test basis.

### **Restrictions on Installation of Cellular Towers**

740. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of mushrooming of cellular towers in the cities and towns in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to issue safety guidelines to limit public exposure to radio waves from the base stations;

(c) if so, the detail thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government is planning to ban the installation of cellular towers near schools, hospitals and the rooftops of large residential buildings; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) To meet the growth of the mobile services, adequate infrastructure/towers are necessary in the country.

(b) and (c) The latest Fact Sheet No. 304 of May, 2006 of World Health Organisation (WHO) states that from all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long-term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF singals produced by the base stations. Further, a committee was setup under the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court Mumbai to study the effects of radiations from mobile phone towers and related aspects. The Committee has studied the effects and concluded that overall there is not enough evidence to show direct health hazards of RF exposures from mobile base stations.

(d) and (e) Do not arise, in view of above.

### **Revival of NTC Entyce Showrooms**

741. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to revive National Textile Corporation's (NTC) entyce showrooms across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Union Government to revamp the existing NTC's entyce showrooms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It has been decided by NTC to revive and revamp its 100 showrooms in a phased manner. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Region-wise/State-wise No. of Showrooms  
as on 01.02.2008.*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of showrooms
<b>Southern Region</b>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	Tamil Nadu	22
3.	Karnataka	7
4.	Kerala	4
<b>West Region</b>		
5.	Maharashtra	15
6.	Gujarat	3
<b>Others</b>		
7.	Delhi	11
8.	Haryana	3
9.	Chandigarh (U.T)	1
10.	Punjab	1
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
12.	Rajasthan	8
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2
15.	Jharkhand	2
16.	West Bengal	7
17.	Orissa	2
18.	Assam	1
19.	Bihar	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>

[*Translation*]

**Milk Production**

742. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment about the quantum of milk produced and consumed in the country, separately at present;

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

(c) the efforts made by the Government so far to increase the production of milk through cooperatives;

(d) whether the milk production in the cooperative sector has increased as a result thereof during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) In addition to the steps taken by State Governments, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by way of the following schemes to increase the milk production in country:

(i) Intensive Dairy Development Programme

(ii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production

(iii) Assistance to Cooperatives

(iv) Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. the milk procurement by the dairy cooperatives during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Milk Procurement (in lakh Kg per day)
2004-05	200.70
2005-06	215.50
2006-07	216.90

**Statement*****State-wise Annual Production of Milk (in '000 tonnes) and  
Per Capita Monthly Consumption (in Litre)***

Sl.No.	State	Annual Production in '000 tonnes (2006-07)	Per Capita Monthly Consumption* (in Litre)	
			Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7939	3.051	4.375
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	49#	0.634	1.471
3.	Assam	751	1.31	1.998
4.	Bihar	5450	2.978	3.814
5.	Chhattisgarh	849	0.667	2.989
6.	Goa	57	3.193	3.92
7.	Gujarat	7533	4.975	6.702
8.	Haryana	5367	13.126	9.585
9.	Himachal Pradesh	872	8.72	8.166
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1400#	8.017	8.313
11.	Jharkhand	1401	1.442	3.935
12.	Karnataka	4124	3.299	4.866
13.	Kerala	2119	2.822	3.656
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6375	3.413	4.326
15.	Maharashtra	6978	2.727	4.393
16.	Manipur	77	0.172	0.333
17.	Meghalaya	75	0.769	1.914
18.	Mizoram	16	0.395	1.815
19.	Nagaland	67#	0.291	0.867
20.	Orissa	1431	0.779	2.246
21.	Punjab	9168	11.545	10.574
22.	Rajasthan	9375	9.498	7.379
23.	Sikkim	49	5.568	4.918

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Tamil Nadu	5580	2.48	4.823
25.	Tripura	89	1.069	2.113
26.	Uttar Pradesh	18095	4.637	5.1
27.	Uttarakhand	1213	6.599	6.398
28.	West Bengal	3982	1.453	2.59
29.	Andaman and Nicobar island	23	1.447	1.578
30.	Chandigarh	46	8.182	10.459
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5#	0.886	5.691
32.	Daman and Diu	1#	3.549	4.827
33.	Delhi	289	6.539	8.204
34.	Lakshadweep	2	0.216	0.269
35.	Puducherry	45	2.917	4.883
	All India	100869	3.866	5.107

#Provisional

\*National Sample Survey Report-2004-05

*[English]***Losses in Postal Department**

743. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the postal department has been incurring losses for the last two years and during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for losses;

(c) whether the private courier services with better efficiency have made a dent in the postal revenues;

(d) if so, the extent thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to offset the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, the services of

Department of Posts are not run on profit and loss basis. Department of Posts provides services with basic objective of universal service obligation and most of its services are highly subsidized to cater to the 'common man' specially in the rural & remote areas of the country. The revenue earned by Department in this process, therefore, falls short of the expenditure and there is a revenue deficit.

(b) Sir, the revenue deficit of the department is furnished below:

Year	Amount in crores
2005-06	1209.86
2006-07	1249.52

The revenue deficit of the Department has been anticipated/provisioned at Rs. 1291.34 crores in RE 2007-06 submitted to Ministry of Finance.

The deficit of the Department is largely due to the following reasons:

- (i) Nearly eighty nine percent of the expenditure is incurred on mandatory items like salary, pension of staff etc.
- (ii) Rates of most of the Postal Services has been highly subsidized to cater to the common man as the department is providing a host of services as a part of Universal Service Obligation as per the policy of Government.

(c) and (d) As per a market survey conducted by the Department, the market share of Speed Post vis-a-vis the major private players in the express mail industry is 27.55% However, the focus of the private players in the express mail industry is the corporate sector and the urban areas.

(e) The Department has been taking steps to increase the revenue through introduction of new products, market development activities and adoption of customer oriented strategies. Speed Post, Business Post, Express Post, Retail Post, etc. as a premium service has been consistently growing. The Department of Posts is also using its vast network for retailing of financial products and services agency function thereby adding to the Department's revenue. Moreover, Department has also included value added money transfer services to its portfolio like Instant Money Order service and International Money Transfers.

*[Translation]*

#### Utilisation of Spectrum

744. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:

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

- (a) whether certain private sector telecom companies are not able to make full use of the spectrum allocated to them earlier;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such companies;
- (c) whether the said companies have again applied for allocation of spectrum;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any policy has been formulated for the allocation of more spectrum to such companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (f) Initial spectrum has been allotted to the mobile telecom service providers as per provisions of their respective Service Licence Agreements. All operators have been advised to use latest technology solutions for efficient and optimum utilization of the allotted spectrum.

Further in order to ensure optimal and efficient use of allotted spectrum, necessary criteria for allotment of additional spectrum, beyond the initial allotment, have been worked out/reviewed from time to time, taking into account various related factors.

The additional spectrum is allotted as per the request of the service provider, taking into account the subscriber based eligibility criteria and also subject to availability of spectrum.

#### Remunerative Prices to Farmers

745. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in the absence of availability of loan and suitable marketing facilities, the majority of the farmers in the country are unable to sell their produce at remunerative prices;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for providing the said facilities to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) In a study on market margins for some crops conducted through out the country during 2004-05, it was found that producer's share in consumer's price for paddy/

rice varies from 81.49 percent in Chhattisgarh State to 61.79 percent in Karnataka. For wheat, it varies between 85.73 percent in Rajasthan to 62.47 percent in Karnataka. The Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for major crops, so that farmers get remunerative price for their produce. Also, the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act has been amended to benefit the farmers to realize better prices.

#### Decline in Quantum of Postal Work

746. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE  
PATIL:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

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

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain that the quantum of postal work being handled by the Department of Posts is declining;

(b) if so, the salient features of said survey;

(c) the total number of employees rendered workless in absence of adequate work;

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in view of shrinking network;

(e) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No specific survey has been undertaken by the Department of Posts on the subject. However collection of data pertaining to quantum of work is an ongoing process which shows decline in Quantum of work in certain areas but increase in other areas. The mail volumes of ordinary mail have come down over the years but Speed Post, Business Post, International Money Transfer through Western Union, Post Office Insurance Fund and International Mail volumes have increased.

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

(c) No employee has been rendered workless. Periodical review of all Post Offices is carried out at fixed intervals. The staff found surplus during such review is redeployed to the needy offices. As a result of

expansion of cities Post Offices with lesser workload are relocated in newly developed areas.

(d) Network is not shrinking but it is changing its profile. The Department has been focusing on increasing the revenue from premium services like Speed Post, Express parcel Post, Business Post, e-post, Retail Post, electronic international money transfer etc. which are increasingly becoming popular. Retail network of the Department has been leveraged for providing new services and generating additional revenue;

(e) The business revenue earned by the Department from Premium services and other important services in the past three years shows an upward trend as given below:

*(i) Speed Post, Express Parcel Post, Business Post etc.*

Year	Revenue (Rs. In Crores)
2004-05	953.034
2005-06	1198.69
2006-07	1509.48

*(ii) International Money transfer through Western Union*

Year	No. of Transaction	Revenue (Rs. In lakhs)
2004-05	354398	1103.00
2005-06	898003	2159.70
2006-07	2140241	4419.57

*(iii) International mail (outward)*

Year	No. of EMS items	No. of Parcels	Weight of letter mail in Kg.
2004	640469	129641	2831375
2005	756228	1322281	2967802
2006	881141	166503	3126053

[English]

### Report of Wadhwa Committee

747. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wadhwa Committee to look into various aspects of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the country has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee with regard to various States, particularly Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the action take/proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Central Vigilance Committee (CVS) with justice D.P Wadhwa as Chairman was set up by the Supreme Court to look into maladies affecting functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) and to suggest remedial measures. The Supreme Court's direction to CVC was to conduct this study initially for the TPDS in Delhi, to be followed up on all India basis. The Committee has submitted its report on TPDS in Delhi in August, 2007 to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court in its order dated 10.01.2008 has ordered that similar exercise be undertaken by the CVC for the entire country and thereafter the Supreme Court would consider the suggestions of the CVS and shortfalls notices. Thus the report submitted by CVC so far is only for TPDS in Delhi and does not cover other states such as Andhra Pradesh. A copy of summary of recommendations of CVC is enclosed as statement.

(c) Since the report of CVC submitted so far is for PDS in Delhi, the Delhi Government has taken decisions on some of the recommendations and it is examining others. Regarding recommendation of CVC to abolish APL category or limit APL coverage to households having annual income or rupees less than one lakh, Government of Delhi has taken a decision in principle to limit disbursement of Specified Food Articles (SFAs) to only those APL card holders, who have their annual family income of less than Rs. 1 lakh or are not Income Tax payees.

The Central Government has also taken into consideration one suggestion of the CVC to distribute wheat flour to BPL families under TPDS while issuing the revised policy on this subject on 17.01.2008. Other recommendations of CVC are under examination.

### Statement

#### *Sum and Substance of the Recommendations*

- (i) Abolishing the APL category and raising the income criteria of BPL up to annual income of Rs. 49,284/- as most of the food grain allocated for APL category is diverted in as much as by and large it is not lifted by persons belonging to the APL category. There is every likelihood of outcry against abolition of the APL category by F.P.S. dealers and protests by vested groups and hence if the Court is of the view that it may not be possible or desirable to abolish the APL category altogether, it may consider limiting the APL category to households whose annual income is Rupees One lakh.
- (ii) Immediate identification of BPL and AAY families-to check exclusion of poor households.
- (iii) Elimination of bogus/fake cards by means of a door-to-door survey by a reputed agency—also collection of data for computerization.
- (iv) Zero tolerance-strengthening of the Enforcement Wing and Anti Hoarding Cell and making public servants engaged in PDS accountable—establishing flying squads to inspect the movement and distribution of food grains Whenever a FPS is sealed because of some malpractice, its licence be straight-away suspended/revoked. Ration Card holders attached to that FPS could be transferred to the nearby FPS or mobile van to be put in service or a Kirana shop of the area already selected, could be entrusted temporarily to distribute PDS food grains.
- (v) Computerisation—use of technology—computerization of the activity providing an end-to-end automated system involving minimum human intervention. This would involve automation of the interface between the FPS and the consumer on one hand and the FPS and the FSO on the other so as to make the functioning of the FPS's transparent.



- (vi) Establishment of a Helpline.
- (vii) E-banking—amounts toward transport charges and cost of food grains should be remitted by FPS by ECS instead of by way of bank drafts and handing over to the Circle Inspector etc, thus avoiding paper work.
- (viii) Distribution of wheat flour on option basis instead of wheat to BPL households—strict provision to put in place to check that good quality of what meant for PDS is not replaced by sub-standard wheat by flourmills etc.—general instructions could be given to sell only the fortified 'atta' with essential nutrients before selling in the open marketing/PDS—this is to make the implementation easier in all respects and also for avoiding diversion and leakage.
- (ix) Ombudsman/Regulator-independent agency to be created to monitor the working of the PDS—existing system is inactive and ineffective and corrupt.
- (x) Functions of the Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation (DSCSC) to be taken over by the Department of Food Civil Supplies—there is no Vigilance machinery or enforcement agency with the DSCSC—to check diversion of foodgrains by the trucks engaged by the DSCSC—large scale diversion of food grains by these trucks.
- (xi) Food coupons—to begin with to be tried on a pilot basis in any two circles.
- (xii) Constitution and strengthening of Vigilance Committees at State/District Levels.
- (xiii) Strengthening the legal regime.
- (xiv) Streamlining the system of allotment of FPS licenses and steps for provision of reasonable commission to the FPS owners.
- (xv) Public awareness campaigns to be carried out to increase awareness among the public about the functioning of the PDS—organizing PDS adalats in conjunction with Legal Aid Authorities—holding public meetings in circles/mohallaas every two months—due publicity to be given—NGOs of repute to be associated.
- (xvi) To increase viability of FPS's, distribution of kerosene oil (though an equally discredited and corrupt system) by FPS' to be considered as is being done in Mumbai.
- (xvii) Putting up of prominent and visible boards at FPS shops and on the trucks carrying PDS.
- (xviii) Strict standard conditions for engaging the trucks to transport PDS food grain and also installing GSP on each and every truck engaged by the transporter—immediately as a truck carrying PDS food grain moves out from the FCI godown messages by SMS/fax/mobile phone/telephone call, to be passed on to Vigilance Committee, Member(s) of the area and FPS concerned for which the food grain is meant.
- (xix) To strictly follow and implement the Revised Model Citizens' Charter issued by the Department of Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India and communicated by letter dated 30th July 2007 to the State Governments.
- (xx) Amnesty Scheme—four weeks time be given to persons holding bogus/fake cards to deposit the same with FPS/Circle Office—no questions asked. On verification by door-to-door survey if any bogus/fake card is found, prosecution be launched not only against the persons holding bogus/fake cards but also against the offices of the Department responsible for issuing bogus/fake cards—publicity to be given both by print/electronic media and also hoardings to be displayed at prominent places of the amnesty scheme.
- (xxi) Section 15A gives unnecessary protection to public servants engaged in the distribution of PDS. This Section should be repealed. Without the actual connivance and participation of public servants in the PDS there cannot possibly be diversion of food grains.

#### Mobile Phone Directory

748. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Governmental security agencies have requested to the Government to publish Mobile Phone Directory in the country as reported in the newspaper Hindustan dated January 04, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government has asked all service providers to publish such directories;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of service providers thereto;

(e) whether there is any provision in the licence agreement to issue/publish Mobile directory;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the service providers for violation of such provision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Government has decided not to publish Mobile Phone Directory.

(e) and (f) The latest licences have following provision:—

“Determination of telecom regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) with regard to publication of telephone service directory containing information of the subscribers of Telecom Service shall be applicable and binding”

However, TRAI had submitted recommendation not publish Mobile Phone Directory. Government accepted the recommendation and decided not to publish the directory in respect of mobile phones.

(g) Does not arise in view of (e) & (f) above.

#### Price of Wheat

749. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are not benefiting from rising market prices of wheat as middlemen are taking all the profits;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any plan to ensure that farmers get adequate benefit from higher market prices of their crops;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) In order to ensure remunerative prices for the agricultural produce Government announces minimum Support Price (MSP) for selected crops like paddy, wheat, coarse cereals and selected pulses and oilseeds every year. Consequently, the MSP of wheat for 2007-08 has been fixed/announced at Rs. 1000/- per quintal. The ruling wheat prices are above this MSP as given for selected markets/centres in the table below. If prices are not remunerative, the farmers can always sell their produce to the Government agencies to avoid loss.

*Table-Wholesale Prices of Wheat as on week of February, 2008*

Market/Centre	Hyderabad	Mumbai	Bhubaneswar	Delhi	Lucknow	Trivandrum
Wheat Price (As on 1.2.2008)	1380	1675	1280	1145	1000	1570

Also, the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act has been amended to benefit the farmers to realize better prices.

*[Translation]*

#### Sugarcane Crushing

750. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH “LALAN”:

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

(a) the names of the States where crushing of sugarcane started late during the current season;

(b) whether the sugar production is likely to decline due to delay in the start of the crushing season leading to the rise in retail prices of sugar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the likely decline in sugar production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The late crushing of sugarcane by sugar factories is reported to have taken place in the State of Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during the current sugar season 2007-08.

(b) and (c) The sugar production in the country during the current sugar season may decline by about 15 lac tons over the last sugar season. One of the factors for decline in sugar production can be retail prices of sugar all over the country. Sufficient stocks of sugar are available in the country to maintain sugar prices at reasonable level.

#### **Creation of Job Opportunities in Textile Industry**

751. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the investment in the textile industry so as to create more employment opportunities in the coming year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the targets fixed during the last three years were achieved; and

(e) if not, the reasons for failure to achieve the set targets alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The government is aware of the need for increasing investment in the textile sector so as to modernize the textile industry and to make it internationally competitive. The investment required to modernize the textile industry is estimated at about Rs. 1,50,600 crore during the 11th Plan period, bulk of which has to come from the private sector. Major plan schemes such as Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) etc. are accordingly designed in such a way as to encourage private investment in the textile sector. Under TUFS, the total project cost sanctioned as on 31.03.2007 is Rs. 86020 crore.

(d) and (e) The financial targets in terms of plan expenditure during the last three years have been, by and large, achieved. However, no specific targets for employment generation have been fixed. It is expected that enhanced investment in the textile sector would lead to creation of additional employment.

*(English)*

#### **Expansion of AAY**

752. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families identified under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) in various States particularly Andhra Pradesh as on date;

(b) the details regarding allocation and off-take of foodgrains under AAY in various States particularly Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; year-wise;

(c) whether requests have been received by the Government from some States particularly Andhra Pradesh for further expansion of AAY; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Statement I showing the number of families under AAY State-wise is enclosed. Out of 2.50 crore targeted AAY families, the various State/UT Governments have identified so far 2.43 crore families and issued ration cards to them.

(b) State-wise allocation and offtake of wheat 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (upto December, 2007) is enclosed as statement II, III, IV & V respectively including Andhra Pradesh.

State-wise allocation and offtake of Rice 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (upto December, 2007) is enclosed as statement VI, VII, VIII & IX respectively including Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Some State Governments including Andhra Pradesh have requested to increase the targeted number of AAY families.

AAY families are part of BPL category. At present, the total number of targeted BPL families in the country is 6.52 crore which is based on the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1993-94 and population projection by Registrar General of India as on 01.03.2000. In order to make TPDS more focused and targeted towards poorest of the poor, Antyodaya Anna Yojana was launched in December, 2000 for one crore families to be identified from amongst the BPL families. This scheme has been expanded thrice since inception during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, with additional 50 lakh AAY households every time. Thus, the target of the Government is to cover 2.50 crore AAY households.

**Statement I****Status of Identification of Households under AAY (Normal & Additional)**

As on 25.02.2008

(Fig. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of BPL families as on 1.3.2000	No. of AAY families					AAY families identified & RC issued				
							Total	Normal	1st Exp.	2nd Exp.	3rd Exp.	Total
			Normal	1st Exp.	2nd Exp.	3rd Exp.						
			25.12.00	5.6.03	3.8.04	12.5.06						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380
3.	Assam	18.36	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040
4.	Bihar	65.23	10.000	5.003	4.802	5.205	25.010	10.000	5.003	4.802	4.480	24.285
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189
6.	Delhi	4.09	0.628	0.315	0.301	0.326	1.568	0.628	0.315	0.301	0.280	1.502
7.	Goa	0.48	0.073	0.037	0.035	0.039	0.184	0.073	0.037	0.035		0.145
8.	Gujarat	21.20	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.691	8.128	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.661	8.098
9.	Haryana	7.89	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.629	3.025	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.528	2.924
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	1.129	0.584	0.542	0.587	2.822	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.322	2.557
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179
13.	Karnataka	31.29	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997
14.	Kerala	15.54	2.382	1.182	1.144	1.240	5.958	2.382	1.182	1.144	1.240	5.958
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	10.017	5.011	4.810	5.215	25.053	10.017	5.011	4.810	4.801	24.639
17.	Manipur	1.66	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475
21.	Orissa	32.98	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645
22.	Punjab	4.68	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165
25.	Tamil Nadu	48.63	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646
26.	Tripura	2.95	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945
28.	Uttarakhand	4.96	0.763	0.382	0.367	0.397	1.909	0.763	0.382	0.367		1.512
29.	West Bengal	51.79	7.939	3.973	3.813	4.132	19.857	7.939	3.973	2.887		14.799
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.043	0.021	0.021	0.022	0.107	0.043				0.043
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.035	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.088	0.021				0.021
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.028	0.013	0.013	0.015	0.069	0.028	0.013	0.011		0.052
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012
35.	Pondicherry	0.84	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322
Total		652.03	99.946	50.021	48.001*	52.030*	249.998	99.932	49.982	47.035	45.806	242.755

\*Out of the 50 lakh households in the 2nd expansion, 48 earmarked for expansion State-wise and the remaining 2 subsequently by the State where error of inclusion came to light.

\*\*The left over expansion of 2 lakh families of 2nd expansion have been included in the 3rd expansion of AAY scheme to 52 lakh families from 50 lakh families.

### Statement II

#### Allocation and Offtake of Wheat for the Year 2004-2005 (P) under TPDS

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	153.672	0	153.672	1.826	33.294	0.5	35.62	0	21.988	0	28.18
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.99	7.86	0	11.55	3.419	7.691	0	11.11	92.956	97.95	0	96.19
3.	Assam	0	410	0	410	1.49	401.546	0	403.036	0	97.933	0	98.3
4.	Bihar	1331.472	1374.948	252	2958.42	891.851	9.386	233.536	934.773	51.981	0.883	92673	31.6
5.	Chhattisgarh	110.271	425.1	0	535.371	65.172	40.758	0	125.93	77.239	9.583	0	23.52



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.504	0	0.504	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	1.2	0	1.2	0	0.055	0	0.055	0	4.583	0	4.58
TOTAL		9,347.412	25,267.688	2,632.656	37,247.756	7,423.340	3,202.835	2,264.189	12,890.364	79.416	12.676	86.004	34.807
CRP/BSF		0	34.648	0	34.648	0	8.023	0	8.023	0	23.156	0	23.156
Defence		0	136.044	0	136.044	0	125.649	0	125.649	0	92.359	0	92.359
Bhutan		0	15.832	0	15.832	0	7.403	0	7.403	0	46.76	0	46.76
Grand Total (All India)		9,347.412	25,454.212	2,632.656	37,434.280	7,423.340	3,343.910	2,264.189	13,031.439	79.416	13.137	86.004	34.812

**Statement II***Allocation and Offtake of Wheat for the year 2004-2005 (P) under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	153.872	0	153.872	0.18	50.49	0.06	50.73	0	32.856	0	33.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.42	6.36	0	9.78	2.35	4.72	0.33	7.4	68.713	74.214	0	75.66
3.	Assam	0	337.024	0	337.024	0	280.24	0	280.24	0	83.151	0	83.15
4.	Bihar	1157.282	1222.156	283.521	2662.959	526.55	24.23	256.99	807.77	45.499	1.963	90.642	30.33
5.	Chhattisgarh	87.104	350.86	0	437.964	82.8	49.68	0	132.48	95.059	14.159	0	30.25
6.	Delhi	106.044	703.072	16.656	825.772	103.79	246.95	15.83	366.57	97.874	35.124	95.041	44.39
7.	Goa	3.681	37.096	0	40.777	0	3.833	0	3.833	0	10.333	0	9.4
8.	Gujarat	442.309	1730.616	207.008	2379.933	307.36	143.51	154.91	605.78	69.49	8.292	74.833	25.45
9.	Haryana	195.819	811.356	86.056	1093.231	166.22	17.99	72.82	257.03	84.885	2.217	84.619	23.51
10.	Himachal Pradesh	45.82	132.3	26.696	204.816	37.4	99.9	23.47	160.77	81.624	75.51	87.916	78.49
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	52.873	144.824	21.299	218.996	52.56	151.21	19.49	223.26	99.408	104.41	91.507	101.95
12.	Jharkhand	251.232	72.584	136.308	460.124	207.55	20.59	132.6	360.74	82.613	28.367	97.28	78.4
13.	Karnataka	157.093	378.534	81.548	617.175	158.09	149.53	68.9	376.52	100.64	39.502	84.49	61.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14.	Kerala	111.388	447.9	0	559.288	110.98	266.44	0	377.42	99.634	59.486	0	67.48
15.	Madhya Pradesh	949.415	1901.524	453.573	3304.512	979,506	144.83	430.58	1554.916	103.17	7.617	94.931	47.05
16.	Maharashtra	1160.364	3051.024	493.48	4704.868	1020.17	112.28	431.02	1563.47	87.918	3.68	87.343	33.23
17.	Manipur	2.428	15.408	2.428	20.264	3.96	14.18	0	18.14	163.1	92.03	0	89.52
18.	Meghalaya	0	7.776	0	7.776	0.65	6.32	0	6.97	0	81.276	0	89.63
19.	Mizoram	0	12.12	0	12.12	0	7.55	0	7.55	0	62.294	0	62.29
20.	Nagaland	7.023	44.516	3.225	54.783	6.88	52.85	3.33	63.06	97.984	118.72	103.26	115.15
21.	Orissa	0	351.112	0	351.112	0	108.35	0	108.35	0	30.859	0	30.86
22.	Punjab	130.779	1178.592	32.469	1341.84	69.4	8.84	17.49	95.73	53.067	0.75	53.867	7.13
23.	Rajasthan	517.808	2188.544	336.195	3042.547	450.33	204.17	299.12	953.62	86.969	9.329	88.972	31.34
24.	Sikkim	0	7.2	0	7.2	0	4.65	0	4.65	0	64.583	0	64.58
25.	Tamilnadu	0	120	0	120	0	77.98	0	77.98	0	64.983	0	64.98
26.	Tripura	0	47.94	0	47.94	0	29.94	0	29.94	0	62.453	0	62.45
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1182.038	3903.096	600.994	5386.128	1025.072	37.93	553.388	1616.39	86.721	1.053	92.079	30.01
28.	Uttanchal	55.184	140.592	13.965	209.741	58.719	34.154	11.112	103.986	108.41	24.293	79.57	49.58
29.	West Bengal	673.299	1966.672	281.308	2941.279	591.06	997.78	233.86	1822.7	87.786	50.224	83.133	61.87
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.292	8.16	0.504	10.956	0.26	4.01	0.04	4.31	11.344	49.142	7.937	39.34
31.	Chandigarh	5.568	58.504	0	62.072	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.05	1.548	0.435	3.033	0.32	0.24	0.19	0.75	30.478	15.504	43.678	24.73
33.	Daman and Diu	0.38	1.044	0.144	1.568	0.13	0	0.08	0.19	34.211	0	41.667	12.12
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.228	0	0.228	0	0.03	0	0.03	0	13.158	0	13.16
35.	Pondicherry	0	1.2	0	1.2	0	1.01	0	1.01	0	84.167	0	84.17
TOTAL		7,301.693	21,253.153	3,077.812	31,632.658	5,962.287	3,356.407	2,725.590	12,044.284	81.656	15.793	88.556	38.075
CRP/BSF		0	33.912	0	33.912	0	9.5	0	9.5	0	28.014	0	28.014
Defence		0	145.008	0	145.008	0	133.49	0	133.49	0	92.057	0	92.057
Bhutan		0	15	0	15	0	4	0	4	0	26.667	0	26.667
Grand Total (All India)		7,301.693	21,447.073	3,077.812	31,826.578	5,962.287	3,503.397	2,725.590	12,191.274	81.656	16.335	88.556	38.305



**Statement IV***Allocation and Offtake of Wheat for the Year 2005-2006 (P) under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	81.152	0	81.152	0.082	55.53	0.001	55.593	0	68.427	0	68.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.13	8.46	0	11.59	1.661	3.474	0	5.135	53.067	41.064	0	44.31
3.	Assam	0	254.226	0	254.226	1.253	248.796	0	250.049	0	97.884	0	98.36
4.	Bihar	645.723	211.04	275.334	1132.087	241.612	8.398	244.642	494.652	37.417	3.979	66.853	43.69
5.	Chhattisgarh	31.32	89.33	0	120.65	29.086	26.891	0	55.977	92.867	30.103	0	46.4
6.	Delhi	103.92	365.72	16.656	486.296	102.141	282.479	16.323	400.943	96.288	77.239	98.001	82.45
7.	Goa	0.31	11.222	0	11.532	0	5.57	0	5.57	0	49.636	0	48.3
8.	Gujarat	267.08	387.456	169.638	624.374	250.711	73.888	143.547	468.146	93.871	19.07	84.52	58.79
9.	Haryana	152.028	202.3	109.394	463.72	142.98	2.821	102.921	248.722	94.05	1.394	94.083	53.84
10.	Himachal Pradesh	16.944	122.452	33.287	172.683	16.947	127.722	33.5	178.169	100.018	104.304	100.64	103.18
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	52.795	169.316	21.149	243.26	53.302	155.23	20.241	228.773	100.96	91.681	95.707	94.04
12.	Jharkhand	187.902	36.684	121.926	346.394	153.655	13.1	119.016	285.971	81.88	33.97	97.612	82.08
13.	Karnataka	127.998	155.606	84.07	367.674	121.793	103.542	73.169	298.504	95.152	66.468	87.033	81.14
14.	Kerala	86.763	243.42	0	330.183	86.943	196.032	0	281.975	100.207	80.122	0	85.4
15.	Madhya Pradesh	727.654	339.106	547.514	1614.274	726.99	112.018	509.306	1348.314	99.909	33.039	93.022	83.52
16.	Maharashtra	1016.042	621.044	434.632	2071.718	902.641	123.048	355.432	1381.121	88.839	19.613	81.778	66.67
17.	Manipur	3.488	8.1	0	11.588	1.96	6.276	0	8.236	56.193	77.481	0	71.07
18.	Meghalaya	0	7.696	0	7.696	0	7.29	0	7.29	0	94.725	0	94.72
19.	Mizoram	0	10.36	0	10.36	0	8.982	0.326	8.988	0	83.61	0	86.76
20.	Nagaland	6.218	24.576	3.92	34.714	6.222	24.374	3.59	34.186	100.084	99.178	91.582	98.48
21.	Orissa	0	155.734	0	155.734	0	132.29	0	132.29	0	84.946	0	84.95
22.	Punjab	73.836	230.438	48.758	353.032	44.181	44.719	29.412	118.312	59.837	19.406	60.322	33.51
23.	Rajasthan	434.372	526.964	374.394	1335.72	416.863	155.099	343.482	915.414	95.967	29.433	91.738	68.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24.	Sikkim	0	5.35	0	5.35	0	5.381	0	5.381	0	100.579	0	100.58
25.	Tamilnadu	0	95.58	0	95.58	0	90.18	0	90.18	0	94.35	0	94.35
26.	Tripura	0	26.96	0	26.96	0	21.474	0	21.474	0	79.651	0	79.65
27.	Uttar Pradesh	916.122	595.68	569.076	2080.878	865.495	44.18	587.571	1497.246	94.474	7.417	103.25	71.95
28.	Uttaranchal	49.671	75.802	17.829	143.302	50.698	61.876	15.702	128.276	102.068	81.628	88.07	89.51
29.	West Bengal	596.128	726.624	278.962	1603.714	551.284	506.383	231.274	1290.941	92.168	69.965	82.905	80.5
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.85	4.802	0.294	5.946	0.45	4.08	0.17	4.7	52.941	84.965	57.823	79.04
31.	Chandigarh	0.228	9.162	0	9.39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.358	1.058	0.18	1.596	0.18	0.15	0.03	0.36	50.279	14.178	18.867	22.56
33.	Daman and Diu	0.12	0.524	0.084	0.728	0.06	0	0.06	0.12	50	0	71.429	16.48
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.433	0	0.433	0	0.05	0	0.05	0	11.547	0	11.55
35.	Pondicherry	0	2.05	0	2.05	0	1.41	0	1.41	0	68.78	0	68.78
TOTAL		5,502.998	5,808.497	3,107.299	14,418.794	4,769.360	2,653.413	2,829.695	10,252.468	86,668	45,682	91,066	71,105
CRP/BSF		0	34.92	0	34.92	0	4.14	0	4.14	0	11.856	0	11.856
Defence		0	144.96	0	144.96	0	132.348	0	132.348	0	91.3	0	91.3
Bhutan		0	15	0	15	0	1.28	0	1.28	0	8.533	0	8.533
Grand Total (All India)		5,502.998	6,003.377	3,107.299	14,613.674	4,769.360	2,791.181	2,829.695	10,390.236	86,668	46,494	91,066	71,099

**Statement V***Allocation and Offtake of Wheat from April 2007 to December, 2007 under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	52.917	0	52.917	0	31.256	0.01	31.266	0	59.086	0	59.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.304	6.765	0	9.069	1.352	4.085	0	5.437	58.681	60.384	0	59.95
3.	Assam	0	208.32	0	208.32	0.775	204.877	0	205.652	0	98.347	0	98.72
4.	Bihar	335.808	22.857	306	664.665	229.094	7.999	282.181	519.274	68.222	34.996	92.216	78.13
5.	Chhattisgarh	23.49	20.176	0	43.666	22.03	10.268	0	32.298	93.785	50.892	0	73.97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6.	Delhi	68.906	285.851	21.526	376.283	71.785	261.057	15.342	348.184	104.18	91.326	71.272	92.53
7.	Goa	0	7.511	0	7.511	0	5.839	0	5.839	0	77.739	0	77.74
8.	Gujarat	183.393	97.221	136.357	418.971	175.891	28.225	119.623	323.739	95.909	29.032	86.46	77.27
9.	Haryana	104.319	86.922	92.115	283.356	102.434	0.19	87.597	190.221	98.193	0.219	95.095	67.13
10.	Himachal Pradesh	35.695	112.854	26.595	175.134	32.649	109.452	25.072	167.173	91.492	96.985	94.273	95.45
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	37.629	152.528	15.858	206.015	37.531	135.432	15.986	188.829	99.74	88.792	100.68	91.71
12.	Jharkhand	130.177	25.439	99.725	255.341	115.331	6.989	92.001	214.301	88.598	27.395	92.255	83.93
13.	Karnataka	98.408	76.073	65.538	240.019	94.946	51.911	62.355	209.212	96.482	68.238	95.143	87.16
14.	Kerala	62.667	171.66	0	234.327	62.634	150.204	0	212.838	99.947	87.501	0	90.83
15.	Madhya Pradesh	534.558	79.77	419.643	1033.971	525.556	60.861	405.154	991.571	98.316	76.296	96.547	95.9
16.	Maharashtra	647.71	117.117	386.626	1151.853	579.203	72.346	328.869	980.438	89.423	61.772	85.022	85.13
17.	Manipur	0.954	6.75	0	7.704	0.633	5.108	0	5.941	87.317	75.674	0	77.12
18.	Meghalaya	0	6.015	0	6.015	0	5.387	0	5.387	0	99.559	0	89.56
19.	Mizoram	0	7.752	0	7.752	0	5.762	0	5.762	0	74.329	0	74.33
20.	Nagaland	4.653	20.868	2.934	28.455	5.17	21.799	3.26	30.229	111.11	104.46	111.11	106.23
21.	Orissa	0	101.828	0	101.828	0	96.236	0	96.236	0	94.508	0	94.51
22.	Punjab	67.187	53.489	40.843	161.519	39.416	25.402	22.824	87.642	58.686	47.49	55.882	54.26
23.	Rajasthan	310.355	210.071	283.95	804.376	305.97	165.815	268.298	740.083	98.587	78.933	94.488	92.01
24.	Sikkim	0	3.774	0	3.774	0	3.773	0	3.773	0	99.974	0	99.97
25.	Tamilnadu	0	76.723	0	76.723	0	70.388	0	70.388	0	91.743	0	91.74
26.	Tripura	0	18.24	0	18.24	0	12.842	0	12.842	0	70.406	0	70.41
27.	Uttar Pradesh	682.758	43.237	424.404	1150.399	743.158	30.801	481.401	1255.36	106.85	71.238	113.43	109.12
28.	Uttanchal	36.387	46.443	14.238	97.068	36.436	47.775	13.821	98.032	100.14	102.87	97.071	100.99
29.	West Bengal	447.822	534.92	204.444	1187.186	432.051	486.831	172.233	1091.115	98.478	91.01	84.245	91.91
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.549	4.395	0.189	5.133	0.388	2.78	0.088	3.286	70.674	83.254	51.852	63.63
31.	Chandigarh	0.306	0.3	0	0.806	0.741	0.119	0.639	1.499	242.16	39.667	0	247.36
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.144	0.459	0.117	0.72	0.032	0.03	0.026	0.088	22.222	6.536	22.222	12.22
33.	Daman and Diu	0.063	0.3	0.045	0.408	0.024	0	0.021	0.045	38.095	0	46.667	11.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.3	0	0.3	0	0.1	0	0.1	0	33.333	0	33.33
35.	Pondicherry	0	1.95	0	1.95	0	0.796	0	0.796	0	40.821	0	40.82
TOTAL		3,816.232	2,661.795	2,543.347	9,021.374	3,615.430	2,122.715	2,396.811	8,134.956	94.738	79.748	94.238	90.174
CRP/BSF		0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Defence		0	107.622	0	107.622	0	94.458	0	94.458	0	87.768	0	87.768
Bhutan		0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total (All India)		3,816.232	2,769.417	2,543.347	9,128.996	3,615.430	2,217.173	2,396.811	8,229.414	94.738	80.059	94.238	90.146

Note: Offtake under Defence includes CRPF and Bhutan as no bifurcation is received from FCI

### Statement VI

#### Allocation and Offtake of Rice for the Year 2004-2005 (P) under TPDS

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1230.128	2113.068	476.248	3819.444	1259.99	1104.348	455.615	2819.953	102.428	52.263	95.668	73.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.99	68.82	9.816	106.626	28.191	47.018	8.661	83.87	100.718	68.32	88.233	78.66
3.	Assam	650.434	475.14	150.086	1275.66	622.272	119.58	139.178	881.03	95.67	25.167	92.732	69.06
4.	Bihar	887.712	916.572	168	1972.284	118.059	0.926	148.543	267.528	13.299	0.101	88.418	13.56
5.	Chhattisgarh	476.364	620.7	200.987	1298.061	471.548	1.61	180.399	653.557	98.989	0.259	89.752	50.35
6.	Delhi	44.285	282.42	4.795	331.5	40.531	96.433	3.909	140.773	91.523	34.145	79.437	42.47
7.	Goa	6.808	77.976	4.112	88.896	0	0	5.04	5.04	0	0	122.569	5.67
8.	Gujarat	190.878	1056.948	33.42	1281.248	177.343	29.687	24.018	231.048	92.809	2.809	71.867	18.03
9.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	81.208	216.6	25.208	323.016	72.687	80.254	23.577	156.518	89.507	27.818	93.53	48.46
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	184.712	281.89	50.225	516.817	178.51	149.758	33.084	361.352	96.642	53.128	65.672	69.92
12.	Jharkhand	483.016	128.316	113.12	724.452	163.032	2.007	91.673	256.712	33.753	1.564	81.04	35.44
13.	Karnataka	790.248	1656.48	261.171	2707.899	785.09	732.986	242.574	1760.63	99.347	44.248	92.879	65.02

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14.	Kerala	365.292	1361.04	165.56	1891.892	371.176	91.538	156.714	619.428	101.611	6.726	94.657	32.74
15.	Madhya Pradesh	196.934	360.304	60.937	640.175	199.681	3.513	56.811	280.006	100.376	0.994	93.229	40.61
16.	Maharashtra	794.77	1649.856	261.997	2696.623	648.661	11.941	224.028	864.85	82.664	0.724	85.508	32.61
17.	Manipur	44.084	29.7	10.716	84.5	29.035	1.585	8.631	39.251	65.863	5.337	80.543	46.45
18.	Meghalaya	60.152	37.248	16.708	114.108	60.369	13.62	16.119	90.128	100.394	36.566	96.475	78.98
19.	Mizoram	21.241	81.72	7.439	110.4	21.644	58.226	7.098	86.967	101.697	71.249	96.418	76.77
20.	Nagaland	31.72	44.04	10.112	85.672	36.133	26.533	9.547	72.213	113.912	60.248	94.413	84.09
21.	Orissa	1436.088	795.564	260.604	2492.256	1117.658	3.009	240.04	1360.707	77.827	0.378	92.109	54.6
22.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0.475	0	0.821	1.296	0	0	0	0
23.	Rajasthan	8.155	67.36	2.697	78.432	0	0	0.345	0.345	0	0	11.909	0.44
24.	Sikkim	14.076	15.612	4.164	33.852	14.022	13.762	4.068	31.842	99.616	88.15	87.464	84.06
25.	Tamilnadu	1608.365	3667.96	434.011	5710.366	1665.081	570.694	424.791	2660.568	103.626	15.569	97.676	46.59
26.	Tripura	100.929	131.292	22.971	255.192	104.67	38.899	21.376	164.935	103.707	26.82	93.056	64.63
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1232.797	2179.62	442.646	3665.063	1149.046	0.676	520.419	1670.141	93.206	0.031	117.57	43.32
28.	Uttanchal	113.62	111.912	22.476	247.908	114.977	6.142	32.531	153.66	101.263	5.488	144.737	61.96
29.	West Bengal	808.779	582.66	196.485	1687.924	575.062	42.831	126.176	744.089	71.102	7.361	64.217	4686
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.994	28.2	1.296	34.49	0.5	1.523	0	2.023	10.012	5.401	0	5.87
31.	Chandigarh	3.18	11.746	0.898	15.816	0.17	0	0.191	0.361	5.346	0	21.509	2.26
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.428	5.592	0.84	10.86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0.948	8.376	0.168	9.492	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0.372	3.204	0.168	3.744	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	26.238	12	6.674	47.112	2.82	0.63	1.235	3.885	9.278	0.25	17.968	8.25
TOTAL		11,924.845	19,089.968	3,427.155	34,451.968	10,026.473	3,229.098	3,207.102	16,464.673	64.097	16.908	93.579	47.790
CRP/BSF		0	20.004	0	20.004	0	31.255	0	31.255	0	156.24	0	156.244
Defence		0	145.02	0	145.02	0	121.099	0	121.099	0	83.505	0	83.505
Bhutan		0	6.216	0	6.216	0	3.511	0	3.511	0	56.483	0	56.483
Grand Total (All India)		11,924.845	19,271.208	3,427.155	34,623.208	10,026.473	3,364.963	3,207.102	16,620.538	64.097	17.596	93.579	48.004

**Statement VII***Allocation and Offtake of Rice for the Year 2005-2006 (P) under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1086.129	2113.068	620.247	3819.444	1101.69	1456.58	608.5	3166.77	101.433	68.932	98.106	82.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	25.14	63.39	12.936	101.466	23.17	38.53	12.07	73.77	92.164	60.782	93.306	72.7
3.	Assam	625.416	618.116	175.104	1418.636	595.48	164.34	181.09	940.91	95.213	26.587	103.42	66.32
4.	Bihar	1009.369	1069.364	189.012	2267.745	145.46	1.32	184.07	310.85	14.411	0.123	86.804	13.71
5.	Chhattisgarh	445.708	694.94	254.82	1395.461	454.003	2.57	229.189	685.762	101.86	0.37	89.942	49.14
6.	Delhi	42.42	293.444	6.66	342.524	41.4	55.86	6.32	103.38	97.595	18.968	94.895	30.18
7.	Goa	6.54	81.2	5.739	93.479	3.804	2.27	2.447	8.521	58.165	2.796	42.638	9.12
8.	Gujarat	175.754	1056.948	51.777	1284.479	163.75	34.78	37.43	235.96	93.17	3.291	72.291	18.37
9.	Haryana	46.897	202.848	0	249.545	29.03	0.06	4.07	33.18	62.167	0.039	0	13.3
10.	Himachal Pradesh	70.828	216.6	35.588	323.016	58.16	79.17	32.13	169.46	82.114	36.551	90.283	52.46
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	167.462	302.896	67.45	537.808	173.21	195.75	53.6	422.56	103.43	64.626	79.466	78.57
12.	Jharkhand	448.992	143.716	168.96	761.668	173.36	0.57	150.03	323.96	38.611	0.397	88.796	42.53
13.	Karnataka	719.224	1656.48	326.204	2701.908	717.6	728.04	308.45	1755.09	99.774	43.951	94.864	64.96
14.	Kerala	334.172	1361.04	207.088	1902.3	325.993	57.492	200.722	584.207	97.552	4.224	96.926	30.71
15.	Madhya Pradesh	245.9	633.848	80.568	960.316	237.54	8.19	79	324.73	96.6	1.292	98.054	33.81
16.	Maharashtra	754.104	1649.856	336.356	2740.316	627.04	15.2	305.39	947.83	83.15	0.921	90.794	34.58
17.	Manipur	35.352	32.052	19.436	86.84	29.97	0.71	13.96	44.84	84.776	2.215	71.825	51.4
18.	Meghalaya	53.568	37.248	23.292	114.108	54.05	16.29	22.72	93.06	100.9	43.734	97.544	81.55
19.	Mizoram	18.279	59.9	10.401	88.58	17.65	48.34	10.01	76	96.559	80.701	96.241	85.8
20.	Nagaland	28.794	57.885	13.038	99.717	28.73	41.81	13.11	83.65	99.778	72.229	100.55	83.89
21.	Orissa	1261.907	804.452	434.785	2501.144	797.408	1.42	450.493	1249.321	63.191	0.177	103.61	49.95
22.	Punjab	33.288	294.648	0	327.936	1.71	0	0.75	2.46	5.137	0	0	0.75
23.	Rajasthan	75.574	575.212	3.823	654.609	19.24	0	1.45	20.69	25.458	0	37.928	3.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24.	Sikkim	14.076	18.612	4.164	36.852	14.05	19.39	4.32	37.76	99.815	104.18	103.75	102.46
25.	Tamilnadu	1397.697	3967.98	644.679	5710.356	1391.6	1585.817	657.63	3635.047	99.584	43.234	102.01	63.66
26.	Tripura	95.364	131.292	28.536	255.192	92.77	37.02	28.53	158.32	97.28	28.197	99.979	62.04
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1763.068	2891.364	938.692	5593.124	1535.191	2.236	684.901	2422.328	87.075	0.077	94.27	43.31
28.	Uttaranchal	107.229	192.96	32.794	332.983	107.563	19.162	23.503	150.228	100.31	9.931	71.689	45.12
29.	West Bengal	774.67	2102.508	281.263	3158.441	703.399	31.63	220.44	955.469	90.8	1.504	78.375	30.25
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5.136	28.2	1.296	34.632	1.55	11.78	0.49	13.82	30.179	41.773	37.809	39.91
31.	Chandigarh	3.18	19.012	0.888	23.08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Delhi and Nagar Haveli	4.142	5.582	1.093	10.827	1.35	0.65	0.53	2.53	32.593	11.624	48.49	23.37
33.	Daman and Diu	0.856	8.376	0.3	9.532	0.31	0.15	0.16	0.62	36.215	1.791	53.333	6.5
34.	Lakshadweep	0.372	3.132	0.168	3.672	0.47	2.95	0.33	3.75	126.34	94.189	196.43	102.12
35.	Pondicherry	22.862	12	12.25	47.112	12.53	4.19	7.91	24.63	54.807	34.917	64.571	52.28
TOTAL		11,899.269	23,100.179	4,989.407	39,988.855	9,680.231	4,684.087	4,716.745	19,061.063	81.351	20.191	94.536	47.686
CTP/BSF		0	19.668	0	19.668	0	11.88	0	11.88	0	60.403	0	60.403
Defence		0	139.992	0	139.992	0	115.04	0	115.04	0	82.176	0	82.176
Bhutan		0	9.997	0	9.997	0	7.69	0	7.69	0	78.924	0	78.924
Grand Total (All India)		11,899.269	23,269.836	4,989.407	40,158.512	9,680.231	4,796.897	4,716.745	19,195.873	81.351	20.623	94.535	47.800

**Statement VIII***Allocation and Offtake of Rice for the Year 2006-2007 (P) under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1052.068	2113.068	654.288	3819.444	1054.569	1442.142	656.77	3153.481	100.236	68.249	100.38	82.56
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.394	53.688	15.972	92.054	14.603	31.571	9.089	55.243	65.209	58.805	56.781	60.01
3.	Assam	476.7	689.604	294.216	1460.52	476.084	511.738	272.045	1261.867	100.29	74.208	92.464	86.4
4.	Bihar	1373.29	1096.2	366.757	2836.247	206.977	0.859	321.69	529.526	15.072	0.078	83.176	18.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
5.	Chhattisgarh	452.368	732.08	295.25	1479.678	491.961	6.486	313.059	811.506	108.75	0.886	106.03	54.84
6.	Delhi	44.544	298.958	6.88	350.16	44.34	95.786	6.561	146.687	99.542	32.04	98.514	41.89
7.	Goa	5.15	79.968	6.108	91.226	4.4	13.1	3.94	21.44	85.437	16.382	64.506	23.5
8.	Gujarat	273.55	1056.948	141.01	1471.508	243.2	34.398	116.446	394.044	88.905	3.254	82.580	26.78
9.	Haryana	69.125	297.24	0	366.365	59.709	1.918	0	61.627	86.378	0.645	0	1682
10.	Himachal Pradesh	29.887	196.948	43.519	270.354	26.365	120.218	43.744	192.327	94.907	61.04	100.52	71.14
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	152.262	313.404	82.858	548.544	156.171	196.119	78.192	430.482	102.55	62.577	94.389	78.48
12.	Jharkhand	512.322J	151.416	183.34	847.078	274.117	0.812	180.25	455.179	53.505	0.536	98.315	53.74
13.	Karnataka	640.118	1438.416	407.28	2486.614	646.738	747.778	392.031	1786.547	101.03	51.966	96.256	71.87
14.	Kerala	317.514	1361.04	248.331	1926.885	314.083	180.737	249.313	744.133	98.919	13.279	100.4	38.62
15.	Madhya Pradesh	336.884	702.84	102.646	1142.37	322.6	24.634	94.681	441.915	95.76	3.505	92.240	38.68
16.	Maharashtra	895.042	1648.858	398.588	2943.486	734.576	46.882	343.321	1124.789	82.072	2.842	86.134	38.21
17.	Manipur	45.064	33.228	21.18	99.472	35.824	15.895	18.411	70.13	79.486	47.836	86.926	70.5
18.	Meghalaya	53.508	37.248	23.362	114.108	53.435	31.005	23.362	108.392	99.864	84.85	100	94.99
19.	Mizoram	17.64	33.302	10.92	61.862	17.64	31.498	10.92	60.056	100	94.577	100	97.08
20.	Nagaland	25.864	52.428	16.048	84.37	31.434	62.667	19.386	113.487	121.4	119.53	120.800	120.26
21.	Orissa	1165.976	683.256	530.716	2379.948	676.968	5.695	433.288	1115.981	58.083	0.834	81.642	46.89
22.	Punjab	64.392	441.972	9.55	515.914	18.675	9.129	4.151	31.955	29.002	2.086	43.468	6.19
23.	Rajasthan	200.934	810.936	11.32	1023.19	100.022	5.676	4.562	110.46	49.779	0.725	40.3	10.8
24.	Sikkim	11.766	21.097	6.474	39.337	11.766	20.567	6.474	38.807	100	97488	100	98.65
25.	Tamilnadu	1259.232	3687.98	783.144	5710.358	1159.002	1414.858	775.368	3348.226	92.04	38.573	99.007	58.65
26.	Tripura	95.364	149.898	28.536	273.798	83.159	95.249	25.458	203.866	87.202	63.543	89.214	74.46
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1850.541	3247.02	1150.938	6248.499	1615.544	281.595	1104.76	3001.899	87.301	8.672	95.988	48.04
28.	Uttanchal	99.84	211.968	41.832	353.64	83.967	40.484	31.702	156.153	84.102	19.099	75.784	44.16
29.	West Bengal	923.938	2747.136	342.722	4013.796	492.965	330.392	284.367	1107.724	53.355	12.027	82.973	27.6
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.19	17.268	1.506	22.964	2.19	9.59	0.65	12.43	52.267	55.536	43.161	54.13



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
31.	Chandigarh	2.284	22.644	0.888	25.816	0.21	0	0.07	0.28	9.194	0	7.883	1.08
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.59	5.592	1.592	11.774	2.36	1.37	0.35	4.08	51.416	24.489	21.985	34.65
33.	Daman and Diu	0.924	8.376	0.552	9.882	0.4	0.25	0.31	0.96	43.29	2.985	58.159	9.74
34.	Lakshadweep	0.295	3.265	0.161	3.721	0.24	2.78	0.16	3.18	81.356	85.145	99.379	85.46
35.	Pondicherry	21.584	48	13.548	83.112	9.59	0.4	7.14	17.13	44.472	0.833	52.702	20.61
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>12,501.194</b>	<b>24,474.266</b>	<b>6,261.802</b>	<b>43,237.262</b>	<b>9,489.914</b>	<b>5,815.086</b>	<b>5,831.989</b>	<b>21,116.989</b>	<b>75.782</b>	<b>23.760</b>	<b>93.136</b>	<b>48.840</b>
CRP/BSF		0	17.16	0	17.16	0	2.49	0	2.49	0	14.510	0	14.510
Defence		0	138	0	138	0	129.285	0	129.285	0	93.670	0	93.670
Bhutan		0	9.998	0	9.998	0	0.42	0	0.42	0	4.202	0	4.202
<b>Grand Total (All India)</b>		<b>12,501.194</b>	<b>24,639.422</b>	<b>6,261.802</b>	<b>43,402.418</b>	<b>9,489.914</b>	<b>5,947.281</b>	<b>5,831.989</b>	<b>21,249.164</b>	<b>75.782</b>	<b>24.137</b>	<b>93.136</b>	<b>48.958</b>

**Statement IX***Allocation and Offtake of Rice from April 2001 to December 2007 under TPDS*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total	BPL	APL	AAV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	789.086	1584.802	490.716	2864.584	789.898	1295.631	480.183	2565.512	100.080	81.122	99.891	89.58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.839	40.272	11.979	69.09	9.911	22.512	6.801	39.224	58.857	55.9	58.774	58.77
3.	Assam	356.664	225.6	221.523	803.787	353.703	282.555	221.582	839.84	99.17	116.381	100.93	104.49
4.	Bihar	954.045	1.71	458.991	1414.746	328.475	0	364.885	693.36	34.43	0	79.497	49.01
5.	Chhattisgarh	333.776	19.076	226.468	579.31	301.804	12.314	232.706	546.824	90.421	64.552	102.76	94.39
6.	Delhi	29.794	140.373	8.809	178.776	30.441	119.303	6.145	155.889	102.17	84.99	71.379	87.20
7.	Goa	4.095	9.5	4.581	18.176	4.073	10.087	3.716	17.876	99.463	106.179	81.118	98.35
8.	Gujarat	220.383	110.52	116.703	447.606	185.828	21.225	106.641	313.694	84.32	19.205	91.378	70.08
9.	Haryana	52.11	0.18	0	52.29	45.509	0	0	45.509	87.333	0	0	87.03
10.	Himachal Pradesh	64.17	88.74	35.46	188.37	57.953	83.046	33.998	174.997	90.312	93.584	95.877	92.90
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	113.643	235.053	64.883	413.379	114.304	188.295	64.555	365.154	100.58	79.257	99.802	88.33
12.	Jharkhand	368.235	12.51	155.982	536.727	255.313	0.535	134.424	390.272	89.334	4.277	86.179	72.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13.	Karnataka	487.38	955.444	312.361	1755.205	485.625	428.25	299.267	1213.142	99.64	44.822	95.902	69.12
14.	Kerala	239.094	223.006	187.695	649.795	239.163	210.23	187.713	637.106	100.03	94.271	100.01	98.05
15.	Madhya Pradesh	252.202	19.17	77.954	349.326	239.485	16.089	75.84	331.414	94.958	83.928	97.289	94.87
16.	Maharashtra	624.567	26.1	376.125	1026.792	476.126	18.642	296.769	791.537	76.233	71.425	78.902	77.09
17.	Manipur	35.46	21.035	15.886	72.36	33.527	17.794	15.704	67.025	94.549	84.592	98.861	92.6
18.	Meghalaya	35.532	39.272	22.113	96.917	33.856	34.49	21.366	89.712	95.289	87.823	96.622	92.57
19.	Mizoram	13.23	34.083	8.19	55.503	13.079	29.06	8.191	50.33	98.859	85.282	100.01	90.68
20.	Nagaland	19.431	39.249	12.042	70.722	18.468	43.605	12.673	74.946	95.044	111.098	106.9	105.97
21.	Orissa	874.179	49.626	398.34	1322.145	716.208	11.203	314.062	1041.473	81.929	22.575	78.843	78.77
22.	Punjab	33.642	0	5.73	39.372	6.055	0.136	1.837	8.028	17.998	0	32.059	20.39
23.	Rajasthan	151.794	0	9.666	161.46	108.555	0	4.652	113.207	71.515	0	48.127	70.11
24.	Sikkim	8.478	17.268	5.202	30.948	8.474	18.834	5.206	32.514	99.953	109.069	100.08	105.06
25.	Tamilnadu	944.424	2033.574	587.358	3565.356	941.217	1214.499	591.064	2746.78	99.66	59.722	100.63	77.04
26.	Tripura	58.667	82.95	34.058	175.875	61.495	71.826	27.343	160.664	104.46	86.59	80.284	91.35
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1391.517	8.64	865.206	2265.363	1087.135	11.485	759.111	1857.731	78.126	132.928	87.738	82.01
28.	Uttanchal	72.855	58.671	33.399	164.925	72.538	33.166	30.874	136.578	99.565	56.529	92.44	82.81
29.	West Bengal	717.363	69.3	261.819	1048.482	556.001	69.51	224.545	850.056	77.506	100.303	85.763	81.07
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.231	12.951	1.161	17.343	2.481	7.432	0.913	10.826	76.787	57.386	78.639	62.42
31.	Chandigarh	1.899	0	0.686	2.565	1.697	0	0.426	2.123	89.363	0	63.964	82.77
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.249	3.222	1.53	8.001	0.391	0.751	0.217	1.359	12.034	23.309	14.183	16.99
33.	Daman and Diu	0.72	0.54	0.432	1.692	0.233	0.189	0.142	0.584	32.361	35	32.87	33.33
34.	Lakshadweep	0.524	2.52	0.341	3.385	0.415	1.92	0.632	2.967	79.198	76.19	185.34	87.85
35.	Pondicherry	16.173	21.33	10.161	47.664	8.779	0	5.809	14.388	54.282	0	55.201	30.19
TOTAL		9,288.631	6,186.267	5,023.139	20,498.067	7,588.015	4,242.614	4,551.992	16,382.621	81.691	68.581	90.620	79.923
CRP/BSF		0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Defence		0	96.372	0	96.372	0	83.324	0	83.324	0	86.461	0	86.461
Bhutan		0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total (All India)		9,288.631	6,282.659	5,023.139	20,594.429	7,588.015	4,325.938	4,551.992	16,465.945	81.691	68.655	90.620	79.953

Note: Offtake under Defence includes CRPF and Bhutan as no bifurcation is received from FCI

**Rise in Prices**

753. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:  
 SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:  
 SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:  
 SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL  
 SHRI AJIT JOGI:  
 SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:  
 SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:

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

(a) whether the prices of essential commodities including Rice, Wheat, Gram Edible oil, Pulses, Vegetables, Milk continue to rise despite the efforts made by the Government in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the increase in prices of essential commodities during the last six months;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to control the prices and check hoarding, black marketing and forward trading of essential commodities;

(d) whether the Government has received any report from Food and Agriculture Organisation showing concern about the increasing prices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to address the issues raised in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is aware of increase in prices of essential commodities and has already taken steps to check the increase in prices by taking effective measures such as augmenting domestic supplies of rice, wheat pulses and edible oils through imports at during the last six months is given in table below:-

Commodity	Current Prices as on 26.02.08	Retail prices (Rs./Kg.)				Variation Over 6 Month
		1 Week Back 19.02.08	1 Month Back 25.01.08	3 Month Back 26.11.07	6 Month Back 27.08.07	
Rice	18.00	17.00	17.00	16.00	15.00	3.00
Wheat	13.00	12.50	13.00	12.00	12.00	1.00
Atta	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	13.00	1.00
Gram dal	35.00	35.00	35.00	36.00	34.00	1.00
Tur dal	41.00	42.00	42.00	41.00	39.00	2.00
Sugar	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	16.00	1.00
Groundnut oil*	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	118.00	3.00
Mustard Oil*	71.00	69.00	68.00	64.00	62.00	9.00
Vanaspati	68.00	68.00	67.00	60.00	60.00	8.00
Tea (Loose)	108.00	109.00	107.00	109.00	107.00	1.00
Milk <sup>⊙</sup>	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	19.00	1.00
Potato	8.00	7.00	8.00	10.00	15.50	-7.50
Onion	8.00	8.00	9.00	14.50	21.00	-13.00
Salt (Packed)	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.00	1.00

\*Refined oil <sup>⊙</sup> per litre

Inflation in some food articles mainly rice, tur dal and edible oils is witnessed mainly due to inadequate supplies in relation to demand, diversion of food grain to bio-fuel and animal feed, production losses due to inclement weather conditions in both domestic and international markets.

(c) The Prevention of Black marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act,

1980 empowers the Central and State Governments to detain persons whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. The detention orders made by the State Governments year-wise and year-wise and state-wise during the last three years and upto 31.12.2007 are given as under.

Name of the State	2004	2005	2006	2007 (As on 31.12.2007)
Gujarat	63	101	85	50
Assam	11	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	1	7	74	65
Orissa	-	2	1	-
Maharashtra	-	1	1	1
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>119</b>

Forward Markets Commission (FMC) vide letter dated 23.01.07 has directed the three National Exchanges, namely (a) Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd., (b) National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Ltd. (c) National Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd., to delist all contracts of tur and urad and to close out all outstanding positions in all Tur and Urad contracts at the closing price on 23.01.07. FMC has also stated that no further contract shall be launched without its prior approval and permission already granted to launch contracts in Urad and Tur stands withdrawn. FMC has on 27.2.2007 directed all the three National Exchanges that no new permission already granted for yet to be launched contracts stands revoked and that in respect of running contracts in these commodities no new position should be allowed to be taken. Only squaring up of positions should be allowed. Forward Markets Commission (FMC) prescribes various regulatory measures such as imposition of limits on open position, reduction in limits on daily price fluctuations and imposition of additional/special margin to ensure orderly trading in the commodity futures market.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Does not arise.

#### Administrative Reform Project in EPFO

754. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the administrative reform project in Employees Provident Fund Organisation ((EPFO) has been scrapped now;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the expenditure incurred on its implementation; and

(c) the reasons for scrapping the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) No, Sir. M/s Siemens Information Systems Limited (SISL) were engaged as Consultants for the Project- "Re-inventing EPF, India" of Employees Provident Fund Organisation for an amount of Rs. 6,67,47,000/-.The Consultants appointed for the project delivered their report on 'Business Process Re engineering', 'System Design Document' 'Software Requirement Specifications', etc. The application software was also delivered. On exhaustive user testing and field

testing, the application was found to be needing considerable improvement. To set right the deficiencies, the consultants asked for change in contract and unreasonable financial compensation. The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund have considered the above and have given directions to explore alternate options and also to take legal opinion as regards the present situation.

[*Translation*]

#### **Research and Development Facilities**

755. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing funds to enhance Research and Development (R &D) facilities in the field of water resources in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such States recognised for Research and Development; and

(c) the time by which the research work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A scheme for "Research and Development Programme in Water Sector" has been approved for XI Plan for taking up research in different areas of water resources through research organisations under the Ministry of Water Resources. Under the scheme, support is also provided to various research organisations/water and Land Management Institutes (WALMIs)/academic institutions etc. for specific activities in key/priority areas. The key/priority areas identified by the Ministry for support are (a) Efficiency studies for completed major and medium irrigation projects; (b) Effect of climate change on water resources and studies in respect of vulnerability assessment and adaptation; (c) Reservoir sedimentation studies; (d) Post-facto evaluation and management plan for optimal benefit from the resources; and (e) Initiation of benchmarking of irrigation projects for performance improvement.

(b) and (c) Research organisations/WALMIs/academic institutions all over the country eligible for seeking assistance as per the guidelines. The list of various research organisations/WALMIs/academic institutions currently being provided assistance under the Plan

Scheme is enclosed as statement. The research schemes are to be completed by various organisations/institutions at different time as per the approved programme.

#### **Statement**

*List of Research Organisations/WALMIs/Academic Institutions currently being Provided Assistance under the Plan Scheme of Ministry of Water Resources*

#### **Andhra Pradesh**

- Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam
- Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad
- Jawaharlal Nehru Technological university, Hyderabad, A.P.
- Osmania University, Hyderabad
- National Institute of Technology, Warangal.
- S V University, Tirupati

#### **Assam**

- North Eastern Regional Institute of Water & Land Management, Tezpur
- Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat

#### **Bihar**

- Water and land Management Institute, Patna Chhattisgarh
- Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Raipur

#### **Gujarat**

- Gujarat Agriculture University, Junagadh.
- Gujarat Engineering Research Institute, Vadodara

#### **Haryana**

- CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar
- Forest Department, Government of Haryana

#### **Jharkhand**

- Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad
- Central Mining Research Institute, Dhanbad

**Karnataka**

- Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
- Karnataka Engineering Research Station, Krishnarajsagara
- National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar
- National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal
- University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore

**Kerala**

- Centre for Water Resources Development & Management, Kozhikode
- Kerala Engineering Research Institute, Peechi
- Kerala State Electricity Board
- School of Engineering, Cochin University of Science & Technology, Cochin

**Madhya Pradesh**

- Institute of Environment Management and Plant Sciences, Vikram University, Ujjain.
- Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur

**Maharashtra**

- Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai.
- Mahaashtra Engineering Research Institute, Nasik

**Manipur**

- Manipur Science and Technology Council, Imphal

**Orissa**

- Spatial Planning & Analysis Research Centre, Bhubaneswar (NGO)
- Water Resources Department, Government of Orissa
- Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region, Bhubaneswar

**Punjab**

- Arid Forest Research Institute, Jodhpur

- Birla Institute of Scientific Research, Jaipur
- Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani
- B.M. Birla Science & Technology Centre, Jaipur (NGO)
- Engineering College, Kota
- ID & R Unit, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur
- Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur
- Rajasthan Gramothan Sanstha, Jaipur (NGO)

**Tamil Nadu**

- Anna University, Chennai
- Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar
- Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai
- Institute of Hydraulics and Hydrology, Poondi
- Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
- V.O. Chidambaram College, Tuticorin

**Uttar Pradesh**

- Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
- Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- Madan Mohan Malviya Engineering College, Gorakhpur

**Uttarakhand**

- G B Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Srinagar (Garhwal)
- Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee
- Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee

**West Bengal**

- Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Nadia
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
- Presidency College, Kolkata

- River Research Institute, Kolkata
- SWID, Govt. of West Bengal

## Delhi

- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi (NGO)
- Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.
- Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.
- Institute for Resource Management and Economic Development, Delhi (NGO)
- Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
- University of Delhi, Delhi

## Puducherry

- Pondicherry University, Kalapet

**Project Clearance by CWC**

756. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has cleared some water resource schemes for various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Project-wise and State-wise alongwith funds allocated for the said projects; and

(c) the time by which the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The clearance to water resources projects by the Central Water Commission is a continuous process depending on the completion of appraisal process of the project proposals received from the State Governments and compliance of the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies by the State Governments. The details of the project proposals approved by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects during its 89th to 91st meeting are given in the enclosed statement.

Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution, priority of execution of projects and funding thereof is within the purview of the State Governments. The Central Government provides financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the eligible projects as per guidelines of the AIBP based on the proposals received from the State Governments on year to year basis.

**Statement**

*List of Projects accepted by Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects of the Ministry of Water Resources during 89th to 91st meetings*

Sl. No.	Meeting Number	Date of Meeting	Project Name	Name of the State	Major Medium	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Benefits in Ha./MW	Date of Approval by Planning Commission
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	89th	27.06.2007	D'zuza Irrigation Scheme	Nagaland	Medium	75.20	10146	
2.			Punpun Barrage Project (Revised)	Bihar	Major	199.41	13680	05.10.2007
3.			Madhya Ganga Canal Pariyojana Stage-II	UP	Major	1095.41	148532	
4.			Lower Indira Irrigation Project (Revised)	Orissa	Major	521.13	38870	
5.			Thoubal Multipurpose Project (Revised)	Manipur	Major	715.81	33449	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.			Chandrabhaga Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	188.925	8135	05.10.2007
7.			Sapan Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	200.70	7195	05.10.2007
8.			Uttarmand Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	123.169	5280/ 0.5MW	20.09.2007
9.			Wang Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	162.782	7068/ 3.00 MW	20.09.2007
10.			Moma (Gureghar) Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	129.641	3075/ 0.80 MW	20.09.2007
11.			Pentaki Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Major	169.67	14332	24.09.2007
12.			Sidhatha Irrigation Project	H.P.	Medium	66.35	5348	08.11.2007
13.	90th	26.09.2007	Shah Nahar Irrigation Project (Revised)	H.P.	Major	310.89	24772	17.01.2008
14.			Changer Area LIS (Revised)	H.P.	Medium	88.09	3.041	
15.			Bateshwar Sthan Ganga Pump Canal, Phase-I (Revised)	Bihar	Major	389.31	27803	
16.			Bansager Canal Project (Revised)	U.P.	Major	1674.11	150132 (Additional)	
17.			Parkachik Khewas Irrigation Canal	J&K	Medium	35.44	2262	
18.			Improvement of South Saraswati River	West Bengal	Flood Protection	32.10	—	
19.			Mahanadi Reservoir Project (Revised)	Chhattisgarh	Major	845.00	264000	11.12.2007
20.			Sangola Branch Canal Project	Maharashtra	Major	287.77	11268	17.12.2007
21.			Sulwade Barrage	Maharashtra	Medium	290.88	8533	10.12.2007
22.			Sarangkhade Barrage	Maharashtra	Medium	202.48	11320	10.12.2007
23.			Prakasha Barrage	Maharashtra	Medium	178.91	10180	10.12.2007
24.	91st	07.11.2007	Component of Bagmathi Multipurpose Project	Bihar	Flood Control	135.16	—	15.02.2008
25.			Raising & strengthening of existing embankment along Kamla River	Bihar	Flood Control	52.0928	—	15.02.2008
26.			Flood control Embankments in Mahananda Basin/Sub-Basin	Bihar	Flood Control	603.88	—	
27.			Raising & strengthening and Extension of existing left & right bank in Chandan River System	Bihar	Flood Control	147.6868	—	
28.			Raising & strengthening and Extension of existing Right Embankment along Genua River	Jharkhand	Flood Control	20.123	—	
29.			Purna Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	213.10	7530	



**Arable Land**

757. SHRI P. MOHAN:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether total area of arable land in the country is increasing;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether irrigation facilities including micro arid lift irrigation facilities are extended to more number of villages every year in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including the funds invested in such schemes/projects;

(f) whether area of barren land is also increasing; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The total cultivable land was 185.09 million ha. in 1980-81 which has reduced to 182.57 million ha. in 2005-06 mainly due to diversion of agricultural land to non agricultural uses. During the same period, land under non-agricultural uses has increased from 19.66 million ha. to 24.94 million ha. The State-wise details of cultivable land for 2005-06 are given at in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) and (e) Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution, funding and priority of construction of irrigation projects is within the purview of State Governments. Under major and medium irrigation projects, irrigation potential has been created in about 42.3 million ha. And under minor irrigation projects, irrigation potential has been created in about 60.4 million ha. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-II and enclosed statement III respectively. Also, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation was launched in January, 2006 (during 10th Plan) for implementing drip and sprinkler

irrigation in the country. Under this scheme, assistance is provided to all categories of farmers @ 50% of the cost of drip and sprinkler system. The programme is being implemented in all the States. During last two years (2005-06 and 2006-07) an area of 3.48 lakh ha. has been covered under above scheme. The details of physical and financial targets and achievements are given in the enclosed statement-IV.

(f) and (g) No, Sir. The extent of barren land was 19.96 million ha. in 1980-81 which has reduced to 17.54 million ha. in 2005-06 in the country.

**Statement I**

*Statewise area of Cultivable land for the year 2005-06 (Provisional)*

(Area in thousand hectare)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Cultivable land
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15772.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	314.0
3.	Assam	3224.00
4.	Bihar	6639.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5590.00
6.	Goa	197.00
7.	Gujarat	12412.00
8.	Haryana	3780.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	804.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1050.00
11.	Jharkand	4184.00
12.	Karnataka	12905.00
13.	Kerala	2323.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	17337.00
15.	Maharashtra	21167.00
16.	Manipur	245.00

1	2	3	1	2	3
17.	Meghalaya	1058.00	28.	West Bengal	5749.00
18.	Mizoram	218.00		<b>Union Territories</b>	
19.	Nagaland	644.00	29.	NCT of Delhi	58.00
20.	Orissa	7473.00	30.	A&N Islands	24.00
21.	Punjab	4270.00	31.	Chandigarh	2.00
22.	Rajasthan	25630.00	32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	24.00
23.	Sikkim	154.00	33.	Daman & Diu	2.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	8164.00	34.	Lakshadweep	3.00
25.	Tripura	310.00	35.	Pondicherry	31.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	19307.00		<b>All India</b>	<b>182575.00</b>
27.	Uttaranchal	1511.00			

**Statement II***State-wise likely Physical achievement in Major and Medium Irrigation Sector upto end of X Plan*

(Th. ha.)

S.No.	Name of States & UTs	Ultimate Irign. Pot. for Major & Medium	Potential created (PC till end of IX Plan)	Potential utilized (PU till end of IX Plan)	Performance During X Plan										Cumulative Achievement Upto X Plan			
					2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07 (Target)		Sub Total			
					PC	PU	PC	PU	PC	PU	PC	PU	PC	PU	PC	PU	PC	PU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5000.00	3302.22	3061.59	94.24	61.28	112.98	73.44	78.03	90.72	11.74	7.63	142.45	92.59	430.44	295.84	3742.86	3337.23
2.	Assam	970.00	243.82	174.37	5.5	3.53	0.82	0.4	47.85	30.97	2.5	1.83	12.71	8.26	68.38	44.84	312.80	219.21
3.	Bihar	5223.80	2880.00	1714.89	27	17.55	45	28.25	45	28.25	37	24.05	125	81.25	279	181.35	2959.00	1886.18
4.	Chhattisgarh	1278.50	354.47	230.45	58	37.7	47	78.82	59.8	38.88	50	32.5	33	22.76	248.5	210.25	603.57	440.70
5.	Goa	62.00	21.17	15.33	1.72	1.12	3.15	2.05	2.22	1.44	4.29	2.85	5.1	3.32	16.48	10.58	37.85	25.91
6.	Gujarat	3000.00	1430.37	1300.83	144	93.6	137.13	88.13	188	188.2	324	210.8	15	9.75	788.13	512.28	2218.50	1813.11
7.	Haryana	3000.00	2088.48	1848.97	16.3	10.8	13.57	8.82	16.43	10.88	20.28	13.18	25.29	16.44	81.87	59.72	2191.38	1908.89
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50.00	13.35	7.51	0.2	0.13	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	1	0.85	2.1	1.38	15.45	8.89
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	250.00	179.89	188.75	3.58	2.31	4.82	3.13	0	0	15.23	8.9			23.81	15.34	283.30	184.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
11.	Karnataka	2500.00	2121.12	1844.82	1.4	1.2	2.8	1.89			2.83	2.2			6.63	5.09	2127.75	1949.91	
12.	Kerala	1000.00	809.49	558.87	57.12	37.13	68.21	44.34	74.67	29.67	134.09	17.54	146.89	95.48	480.98	224.38	1099.47	783.23	
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4853.071	1336.90	875.63	10	6.5	15	9.75	15	9.75	10	6.5	15	9.75	65	42.26	1461.90	917.88	
14.	Chattisgarh	1148.83	822.50	760.74	101.75	68.14	125.32	81.46	147.76	39.5	170.17	110.61	343.18	223.07	888.19	520.78	1810.88	1281.52	
15.	Maharashtra	4100.00	3239.00	2147.24	24	15.8	116	74.76	115	74.76	1.16	0.75			255.15	188.86	3484.15	2313.69	
16.	Madhya Pradesh	135.00	91.15	72.91			5.15	4.5	5.25	4	0	0	1.5	0.98	11.9	9.48	103.05	82.39	
17.	Meghalaya	20.00	0.00	0.00											0	0	0.00	0.00	
18.	Mizoram	0.00													0	0	0.00	0.00	
19.	Nagaland	10.00	0.00	0.00									1	0.5	1	0.65	1.00	0.65	
20.	Odisha	3800.00	1826.56	1794.17	29.92	19.46	67.4	43.91	27.75	18.04	5	3.25	33.34	21.67	183.41	108.22	1989.97	1900.39	
21.	Punjab	3000.00	2542.48	2485.99	2.19	5.03						30	19.	3	16.	82.19	44.03	2904.67	2530.02
22.	Rajasthan	2750.00	2482.15	2313.67	44.8	29.12	69.85	44.95	92	92	7	48.1	131.5	86.5	408.2	297.7	2980.35	2611.80	
23.	Sikkim	20.00	0.00	0.00											0	0	0.00	0.00	
24.	Tamil Nadu	1500.00	1548.31	1548.29	4.25	2.76	5.14	3.34	2.38	1.53					117.6	7.89	1881.08	1566.92	
25.	Tripura	100.00	4.90	4.50					4.5	2.92	4.8	3.02	4.85	3.02	13.8	6.97	18.70	13.47	
26.	Uttar Pradesh	12154.00	7910.09	6394.00	148.34	94.4	74.72	38.63	145.2	130	16	105.	344	223.8	871.28	5.92	8781.35	6926.00	
27.	Uttarakhand	346.00	280.30	185.41	1.24	0.81	2.48	1.81	2.48	1.81	2.41	1.8	0.67	0.44	9.36	6.88	289.85	181.49	
28.	West Bengal	2300.00	1883.29	1827.12	39	28.35	7.82	4.89	15	9.75	1	6	15	9.75	88.92	56.24	1789.81	1583.26	
	UTs	96.00	6.51	3.94	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	6.51	3.94	
	Total	59485.00	38861.43	30872.13	812.33	531.91	922.26	638.95	1064.2	694.89	1088.51	625.26	1438.3	928.41	5295.83	3409.5	42277.06	34381.86	

**Statement III***State-wise likely Physical Achievement under Minor Irrigation Sector in X Plan*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Ultimate Irrigation Potential	Achievement upto IX Plan		Anticipated achievement in X Plan		Likely cumulative achievement up to X Plan	
			Potential Created	Potential Utilized	Potential Created	Potential Utilized	Potential Created	Potential Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6280.00	3019.46	2781.22	102.52	86.35	3121.98	2967.57
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1680	99.52	77.40	18.36	14.89	117.88	92.09
3.	Assam	1900.00	603.82	494.11	31.86	25.49	635.48	519.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Bihar	5663.50	4716.44	3759.46	42.34	33.87	4758.78	3793.33
5.	Chattisgarh	571.00	588.87	471.09	104.06	83.25	692.93	554.34
6.	Goa	54.00	22.20	19.14	2.31	1.85	24.51	20.99
7.	Gujarat	3103.00	1998.92	1876.14	24.50	18.60	2023.42	1895.74
8.	Haryana	1512.0	1630.95	1578.12	8.72	5.38	1637.67	1583.50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	303.00	161.00	138.30	10.09	8.07	171.09	146.37
10.	Jharkhand	1183.50	382.45	366.77	71.44	57.15	453.89	423.92
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1108.00	1585.04	1541.74	6.30	4.86	1591.344	1546.80
12.	Karnataka	3474.00	640.02	603.76	39.84	31.87	679.86	635.63
13.	Kerala	1679.00	2256.13	2149.48	42.00	33.60	2298.13	2183.08
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11361.00	487.70	322.86	112.92	90.34	600.62	413.20
15.	Maharashtra	4852.00	2942.60	2557.72	363.00	290.40	3305.60	2848.12
16.	Manipur	469.00	75.49	62.34	18.70	14.96	94.19	77.30
17.	Meghalaya	148.00	50.97	47.31	10.79	8.63	61.76	55.94
18.	Mizoram	70.00	16.69	14.08	1.39	1.15	18.08	15.23
19.	Nagaland	75.00	76.56	65.63	16.61	13.29	93.17	78.92
20.	Orissa	5203.00	1474.12	1337.55	162.58	130.06	1636.70	1467.61
21.	Punjab	2967.00	3427.56	3387.82	2.52	0.38	3430.08	3388.20
22.	Rajasthan	2378.00	2447.10	2361.80	20.80	16.64	2467.90	2378.44
23.	Sikkim	50.00	29.67	23.61	3.76	3.01	33.43	26.62
24.	Tamil Nadu	4032.00	2123.38	2119.52	11.10	8.88	2134.48	2128.40
25.	Tripura	181.00	109.65	96.09	30.33	24.26	139.98	120.35
26.	Uttar Pradesh	17481.00	21599.40	17279.62	1977.03	1561.62	23576.43	18881.24
27.	Uttanchal	518.00	500.98	400.80	15.56	12.44	516.54	413.24
28.	West Bengal	4618.00	3792.52	3098.12	261.13	208.90	4053.65	3307.02
	Total States	81382.00	56859.01	49011.60	3510.56	2811.00	60369.57	51822.60
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		1.38	1.35	0.72	0.58	2.10	1.93
30.	Chandigarh		0.26	0.24	0.04	0.03	0.30	0.27
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.69	0.65	0.68	0.54	1.37	1.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
32.	Daman and Diu		1537	10.29	2.39	1.91	17.76	12.20
33.	Delhi		21.64	18.52	0.00	0.00	21.64	18.52
34.	Lakshadweep		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry		4.37	4.36	3.36	2.69	7.73	7.05
Total (Uts)		48.00	43.71	35.41	7.19	5.75	50.90	41.16
Total States & UTs		81428.00	58902.72	49047.01	3517.75	2816.75	60420.47	51863.76

NF: Not Furnished

In Mid term Appraisal of Tenth Plan, the X Plan target has been scaled down to 40 m ha. The breakdown of which is yet to be finalised.

\*Actual achievement figures under reconciliation with states.

#### Statement IV

#### Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation—Details of Release of Fund and Area covered during 2005-06 and 2006-07

Sl.No.	State	No. of Districts	2005-06				2006-07			
			Physical (ha.)		Financial (Rs. in lakh)		Physical (ha.)		Financial (Rs. in lakh)	
			Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	45530	6775	6129.23	934	193621	91398	19519.68	10487.9
2.	Bihar	38	0	0	0	0	14223	0	2482.1	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	16	0	0	0	0	28748	4600	3032.88	25621
4.	Delhi	1	0	0	0	0	100	0	15.71	0
5.	Goa	1	0	0	0	0	128	8	12.13	1
6.	Gujarat	25	16720	5042	2182.01	701.17	18247	24338	3355.9	3892
7.	Haryana	20	0	0	0	0	5385	2823	443.89	231.79
8.	Jharkhand	22	0	0	0	0	3106	0	229.92	0
9.	Karnataka	21	25703	0	3584.1	0	23737	39850	2456.75	4014.27
10.	Kerala	14	25208	0	3200	0	5382	621	636.3	40.33
11.	Madhya Pradesh	48	3498	0	580.32	0	2117	3087	401.16	401
12.	Maharashtra	33	41856	0	4808.09	0	65188	98825	6796.55	12480.28
13.	Orissa	30	0	0	0	0	3314	1222	454.26	137.27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Punjab	17	4180	0	566.14	0	0	1423	0	183.72
15.	Rajasthan	32	13000	0	1048.02	0	39751	67676	2833.34	3704.35
16.	Tamil Nadu	12	32850	0	4290.96	0	5402	0	1200.64	0
17.	Uttar Pradesh	26	8910	0	1241.74	0	0	1863	0	145.67
18.	West Bengal	18	0	0	0	0	1849	0	195.67	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>396</b>	<b>217455</b>	<b>11817</b>	<b>27630.61</b>	<b>1635.17</b>	<b>410298</b>	<b>336734</b>	<b>46066.88</b>	<b>35955.79</b>

[Translation]

**Increase in Infiltration in J&K**

758. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of infiltration and terrorism have sharply increased after reduction in military forces from Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) the number of incidents of infiltration and terrorism

occurred during the last one year; and

(d) the number of terrorists, defence personnel and civilians killed in these incidents during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K ANTONY):  
(a) to (c) No, Sir. The quantum of troops deployed in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is continuously assessed and reviewed by the Army based on the changing threat perception. The number of incidents of infiltration and violence in Jammu and Kashmir during 2007 was 535 and 1092 respectively.

(d) The number of terrorists, security forces personnel and civilians killed during the last three years is given below:-

Year	Terrorists killed	Security forces personnel killed	Civilians killed
2005	917	189	557
2006	591	151	389
2007	472	110	158

**National Food Security Mission**

759. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has taken off;

(b) if so, whether the annual action plans for various States have been finalised;

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

(d) the steps contemplated to meet the targets set for each States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The National Food Security Mission is in operation with effect from Rabi 2007-08. The Annual Action Plans of the States for 2007-08 have been finalized and an amount of Rs. 35744.42 lakh has been allocated to various States for the implementation of interventions for enhancing the production of rice, wheat and pulses. The State-wise allocation is given in the enclosed statement. Through regular monitoring of the progress of implementation of various planned interventions at District, State and National Levels, it is envisaged that the Mission would be able to achieve the targets set for the States.

**Statement**

*National Food Security Mission*

As on 28.2.2008  
(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Total Allocation	Total Amount released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4261.830	1343.064
2.	Assam	380.820	380.820
3.	Bihar	3630.335	3540.343
4.	Chhattisgarh	1014.000	821.400
5.	Gujarat	737.250	604.000
6.	Haryana	1971.110	1589.408
7.	Jharkhand	0.000	0.000
8.	Karnataka	786.690	636.152
9.	Madhya Pradesh	4412.495	3591.196
10.	Maharashtra	1389.290	997.512
11.	Orissa	1133.620	618.736
12.	Punjab	3288.330	2653.464
13.	Rajasthan	2359.180	1896.344
14.	Tamil Nadu	900.553	725.442
15.	Uttar Pradesh	8379.060	6795.048
16.	West Bengal	1099.857	78.000
TOTAL		35744.420	26270.929

**Sub-Standard Seeds and Cotton Production**

760. PROF. M. RAMADASS:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton production is affected severely due to inferior/spurious/substandard cotton seeds available in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the cotton seed producers who are responsible for marketing inferior/spurious/sub-standard cotton seeds to the farming community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) No Sir. Cotton production has increased substantially during the last three years as stated below:-

Year	Area (in lakh Ha.)	Production (in lakh bales)	Yield (in kg./Ha.)
2004-05	87.87	164.29	318
2005-06	86.77	184.99	362
2006-07	91.42	226.96	422

To curtail sale of inferior/spurious/sub-standard seeds, the selling points are regularly inspected by notified seed inspectors and the samples of all crops including cotton are drawn to check the quality. The inferior/spurious/sub-standard seeds are stopped from sale and legal actions are initiated against the defaulter under the relevant provisions of the Seeds Act, 1966.

The action taken under the Seeds Act, 1966 against those who sold sub-standard seed including cotton seed during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement***All-India Status of Seed Law Enforcement (Seeds Act 1966) during 2004-2007*

Sl.No.	Year	No. of notified Inspector	Total No. of samples drawn	No. of samples found sub-standard	No. of seed dealers sold sub-standard seed	No. of cases in which warning issued	No. of cases stop sale order issued	No. of cases filed in the Court of Law	No. of cases decided by Court of Law fine/imprisonment awarded	No. of cases pending Court of Law	No. of cases where seed forfeited
1.	2004-2005	8529	87588	3829	2261	2207	3201	343	197	173	48
2.	2005-2006	8041	79669	5901	2235	2063	2829	450	181	410	8
3.	2006-2007	8341	63332	3599	1475	1238	1771	200	137	434	38

**Export Subsidy to Sugar Factories**

761. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sugar production recorded in the country during 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(b) whether the Government proposes to give subsidy to sugar factories to encourage export; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount of subsidy given by the Government to sugar factories during 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Sugar production during 2006-2007 sugar season is provisionally estimated at about 282 lac tons. During the current 2007-08 sugar season, the sugar production up to 15.01.2008 is provisionally estimated at about 89 lac tons and the season is still in progress.

(b) and (c) The Central Government is providing export assistance to sugar factories to defray expenditure on internal transport, marketing and handling charges and ocean freight @ Rs. 1350/- per ton for sugar factories located in coastal states and Rs. 1450/- per ton for sugar factories located in non-coastal states (subject to actuals for export by road/rail to neighbouring countries) for a period of one year with effect from 19.04.2007. An amount

of Rs. 20.96 crore was disbursed to various sugar mills as export assistance during the financial year 2006-07 in respect of export of sugar made with effect from 21.06.2002 to 18.08.2004. No payment has been made in 2006-07 for exports made on or after 19.04.2007.

**More Establishments under EPFO**

762. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether only a fraction of the total work force of the country has taken the membership of Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO);

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring more establishments under the purview of Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the extend the reach of benefits to all eligible workforce; and

(d) the details of other schemes prevailing and formulated for the welfare of labourers of both organised and unorganised sectors and the number of labourers being benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) As on 31.03.2007, the membership of the Employees' Provident Fund was 4.44 crore.

The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, subject to provisions contained in



section 16, applies to every establishment, which is a factory engaged in any industry specified in Schedule I to the Act or any establishment engaged in an activity notified by the Government and employing 20 or more persons and is limited to a maximum wage ceiling of Rs. 8500/- per month.

(c) With a view to bring coverable establishments under the purview of the Act and to extend benefits to the eligible employees, all out efforts are made by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, which include launching of Special Coverage Drives, regular publicity, providing information/support through official web site, conducting seminars, workshops, etc.

(d) Details of other schemes formulated by the Ministry of Labour & Employment for the welfare of workers in both organised and unorganized sectors are furnished in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of other schemes formulated for the welfare of workers in both organised and unorganized sectors*

1. Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 aims at providing social and economic security to industrial and other workers covered under the Act and their dependants in case of their premature death. The Act is at present applicable to every establishment specified in the Schedule-I to the Act and employing 20 or more persons. Under this Act three Schemes are in operation for social security of workers viz. (i) The Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, (ii) Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 and (iii) Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976.
2. The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 is also a social security legislation that provides for medical care and cash benefits in the contingencies of sickness, maternity, disablement and death due to employment injury to workers. The total number of insured persons covered under the ESI Scheme stood at 101.57 lakh as on 31.3.2007 and number of beneficiaries rose to 3.94 crore as on 31.3.2007.
3. The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 provides for the payment of gratuity to employees engaged in any factory, mine, oilfield, plantation, port,

railway, company and every shop and establishment employing 10 or more workers. A worker is entitled to gratuity in the contingency of superannuation, retirement, death or disablement due to accident or disease subject to completion of 5 years continuous service. The liability of gratuity rests with the employer.

4. The Workmen Compensation Act, 1923 is aimed at paying compensation to workers for accidents arising out of and in course of employment. The rate of compensation in case of death is an amount equal to 50 per cent of the monthly wages of the deceased workman multiplied by the relevant factor or an amount of Rs. 80,000/- whichever is more. Where permanent total disablement results from the injury, the compensation will be an amount equal to 60 per cent of the monthly wages of the injured workman multiplied by the relevant factor or an amount of Rs. 90,000/- whichever is more.
5. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 is a piece of social legislation enacted to promote the welfare of working women. The Act prohibits the working of pregnant women for a specified period before and after delivery. It also provides for maternity leave and payment of certain monetary benefits for women workers, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions during the period when they are out of employment on account of their pregnancy. The services of a working woman cannot be terminated during the period of her absence on account of pregnancy except for gross misconduct. The maximum period for which a woman can get maternity benefit is twelve weeks. Of this, six weeks must be taken prior to the date of delivery of the child and six weeks immediately following that date.
6. The Government has constituted Welfare Funds for workers of certain occupations in unorganised sector namely, Beedi, Cine and certain Non-Coal Mine. Under these Welfare Funds, Welfare schemes providing for health care, housing, education to the children etc. are being implemented.
7. The 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL families in Unorganised Sector has been launched on 1st October, 2007. The unorganised sector worker and his family (a unit of five) will

be covered under the scheme. The total sum insured would be Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis. The beneficiary would be entitled to cashless transactions through smart card. The benefits under the scheme will start accruing from 1st April, 2008.

8. With a view to providing death and disability cover to rural landless households, the Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) has been launched on 2nd October, 2007. Under the scheme, the head of the family or one earning member in the family will be insured. The Central Government will bear 50% of the premium of Rs. 200/- per year per person and the remaining 50% of the premium will be borne by State Government. The benefits under the scheme include Rs. 30,000 in case of natural death; Rs. 75,000 in case of death due to accident or total permanent disability due to accident. In case of partial disability due to accident, the insurance cover would be Rs. 37,500/-. The children of beneficiaries of AABY studying in classes 9th to 12th standard are eligible to a scholarship @ Rs.300/- per quarter per child.
9. Similarly, under the National Old Age Pension Scheme, all persons above the age of 65 years who belong to the household below the poverty line according to the criterion prescribed by Government of India are eligible for old age pension.
10. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States of the country. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are put into the Special schools where they are provided with education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend and health care etc. About 4.57 lakh children have been mainstreamed into regular education system under the Scheme. Further, Indo-US (INDUS) Project, a jointly funded Project of Government of India and US Department of Labour for rehabilitation of child labour is also being implemented in 21 districts. Under the Scheme, 27,553 children have been mainstreamed so far. In addition to these Projects, Government is also implementing the

Scheme of Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations in the districts, which are not covered under NCLP/INDUS Projects.

The information regarding other schemes for the welfare of workers of both organized and unorganized sectors is contained in the Annual Report as well as website ([www.labour.nic.in](http://www.labour.nic.in)) of the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

#### **Agro-Chemical Research**

763. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agro-chemical research establishments in each State and their major achievements during the last three years;

(b) the problems and issues that affect the performance of such establishments;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide additional financial and other incentives to these establishments especially to domestic research establishments for improving agricultural productivity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues, which is conducting research on various aspects of pesticide residues, since 1984. There are twelve coordinating centres in different states of the country with Project Coordinating Cell, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi as the nodal centre. The locations, names and the major research achievements during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Nothing pertaining to this Project.

(c) and (d) During Xth Plan the ICAR provided Rs. 1210 lakhs for the AINP on Pesticide Residues under the Pay and Allowance, Recurring and Non-recurring contingency. In the XIth plan also, fund of Rs. 1700 lakhs has been proposed for approval.

**Statement*****Locations, Names and the Major Research Achievements of Coordinating Centres of All India Network Project on Pesticide Residues during the last three years***

Sl.No.	Location	Achievements
1	2	3
1.	New Delhi (Division of Agricultural Chemicals, Indian Agricultural Research Institute)	Supervised field trials of indoxacarb in mustard and chickpea, flubendiamide in pigeonpea, spinosad in tomato and (clodinafop and metsulfuron methyl) in/on wheat and soil was conducted to evaluate their residue behavior. In a collaborative study pesticide residues in IPM and Non-IPM basmati rice soil and water were estimated. SPE Method was developed and validated for water. To study the variation of pesticide residue level and dehydration factor in harvested and sun dried chili, field trials were conducted at IARI with dicofol, ethion and cypermethrin. The pesticides were applied at the 0.055, 0.05% and 0.015%, respectively. The processing factor for chili for the insecticides dicofol, ethion and cypermethrin ranged from 2.40-3.20.
2.	Karnataka (Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore)	The center ascertained the persistence and dissipation pattern of a number of insecticides, fungicides and herbicides on different crops by conducting supervised field trial. Proposed pre-harvest interval (PHI) after the spray on particular crop. Flubendiamide on cabbage, tomato, Propineb on papaya, (flubendiamide + thiacloprid) on tomato and chlorpyrifos on banana was evaluated for their persistence behaviour in supervised field trial. Processing factor for insecticides, viz. cypermethrin, dicofol and ethion in chilli were determined by spraying these insecticides on a green chilli crop and the processing factor was found to be 2.202, 3.235 and 2.764 respectively. SPE method validation for organophosphate and synthetic pyrethroid pesticides on tomato was developed. Effect of bifenthrin on soil microbial activity was studied.
3.	Punjab (Department of Entomology, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana)	The dissipation pattern of flubendiamide (480SC) on tomato and cabbage, imidacloprid on grapes, propargite on brinjal and okra, flubendiamide (20 WDG) on cabbage, tomato and pigeon pea, fungicide mixture Lustré 37.5% SE on paddy and flubendiamide + thiacloprid on tomato has been studied in supervised field trial. Multi Residue method developed and validated for vegetables using GC-MS. Study of Omite 57 EC on brinjal and okra were conducted in collaboration with Acarology department.
4.	Rajasthan (Department of Entomology, Rajasthan Agricultural University, Jaipur)	Supervised Field Trials were conducted to study dissipation of flubendiamide 480 SC in/on tomato, cabbage, (flubendiamide 24%+thiacloprid24%(480SC) in/on tomato, propineb (Antracol) 70 WP in/on onion, flubendiamide 480 SC in/on chilli, spirotetramet 150 OD in/on chilli, imidacloprid 17.8 SL in/on cabbage and tomato, endosulfan 35 EC in/on cabbage. To work out the processing factor/dehydration factor in chilli field experiment were conducted with Dicofol 18.5 EC. Ethion 50 EC and Cypermethrin 25 EC at recommended doses of each. The processing factor computed for Dicofol, Ethion and Cypermethrin pesticides were 3.14, 4.22 and 4.82 mg kg <sup>-1</sup> , respectively.

1	2	3
5.	West Bengal (Department of Agricultural Chemicals, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Mohanpur)	Residue data of Omite 57 EC on brinjal and okra; Flubendiamide 20% WDG on tomato, cabbage, pigeon pea; Propineb 70WP (Antracol 70WP) on onion & in soil, tea crop & in soil; Thiocloprid 240SC. Monocrotophos 36 SL and Acephate on tea crop & in soil; Lusture 37.5% SE on paddy was generated through supervised field trials. Multi Residue Method for CRMs using GC-MS and SPE method was developed and validated for water, brinjal and tomato. A field experiment was conducted to determine the processing factor of red chilli powder from fresh chilli fruits. The chilli fruits were sprayed with dicofol, ethion and cypermethrin and the processing factor was found to be 2.95, 3.28 and 3.43 respectively.
6.	Andhra Pradesh (Department of Entomology, Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad.)	Supervised Field Trials of Flubendiamide on cabbage, tomato, redgram; Propineb (antracol 70 WP) in Onion, Dimethoate in safflower and certain insecticides in tomato were conducted to generate residue data. Effect of dehydration and processing on pesticide residues (ethion, dicofol and cypermethrin) in chilli was studied and found to be 8.48, 8.62 and 2.20 respectively. Solid Phase Extraction (SPE) methods for pesticide residue analysis in water were validated.
7.	Haryana (Department of Entomology, CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar)	Dissipation studies were carried out by applying fipronil on paddy, thiodicarb on cotton and ethion in wheat. The processing factor for okra was worked out. Per cent reduction of residues was observed in the range of 16-37 for cypermethrin 14-36 for $\lambda$ -cyhalothrin and 16-24 per cent for endosulfan.
8.	Gujarat (Anand Agricultural University, Anand)	Anand center conducted Supervised Field Trials for generation of pesticide residues data of Propineb on onion, Flubendiamide & thiocloprid on tomato, Alpha endosulfan on cotton, Emamectin benzoate on okra, Emamectin benzoate on tomato, Quizalofop ethyl on cotton (2nd yr.), Quizalofop ethyl on groundnut (2nd yr.). The concentration/processing factor for dicofol, ethion and cypermethrin on chilli was worked out to be 1.54, 5.86 and 3.17, respectively. The processing factor for endosulfan and chlorpyrifos on turmeric was found to be 4.67 and 0.640, respectively. The downward movement of five different synthetic pyrethroids (bifenthrin, $\lambda$ -cyhalothrin, cypermethrin, fenvalerate and deltamethrin) was estimated in three soil types by column leaching study. Up to 79 to 99% insecticides were found to confine in the top 0-5 cm layer of the column. Multi residue method was developed and validated for vegetables using GC-MS, for honey using SPE and for refined sugar.
9.	Himachal Pradesh (Department of Entomology, Dr.Y Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan)	The dissipation pattern of thiocloprid, flusilazole, Native, fenpyroximate on apple has been studied in supervised field trials. Thiocloprid, Propineb and Oberon on tea were evaluated for the residue level over a period of time. Multiresidue trials of carbendazim, mancozeb, propargite, endosulfan and dicofol on apple were conducted. SPE method was validated for water and honey. Pesticide residue analysis in Potato was done in collaborative study with CPRI, Shimla.
10.	Uttar Pradesh (Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, Entomology, CSA University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur)	Supervised field trials of local importance was conducted to study the persistence of chloropyriphs and quinalphos on mustard crop; persistency of endosulfan and fenvalerate in chickpea and persistence of herbicides (butachlor, pendimethalin, pretilachlor) on paddy. The processing factors for chill for Dicofol, Cypermethrin and Ethion were recorded as 5.54, 1.90 and 4.08, respectively. Multi residues method validation of CRM's using GC and GCMS was conducted.

1	2	3
11.	Maharashtra (Department of Entomology, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri)	Supervised Field Trials of propineb on onion, forchlorfenuron (CPPU) 0.1% on grape, Combi-mix of (flusilazole 12.5%+ carbendazim 25%) on paddy, flubendiamide 20% WDG in pigeonpea, flubendiamide 480 SC in cabbage, flubendiamide 480 SC in tomato, propargite on okra were conducted. The processing factor was worked out on the basis of residues in fresh chilli and processed dry chilli powder for dicofol, ethion and cypermethrin were 1.520, 1.621 and 1.868, respectively. Multi-residue method for grape and pomegranate and SPE clean-up for honey was developed and validated. Effect of bifenthrin, spinosad and chlorpyrifos on soil microbial activity was studied. There was no significant difference in the microbial population of fungi, bacteria and actinomycetes estimated from pesticide treated and control soil samples.
12.	Kerala (Department of Entomology, Kerala Agricultural University, Vellayani)	Supervised field trials of omite 57 EC on brinjal and okra, lusture 37.5SE on rice, talstar 10EC in sugarcane, Spirotetramat 150 OD on Chillies, Chlorpyrifos, lambda cyhalothrin, carbofuran and acephate in cardamom, Chlorpyrifos in pepper, Chlorpyrifos and phorate in banana were conducted for residue study. Effect of bifenthrin on soil microbial activity was conducted. No significant variation in the population of fungi, bacteria and actinomycetes could be observed in the treated as well as control sample. Effect of processing on residues of pesticide (chlorpyrifos, phorate carbofuran and acephate) levels in cardamom and pepper was evaluated.

#### Price Rise of Agricultural Commodities

764. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Abhijit Sen Committee constituted to study the impact of future trading on price rise in agricultural commodities has since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to part (a) does not arise.

#### Sugarcane Based Cropping System

765. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated a scheme called Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System in the country to increase the productivity of sugarcane;

(b) the number of field demonstrations made in various States, particularly in Maharashtra under Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System Scheme during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the number of farmers and extension workers trained under this scheme during the last three years, State-wise and yearwise; and

(d) the total increase in the production of sugarcane, State-wise and year-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. To increase the production and productivity of sugarcane, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture is under implementation in different States. The scheme

provides assistance for field demonstrations, training of farmers and extension workers, farm implement/machinery, heat treatment plants, production of planting material and drip irrigation.

(b) and (c) Details regarding field demonstration conducted and number of farmers and extension workers

trained under the scheme in major sugarcane growing States during last three years, are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(d) Details regarding sugarcane production in major sugarcane growing States during last three years, are given in the enclosed statement-II.

**Statement I**

*Year-wise number of field demonstrations conducted and number of trainees trained in major States under SUBACS Scheme*

Sl.No.	State	2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
		Demons.	Trainee	Demons.	Trainee	Demons.	Trainee
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1598	1855	—	—	—	—
2.	Bihar	400	27870	100	10120	200	7750
3.	Karnataka	400	—	1106	—	485	—
4.	Chhattisgarh	25	1080	468	6060	—	1020
5.	Uttarakhand	29	660	60	1060	60	1260
6.	Uttar Pradesh	1200	7200	1320	16480	1444	4890
7.	Tamil Nadu	—	500	387	—	713	10001
8.	Gujarat	165	3360	142	2050	105	4380
9.	Haryana	700	5060	600	5060	4132	5090
10.	Madhya Pradesh	—	800	—	2140	—	—
11.	Maharashtra	540	3850	991	8400	5526	36340

**Statement II**

*Area, Production and Yield of Sugarcane in major sugarcane growing States during 2004-05 to 2006-07*

A: area in lakh hectares  
P: production in lakh tonnes  
Y: yield in kg. per hectares

STATE		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1		2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	A	2.10	230	264
	P	157.39	176.56	216.92
	Y	7494	76765	82167

1		2	3	4
Bihar	A	1.04	1.01	1.30
	P	41.12	43.38	59.55
	Y	39460	42822	45953
Gujarat	A	1.97	1.97	2.14
	P	145.70	145.80	156.30
	Y	74072	74010	73037
Haryana	A	1.30	1.27	1.40
	P	80.60	81.80	95.80
	Y	62000	64409	68429
Karnataka	A	1.78	2.19	3.26
	P	142.76	182.67	266.70
	Y	80202	83411	87944
Madhya Pradesh	A	0.53	0.56	0.64
	P	21.48	24.25	28.06
	Y	40914	43694	43639
Maharashtra	A	324	501	10.49
	P	204.75	388.53	785.68
	Y	63194	77551	74898
Punjab	A	0.86	0.84	0.99
	P	51.70	48.60	60.20
	Y	60116	57857	60808
Uttaranchal	A	1 07	1 01	1.21
	P	64.41	61.34	61.00
	Y	60196	60733	50413
Tamil Nadu	A	2.32	3.35	3.91
	P	233.96	351.07	411.24
	Y	100845	104671	105123

1		2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh	A	19.55	21.56	22.47
	P	1187.16	1254.70	1339.49
	Y	60733	58201	59626
All India	A	36.62	42.02	51.51
	P	2370.88	2811.72	3555.20
	Y	64752	66919	69022

### Foreign Aided Water Projects

766. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sought funding from any foreign agencies/country for the development of water sector;

(b) if so, the details of proposals to be financed thereunder particularly with reference to building of a sea wall along the coast line; and

(c) the response of the donors thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN

YADAV): (a) A number of water resources projects are under implementation with assistance from external funding agencies. A list of the ongoing projects under implementation with assistance from external funding agencies is enclosed as statement.

(b) and (c) No Project for building sea wall along the coast line is presently under implementation with assistance from external funding agencies. However, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to provide Technical Assistance to the States of Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra in preparing technically, economically, environmentally and socially viable investment proposal to address coastal erosion problems and introduce procedures for sustainable coastal protection and shoreline management under the Sustainable Coastal Protection and Management Project.

### Statement

#### *List of Ongoing Externally Funded Projects*

Sl.No.	Funding Agency	State	Name of Projects
1	2	3	4
1.	World Bank	Karnataka	Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project
2.	World Bank	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project
3.	World Bank	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project
4.	World Bank	Uttar Pradesh	UP Water Sector Restructuring Project
5.	World Bank	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Water Sector Improvement Project
6.	World Bank	Multi-State	Hydrology Project-II



1	2	3	4
7.	World Bank	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation and Water Bodies Restoration and Management Projects
8.	World Bank	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Community Based Tank Management Project
9.	World Bank	Karnataka	Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project
10.	Asian Development Bank	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh Irrigation Development Sector Project
11.	JBIC Japan	Andhra Pradesh	Modernization of Kumool-Cuddapah Canal
12.	JBIC Japan	Orissa	Rengali Irrigation Project
13.	JBIC Japan	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Improvement Project
14.	JBIC Japan	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Livelihood Improvement Project
15.	Germany	Maharashtra	Minor Irrigation Project
16.	Germany	Himachal Pradesh	Minor Irrigation & Rural Water Supply Project (Water Supply Self-help Project in Himachal Pradesh)

#### **Dialogues of Water Sharing with Neighbouring Countries**

767. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated dialogues of water sharing with the neighbouring countries particularly Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh to implement the interlinking of Himalayan rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of neighbouring countries thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Complaints in SMS Services**

768. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of competitive programmes based on majority vote through Short Messaging Services (SMS) are being run on various TV Channels but there have been complaints of not revealing the mobile numbers of the SMS sending mobiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make this process transparent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Mobile Network at International Border**

769. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the intelligence report regarding the potential danger of mobile network spreading along the international border of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to remove these mobile towers posing threat to the security of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any regulations for private telecom service providers in view of the catching of telecom signals across the border by mobile towers located along border areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has any plan to boost the telephone/mobile services in North-East region especially in Assam;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the details of tele-density in the North-East Region, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) As per earlier conditions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service licensee, provision of mobile service within 10 Km. of the international border and as per Unified Access Services licensee, setting up of Base Trans-receive Station (BTS) within 10 Km. of the international border required clearance from the Government due to security reasons.

In consideration of the public demand of mobile services from border areas, the above condition of license agreements has been relaxed incorporating following conditions w.e.f. 26th February, 2007:

- (i) There shall be a "No Service Zone" of 500 Meters width along with International border within Indian Territory for wireless/mobile service, where the licensee(s) are not permitted to provide wireless/mobile service.
- (ii) The Licensee shall create a "Buffer Zone" of 10 Kms width along the Line of Control (LOC), Line of Actual Control (LAC) and International Border between Akhnoor area in J&K and Pathankot area, as applicable, wherein they shall not deploy their Cell site(s)/BTS(s)/Radio Transmitter(s) for provision of mobile.

With the introduction of the above conditions, it is now possible to provide mobile services in most of the cities/towns in the country which are located more than 500 meters away from the international border. However, specific permission has also been granted in Agartala (Tripura) and Karimganj (Assam) for provision of mobile service though these towns are within 500 meters of international border.

(f) and (g) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has made a plan to increase the Mobile Network with 11.6 lakhs lines including 7 lakh line in Assam state under the current Mobile network expansion project and to increase the Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network with 0.857 lakh lines including 0.6625 lakh line in Assam state under the current WLL network expansion project to boost the telephone/mobile services in the North-East Region. Similarly private operators have also made plans to expand their services in their respective licensed service areas in North-Eastern region. Bharti Airtel Ltd. has plans to install 1050 mobile tower sites in Assam apart from laying OFC (Optical Fiber Cable) connecting all state of North East and important towns in Assam. Bharti Hexacom Ltd. has plans to install more than 450 new mobile tower sites to cover North East service area. Reliance Telecom Ltd. has plans to cover 617 towns/villages in North Eastern Region including 320 towns/villages of Assam with mobile services. Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd. is also in the process of rolling out their network in North Eastern region.

(h) Area-wise tele-density in the North-East Region is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Area-wise tele-density in the North-East Region  
(As on 31st December 2007)*

Sl.No.	Area	Overall tele-density in %
1.	Assam Service Area	12.31
2.	North East Service Area*	16.70
3.	Sikkim State	25.09

\*North East Service Area comprises of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura States.

*[English]*

(b) if so, the details thereof, variety-wise?

**Minimum Support Price for Jute**

770. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various varieties of raw jute; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various varieties of raw jute for 2007-08 jute season (July-June) are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement***Minimum Support Prices Fixed for Different Varieties and Grades of Raw Jute at the Up-Country Markets in different Jute Growing States for the 2007-2008 Season*

## TOSSAWHITE

Rs. / Quintal

Sl.No.	States	Districts	Variety	GRADES							
				TD-1 W-1	TD-2 W-2	TD-3 W-3	TD-4 W-4	TD-5 W-5	TD-6 W-6	TD-7 W-7	TD-8 W-8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Grade Differential	Northern	TD2+70	TD3+70	TD4+140	TD5+100	REF	TD5-70	TD6-90	TD7-135
			Others	TD2+70	TD3+70	TD4+120	TD5+70	REF	TD5-70	TD6-90	TD7-135
				Increase over Jute, Year 2006 - 2007							
			Northern	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.45
			Others	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.55	Rs.45
1.	Assam and Meghalaya	All Districts	Tossa	1,435	1,365	1,295	1,155	1,055	985	895	760
			White	1,385	1,315	1,245	1,105	1,005	935	845	710
2.	Tripura	All Districts	Tossa	1,356	1,286	1,216	1,086	1,026	956	866	731
			White	1,306	1,236	1,166	1,046	976	906	816	681
3.	Bihar	(I) Purnea, Kishanganj, Katihar & Araria Distts	Tossa	1,416	1,346	1,276	1,156	1,066	1,016	926	791
			White	1,366	1,296	1,226	1,106	1,036	966	876	741
		(II) Saharsa, Champaran (E&W)	Tossa	1,400	1,330	1,260	1,140	1,070	1,000	910	775
		Other Distts.	White	1,350	1,280	1,210	1,090	1,020	950	860	725
4.	Uttar Pradesh	All Districts	Tossa	1,363	1,293	1,223	1,103	1,033	963	873	738
			White	1,313	1,243	1,173	1,053	983	913	823	688
5.	Orissa	All Districts	Tossa	1,422	1,352	1,282	1,162	1,082	1,022	932	797
			White	1,372	1,302	1,232	1,112	1,042	972	882	747

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6.	West Bengal	(I) Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling Distts.	Tossa White	1,460 1,410	1,390 1,340	1,320 1,270	1,180 1,130	1,080 1,030	1,010 960	920 870	785 735
		(II) North and South Dinajpur, Malda	Tossa White	1,473 1,423	1,403 1,353	1,333 1,283	1,193 1,143	1,093 1,043	1,023 973	933 883	798 748
		(III) Murshidabad, Bankura & Birbhum	Tossa White	1,435 1,385	1,365 1,315	1,295 1,245	1,175 1,125	1,105 1,055	1,035 985	945 895	810 760
		(IV) Nadia, Howrah, Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapur (E&W) & 24-Parganas (S&N)	Tossa White	1,448 1,398	1,378 1,328	1,308 1,258	1,188 1,138	1,118 1,068	1,048 998	958 908	823 773

#### Hiring and De-hiring of Properties by Navy

771. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI PRAKASH B. JADHAO:  
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy takes private flats on rent for residential and/or official purposes;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines, if any, for hiring and de-hiring of such properties;

(c) whether some flats in Mumbai have not been vacated after the termination of lease;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether hiring and de-hiring of some flats are pending with the Indian Navy and Director-General Defence Estate (DGDE) especially in Mumbai; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the time frame for vacating such flats?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):  
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Private flats are hired for residential and/or for official purposes for use by Armed Forces including Navy. Such buildings are currently hired for residential/official purposes for an initial period of 3 years. After the period of 3 years, if the building is still needed and owner is willing, the building is rehired, otherwise it is dehired. The buildings that are under hire prior to 1976 under the old lease agreement are dehired when not required by the user organization.

(c) to (f) All flats under hire in Mumbai are of pre-1976 hiring and they are being retained under the provisions of The Maharashtra Rent Control Act, 1999. Out of 263 flats hired, 176 flats have already been dehired. The remaining flats will be dehired as and when not required by the Indian Navy.

[Translation]

#### Monitoring of Schemes

772. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the monitoring work of the National level sponsored programmes and schemes under the Ministry of Agriculture is not being done properly resulting in wastage of most of the funds of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the number and names of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) found guilty during the monitoring/review of the said programmes and schemes during the last three years;

(c) the action taken by the Government to recover the misappropriated funds; and

(d) the details of remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) No, Sir. The performance of all National level sponsored programmes is being closely monitored by conducting reviews on a regular basis, inter-alia, by interaction with the State Governments, field visits by officers; and further release of funds being made strictly in accordance with the General Financial Rules (GFRs).

(b) During the monitoring of the programmes, no implementing agencies or Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) were found guilty of misappropriation of funds.

(c) and (d) In view of above, the question does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Unsolicited Telemarketing Calls**

773. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA":  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

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

(a) whether a large number of persons registered on the National-Do-Not-Call (NDNC) Registry are still getting unsolicited telemarketing calls and messages;

(b) if, so the details thereof alongwith the names of companies against whom action has been taken/being taken by the Government

(c) the reasons for increase in such calls and messages despite prohibitory penal provisions; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to further discourage such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued the Regulation "The Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications Regulation, 2007" on 5th June, 2007. As per the Regulation, the National Do Not Call Registry (NDNC) came into effect from 12th October, 2007. Since then the registered telemarketers have started sending their calling list of NDNC for cleaning (scrubbing). As per the data available with TRAI, on an average daily 15 to 20 million telephone number are being submitted by telemarketers to the NDNC for verification to check if they fall in the category of do not call numbers.

As per the report available with TRAI, approximately 8.2 millions subscribers have registered with NDNC. The telecom service providers have informed that they have received only about 29246 complaints, which is only 0.35% of the total number of subscribers who have registered for not getting unsolicited commercial communications. As per the regulation, action against the defaulting telemarketers is to be taken by the telecom service providers, as per following provisions in the regulation:

- \* Originating Access Provider to whom the complain has been forwarded will examine and warn the guilty telemarketer/customer for the first time.
- \* If the Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) is repeated by the same telemarketer for the second time, his service provider shall charge a higher tariff. TRAI has provided for a special tariff on per call basis, which is Rs. 500.
- \* The Telecom Service Providers have been directed to disconnect telephone connections of the telemarketer if it still continues to make Unsolicited Commercial Communication.

(c) There is significant decline in the UCC as approximately one million numbers are being removed daily by the NDNC from the calling list submitted by the Telemarketers.

(d) To improve the effectiveness and compliance by the telecom service providers, the TRAI has issued a consultation paper on 16.01.2008 for imposing financial sanctions on erring telecom service providers.

*[Translation]*

**Evaluation of Schemes/Programmes**

774. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE  
PATIL:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes/programmes being run by the Union Government at present for the development of the textile sector;

(b) whether any periodic evaluation/proper monitoring has been carried out by the Union Government of these schemes/programmes;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Government officials found guilty in such evaluation during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to recover the alleged misutilised funds from such NGOs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government against such NGOs and officials during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) A statement showing the names of various schemes/programmes being run by Union Government at present for the development of textile sector is enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir. Periodical evaluation and proper monitoring of the schemes implemented during 10th Five Year Plan have been carried out by the Union Government.

(c) The outcomes of the evaluation of schemes/programmes, implemented during 10th Five Year Plan period, have been incorporated in respective sub-sector schemes, which are to be implemented during 11th Five Year Plan period.

There is no information on any Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) or Government officials being found guilty in such evaluations during each of the last three years.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Statement**

*Ongoing schemes/programme Name of Ministry/  
Department : Ministry of Textiles*

Sl.No.	Sector/Schemes and Programme
1	2
<b>VSE Sector</b>	
<b>A.</b>	<b>Handloom</b>
1.	Intergrated Handloom Development Scheme
2.	Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme
3.	Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
4.	Millgate Price Scheme
5.	Diversified Handloom Development Scheme
<b>B</b>	<b>Wool and Woollen</b>
1.	Integrated Wool Improvement & Development Programme
2	Quality Processing of Wool & Woollen
3	Social Security Scheme
<b>C</b>	<b>Sericulture</b>
1	R&D/Transfer of Technology/Training & IT Initiative
2	Seed Support & Technology Assistance/HRD
3	Catalytic Development Programme
4	Quality Certification systems
<b>D.</b>	<b>Handicraft</b>
1.	Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana
2.	Design & Technical Development
3.	Marketing Support & Services

1	2
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4.	Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
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5.	Research and Development
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6.	Human Resource Development
----	----------------------------

7.	Integrated Development Package for J&K
----	--

8.	Infrastructure (Capital)
----	--------------------------

**E Powerloom**

1.	Group Insurance Scheme
----	------------------------

2.	Group Workshed Scheme & Integrated Powerloom Cluster Development
----	--

**Industry Sector**

1.	NIFT
----	------

2.	Jute Technology Mission
----	-------------------------

3.	Research & Development including TRAs
----	---------------------------------------

4.	Export Promotion Studies
----	--------------------------

5.	Cotton Technology Mission (CSS)
----	---------------------------------

6.	Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)
----	--

7.	Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS)
----	---

8.	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Textile Management, Coimbatore (SVPITM)
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9.	Setting up of Fasion Hub\$
----	----------------------------

10.	Common Compliance Code\$
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11.	Technical Textiles including Jute
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12.	Textile Engineering including Jute \$
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13.	Foreign Investment Promotion Scheme (FDI) \$
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14.	Brand Promotion Scheme \$
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15.	Textipolis \$
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16.	Human Resources Development \$
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*(English)*

**Joint Exercise of Three Forces**

775. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the three services of Armed Forces have conducted joint exercise in the month of January, 2008 as reported in Hindustan, dated December 30, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the three forces have been benefited by the joint exercise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) No, Sir.

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

**Tele-Density in Urban and Rural Areas**

776. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for tele-density by the year 2010 in the country;

(b) whether the said target has been achieved by December, 2007;

(c) whether the consumer percentage of tele-density is equal in the rural and urban areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, percentage-wise, in rural and urban areas separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As per National Telecom Policy (NTP) 1999, a target of 15% was fixed for tele-density in the country by the year 2010.

(b) Yes, Sir. The tele-density as on 31st December 2007 was 23.89%.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The tele-density in rural and urban areas as on 31 December 2007 was about 8.35% and 61.25% respectively.

*[Translation]***Procurement of Foodgrains**

777. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
 SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
 SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
 SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:  
 SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
 SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD *AL/AS* SADHU  
 YADAV:  
 SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
 SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

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

(a) the total stock of wheat and rice during each quarter of the last two years and thereafter till date alongwith the norms for the buffer stock during the said period;

(b) the total quantum of the said commodities procured and exported during the said period,

(c) whether the procurement of said commodities is likely to fall short of the demand during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to meet the shortage;

(e) whether the shortage of foodgrains is likely to adversely affect the Public Distribution System (PDS); and

(f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of foodgrains particularly for weaker sections of society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The stock position of wheat and rice vis-a-vis buffer norms since 1.1.06 is as under:-

(figures in lakh tonnes)

As on	Actual stock of Rice	Buffer norms	Actual stock of Wheat	Buffer norms
1.1.2006	126.41	118.00	61.88	82.00
1.4.2006	136.75	122.00	20.09	40.00
1.7.2006	111.43	98.00	82.07	171.00
1.10.2006	59.70	52.00	64.12	110.00
1.1.2007	119.77	118.00	54.28	82.00
1.4.2007	131.72	122.00	47.03	40.00
1.7.2007	109.77	98.00	129.26	171.00
1.10.2007	54.89	52.00	101.21	110.00
1.1.2008	114.75	118.00	77.12	82.00

(b) to (e) The quantity of wheat and rice procured during last 3 years and current is as under:

(In lakh tonnes)

Marketing Season	Rice	Wheat
2005-06	276.6	147.8
2006-07	250.8	92.2
2007-08	199.1 (as on 27 Feb. 2008)	111.3



Procurement of wheat during Rabi Marketing Season 2006-07 and 2007-08 against the annual requirement of 150 lakh tonnes of wheat for the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Welfare Schemes has been 92.2 lakh tonnes and 111.28 lakh tonnes. To make up the shortfall, the Govt. took decisions to import 55 lakh tonnes of wheat in 2006-07 and 23 Lakh tonnes in 2007-08. All out efforts are being made by the Government to procure sufficient quantity of wheat during the ensuing RMS 2008-09 to meet the demand of TPDS and other welfare schemes.

Procurement of rice during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2005-06 and 2006-07 were 276.6 and 250.8 lakh tonnes respectively against the approximate requirement of 250 lakh tonnes for the TPDS and other welfare schemes. During current KMS 2007-08, 199.1 lakh tonnes of rice has been procured in the Central Pool as on 27.2.2008 which is 7.3 lakh tonnes more than the 191.8 lakh tonnes of rice procured in the corresponding period in the previous KMS. It is estimated that approximately sufficient rice will be procured to meet the demand of TPDS and other welfare schemes.

(f) The Government has taken several steps to procure sufficient quantity of rice and wheat in the Central Pool in 2007-08, the details of which are given in the enclosed Statement I and Statement II.

#### **Statement I**

##### *Steps taken by the Government to maximise procurement of rice in (KMS) 2007-08*

- (i) The MSP for rice was fixed at Rs. 645 and Rs. 675 per quintal for Common and Grade 'A' variety respectively for KMS 2007-08, an increase of Rs. 65 per quintal, in order to encourage farmers to grow more rice.
- (ii) The Commission to Societies and Self-Help Groups undertaking procurement of paddy on behalf of the FCI/State Agencies, etc. has been allowed at a maximum of 1.5% of MSP.
- (iii) The Government has announced a bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal over and above the MSP of Rs. 645 per quintal for 'Common' and Rs. 675 per quintal for Grade 'A' variety of paddy respectively.

- (iv) Export of non-basmati rice below Minimum Export Price of \$ 500 per MT has been banned.
- (v) A notification titled "Rice (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2007 has been issued under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 on 27.11.2007. The order provides that any Company or Firm or individual which purchases paddy (in terms of rice) or rice beyond 10,000 tonnes during Kharif Marketing Season 2007-08 (October-September) shall furnish a return to the Secretary, Department of Food of the State from where maximum quantity has been purchased. In case the purchase of paddy (in terms of rice) or rice exceeds 25,000 tonnes (throughout the country) the return in the prescribed proforma to Department of Food & Public Distribution of Central Government. The concerned State Government with which returns are filed shall submit a consolidated monthly report to Central Government.

#### **Statement II**

##### *Steps taken by the Government to maximise procurement of wheat in (RMS) 2007-08*

- (i) The MSP for wheat was fixed at Rs. 750 per quintal for RMS 2007-08, an increase of Rs. 100 per quintal, in order to encourage farmers to grow more wheat. Now, according to the Fourth Advance Estimates of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, the estimated production of wheat is likely to be 74.89 million tonnes in crop year 2006-07 compared to 69.35 million tonnes in crop year 2005-06.
- (ii) An incentive bonus of Rs 100 per quintal over and above the MSP was also given in RMS 2007-08.
- (iii) A Committee of officers/Experts was formed to recommend an appropriate strategy for wheat procurement in RMS 2007-08, and the recommendations of this Committee were acted upon appropriately by the Government
- (iv) Import of 55 Lakh tonnes of wheat was done in 2006-07 which improved the stock position of wheat in the Central pool and the wheat stocks (as on 1.4.2007) were more than the buffer norms of 40 lakh tonnes at the start of RMS 2007-08.

- (v) Wheat exports on private account have been banned. Wheat exports from Central Pool are also banned.
- (vi) 1.11 lakh tonnes of wheat was released under OMSS in February and March .2007 to cool the market prices before the start of RMS 2007-08.
- (vii) A notification titled "Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2007 has been issued under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 on 1.3.2007. The order provides that any Company or Firm or individual which purchases wheat beyond 50,000 tonnes during 2007-08 shall furnish to the Central Government a return indicating the name/address of the company, quantity of wheat purchased and quantity of wheat held in stock.
- (viii) Import of wheat on private account at zero duty has been permitted.
- (ix) 13128 centers for wheat procurement were opened by Government agencies in RMS 2007-08 as compared to 8985 centers in RMS 2006-07.
- (x) Senior Officers of Department of Food and Public Distribution and FCI frequently visited wheat procuring States to personally assess the situation.
- (xi) In order to encourage wheat procurement in States like U.P., Madhya Pradesh, etc. Commission to Societies/sub-agents was enhanced to 2.5% on the lines of the Arthiya Commission in Punjab and Haryana for RMS 2007-08.
- (xii) NAFED was also engaged to procure wheat on behalf of FCI during RMS 2007-08.

[English]

#### Impact of Climatic Change on Cereals Production

778. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:  
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has taken up any study of the possible impact

of climate change on cereals production in the country during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any reduction in the production of cereals due to climats change has been observed in the country;

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

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce the impact of climatic change on cereals production particularly on rice and wheat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research has initiated a network Project on "Impact, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to Climate Change" at different ICAR Institutes/State Agricultural Universities. Preliminary results available from the study conducted under network project indicates that increase in temperature and change in precipitation pattern could significantly impact the agriculture production in the country in future.

In case of wheat, studies have shown that the rice in temperature during the February/March at the stage of anthesis/grain formation and filling can lead to decreased productivity.

(c) and (d) No definite evidence of substantial decrease in cereal production in the country is noticed as the involved process of climate change is slow and the effects are felt over longer period. However, loss of production and advance maturity in wheat were noticed due to abnormal temperature rise in March, 2004.

(e) Development of high temperature tolerant wheat genotypes is one of the major activities of national wheat programme particularly for late sown environment. WH 730 has been registered as heat tolerant genetic stock. DBW 14, a recently released genotype is suitable for late sown environments because of thermal tolerance and higher productivity. In addition to this, popular varieties such as NIAW 34, RAJ 3765 and RAJ 4037 have also been found to have thermal tolerance.

Adoption of resource conservation technologies like zero tillage and bed planting can help in resource conservation specially water. Emphasis has also been given during XI plan period to strengthen the existing institutional network to cope up with the challenges posed by climate change.

#### **Dilution of Equity in BSNL**

779. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to dilute 10% equity in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BSNL has sufficient cash balance for any expansion projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for considering dilution of its equity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No Sir.

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

(c) At present, BSNL will be able to meet the expansion plan out of internal resources and external borrowing.

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

#### **Subsidy to Farmers**

780. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy provided to farming sector in the country is far less and inadequate as compared to many developing countries;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) In India and in other developing countries subsidies to the farming sector are given for modernization of agriculture and to increase the production and productivity of agriculture. To ensure higher production and productivity of agriculture, the Government of India has adopted a multi pronged strategy. This include launching of the scheme of Macro Management in Agriculture, Micro Irrigation, National Horticulture Mission, Balanced use of Fertilizers, Development of Marketing Infrastructure etc. Initiatives have also been taken by launching National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) with an objective to incentivise the States to increase public investment in agriculture & allied sectors. No survey regarding subsidy being provided to the farming sector in developing countries has been conducted.

#### **Differences in Wheat and Paddy Production**

781. SHRI P. MOHAN:  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:  
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:  
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and bonus paid for rice and wheat during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the MSP and bonus to farmers during the ensuing seasons;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Crop-wise and the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether there is also a proposal to bring parity in the MSP for wheat and rice; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy and wheat for the last three years is indicated in the Table below:

(Rs. per Quintal)

Year	Paddy		Wheat		
	MSP		Bonus	MSP	Bonus
	Common	Grade A			
2005-06	570	600	-	650	50
2006-07	580	610	40*	750	100
2007-08	645	675	100	1000	-

\*Bonus was payable on procurement between 1.10.2006 to 31.03.2007. In case of Bihar and Kerala, bonus was extended up to 31.5.2007 and in case of Andhra Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Orissa, Tamilnadu and West Bengal, bonus was extended up to 30.9.2007.

(b) to (e) The Government decides on the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices. With regard to price parity in the MSP for wheat and rice, CACP takes into account inter crop price parity also alongwith other factors while formulating its recommendations.

#### Telephone Connections in Villages

782. PROF. M. RAMADASS:  
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
 SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

(a) the number of villages in the country where telephone facility has been provided during the last three years, as on date; State-wise;

(b) the number of villages which are not connected with this facility;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any time-bound programme to provide telephone connections to its waitlisted subscribers;

(d) if so, the time by which these waitlisted subscribers will be provided telephone connections; and

(e) the time by which all the villages of the country are likely to be provided with telephone facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) entered into an agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in remaining 66,822 uncovered villages in the country. This excludes villages having population less than 100, lying in thick forest areas/naxalite infested areas etc. As on 31.01.2008, out of this, 52,484 villages have been provided with VPTs and 14,358 villages are yet to be provided with VPTs. A statement indicating State-wise number of uncovered villages, provided with telephone connections and the number of villages which are yet to be provided with telephone connections is given in the enclosed.

(c) and (d) Adequate landline switching capacity is available for provision of telephone connections on demand in most of the cases. In order to cover technically non-feasible areas, 'umbrella coverage' is being provided using Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology which would further ensure provisioning of telephone connections to most of the areas on demand. Most of the present waiting list is likely to be cleared progressively by December, 2008.

(e) The remaining 14,358 eligible uncovered villages are likely to be provided with VPTs facility by June, 2008.

**Statement***Status of villages coverage under USO Fund Agreement*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Total number of uncovered villages	Total number of villages covered	Total number of villages yet to be covered
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1074	654	420
3.	Assam	8931	8597	334
4.	Bihar	0	0	0
5.	Jharkhand	1694	1092	602
6.	Gujarat	4144	4025	119
7.	Haryana	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1002	866	136
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1755	1237	518
10.	Karnataka	0	0	0
11.	Kerala	0	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11894	11801	93
13.	Chattisgarh	5043	3173	1870
14.	Maharashtra	6441	5835	606
15.	North East-I	2128	304	1824
15A	Meghalaya (NE-I)	1957	207	1750
15B	Mizoram (NE-I)	96	28	68
15C	Tripura (NE-I)	75	69	6
16	North East-II	1550	681	869
16A	Arunachal Pradesh (NE-II)	646	207	439
16B	Manipur (NE-II)	876	455	421
16C	Nagaland (NE-II)	28	19	9
17.	Orissa	4899	1258	3641
18.	Punjab	0	0	0
19.	Rajasthan	12386	10849	1537
20.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
21.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	0	0	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	0	0	0
23.	Uttranchal	3881	2092	1789
24.	West Bengal	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>66822</b>	<b>52464</b>	<b>14358</b>

**Research and Development Programme**

783. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to organise Research and Development programme for technological development related to postal services with Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Presently, the Department of Posts does not have any proposal to organize Research and Development programme for technological development related to postal services.

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

(c) The Department of Posts uses the technology infrastructure, equipments and products available in the market to support its operations and service requirements.

**Multi State Cooperative Society**

784. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under various sections of Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 the Board of Directors (BoD) can constitute committees or sub committees other than the executive committee, nominate members of general body in such committees and invite two members to its meetings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the conditions stipulated for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of section 53 of the Multi State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002, the Board may constitute an Executive Committee and other committees or sub-committees as may be considered necessary subject to the condition that the number of

other committees or sub-committees shall not exceed three. These committees or sub-committees are constituted from the members of Board of Directors. However, as per provisions of section 50 of the MSCS Act, 2002, the board may invite two persons in its meetings. There is no specific provision in the MSCS Act, 2002 for inviting members to the meetings of the committees/sub-committees.

**Employment in Courier Service**

785. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the number of people employed in the Courier Services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) The courier services are unregulated. The Department has not made any assessment of the number of people employed in courier services.

*[Translation]*

**Directions by TRAI**

786. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telephone Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has given directions to inform the subscriber about the expiry period of the existing licence alongwith the life time tariff plans on the Telephone/Mobile Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such information is required to be given through the advertisements;

(d) if so, the details thereof:

(e) whether such information has been started to be given; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (f) The Telecommunications Tariff Order (43rd Amendment) notified by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) inter alia provides that in the case of tariff plans with lifetime validity or unlimited validity, the service provider shall inform the subscribers of the month and year of expiry of his current license. This information shall be given in all the promotional literature/advertisements. This Order has become effective on 21st March, 2008. As per the information available with TRAI, all operators are complying with the above regulatory guidelines.

*[English]*

#### Arms Deal with USA

787. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has signed recently arms deal with the United States of America;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government plans to buy more Super Hercules C-130J, an all-weather aircraft from U.S.A.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) Government have acquired the Landing Platform Dock (LPD) USS Trenton and UH-3H Helicopters from the US Government. These were commissioned into the Indian Navy in June, 2007 as INS Jalashwa. Government have also signed Letters of Offer and Acceptance for the procurement of weapons and equipment required by the Special Forces of the Indian Army and for six C-130J-30 aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Compulsory Military Service

788. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA":  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:  
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:  
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make military service compulsory in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) No, Sir.

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

*[Translation]*

#### Loss of Crops due to Natural Calamities

789. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:  
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:  
SHRI SURESH ANGADI:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:  
SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of crops lost/damaged due to natural calamities like snowfall, hailstorm, frost and untimely rains during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the claims received and compensation paid to the farmers for the damaged crops during the said period. State-wise;

(c) whether the beneficiaries faced hardships in receiving their compensation due to disbursement of account payee cheques;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to disburse the compensation in a farmer friendly manner;

(e) whether any assessment has been made regarding the impact of such natural calamities on foodgrains production, particularly wheat; and

(f) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

#### Decline in Area of Wheat

790. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI GANESH SINGH:  
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU  
YADAV:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for production and procurement of wheat in the year 2008;

(b) whether there has been a decrease in the area under wheat cultivation in the country;

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

(d) whether the Government has made any study to find out the reasons for such a trend; and

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) A target of 75.50 million tonnes has been fixed for production of wheat in the crop-year 2007-08. Since procurement of foodgrains under Minimum Support Price operations carried out by Government Agencies is open-ended, no targets are fixed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The State-wise details of area coverage under wheat in major producing States during the crop year 2007-08 is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) Government reviews the progress of sowing of crops on a continuous basis in the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group meetings. To enhance the production of wheat, National Food Security Mission has been launched since Rabi 2007-08. It aims at increasing the production of wheat by 8 million tonnes by the end of 11th Five Year Plan through area expansion, productivity enhancement, restoring soil fertility, supply of micro nutrients, among others.

#### Statement

#### Wheat

State	Area ('000 Hectares)		
	2nd Advance Estimate 2007-08 *	Final Estimates 2006-07	Absolute difference
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	9.0	10.0	-1.0
Assam	58.0	60.0	-2.0
Bihar	2050.0	2049.7	0.3



1	2	3	4
Chhattisgarh	90.0	91.5	-1.5
Gujarat	1353.0	1201.0	152.0
Haryana	2400.0	2376.0	24.0
Himachal Pradesh	361.0	362.2	-1.2
Jammu and Kashmir	251.0	260.0	-9.0
Jharkhand	65.0	84.3	-19.3
Karnataka	230.0	269.0	-39.0
Madhya Pradesh	3520.0	3992.8	-472.8
Maharashtra	1182.0	1231.0	-49.0
Orissa	4.0	3.9	0.1
Punjab	3480.0	3467.0	13.0
Rajasthan	2565.0	2564.8	0.2
Uttar Pradesh	8741.0	9197.6	-456.6
Uttanchal	397.0	391.0	6.0
West Bengal	400.0	350.6	49.4
Others	43.0	32.1	10.9
All-India	27199.0	27994.5	-795.5

\* Released on 07.02.2008

#### Enhancement of Fishery Trade

791. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to modernize several ports in Gujarat to enhance fishery trade in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the project proposals alongwith the cost thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD

SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Three existing fishing harbours namely Mangrol, Veraval and Porbandar have been identified for modernization to enhance the fishery trade in the State. The Government of Gujarat has submitted proposal for modernization of Mangrol Fishing Harbour at a cost of Rs. 615 lakhs in February 2008. The State Government has been requested to submit the restructured proposals for modernization of the other two fishing harbours.

#### Post Office in Villages

792. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

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

(a) whether more than 4 lakh villages are still deprived of post office facilities in the country at present and particularly in the district of Krishna in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the criterion to open a post office in a village;

(d) whether new post offices are not being set up even in many such villages which fulfil the required parameters;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for opening up of post offices in each of the villages in the country;

(g) whether any value-added services are proposed in the post offices of the country; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. All the villages where opening of separate Post Office is not justified are provided basic postal facilities through the nearest existing Post Office/Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra. The Department of Posts provides facilities of regular delivery of mail to customers, collects letters from letter boxes and sells stamps and stationery at the doorstep of customers in villages. Such facilities are provided in all the villages of the country including those in District Krishna of Andhra Pradesh.

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

(c) Copy of norms/criteria for opening of post offices in villages is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Post Offices are set up in such villages which fulfil the required norms subject to availability of requisite resources and manpower.

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

(f) The Government does not have any policy of opening Post Offices in every village of the country. In view of this, the question of steps taken/being taken in this connection does not arise.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.

### **Statement**

#### *Norms for Opening of Post Offices*

#### **1. Norms for opening Extra Departmental Branch post Offices:**

##### *1.1 Population*

(a) In Normal Areas:

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO village)

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

##### *1.2 Distance*

(a) In Normal Area:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by Special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

##### *1.3 Anticipated Income*

(a) In Normal Area:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be  $33\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the cost.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 15% of the cost.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

## 2. Criteria for upgrading/opening Departmental Sub Post Offices

The minimum work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day. The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs. 2400/- in Normal Rural areas and Rs. 4800/- in Tribal and Hilly Areas.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

### Improvement in Quality of Mobile Services

793. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:  
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

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

(a) whether the quality of reception of many mobile service providers is not very satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has directed the cellular operators to improve their quality of mobile services;

(d) if so, the reaction of the cellular operators thereto;

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the services of both Landline and Mobile phone connections in the country;

(f) whether the recent launching of satellite would be beneficial in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As per the Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ending 31st December, 2007, most of the Service Providers have met the Quality of Service benchmarks prescribed by TRAI relating to network quality. However, some of the Service Providers are not meeting the benchmarks for some of the network related parameters such as blocked call rate

and percentage of connection with good voice quality in some of the service areas.

(b) As per TRAI, the main reasons for inadequate Quality of Service of cellular mobile operators are:

(i) Development of the infrastructure by the operators have not been commensurate with the exponential growth in cellular mobile service subscriber base in the recent time.

(ii) Insufficient provisioning of telecom circuit resource as per traffic requirements i.e. Point of Interconnections (POI) Congestion.

(c) and (d) TRAI has been following up with the Service Providers for addressing deficiencies in meeting the Quality of Service benchmark. TRAI has made it amply clear to the service providers in various meetings that they must work out their action plan to meet the quality of service parameters and they have to meet the quality of service parameters. The service providers have assured to meet these benchmarks.

(e) To improve the services of both Landline and Mobile phone connections in the country, Government takes following steps:

(i) Holding meetings with the Mobile Service Providers.

(ii) Holding meetings with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)/Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the private Mobile Service Providers to facilitate provision of interconnection.

(iii) Continuous efforts to co-ordinate and release additional spectrum from existing users.

(f) and (g) Satellite links have been in use for connecting landline exchanges in remote & less accessible areas. Recently, telecom operators have also started using satellite link to connect Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) with Base Station Controllers (BSCs)/Mobile Switching Centres (MSCs) for mobile services.

### Cold Storage/Cold Chain Facilities

794. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storage/cold chain facilities for perishable agro products, available in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the said facilities are fully owned and managed by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the details of the ownership of such facilities being managed by private parties;

(e) the funds allocated and utilised by the private parties for establishing such facilities alongwith the capacity created during the last three years;

(f) whether the quantum of wastage of agro products has been minimised by such cold storage godowns; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) The total number of cold storage facilities for perishable agro products available in the country is 5101 (as on December, 2006). The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) to (d) The cold storages in the country are owned and managed by private sector (90%), cooperative sector (7%) and public sectors (3%). The details are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(e) The funds allocated and capacity created by private sectors for establishing such facilities under the Scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" of the National Horticulture Board for the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(f) and (g) The cold storage facilities have minimized the overall wastage of perishables but the quantum has not been assessed.

*Statement I*

*Commodity-wise Distribution of Cold Storages as on 31.12.2006*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Potatoes (1)		Multipurpose (2)		Fruits & Veg. (3)		Meat & Fish (4)		Milk & Milk Products (5)		Others (6)		Total No. (1+2+3+ 4+5+6) (7)	Total CAPA City in MTs
		No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	210	00	00	00	00	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh (fed)	00	00	199	761617	10	7884	44	26068	15	6838	08	18401	276	820808
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	00	00	01	5000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	5000
4.	Assam	00	00	23	70916	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	23	70916
5.	Bihar	187	699780	51	210802	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	238	910582
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	01	1000	04	11131	00	00	01	85	00	00	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	10	33742	42	232180	00	00	00	00	03	100	00	00	55	266022
8.	Delhi	00	00	52	117306	01	53	04	1239	09	4757	27	2736	93	12609
9.	Gujarat	177	658416	100	272517	03	1263	61	28442	52	13114	01	16	374	973768

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10.	Goa	00	00	01	3633	00	00	25	3404	02	66	0	0	28	7105
11.	Haryana	172	225991	65	164787	00	00	00	00	06	1343	00	00	243	392121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	05	9748	04	2354	06	6100	01	78	01	95	00	00	17	18375
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	05	11281	12	31473	00	00	00	00	02	115	00	00	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	06	22500	19	58125	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	25	80825
15.	Kerala	00	00	06	8100	00	00	164	38108	06	1080	01	10	177	47298
16.	Karnataka	09	18530	71	226158	02	1959	34	5141	15	3128	07	252	138	253168
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	15	00	00	00	00	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	0	0	166	379629	110	46776	62	63283	70	18407	29	2779	437	510854
19.	Madhya Pradesh	114	564600	49	182487	04	2577	00	00	11	3125	01	13	179	762802
20.	Manipur	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
21.	Meghalaya	00	00	03	3200	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	03	3200
22.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
23.	Nagaland	00	00	02	6150	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	6150
24.	Orissa	35	114580	28	98060	00	00	27	3780	00	00	00	00	90	216420
25.	Pondicherry (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	20	01	50	00	00	03	85
26.	Punjab	344	1097609	74	229318	00	00	00	00	02	10580	00	00	420	1337517
27.	Rajasthan	19	65896	75	244349	00	00	00	00	06	1781	04	104	106	312130
28.	Sikkim	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
29.	Tamilnadu	00	00	63	204252	03	7675	51	10315	13	4512	06	475	136	227229
30.	Tripura	00	00	06	18450	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	06	18450
31.	Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand	1371	8163232	187	780240	04	3580	02	4027	02	801	01	36	1567	8931918
32.	West Bengal	398	5159967	32	180000	01	00	02	32	02	43	00	00	434	5340042
TOTAL		2853	10844872	1337	4492234	144	77882	482	184227	200	69947	85	24824	5101	21693986

**Statement II*****Sectorwise Distribution of Cold Storages as on 31/12/2006***

Sl.No.	State/UT	Private Sector		Cooperative Sector		Public Sector		Total No.	Total Capacity in MTs
		No	Capacity	No	Capacity	No	Capacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	01	170	00	00	01	40	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	255	805759	11	11598	10	3451	276	820808
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	5000	00	00	00	00	01	5000
4.	Assam	18	68796	01	1000	04	1120	23	70916
5.	Bihar	220	833382	18	77200	00	00	238	910582
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	05	11216	01	1000	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhatisgarh	53	285952	01	29	01	41	55	266022
8.	Delhi	75	103210	02	5201	16	17680	93	126091
9.	Gujarat	348	941936	20	24093	08	7739	374	973768
10.	Goa	28	7105	00	00	00	00	28	7105
11.	Haryana	233	377319	04	3403	06	11399	243	392121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	08	11413	02	767	07	6195	17	18375
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	15	40689	03	2134	01	46	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	17	53210	08	27415	00	00	25	80625
15.	Kerala	161	44628	06	1080	10	1590	177	47298
16.	Karnataka	103	236885	18	6689	17	9594	138	253168
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	354	476667	51	20463	32	13724	437	510854
19.	Madhya Pradesh	154	659020	20	101348	05	2434	179	762802
20.	Manipur	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
21.	Meghalaya	01	1200	00	00	02	2000	03	3200
22.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
23.	Nagaland	01	5000	01	1150	00	00	02	6150
24.	Orissa	75	191420	15	25000	00	00	90	216420
25.	Pondicherry (UT)	02	35	01	50	00	00	03	85

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
26.	Punjab	402	1298425	18	39092	00	00	420	1337517
27.	Rajasthan	96	308284	09	3832	01	14	106	312130
28.	Sikkim	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
29.	Tamilnadu	119	214505	13	7582	04	5162	136	227229
30.	Tripura	02	7750	01	5000	05	5700	08	18450
31.	Uttar Pradesh and & Uttranchal	1477	8642438	87	281480	03	8000	1567	8931918
32.	West Bengal	387	5037042	47	303000	00	00	434	5340042
TOTAL		4809	20648456	358	949586	134	95944	5101	21693986

**Statement III**

*Status of Cold Storage Sanctioned under the "Capital investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" (as on 31.12.2007) of the National Horticulture Board*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2004-2005			2005-2006			2006-2007		
		No.	Capacity (MT)	Subsidy (Rs in Lakh)	No.	Capacity (MT)	Subsidy (Rs in Lakh)	No.	Capacity (MT)	Subsidy (Rs in Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Punjab	18	47629	493.86	20	58316	434.22	2	5271	28.999
2.	Haryana	1	3970	51.05	2	5169	32.12	1	0	-5.676
3.	Tamil Nadu	7	24637	241.11	1	0	0.00	13	30705.54	495.488
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0.00	0	357659	0.00	0	0	0
5.	Uttar Pradesh	121	658199	3771.31	85	0	2585.98	88	460795	3338.508
6.	Uttranchal	0	0	0.00	0	11928	0.00	0	801.67	8.021
7.	Maharashtra	78	37688	327.86	4	16500	55.49	3	11020.74	128.394
8.	Rajasthan	6	15006	164.26	5	65501	58.59	2	7693	70.394
9.	Karnataka	5	21424	236.71	13	0	557.62	9	54648	363.889
10.	Gujarat	0	72220	188.89	0	3000	0.00	16	0	347.629
11.	Orissa	4	21000	194.44	1	6705	24.09	0	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	23675	159.44	9	6531	96.18	1	2130	27.539
13.	Chhattisgarh	2	10300	90.16	1	49634	42.08	6	23482	202.984
14.	West Bengal	9	36522	299.00	8	28483	265.58	6	17614.6	212.733

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15.	Andhra Pradesh	8	32607	132.82	8	6500	328.61	29	191221	1032.417
16.	Assam	0	0	0.00	2	12814	80.00	7	36900	393.3
17.	Bihar	22	78152	608.20	3	8269	184.84	14	73971.8	528.048
18.	Jharkhand	6	30395	195.87	3	0	62.51	0	0	0
19.	Tripura	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
20.	Delhi	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
21.	Kerala	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	2	4349.529	48.495
22.	Nagaland	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
23.	Goa	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
25.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	.0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>289</b>	<b>1111424</b>	<b>7154.78</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>637007</b>	<b>4807.91</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>921102</b>	<b>7219.14</b>

Total Capacity: 16.79 lakh MT  
 Total No.: 649  
 Total Assistance Provided Rs. 19182.25 lakh  
 Source: National Horticulture Board

### Textile Projects

project-wise; and

795. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

(a) the details of the textile projects being undertaken at present in the country, State-wise;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The details of the textile projects being undertaken under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) at present in the country, State-wise are as under:

(b) the target set and success achieved thereunder,

(In Crore Rupees)

State	No. of Projects sanctioned	Estimated project cost (common infrastructure & facilities)	Estimated GoI assistance
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	4	361.32	127.40
Gujarat	7	816.91	280.00



1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	6	524.05	202.29
Tamil Nadu	6	529.83	187.51
Rajasthan	4	393.92	156.54
Karnataka	1	53.10	21.24
Punjab	1	110.26	40.00
West Bengal	1	104.59	40.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2893.42</b>	<b>1054.76</b>

(b) and (c) The target set to complete these Parks is in the Year 2009. The implementation work on all the sanctioned projects is in different stages. As per the

'Project Reports/Progress Reports' submitted by the SPVs of these projects, the expected date of completion of these Textile Parks are as under:

Sl. No.	Project Name	Expected date of Completion
1	2	3
1.	Hyderabad Hi-tech Weaving Park	By March 2009
2.	Hindupur Vyapar Apparel Park Limited	
3.	Pochampally Handloom Park Limited	Almost completed
4.	Brandix India Apparel City Private Limited	Almost completed
5.	Gujarat Eco Textile Park Limited	By June 2008
6.	Mundra SEZ Textile & Apparel Park Limited	By March 2009
7.	Fairdeal Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	
8.	Vraj Integrated Textile Park Limited	
9.	Shri Laxminarayan Industrial Co-operative Service Society	
10.	Sura Super Yarn Limited	
11.	Kapila Integrated Textile Park	By June 2008
12.	Metro Hi-Tech Cooperative Park Limited	
13.	Pride India cooperative Textile Park Limited	By Nov. 08
14.	Wada high-tech Weaving Park Limited	By March 2009
15.	Tarapur Textiles Park Limited	
16.	Baramati Hi Tech Textile Park Limited	By Nov. 08

1	2	3
17.	Shri Dhiryashil Mane Textile Park Co-op Society Limited	} By March 2009
18.	The Great Indian Linen & Textile Infrastructure Company	
19.	SIMA Textile Processing Centre	
20.	Palladam Hi-Tech Weaving Park	Almost completed
21.	Komarapalayam Hi-Tech Weaving Park Ltd.	Almost completed
22.	Karur Integrated Textile Park	} By March 2009
23.	Madurai Integrated Textile Park Ltd.	
24.	Jaipur Texweaving Park Limited	By Nov. 08
25.	Kishangarh Hi-Tech Textile Park Limited	} By March 2009
26.	Next Gen Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	
27.	Rajasthan Texmart Park Pvt. Ltd.	
28.	Doddabalapur Integrated Textile Park	By Nov. 08
29.	Lotus Integrated Text Park	} By March 2009
30.	EIG MEF Apparel Park Limited	

#### Provision of Low Cost Computers

796. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population having access to Computers and Internet in the country, State-wise, Economic Category-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide low cost computers to bridge the digital divide in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The total number of Internet Subscribers as on 31.12.2007 are 3.19 million and the

Broadband subscribers are 3.19 million as on 31.01.2008 as per reports from Internet Service Providers. Internet on dial up can be accessed even from rural areas of the country. Details as per State-wise/Internet and Broadband Subscribers are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) To encourage the use of computers in the country, Instructions had been issued by Planning Commission to the States as well as Central Ministries for earmarking an amount exceeding 2-3 per cent of Ministry/Department's budget for initiatives relating to furthering the use of information technology, including training, acquisition of hardware etc. The Government is facilitating the industry to make available computers at affordable prices in the country. The Government has taken a number of steps for promotion of Electronics/IT hardware manufacturing and cutting down the prices of electronics hardware, including computers. The details are given in the enclosed statement-II.

**Statement I***Internet and Broadband Subscribers (As on 31.12.2007 and 31.01.2008)*

S.No.	State/Telecom Circle	Internet Subscribers (As on 31.12.07)	Broadband Subscribers (As on 31.01.08)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5,274	1293
2.	Andhra Pradesh	747,134	248,428
3.	Assam	50,801	14,037
4.	Bihar (Including Jharkhand)	129,634	39,461
5.	Delhi*	1382,679	419,220
6.	Gujarat	552,154	202,344
7.	Haryana	186,572	45,565
8.	Himachal Pradesh	37,063	7,908
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	64,290	8,364
10.	Karnataka	749,751	357,473
11.	Kerala (Including Lakshadweep)	671,761	151,180
12.	Maharashtra (Including Goa)	2369,185	680,816
13.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chattisgarh)	385,770	88,599
14.	North East**	385770	5,201
15.	Orissa	102,549	22,948
16.	Punjab	381,408	110,586
17.	Rajasthan	395,302	68,399
18.	Tamilnadu (including Pondicherry)	1060,625	423,409
19.	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	508,542	125,317
20.	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	671,207	171,343
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10,506,586</b>	<b>3191,871</b>

\*Includes Ghaziabad , Faridabad, NOIDA and Gurgaon

\*\*Includes Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland &amp; Tripura

**Statement II****Steps taken by the Government for promotion of Electronics/IT Hardware Manufacturing****1. Foreign Direct Investment:**

- Approvals for all foreign direct investment upto 100% in the Electronics/IT Hardware manufacturing sector are under the automatic route.

**2. Customs Duty:**

- The peak rate of customs duty has been reduced from 35% in 2001-02 to 10% in 2007-08. Customs duty on 217 Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items has been abolished from 1.3.2005.
- All goods required in the manufacture of ITA-1 items have been exempted from customs duty subject to Actual user condition.
- Customs Duty on specified raw materials/inputs used for manufacture of electronic components and optical fibres/cables is 0%.
- Customs duty on specified capital goods used for manufacture of electronic goods is 0%.

**3. Excise Duty:**

- Excise duty on computers is 12%, whereas the median rate for most items is 16%.
- Microprocessors, Hard Disc Drives, Floppy Disc Drives, CD ROM Drives, DVD Drives/DVD Writers, Flash Memory and Combo-Drives have been exempted from excise duty.

**4. Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme (EPCG):**

- Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme (EPCG) allows import of capital goods on payment of 5% customs duty.
- The export obligation under EPCG Scheme can also be fulfilled by the supply of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items to the DTA provided the realization is in free foreign exchange.

**5. Supplies of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items and notified zero duty telecom/electronic items in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA):**

- Supplies of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items and notified zero duty telecom/electronic items in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) by Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP)/Export Oriented Unit (EOU) units are counted for the purpose of fulfillment of positive Net Foreign Exchange Earnings (NFE).

**6. Special Economic Zones (SEZs):**

- Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are being set up to enable hassle free manufacturing and trading for export purposes.
- Sales from Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) to SEZs are being treated as physical export. This entitles domestic suppliers to Drawback/DEPB benefits, CST exemption and Service Tax exemption.
- 100% Income Tax exemption on export profits available to SEZ units for 5 years, 50% for next 5 years and 50% of ploughed back profits for 5 years thereafter.

**7. Second hand capital goods:**

- Second hand capital goods are freely importable.

**8. The Foreign Trade Policy for Electronics & IT products has been liberalized.****9. Simplification of Procedures:**

- Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) has been implemented by customs and is under implementation by central excise. Applications related to Foreign Trade like IEC Code, EPCG, Advance Licence, etc. can be filed electronically with the DGFT.

**10. Expenditure incurred on in-house R&D:**

- Weighted deduction of 150% of expenditure incurred on in-house R&D in case of a company engaged in the business of electronic equipment, computers and telecommunication equipment is available under clause (1) of sub-section (2AB) of Section 35 of the Income Tax Act.

**Shortage of Aircraft in Navy**

797. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE will be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy is facing shortage of Sea Harrier Aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to upgrade all the remaining Sea Harrier Aircraft;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the upgradation programme; and

(e) the time by which the said programme will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The ongoing upgrade of Sea Harrier programme has also temporarily affected the availability of the aircraft.

(c) and (d) Contract for the limited upgrade of Sea Harrier aircraft was concluded with M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in March 2005 at a cost of Rs. 476.69 crore.

(e) The upgradation programme is expected to be completed by 2009.

[*Translation*]

**Area under Crops**

798. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':  
SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under wheat and other foodgrains cultivation in the country during the present Rabi season is less than that of the previous years;

(b) if so, the details of area taken under the cultivation of wheat, paddy, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane and cotton separately during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage in production due to less area taken under cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Table below presents the estimated area coverage under different foodgrain crops during Rabi 2008 (2nd advance estimates) and that during Rabi 2007 and Rabi 2006:

(Lakh Hectares)

Crop	Rabi 2008	Rabi 2007	Rabi 2006
Wheat	271.99	279.95	264.84
Paddy	40.93	42.12	43.25
Coarse Cereals	58.28	63.14	63.64
Pulses	116.10	125.16	117.12
Foodgrains	487.29	510.37	488.84

While the area coverage under wheat is higher in Rabi 2008 compared to that in Rabi 2006 and lower as compared to Rabi 2007, the area coverage under other crops in Rabi 2008 is lower compared to Rabi 2007 and Rabi 2006.

(b) Table below presents the area coverage (both Kharif and Rabi seasons) under wheat, paddy, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane and cotton during 2004-05 to 2006-07:

(Lakh Hectares)

Crop	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05
Wheat	279.95	264.84	263.83
Paddy	438.14	436.60	419.07
Oilseeds	265.13	278.63	275.23
Pulses	231.92	223.91	227.63
Sugarcane	51.51	42.02	36.62
Cotton	91.45	86.77	87.87

(c) As per the 2nd advance estimates for 2007-08 released on 07.02.2008, production of foodgrains is estimated at 219.32 million tonnes which is 2.04 million tonnes more than 217.28 million tonnes of foodgrains

production during 2006-07. Further, the Government has launched National Food Security Mission from Rabi 2007-08 to increase the production of rice, wheat and pulses.

*[English]*

#### **Suicide by Farmers**

799. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:  
 SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:  
 SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
 DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:  
 SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:  
 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
 SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
 SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
 SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
 SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
 SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:  
 SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:  
 SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
 SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:  
 SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an increase in the number of cases of suicides by farmers have been reported in the country recently;

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

(c) whether the increasing number of suicide cases indicate the failure of the efforts made by the Government so far on this account;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the Government has prepared any specific plan to prevent suicide by the farmers in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) A statement indicating the number of suicides by farmers as reported by the respective State Governments is enclosed. As reported by the State Governments, the causes for suicide by farmers are broadly crop failure, indebtedness, drought, social and economic insecurity.

To address the problem of suicide by farmers, Government of India has approved a Rehabilitation Package amounting to Rs. 16978.69 crore, for 31 districts spread over the states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. The Package consisting of short term and long term measures is being implemented since July, 2006. It aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services and subsidiary income opportunities. Progress of implementation of rehabilitation package is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis at District, State and Central level.

In order to address the problems of farmers, Government has launched two new Schemes namely, National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains in the country and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) with an objective to incentivise the states so as to increase public investment in Agriculture and allied sectors and to provide flexibility and autonomy to states in the process of planning and executing Agriculture and allied sector schemes, with an outlay of Rs. 4882.48 and Rs. 25,000 crore respectively during 11th Plan period. Besides, a number of Policy initiatives, Plan Schemes and programmes are being implemented which include revitalization of the agricultural extension services, marketing reforms, horticulture development, Macro Management schemes providing adequate flexibility to the States for implementing suitable schemes/projects and provision of adequate institutional credit.

**Statement****Cases of suicide by farmers as received from State Governments**

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Period	No. (Based on the figures reported by State Govts.)	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2004	1251	
		2005	632	
		2006	514	
		2007 (upto 30.06.2007)	142	
2.	Karnataka	2004-05	271	
		2005-06	163	
		2006-07	320	
		2007-08 (upto 10.07.2007)	73	
3.	Maharashtra		Total	Vidarbha
		2004	632	441
		2005	595	431
		2006	2355	1448
		2007	1985	1230
	2008 (upto Jan. 2008)	110	72	
4.	Kerala	2001 to 2006	841	
		2007 (upto 31.10.2007)	64	
5.	Tamil Nadu	2000-2007 (up to March 2007)	26	
6.	Punjab*	2004	11	
		205	6	
		2006	3	
7.	Gujarat	2004	7	
		2005	125	
		2006	149	

\*The information reported vide State Government letter No. 4/39/06, Agri.2(10)/7257 dt. 21.03.06 relates to the cotton belt of Punjab. Government of Punjab has also reported vide their letter no. 4/15/07-Agri.2 (10)/3943/dt. 11.05.07, that number of suicides due to debt burden in the year 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 was 2, nil, 3 and 3 respectively.

NB 1: The Nil report has been received from the states namely, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Goa, Haryana, Sikkim, J & K, Mizoram, Chattisgarh, Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan and from all UTs,

**Reduction in Interest Rates for Milk Cooperative Societies**

800. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to reduce interest rates for Milk Cooperative Societies, milk producers and farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No sir, no such proposal is under the consideration of this ministry.

(b) In view of (a) the question does not arise.

**Health Insurance Scheme for Workers**

801. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched a new scheme to issue Smart Card that entitles the holder to health insurance cover up to Rs. 30,000 through listed hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the families Below Poverty Line (BPL) have also been included in the Smart Card Scheme for health insurance benefit;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Government has launched the Health Insurance Scheme namely, the 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL workers and their families (a unit of five) in Unorganised Sector on 1st October, 2007. The scheme will be implemented in a phased manner. The estimated number of 6 crore BPL workers (as per definition of

Planning Commission) are proposed to be covered in five years upto 2012-13. The scheme provides for smart card based cashless insurance cover to the beneficiary (a unit of five). The State Governments would implement the scheme. The insurance company would be selected by the State Governments through competitive bidding. The benefits under the scheme include:

- (i) Health Insurance Cover would be Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis.
- (ii) Cashless attendance to all covered ailments,
- (iii) Hospitalization expenses, taking care of most common illnesses with as few exclusions as possible.
- (iv) All pre-existing diseases to be covered,
- (v) Transportation costs (actual with maximum limit of Rs. 100 per visit) within an overall limit of Rs. 1000.

The premium of Rs. 750/- will be borne by Central Government and State Government in the ratio 75:25, subject to a maximum of Rs. 565 per family per annum as Central share. The cost of smart card @ Rs. 60/- per card will be borne by the Central Government. The beneficiary would pay Rs. 30 per annum as registration/renewal fee.

#### Irregularities in PDS

802. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:  
SHRI GANESH SINGH:  
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

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

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding irregularities and diversion of foodgrains and other commodities meant for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY);

(b) if so, whether recently a study was conducted by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the main findings of NCAER alongwith the number of complaints of irregularities and diversion received during each of least three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to overhaul and streamline the PDS or introduce a new System to ensure that subsidised foodgrains reach the targeted weaker sections of the society; and

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the changes proposed to be made in the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received from individuals and organizations, as well as through press reports about diversion of PDS commodities. All the complaints have been sent to concerned State and UT Governments for inquiry and action.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) conducted a concurrent evaluation of TPDS during the year 2006-07 in six states namely Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Uttar Pradesh.

The NCAER has submitted its Report to government recently. Findings of the Reports are enclosed as Statement I.

Details of complaints received from individuals and organizations, and through Press reports during last three years are as under:-

2005		2006		2007	
Complaints	Press Reports	Complaints	Press Reports	Complaints	Press Reports
5	—	20	11	33	24
5		31		57	



(d) and (e) The TPDS system is got evaluated from time to time for strengthening it. The Government has taken a series of measures to streamline TPDS. Programme Evaluation Organization (PEO) of Planning Commission, and ORG MARG, New Delhi evaluated the Targeted Public Distribution System and submitted their reports in 2005.

Based on findings of these studies, a Nine Point Action Plan is already under implementation by State and UT Governments. A copy of the said Action Plan is enclosed as Statement-II. Its implementation is monitored by the Central Government.

Additionally, a revised Citizens' Charter has been issued recently for adoption and implementation by State/ UT Government; for facilitating use by citizens of provisions of Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005 in relation to functioning of TPDS.

Furthermore, to ensure that TPDS foodgrains reach the targeted families and to minimize scope for their diversion, APL allocations have been rationalized. Concurrent evaluation of TPDS has been taken up. Training Programmes for TPDS functionaries and Awareness campaign for TPDS beneficiaries are being taken up. Computerization of TPDS has been initiated. Use of new technologies such as Global Positioning System is being piloted. Revised policy on distribution of wheat flour has been issued

In view of the strengthening of existing TPDS, there is no such proposal to introduce a new system.

#### **Statement I**

##### *Findings from Concurrent Evaluation of the TPDS by NCAER*

The main objective of the study was to examine the extent to which foodgrains disbursed under TPDS were actually reaching the BPL and AAY categories of population in the country and to identify the incidence as well as the mode of irregularities in the system. The study was carried out with the help of primary survey. Six states namely, Assam, Mizoram, UP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan were selected for the primary survey. A total number of 6000 households (one thousand for each state) were surveyed consecutively for 6 months period for detailed information. The purpose of surveying same households repeatedly for six times was to check

the regularity of the delivery of PDS and its other efficiency indicators. The BPL and APL samples were drawn in the proportion of 80 and 20, respectively. The main findings of the study are the following:

The delivery mechanism of PDS was found more effective in four of the six selected states where more than 80 percent of the below poverty households obtained their entitled quantity of cereals quite regularly. The delivery was very poor in Bihar and less than satisfactory in Assam (see Table 1). The entitlement of food for below poverty households including that of Antyodaya families was fixed at 35 kgs., either for wheat/rice or combination of these two. In the selected states, majority of the below poverty households received close to the fixed entitlement of these two cereals except in the case of Mizoram, where a majority of the poor households obtained around 25 kgs of rice. The food distributed through PDS could meet 2/3rd share of the total food requirement of the poor except in the case of Bihar where it could fulfill only 1/3rd food requirement of the poor. The price charged for PDS food was close to Rs. 2 per kg for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg for rice for majority of Antyodaya families. Similarly, for the other below poverty households, in majority of the cases, price paid was close to the stipulated price. However, among a few households, higher than the stipulated prices were paid because shop-keepers passed on the transportation charges to the households.

Reporting quality of grains distributed, a majority of the households were satisfied with the quality of grain supplied in almost all the states except Bihar. In Bihar, more than 70 percent households were not happy with the quality supplied through government shops. Presence of impurities, insect infested supply, broken grains and very bad taste of the grains were the common reasons for their dis-satisfaction. Similar problems were quoted by the discontented households in the other states also. Household rated the performance of TPDS during the periods of distress as satisfactory or highly satisfactory in Chhattisgarh, Assam and Mizoram. It was satisfactory in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, while in Bihar, around half of the interviewed households rated it poor or very poor.

Although delivery of grains was found working well in majority of the selected states, flaws in identification of target groups were noticed in all the selected states. Along with problems of identification, excess number of cards issued and huge amount of diversion of food was found among most of the selected states. Using the census data and the number of cards issued based on

the secondary sources (Ministry of Food), number of excess cards/unidentified families were calculated for all the states as well as for the all India. The number of excess cards issued was very high in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana. The total number of excess cards issued at all India were more than 2 crore. Similarly, unidentified families without having any card aggregated at 1.2 crore at the all India level. The study calculated excessive targeting (inclusion of non poor) and failure of targeting (exclusion of poor from the subsidy) errors for all the states as well as all India using the same sources. The exclusion of poor from the subsidy scheme was highest in Goa and Uttranchal where the TPDS failed in targeting up to 30 percent. The inclusion of non-poor in the subsidized food was a much more severe problem and the incidence was found occurring in almost all the states. At the all India level, inclusion error was up to 25 percent as number of BPL cards issued were 9.7 crore in comparison to only 5.8 crore existing families. By comparing the observed per capita income and expenditure from our survey data with the Planning Commission cut-off income for poverty, the extent of inclusion and exclusion errors was worked out (for the selected states). The average income and expenditure criterion indicated that inclusion error was highest around 75 percent in Mizoram, 50 to 60 percent in Assam, around 50 percent in Rajasthan and Bihar, around 35 percent in Chhattisgarh and 20 to 30 percent in Uttar Pradesh. On the exclusion error, the data indicated that the phenomenon of poor households being not issued a below poverty card was minimum in the North-Eastern states, less than 15 percent, followed by Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan.

In addition to the incidence of mis-targeting, there was some proportion of food that was not being actually distributed among any of the households but it was shown in the state records as uplifted. Therefore, we can presume that foodgrains not distributed but withdrawn from the state accounts were being diverted to the black market or in the open market or may be distributed among the non-poor people at a higher price. Among the selected states, diversion of Antyodaya food was found in two states namely, Bihar and Mizoram. The magnitude of diversion was estimated up to 41 percent for wheat in Bihar and 36 percent for rice in Mizoram. In the case of other below poverty households, almost all states had the incidence of diversion, except Rajasthan. The diversion was highest in Assam and Mizoram in rice, and Bihar and Chhattisgarh in wheat. In all these cases, diversion

was up to 40 percent of total offtake. In the case of food designated for the above poverty households, the whole amount of wheat offtake and more than 80 percent of rice offtake were diverted in the two North-Eastern states of Assam and Mizoram. In the other four states diversion of food for APL households was found only in Chhattisgarh (see Table 2).

Thus, study portrays a mixed picture. On the one hand, food was being delivered to the poor quite regularly during the survey period in majority of the selected states. The fact that poorest of the poor do obtain their entitlement quite regularly indicates allocative efficiency of the PDS system including that of fair price shops. On the other hand, deeper probing revealed gross irregularities indicating large-scale identification errors, excess cards issued and widespread diversion of food entitled for the poor. These issues need to be corrected if the functioning of the PDS system is to be improved. The correct identification of the beneficiary is the first step in that direction. Although, attempts have been made to decentralize the identification process by involving the Panchayats and other Local Bodies, the latter process has also to some extent politicized the whole process of identification of the poor. This is happening because of complete lack of monitoring of the system (of identification) at any stage. Given the ground reality, it would not be possible to improve the PDS system unless the consumer especially the poorest ones become aware of their rights. The problem of identification error arises because of lack of information/awareness among the poor about the eligibility criteria for the AAY or BPL or any other welfare schemes for that matter. The people in the lower strata seems to be unaware of the criteria being followed in issuing AAY, BPL or APL card. It would not be possible to improve this system unless the consumers are properly educated on these issues. For this purpose mass information system like local language newspapers, regional radio and television stations should be used to keep the villagers informed and updated about the criteria, entitlement, price of PDS grains etc. Proper monitoring of the system and effective punishment against the culprit for wrong identification would be needed. It would be more appropriate if there are multiple authorities cross checking the identification. In the long run, distribution system should be computerized and all FPS and civil supply godowns should be connected online. This will bring more efficiency and transparency in the system and reduce the scope for diversion of benefits away from the beneficiaries.

*Table 1: Percentage of households obtaining their entitlement of cereals in the selected States during 6 months of survey period*

	Rajasthan	Chhattisgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Bihar	Assam	Mizoram
Antyodaya families	91.32	94.7	92.8	55.3	61.9	88.9
Other below poverty households	90.7	95.8	85.8	36.3	66.7	85.4

*Table 2: Diversion of food in the selected states (Percentage of off-take)*

	Rajasthan	Chhattisgarh	Bihar	Uttar Pradesh	Assam	Mizoram
<b>Antyodaya families</b>						
Rice	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	36.2
Wheat	0.0	0.0	41.4	0.9	0.0	0.0
<b>Other below poverty households</b>						
Rice	0.0	1.0	0.0	8.3	45.0	37.4
Wheat	0.0	42.3	46.9	20.7	0.0	0.0
<b>Above poverty households</b>						
Rice	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	83.3	81.1
Wheat	0.0	78.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0

### **Statement II**

#### **9-Point Action Plan**

- (i) Continuous review of the BPL and AAY lists to eliminate bogus ration cards and to ensure coverage of only eligible BPL and Antyodaya families,
- (ii) Ensuring leakage-free and diversion-free distribution of PDS commodities, regular inspection by different levels of functionaries, strict action against guilty persons/agencies.
- (iii) Involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in PDS operations-PRI representatives on Advisory Committee, running of fair price shops by Panchayats and effective representation of Panchayati Raj representatives on Vigilance Committees.
- (iv) Ensuring transparency in working of PDS, display of BPL and AAY lists by fair price shops, observance of notified timings by fair price shops.
- (v) Use of Information Technology, Computerization of TPDS operations, display of fair price shop-wise and district-wise allocations of PDS commodities on web-sites for public scrutiny.
- (vi) Carryout door-step delivery of PDS commodities to fair price shops.
- (vii) Ensuring timely availability of and issuance of foodgrains by fair price shops.
- (viii) Creating awareness among public about PDS operations, training Vigilance Committees of intricacies of PDS operations.
- (ix) Making fair price shops financially viable entities —allowing them to sell non PDS items etc.

**Production of Oilseeds and  
Pulses on Foreign Soil**

803. SHRI P. MOHĀN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to produce oilseeds and pulses on foreign soil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study/survey was conducted by a Committee to explore possibilities of producing pulses in Myanmar;

(d) if so, details and outcome thereof;

(e) whether such production is proposed to be undertaken through private sector or joint venture;

(f) if so, the details thereof including the factor cost of production;

(g) whether any assessment has been made regarding its impact on indigenous farmers;

(h) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(i) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of indigenous farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is not considering any proposal to produce oilseeds on foreign soil. However, there is a proposal under consideration to facilitate private investment in oil palm cultivation in Myanmar. Dialogue for this have been initiated with Myanmar authorities.

(c) and (d) No Sir, does not arise.

(e) to (i) The matter is under preliminary discussion only.

**Gratuity to Unorganised Sector Workers and  
Primary Teachers**

804. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide gratuity payment to the workers engaged in the unorganised sector and the primary teachers engaged in the private sector in the country as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated January 25, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) In view of a judgement dated 13.1.2004 of Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Government has introduced Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2007 on 26.11.2007 in the Parliament seeking amendment in the definition of 'employee' in the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 for covering the teachers under the Act. The Bill does not cover workers in the unorganized sector.

12.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at twelve of the clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir,....(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Laluji, please.

...(Interruptions).

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, please listen to me.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall not listen to anyone.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I strongly denounce certain observations that were made which were intended to divide the country. I cannot be a party to this. It has already been deleted and I express my strong disapproval.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us do some work. Mr. Tripathy, let me think what I can do.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly listen to important statement to be made by the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

12.01 hrs.

## STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

### (i) Foreign Policy-related Developments

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I rise to apprise the House of developments related to foreign policy since the conclusion of the Winter Session last December. During this inter-sessional period, the Government has made vigorous efforts to promote our objective of an external environment that enables India's accelerated development efforts and increases our strategic space.

The Prime Minister paid an official visit to the People's Republic of China, our largest neighbour, from 13 to 15 January, 2008. He was received with great warmth. The Prime Minister and Premier, Wen Jiabao signed a joint document on "A Shared Vision for the 21st Century between the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China", that reflects the congruence of interests that we share on regional and international issues, and our

willingness to work together in those areas. The Prime Minister also took up the issue of trans-border rivers. The first meeting of the Expert Level Mechanism was held in September, 2007. We have proposed to the Chinese side that we expand our cooperation in this area. We have also agreed to intensify high level exchanges with China. I will be visiting China this year and the Chinese Foreign Minister will also visit India. We will be holding the second annual defence dialogue as well as the second joint military exercise this year in an effort to continue deepening mutual understanding and trust between our Armed Forces. Our bilateral trade continues to show strong growth and both governments have revised the trade target to 60 billion dollars by 2010. Our Commerce Minister will visit China in April for the 8th meeting of the Joint Economic Group.

On the boundary question, during Prime Minister's visit, both sides positively appraised the work of the Special Representatives in seeking a mutually acceptable framework for a settlement that will be based on the Agreement on Guiding Principles and Political Parameters signed in April 2005. Both sides have also agreed to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

The hon. Members are aware that Chinese officials have expressed regret at Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh in end January, 2008. The Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh was to assure our citizens that Government is mindful of their developmental needs, and is ready and willing to assist them through concrete projects. The fact that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side by the Government.

The hon. Members would also have followed the significant developments in Pakistan. India shared the anguish of the people of Pakistan at the tragic assassination of former Prime Minister, Mrs. Benazir Bhutto in a despicable terrorist act. We are gratified that, in the recent elections in Pakistan, the people of Pakistan were able to express their wishes clearly and in a democratic manner on their own future. India wishes to see Pakistan develop and prosper in a stable democratic order. The Government stands ready to resume the Composite Dialogue process as soon as a duly constituted Government is in place in Pakistan. It remains our hope that we would be able to resolve outstanding issues and build a mutually beneficial relationship with Pakistan in an atmosphere free of violence and terrorism.

[Shri Pranab Mukherjee]

The security situation in Afghanistan remains a concern to us, but will not be allowed to affect our commitment to Afghanistan's reconstruction. We lost two of our personnel in a terrorist attack on a major road building project in Afghanistan in early January this year. Five of our personnel were also wounded in this attack, which also claimed the lives of twelve Afghan security persons. We extend our heartfelt condolences to all their families. The international community must stand firmly with President Karzai and his Government as they face up to the twin challenges of a major threat from terrorism in the form of the Taliban, and seek to build a democratic and pluralistic polity.

Nepal is undergoing a critical transition. After two postponements, Constituent Assembly elections are scheduled to be held on April 10, 2008. The elections will offer all Nepalese, including those in the *terai*, a chance to have a say in their own future. Government is committed to assist in every possible way Nepal's transition to a democratic, stable, peaceful and prosperous State.

India is closely monitoring developments in Sri Lanka and is concerned about the recent upsurge in the violence and conflict in that country. As hon. Members are aware, our policy towards Sri Lanka is based on the conviction that there is no military solution to the conflict. The way forward lies in a peacefully negotiated political settlement within the framework of a united Sri Lanka acceptable to all communities, including the Tamils. The interests of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka are a matter of particular significance to us in our dealings with Sri Lanka. With this in mind, we have welcomed as a first step the declared intention of the Sri Lankan Government to fully implement the 13th Amendment. We are also fully conscious of the need to provide for the safety of our fishermen. While it is important for our fishermen to respect the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), especially keeping in mind the on-going operations in Sri Lanka, we have impressed on the Sri Lankan Navy to act with restraint and for our fishermen to be treated in a humane manner.

The Foreign Minister of Myanmar visited India in early January 2008 and briefed us on initiatives taken by the Myanmar Government for political reform and national reconciliation. Foreign Secretary also visited Myanmar in February 2008. Myanmar is India's close neighbour and a gateway to the ASEAN. We have emphasized to Myanmar that the process of national reconciliation should

be broad-based to include all sections of society including Aung San Suu Kyi and the various ethnic groups. India fully supports the United Nation Secretary-General's good offices and his Special Envoy Mr. Ibrahim Gambari's mission to initiate a process of dialogue. At the bilateral level, co-operation in cross border infrastructure development projects, for providing better connectivity to the landlocked North-Eastern region of India is an important area of our relationship with Myanmar. Considering our common ethnic linkages and security considerations, it is essential for India to ensure that there is peace and stability in Myanmar during the period of its political reforms.

I chaired the 29th session of the SAARC Council of Ministers that was held in Delhi from 7-8 December, 2007. This session reviewed the progress made since the 14th Summit in April, 2007 to move SAARC from declaratory to implementation phase. We decided to operationalise immediately the SAARC Development Fund. Other decisions taken related to establishment of the South Asian University, the SAARC Food Bank and for promotion of physical connectivity.

Hon. Members are aware that in a *suo motu* statement made on 30th November, 2007, I had referred to the concerns expressed by hon. Members regarding the alleged harassment of participants of the rally organised by the Hindu Rights Action Force (HINDRAF) in Kuala Lumpur on 25 November, 2007 and subsequent related matters. As conveyed to hon. Members on that occasion, Government remains deeply solicitous for the welfare of people of Indian origin living abroad. There is a large community of people of Indian origin in Malaysia who are citizens of that country. We have friendly relations with Malaysia and we are in touch with the Malaysian authorities in the matter. During our interactions with them, concerns expressed in India, including in Parliament, regarding developments pertaining to the Indian community in Malaysia have been suitably conveyed.

The Government has been deeply concerned about the recent events in Gaza and the West Bank. The hardship and misery caused by these developments is deplorable. We have indicated that India is ready to extend all possible assistance to help the people of Palestine to overcome the suffering they are facing.

There were significant visits from countries outside our immediate neighbourhood, which have helped in strengthening our relationship with these countries. The

recent visit of Russian Prime Minister Viktor Zubkov to Delhi (12-13 February, 2008) contributed to strengthening the strategic partnership with Russia. During his visit to New Delhi, the Russian Prime Minister inaugurated the "Year of Russia in India", which will be followed by the "Year of India" in Russia next year. Prime Minister Gordon Brown of UK visited India (20-21 January, 2008) for the 4th India-UK annual summit. President Nicolas Sarkozy of France was the Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebrations this year. This was the first visit by President Sarkozy to India and helped in deepening our strategic partnership. Our partnership with Japan continues to expand on the basis of the Road Map signed when the Prime Minister of Japan visited India in August last year. In recent conversations that Prime Minister and I have had with our new Japanese counterparts, they have expressed their desire to work towards further strengthening our bilateral relationship. President Gayoom of Maldives paid a state visit to India from February 6-12, 2008. India has provided economic and technical assistance to develop infrastructure facilities in Maldives in mutually identified areas including the Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Male. The Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers of the Sultanate of Oman, Sayyid Fahad Bin Mahmoud Al Said, visited India last December, marking the first visit in a decade. I visited Oman in January, 2008. During this period, we also hosted visits from Prime Ministers of Denmark, Hungary and Greece.

Hon. Members would also be aware that we are currently engaged in negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency to arrive at an agreed text of an India-specific Safeguards Agreement. The conclusion of such an agreement will enable the Nuclear Suppliers' Group to amend its guidelines for civil nuclear commerce in favour of India. This will open the door to civil nuclear cooperation with various countries, including Russia, United States of America, France, UK, etc., with many of whom the necessary enabling bilateral agreements for such trade have been discussed and are in various stages of finalisation. This development will signify, finally, an end to the unfair technology denial regimes and sanctions that India has been faced with for over three decades. We will continue to seek broad political consensus within the country to take forward our engagement on this issue with other countries.

In this context, Members' attention may have been drawn to some statements by United States officials regarding the applicability of the Hyde Act to Indo-US

civil nuclear cooperation. Let me take this opportunity to reiterate that the Hyde Act is an enabling provision that is between the executive and the legislative organs of the United States Government. India's rights and obligations regarding civil nuclear cooperation with the United States arise only from the bilateral 123 Agreement that we have agreed upon with the United States.

To sum up, Sir, I would emphasise that the Government will continue its efforts to develop close political, social and economic relations with the countries of our region and with all the major powers of the world, so as to add to our ability to pursue our independent foreign policy as dictated by our national interest.

(Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 8132/2008)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there should be a discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER: There will be a discussion on this.

...(Interruptions)

12.14 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organization, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 8116/2008)

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8117/2008)

- (4) A copy of the Employees' State Insurance (Central) (2nd amendment) Rules, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 685 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31 October, 2007 under sub-section (4) of Section 95 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8118/2008)

- (5) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) on Action Taken or proposed to be taken on the ILO Convention No. 174 and Recommendation No. 181 concerning Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents adopted at the 80th Session of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva in 1993.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8119/2008)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8120/2008)

MR. SPEAKER: Item no. 5. Shri B.K. Handique may please lay the Paper on behalf of Shri Kantilal Bhuria.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, he is on other work. May I lay?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: On behalf of Shri Kantilal Bhuria, I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited for the year 2006-2007, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8121/2008)

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2006-2007, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8122/2008)

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2002-2003, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8123/2008)



(3) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

(4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, for the year 1998-1999.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8124/2008)

(6) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, for the year 1999-2000.

(7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8125/2008)

(8) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, for the year 2000-2001.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8126/2008)

(10) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, for the year 2001-2002.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8127/2008)

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board, Kochi, for the year 2006-2007.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board, Kochi, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Coconut Development Board, Kochi, for the year 2006-2007.

(13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8128/2008)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 :-

(i) Notification No. F.No. 9/5/2007-Jute published in Gazette of India dated the 9th August, 2007 directing that the commodities mentioned therein shall be packed in jute packaging material, for supply of distribution, in such minimum percentage specified in the Notification for the Jute year 2007-2008.

(ii) S.O. 1514 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th September, 2007 declaring the above Notification as a Statutory Order instead of a Resolution.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8129/2008)

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Libray, *See* No. LT 8130/2008)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section (3) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :-
- (i) The Rice (Stock Declaration by Companies or firms or Individuals) Order, 2007 published in Notification No. S.O. 1991 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 2007
  - (ii) G.S.R. 758(E)/Ess.Com./Sugarcane published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December 2007 fixing the minimum price of sugarcane mentioned therein for the sugar year 2006-2007.
  - (iii) G.S.R. 759(E)/Ess.Com./Sugarcane published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2007 fixing the minimum price of sugarcane mentioned therein for the sugar year 2007-2008.
  - (iv) The Sugar (Price Determination of 2006-2007 production) Amendment Order, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 757 (E)/Ess.Com./Sugar dated the 6th December, 2007.
  - (v) The Sugarcane (Control) Amendment Order, 2007 published in Notification No. S.O. 2198(E)/Ess.Com./Sugarcane dated the 28th December, 2007.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 8131/2008)

12.15 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA  
AND  
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

*[English]*

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha.

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2008 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th February, 2008."

Sir, I lay on the Table the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2008, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 2008.

12.15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

DELIMITATION (AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 2008\*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Delimitation Act, 2002."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I introduce the Bill.

12.16 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: DELIMITATION  
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE\*\*

*[English]*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Delimitation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 (No. 1 of 2008).

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 3.3.2008.

\*\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 8133/2008.

12.16½ hrs.

**RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2008\***

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989."

*The motion was adopted.*

*[Translation]*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I introduce the Bill.

12.17 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE: RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE\*\***

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Sir, I lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 (No. 2 of 2008).

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Sir, 18 people of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh have been killed in a Railway accident. It is very unfortunate. The House should express its condolence over this unfortunate accident and I want that Shri Lalu Prasadji may make a statement in this regard as to why and how such an accident took place and what compensation has been given to the next of kin of the deceased. ...*(Interruptions)*

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 3.3.2008.

\*\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 8134/2008.

MR. SPEAKER: I had given time to Shri Harin Pathakji, his speech has been recorded.

*[English]*

Nothing will be recorded without my permission.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, the hon. Minister should make a statement on this accident in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harin Pathak, this is not the system.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harin Pathak, you have been a Minister also. This is not the system.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Avinash Rai Khanna may please speak.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded except what Shri Avinash Rai Khanna says.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: If I cannot allow important matters to be raised, do not blame me then.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harin Pathak, I have allowed you.

*...(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record one word of Shri Harin Pathak.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

12.19 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways is ready to make a statement.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want the Minister of Home Affairs to make a statement over the Maharashtra issue, because it is a very sentimental issue of national importance. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Take your seat; Laluji will speak first.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now, I have given the time to Shri Lalu Prasad. After that, I can see.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will see to it after Laluji's statement.

...(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded. Only Shri Lalu Prasad's statement should be recorded and nothing else.

...(Interruptions)\*

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Laluji's statement.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, earlier, over the issue of Maharashtra, the hon. Speaker had given an assurance to all that the Minister of Home Affairs would give a reply. This is proper also. I also request him to give a reply. First of all, I want to read out a statement regarding the railway accident which occurred in Surat.

14.02 hrs.

#### STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS—*Contd.*

- (ii) **Death of 16 Persons Due to Run Over by Train No. 9031 (Mumbai Central-Bhuj) Kutch Express Between Udhna and Surat Railway Stations on 27.02.2008.**

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I with profound sorrow want to inform the House about the incident of death of 16 persons due to run over by Train No. 9031 (Mumbai Central-Bhuj) Kutch Express between Udhna and Surat Railway Stations on 27.02.2008 at about 10.00 PM. Preliminary enquiry revealed that all the dead persons have alighted from a train at Udhna Railway station and were going on foot through a Railway Bridge situated between Udhna and Surat Railway stations and in the mean time they were dashed by the above train and died at the spot.

On receipt of the information, the officials from Railway administration, Government Railway Police and

\*Not recorded.

Railway Protection Force along with team of Railway doctors immediately reached the spot. All the above 16 persons comprising 11 male, 2 female and 3 children died at the spot.

It is pertinent to mention that the above Railway Bridge is meant for Railway Traffic only and public is not allowed to walk on the Railway Bridge. There is provision of walking on foot in between both the Railway tracks for the Railway staff only for maintenance of the bridge when there is no train movement on the bridge. Though, according to the preliminary enquiry, there is no fault of Railways in the above incident, however, a committee consisting of 3 senior Railway Officers has been constituted to conduct discreet enquiry at the spot in the incident. The committee will submit enquiry report within two weeks.

Compensation of Rs. 10,000 each for the next of kin of those killed has already been announced by the General Manager/Western Railway. Considering the seriousness of the incident, I have also granted compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs each for the next of kin of those killed.

As per existing rules, the Driver and the Asstt. Driver of any train has to inform about such incidents to the Station Master of the next station, but the Driver of train no. 9031 Kutch express Shri A.K. Sharma and Asstt. Driver, Shri Arun Kumar did not inform the matter to Station Master of Surat Railway station. They have been placed under suspension for their said failure. Government Railway Police/Surat has registered a case vide no. 59/08 under section 174 Cr. P.C. in this regard. ...(*Interruptions*) I have announced to grant compensation of Rs. 5 Lakhs each for the next of kin of those killed...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Thank you very much.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are grateful to the Minister of Railways for granting compensation of Rs. 5 lakh to the next of kin of those killed. ...(*Interruptions*) I, too, had visited that site alongwith the Railway officer. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing should be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please sit down now.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir as I said that the said railway bridge is not meant for public use, but then also, I will consider your suggestion as to what alternative measure can be taken to cross the bridge. ...(*Interruptions*) I would also like to thank the hon'ble Leader of opposition, Shri Advaniji from whom we received the information first in this regard. I was not available, therefore, he apprised the Minister of State, therefore, I would like to thank the leader of opposition.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 8135/2008]

14.06 hrs.

#### SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS—*Contd.*

##### Incidents of violence against North Indians in Mumbai and other parts of the country

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Many members wanted that the hon'ble Home Minister should make a statement on the incidents of Maharashtra. If he wishes he can make the statement.

[*English*]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): We have also submitted our notice regarding this. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Home Minister, listen to his views also for a minute. Conclude your speech in one-two minutes.

\*Not recorded.

*[English]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the incidents that have happened in Maharashtra, Assam and other parts of the country are very much shocking to us. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Now, this has happened because the migrant labourers from different parts of the country are going to other parts for their jobs. Some workers from Orissa have also gone to different parts of the country as migrant workers. They have been working there. This is the constitutional obligation of the Government of India. They cannot sit silent like this. The Constitution has provided safeguards for the linguistic minorities and migrant labourers. So, safety should be given to them. Their property and their lives are not safe. What is the Government of India doing? It is not the question of a State maintaining its law and order. The Government of India is solely responsible for it.

This has happened in Maharashtra. Fortunately, we have four Cabinet Ministers from Maharashtra. Hon. Home Minister is from Maharashtra. Agriculture Minister, Shri Sharad Pawar, is from Maharashtra. Mr. Antulay is from Maharashtra. Mr. Shinde is from Maharashtra. They are all ex-Chief Ministers. Why are they not consulting all parties to solve this problem? This is a national issue. Now, the entire country is criticizing this. Also, in other States, the echo is going on. We have all Members of Parliament expressing their anxiety. Why is this happening? Why is this happening in any part of the country, any part of the State? The entire country is one. Why is this happening? The Government should take the lead.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : They should consult all the political parties. They should not shift the responsibility to States. What is the Government of India doing? ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Home Minister is here. It has happened in Maharashtra. It has happened in Assam. It has happened in different places. ...*(Interruptions)* The migrant labourers have been harassed. Their lives are at stake. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now I request the Home Minister to speak on this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What are you doing? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Home Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusaraj): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I shall conclude my speech in one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, give me only a minute to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*[Translation]*

The Members of your party have already spoken.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Sir, I had given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*. This issue is not of a party. This issue is related to the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not allowed you. Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

ADV. SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, it started with attacks on South Indians. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not allowed him to speak. How is it possible for me to allow you?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If I allow you, other hon. Members will also ask me to allow them.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

ADV. SURESH KURUP : Sir, it is a serious issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not allow you.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will not go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, it is possible for us to understand the feelings of the hon. Members and the concerns expressed by them. We appreciate what they have said on the floor of the House.

I was attending a meeting and could not hear the Members speaking in the House relating to the incidents that took place in Maharashtra. So, without going through the statements carefully, it would not be possible for me

\*Not recorded.

to respond to the points raised by them. If required and directed, I would collect the information. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Sir, I have asked a question and I want a reply. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has yet not completed the statement.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singh ji, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I would request them to hear me first. ...(*Interruptions*) Please allow me to complete. If they have any objection, they can raise it afterwards. ...(*Interruptions*) Please hear my next sentence. ...(*Interruptions*). Sir, let them hear me first. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: First, let the hon'ble Minister make the statement, then we will see what has to be done.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has just begun his reply.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you will not be satisfied, then we will see.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If reply is not satisfactory, then we will see.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: First let the reply be completed.

...(*Interruptions*)

\*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has told about himself.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: First listen to me. What is this. ...(Interruptions)

You keep on speaking without listening to me. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We are not going to be cowed down. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you do not want to listen the reply, let's leave it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: What is this. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would request the hon. Leaders to come to the Speaker's Chamber.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

14.17 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS—*Contd.*

**Re: Incidents of violence against North Indians in Mumbai and other parts of the country**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now I would request the hon. Home Minister, as he is not fully prepared today, to

come prepared tomorrow and make the Statement in the House.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, please allow me to speak for one or two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, my next sentence—I have it in a written form, in which I said—was that if required and directed I would collect the information on these points and respond to them on the date and time given to me. That was my next sentence. Then I have also said that I am in a position to speak on the policy of the Government of India and the Government of the State as expected. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): You have given ruling from the chair, even then they are speaking. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have allowed him.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: This is contempt of the chair. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Home Minister will make the Statement tomorrow. He was only giving a clarification.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I would like to say that if really my Statement is wanted on the floor of the House, I am ready to make the Statement at any time. If I am standing up to make the statement and if the former Ministers and the senior leaders do not allow me to speak, then how do I make the Statement?. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have requested him that tomorrow no member will interrupt his speech. Therefore come with full preparation.

...(Interruptions)



[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, any time you direct I am ready to make the Statement. Tomorrow I can make the Statement. ...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to speak about a very important issue. I had also raised this issue before lunch. I would like to seek clarification from the Government. Shri Kashmira Singh of my constituency is languishing in Pakistani jail for the last 35 years. I am making efforts for his release for the last 10 years. Messages are being received from Pakistan that he would be released today. I would like to know from the Government whether travelling documents have been dispatched? Will he return to India or not? It is being widely discussed in newspapers and media. People are waiting for him over there. Sir, it would be better if the Government gives a clarification in this regard. The Minister of Home Affairs is present here, I just want this to be clarified.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Meet him personally.

14.33 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up item no. 14. Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to allocate adequate funds under various schemes meant for the welfare of OBCs**

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): For the upliftment of Other Backward Classes in this country, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has implemented five schemes through States/UTs. They are (i) Pre-matric Scholarships, (ii) Post-matric Scholarships (iii) Hostel Facilities for OBC boys and girls (iv) Additional Credit Facility for backward classes through National Backward Finance Development Corporation for viable

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

projects (v) Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of OBCs through NGOs. For the past two years 2006-07 and 2007-08 allocation of funds by our Government for the implementation of the above schemes is very less as compared with other demands.

Moreover, Funds allocation for Plan Schemes and Non-Plan Schemes are declining year after year since 2001. It shows that there is a decline in the allocation of funds for the welfare of OBCs. Total allocation for the welfare of various Communities viz., SC, ST and Minorities, has risen from Rs. 1322 crore in 2001-02 to Rs. 1495 crore in 2005-06 but for the welfare of OBC, it has actually been reduced from Rs. 71.45 crore to Rs. 65.30 crore.

Hence, I humbly request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to allocate more funds for the welfare of OBC in the forthcoming General Budget. Further, I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to take steps to create a separate Foundation for the welfare of OBC students on the lines of SC and Minorities Foundation in the name of Late Shri K. Kamaraj who dedicated his entire life for the upliftment of poor and downtrodden communities.

- (ii) **Need to maintain the territorial integrity of Manipur**

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Since 1997, the Government of India and NSCN (IM) are on cease-fire and peace talk has been on for more than 10 years. So far the Parliament and its Members are kept in dark about the progress of the parley. Only when something is reported in the media, we come to know about it.

In 2001, when the cease-fire was extended 'without territorial limits' in my state Manipur more than five lakh people came out in the street culminating to large scale violence. In the melee, the State Assembly and many Government offices were burnt down and eighteen innocent people including one woman lost their lives.

Of late, there appears to be a demand for the implementation of the Sixteen-Point Agreement, 1960 in letter and spirit, which includes the Consolidation of Contiguous Naga Areas.

In 1949, Manipur was an independent sovereign princely state when the state got merged into the Union of India. At that point of time, Manipur did have clear-cut geographical territorial boundary. We have a genuine fear that any attempt to disturb the territorial integrity of Manipur would certainly lead to serious undesirable

[Shri Thokchom Meinya]

consequences, resulting in large scale violence and bloodshed.

Hence, the sincere wish of the people of Manipur is that the territory of Manipur as it was at the time of merger into the Union of India in 1949 should always be preserved, maintained and respected.

**(III) Need to Check the Increasing Pollution Level In Vapi Industrial Area In Gujarat**

[Translation]

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL (Bulsar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the increasing pollution level in the Vapi Industrial area in my parliamentary constituency, Bulsar.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir Vapi has been ranked 5th in the world in the Blacksmith Pollution Report for the year 2007. The level of mercury in water is 96 per cent more there than the WHO standards. Around 1402 factories are directly responsible for the rising level of pollution in this industrial city. While thousands of citizens living in the neighbouring villages of Vapi are falling victims of various diseases due to the said pollution. The fishery and the cultivable land has also not remained free from the ill-effects of the water of Damanganga and Madhuban Dam.

Sir, the State Pollution Control Board has failed to check pollution caused by these factories. Therefore, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests to intervene in this regard at the earliest to take appropriate action urgently against the polluting units in Vapi so as to save this city and its residents from pollution.

**(iv) Need to declare the roads linking Kandla-Ambaji via Palanpur-Khed Bramha-Shyama and Ahmedabad-Abu road as National Highways**

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Palanpur, the headquarters of my Parliamentary Constituency Banaskantha, is situated in between many towns. The traffic moving from Kandla and Shymlalji via Ambaji. Ahmedabad and Abu Road pass through Palanpur town. People pass through Palanpur to visit the tourist centres and religious places of these towns but roads connecting these towns to Palanpur are not in a good condition which causes great difficulties to the

people visiting these tourism and religious centres. Demands have been made from the Government since long but no action has been taken so far. Construction of roads would boost the tourist places and help removing the industrial backwardness of north Gujarat.

I request the Government, through the House that the road from Kandla to Madhya Pradesh via Ambaji, Khed Bramha and Shymlalji, and Ahmedabad-Abu Road should also be declared as National Highways in order to boost up tourism centres.

**(v) Need to introduce new railway services to provide better connectivity to Guntur with other cities**

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): Sir, I wish to bring to the urgent attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Railways and the Government that the genuine demands which have been pending for quite a long time,

**(a) Doubling and electrification of Guntur-Tenali track:**

Top priority should be accorded for doubling and electrification of Guntur-Tenali section. Presently, it is a single line with electric traction.

**(b) Doubling and electrification of Nallapadu (Near Guntur)- Pagidipalli (Bibinagar) Line**

The Guntur-Secunderabad section is the principal artery in the new Guntur Division.

**(c) Introduction of new trains:**

(i) Intercity between Guntur and Tirupathi during day time: Thousands of pilgrims visit Tirupathi daily. This train enable them to reach Tirupathi, Kalahasti and Kanipakam.

(ii) Intercity between Guntur and Chennai: Introduction of Intercity Express between Guntur-Chennai will help Gunturians to reach Chennai.

(iii) Regular train to Bangalore. There is a need to introduce a train from Guntur to Bangalore so that the train reaches Bangalore before 5 am to enable the professionals to attend their offices in time.

**(iv) Pinakini Express (2711/2712)**

Gunturians desire to reach Chennai and stations enroute during day time. Pinakini Express (2711/2712) between Vijayawada-Chennai will serve the purpose if it is diverted *via* New Guntur Railway Station.

(d) The following Express trains should be diverted *via* Guntur/New Guntur Stations.

- (i) Tamilnadu (2621/2622);
  - (ii) Kerala Express (2625/2626);
  - (iii) Ernakulam-Patna (6359/6360);
  - (iv) Vijayawada-Manmad Express (7208/7207);
  - (v) Navejeevan (Ahmedabad-Chennai-Ahmedabad) (2655/2656);
  - (vi) Seshadri Express (7210/7209) (Kakinada-Bangaloe)
- (e) Extension of Devagiri Express (7058/7057):

Devagiri Express which runs between Secunderabad-Mumbai may be extended to Guntur *via* Nalgonda and Nadikudi.

- (vi) **Need to address the problem of shortage of drinking water in district Murshidabad, West Bengal**

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): The district Murshidabad in West Bengal consists of the population of more than 60 lacs. The river 'Bhagirathi' is flowing through the district virtually dissecting the district into two halves. On the eastern part, the area is contaminated with 'Arsenic' while in the Western part people are experiencing acute water shortage due to the sharp fall of 'Aquifer level'. During Summer season the water shortage comes to such a pass that people are compelled to collect water from whatever sources unmindful of its health hazards.

Even urban areas of western part of the district are not spared from the excruciating shortage of water. 'Kandi' is an urban area which is known for its age old habitation and rich history needs regular piped water supply as the city is on the verge of water famine'. It is easy to supply drinking water to the water starved city by installing water treatment plant on the bank of river 'Bhagirathi' which is a few Kms. away from the City 'Kandi'.

It is my earnest request to the concerned Ministry to take the initiative as early as possible to quench the thirst of the people of 'Kandi' and adjoining areas.

- (vii) **Need to set up a Bench of High Court at Rajkot, Gujarat**

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA (Rajkot): Rajkot is the erstwhile capital of Saurashtra State which was merged in Gujarat in 1960. Earlier there was High Court in Rajkot during Saurashtra State. As per Constitution, High Court Benches can be set up in the cities where these courts previously existed. Politicians, industries, lawyers and people from Saurashtra have demanded off and on regarding High Court bench. Government of Gujarat is also ready to provide infrastructure. It is requested to set up the Bench of High Court at Rajkot, Gujarat at the earliest.

- (viii) **Need to give an early clearance to proposal of Gujarat Government for setting up Information Technology Institutes and an I.I.T. in the State**

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Planning Commission, Government of India recommended that those States which has potential growth in IT industry, require an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT). Further, in order to attract the teaching faculties and to train them, the Planning Commission has recommended the establishment of an Indian Institute of Information Technology Academy (IIITA). Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India stipulated the condition that the State Government should provide 100 acres Land free of cost to each institute and also should extend some Infrastructural facilities to the Indian Institute of Information Technology (ITT) and Indian Institute of Information Technology Academy. These Institutes were proposed to be created by Public-Private Partnership with the Minimum equity from the State Government. Government of Gujarat has agreed to provide the land as well as the required equity.

Besides, during the 15th August, 2007 Independence Day Celebration, Hon'ble Prime Minister had announced that 8 new IIT campuses would be set up in the States. The State Government is very keen on a new IIT campus in Gujarat State because of its Industrial Development and the kind of unparalleled opportunities available to the Students for Research and Development. Considering the prestigious Institutes like IIM, ISRO, PRL, NID and NIFT existing in Ahmedabad, the establishment of a new

[Shri Kashiram Rana]

IIT campus would complement the academic strength of the others. Government of Gujarat has requested the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India for an early decision in the matter. I urge upon the Government to approve both proposals of the Government of Gujarat immediately.

**(ix) Need to Include the ancient 'Vikramshila University' at Bhagalpur, Bihar in Buddhist Circle**

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Vikramshila University the oldest Buddhist University of the world, was established in the eighth or ninth century by King Dharam Pal of the Pal dynasty. It is situated in Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur. The existence of this ancient heritage is in danger due to the negligence of the department of Archaeology. This historical heritage which is presented by the Archaeological Survey of India is included among the oldest archaeological monument of the world. Many evidences relating to the existence of a Buddhist shrine and places related thereto were found after the research and excavation work carried out by Patna University and later by the Archaeological Survey of India. The University which was the biggest in the world is spread over 116 acres of land. 168 teachers worked here and it had six gates. It was the oldest and first Buddhist University. The first main buddhist teacher of this University was Gupta; thereafter Deepenkar Shree Gyan took over from him. He visited Tibet on the invitation of the King and became famous as Atisha. He was the founder of the Lama Stupa of Tibet. If this place is included in the Buddhist Corridor it would increase its importance and researchers, students and tourists would be benefited immensely. Development of Vikramshila would not only benefit Indian researchers but also the followers of Buddhism all over the world including Asia and other countries and further more it would help in earning foreign currency by promoting tourism in the country.

**(x) Need to set up a Rail Coach Factory at Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bareilly is a major city of Uttar Pradesh. Here, large infrastructural facility of the Railways exists. In addition to the office of North-Eastern Railway Division, the crane manufacturing and wagon repair factory of

North-Eastern railway was situated here; but the said factory is on the verge of closure due to absence of any work. Previously, around 10,000 labourers were employed here, but now the work is diminishing gradually. Twenty years ago, this place was found to be most suitable for establishing a coach factory, but decision could not be taken due to political reasons. The Railways have suitable land available here and also other infrastructure is also there. It is requested that a proper decision may be taken to establish a well equipped rail factory in Bareilly.

**(xi) Need to provide financial assistance to the farmers of Rajasthan facing crop-failure due to frost and cold wave from Calamity Relief Fund**

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, certain natural calamities such as cold wave, heat wave, foggy weather which is associated with the geographical condition of Rajasthan are not included in the list of 10 natural calamities notified as approved for getting relief under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). The farmers of Rajasthan suffer every year due to the drought during Kharif crop and foggy and cold wave weather during Rabi crop. Drought has been included under CRF but serious calamities like cold wave and foggy weather have not been included in it. The cold wave of this year has destroyed the Rabi crop of mustard, gram, tarrica, corinda, barley, vegetables which has affected the agro economic severely. It is important to provide relief to the farmers affected due to such calamities but it is not possible to do so under the extant rules. I humbly request the Government to make arrangements for providing compensation to the farmers of Rajasthan who have lost their crop of mustard, gram etc. due to cold wave by including cold wave in the notified list of natural calamities so that farmers could be saved from being ruined.

**(xii) Need to increase the number of Notaries in Kerala**

[English]

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara): The State of Kerala has a large population and comparatively larger NRI population who require frequent notarial attestation and that the people are cent percent literate who have multifarious legal transaction for which notarial services are required. But the Union Ministry of Law and Justice has not increased the number of Notaries for the State

of Kerala even after repeated demands from the Government of Kerala. As per the letter from the Government of Kerala, the Ministry of Law and Justice of Government of India has amended the rule enhancing the number of Notaries to 563. Considering the multifarious legal transactions in the State, it is highly necessary to increase the number of notaries for the State to at least one thousand. Hence, it is requested that steps be taken to increase the number of Notaries to at least 1000 for the State of Kerala.

**(xiii) Need to check the incidents of fire in Jharla and Raniganj coalfields**

SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY (Asansol): There is no serious attempt to control fire in Jharla and Raniganj coalfields. Central Government should treat this issue as national problem. Human lives and property in the area is in danger. Immediate arrangements should be made with proper technology to avoid disaster.

**(xiv) Need to open more branches of Nationalised Banks in Salempur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, almost all the parts of my parliamentary constituency, Salempur are backward and the poor farmers of this area are not being provided any financial help because of which people migrate to other States in search of employment and the people migrating to other States and foreign countries have to face a lot of problems in sending money to their families. In my parliamentary constituency, an area called Mehrona comes under Lar Development Block. This area lies on the bank of the Ghaghra and the chhoti Gandak river. Many people from this area are working and living in foreign countries. Majority of population of this area is from minority community. Another area is Paradi, comes under the Bankata Development Block. In this area, there is no bank within five kilometers distance. Third area is Veeparpur Mishra which comes under the Bhoolsani Development Block. There is no bank within a range of six kilometers of this area. The farmers in these areas are unable to get any financial help and facilities for want of banks over there. In these areas how the farmers can get the benefit in the absence of any financial assistance. Farmers will not be able to get the benefit of agricultural investment and other loan facilities extended by the Union Government. The villagers have been demanding for opening of Bank Branches for a long time.

Through this august House, I request the Government to open branches of nationalized banks in Mehrona, Paradi and Veeparpur Mishra in the public interest so that the farmers are able to get financial assistance.

**(xv) Need to provide adequate wages and facilities to Beedi workers in Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are as many as 30 lac Beedi workers in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal States of the country working as beedi rollers in the unorganized sector. In the above States, beedi workers are being openly exploited as they are being paid anything between rupees 35 and 41 despite the fact that the national minimum floor level rate is Rs. 80. The Government should fix National Minimum Floor Level rate, at Rs. 70 for rolling every thousand beedi and also fix the common minimum wages for other categories in the same ratio. Hospitals should be opened for beedi workers in Allahabad and Kaushambi districts. Treatment facility for kidney transplantation and serious ailments such as heart related diseases, cancer, TB etc. should be provided under the comprehensive medical scheme. In the new hospitals, pathological tests sonography/x-ray tests along with the availability of medicines for treatment of diseases should be ensured. Adequate arrangements should be made for providing medical instruments and medicines in the hospitals situated in Allahabad, Kaushambi, Pratapgarh, Gurusahyganj, Kannauj, Amroha, Rampur, Jhansi, Mirzapur, Jaunpur districts, where beedi workers live in large numbers. Arrangements for setting up of a residential colony for beedi workers in various districts of the above States should be made on the line of such arrangements made in Raebarell district of Uttar Pradesh where facilities like electricity, water, medical and educational institutes for children should be provided compulsorily.

**(xvi) Need to construct a bridge over river Bhutahi-balan on N.H. 104 in Bihar**

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, National Highway No. 104 is very important highway in view of the National Security and it is the life line for the people residing in Indo-Nepal bordering areas. A notification for preparation of DPR for construction of a high level bridge over river Bhutahi-balan at 194-195 km stretch of this road near Lokaha

[Dr. Devendra Prasad Yadav]

had been issued one year back, the formalities required to be completed before starting the construction work of the bridge have not been completed so far. In the absence of a bridge over the above river, every year many people die while crossing the river during the rainy season as they fall into the river.

I would like that the Government should take immediate action to start the construction work of the sanctioned high level bridge over Bhutahi-balan river on the National Highway number 104, which is a matter of urgent public importance.

- (xvii) **Need to evolve a comprehensive policy with a view to ensure adequate supply of fertilizers in the country**

[English]

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tiruppattur): Agriculture is the axis of our economy. Agriculture provides for food production as well as livelihood for the teeming millions. More than 80% of our population is dependent on Agriculture and agro-industries earning atleast one square meal a day. The farmers from Tamil Nadu carry on cultivation contentedly. But a problem has arisen now. There is an acute short-supply of agricultural inputs like urea, potash and complex. When there is an enormous demand for chemical fertilizers, farmers meet with huge disappointment due to non-availability of artificial manure as a result of mismatching production and distribution. When fertilizer units are being paid subsidy by the Government, it is incumbent on the part of the Government to probe the problem that belies the expectations of both the Government and the farmers. This problem highlights the need to evolve a Fertilizer policy co-ordinating with all the Ministries like Chemicals & Fertilizer Ministry, Ministry of Industries, Union Agriculture Ministry and also the Ministry of Finance. With a long term perspective a Fertilizer policy encouraging National manure and apportioning funds for research and promotion needs to be evolved by the Union Government. Since private industries and PSUs of the State Government are also involved in this, Government may have to hold wider discussions to use effectively both Chemical Fertilizers and National Manure.

- (xviii) **Need to construct a Railway-Over-Bridge near the 'dargah' of Haji Waris Ali at Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT (Barabanki): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a 'dargah' of Hazi Waris

Ah, of international fame near railway crossing of Barabanki Railway Junction in North Eastern Railway and Northern Railway in Barabanki (Uttar Pradesh) and an international fair is held in Deva. A short route for Fatehpur tehsil of Barabanki, Mahmoodabad tehsil of Sitapur, Nepalganj (Nepal) and district Lakhimpur passes through this crossing. However, due to lack of a railway over bridge over there traffic remains jam throughout the day because hundreds of trains of North Eastern Railway and Northern railway pass through this point daily.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh agreed to contribute its share as they are aware of the situation. If Railways contributes its share, then a railway over bridge may be constructed.

Therefore, approval in this matter may be accorded.

- (xix) **Need to stop eviction of villagers by railway authorities from Nowpada estate village in Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh**

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, Nowpada railway station is in Srikakulam, my Parliamentary Constituency. Nowpada is an estate village taken over by Government. Since long, certain villagers of Nowpada have occupied the lands and constructed houses and commercial complexes also. The land occupied by them is not classified as Railways Poramboke in Revenue records. It is classified as village site poramboke and for all purposes it can be constructed as in private site. Now, the Divisional Railway Manager, East Coast Railway, Waltair has initiated action for eviction from the land on the plea that it is an unauthorized occupation and that the land is a property of Railways. The action initiated by the Divisional Railway Manager is contrary to rules.

I would also like to inform that most of the occupants are below the poverty line and they are in occupation since very-very long and the Railways have demarcated the land by constructing a compound wall also.

In this regard, I also met Hon'ble Railway Minister to stop the eviction proceedings immediately and he assured to take favourable action in the matter.

Therefore, in view of the above, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Hon'ble Railway Minister to kindly intervene in the matter and instruct the concerned Railway

authorities to stop eviction proceedings immediately as most of the occupants are not having even two square meals a day.

14.33½ hrs.

### MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up item no. 15 - Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Shri Ajit Jogi.

SHRI AJIT JOGI. (Mahasamund): Sir, with your permission, I move the following:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms :—

"That the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on February 25, 2008."

*[Translation]*

It is not a co-incidence, rather it is a matter of pleasure. We are discussing here an Address that has been delivered by the first Hon'ble Lady President. It is first of its kind address in the history of the country. It apparently reflects in the Address. As a mother cares her family, in the same way the Government under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh and Leader, Chairperson of UPA, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi has made provision for all sections of the society and it has been explicable expressed in the Address.

In true sense and in a nutshell, this Address comes under the category of 'Sarvajan Hitay, Sarvajan Sukhay'. When Hon'ble President was delivering Address my attention was turning again and again to the Shloka of Rigveda which is written on the wall of main gate of Central Hall. Our founding fathers, our Constitution makers have got this Shloka written after due deliberation. The shloka is like this:

Ayam niyah paro veti ganana laghuchetsam,  
Udarcharitanam to Vasudhav Kutumbkam.

A person of parochial ideology confines to himself only. He does not think of others. On the other hand, a person of liberal thinking considers the entire world as his own family and he is Indian in real term. And the Address is completely based on these ideas. I would like to say, without hurting the feelings of anyone, that some of our colleagues believe in the thinking of narrowness, they do not think of others. Just now, a discussion was being held on this issue. Some of us claim to be Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian and discriminate on the basis of caste, creed and religion and the poor. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No running commentary, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT YOGI: The main gate of our Parliament and Hon'ble President's Address remind us all these things. These are not my views. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar): It is also to be mentioned that national language Hindi has been respected immensely. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Shri Chaubey ji, that's why I am speaking in Hindi.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Choubeyji, please sit down. Let him speak. Please do not disturb.

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: All are being respected but I would like to remind the people. Following the ideology of parochial that this Address is completely based on the ideology of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam'. There is no place of narrowness in this Address. The aim of this Address is to integrate the people instead of disintegrate them. Putting emphasis on the integration of soul with God, person to person, soul to body, our Hon'ble Dr. Radhakrishnan, defining the religion Hindu has stated-

*[English]*

"That which integrates is dharma; that which disintegrates is adharma."

*[Translation]*

[Shri Ajit Jogi]

The 'Dharma' integrates man to man, the Hindu to Muslim, the Hindu to Sikh, the poor to rich while 'adhama' disintegrates them. In the Address of our Hon'ble President, the interests of all the sections of the society have been kept in mind and I express my gratitude to her for this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, in the Address the interests of all those about whom we have been talking and due to which the proceedings of Parliament was disrupted. We have talked of the welfare of the poor, farmers, Bharat Nirman which mitigates the gap between towns and villages and looks after the interests of the rural unorganized workers by providing them employment through NREGP to three crore of people on daily basis. However the Parliament was not allowed to function.

All this have been included in the Address. You will not find a single class or category for which complete arrangements have not been endeavoured. India lives in her villages. 75 per cent to 80 per cent our population lives in villages. Farmers live in villages and labourers live in villages. There is no need to mention the plight of the farmers in the villages. Despite many sufferings and adverse circumstances he faces, he toils so that we may not go hungry. With great pain I would like to say that it has happened for the first time in the history of the country that in real senses farmers have been taken care of and as you heard in the budget, after the President's Address, in the budget presented by our finance ministry, Rs. 60,000 crore loan have been waived to the farmers. This is historic, this is revolutionary step and this has been done for the first time. I don't want to comment only, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Sir, but it is true and I still remember that when we went for election campaigns in the past, we saw it written on the walls in every election campaign, the slogan of BJP that all the loans of the farmers will be waived off. But the same was not done. Today the farmers of India have come to an advanced position, the first time they have been encouraged and all this has been done by our Government by waiving loan worth Rs. 60,000 crore. A farmer living in villages. *...(Interruptions)*. The Government have waived off the loan of Rs. 60 thousand crore to the farmers. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)\***[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Advaniji is yet to speak.

*...(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati): Why do you not allow the hon. member to speak? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)\***[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After this Shri Advani will speak.

*...(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)\***[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to me. After Shri Jogi ji, Shrimati Krishna Tirath will speak and after that whatever Shri Advaniji is to speak, he will speak.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)\**


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\*Not recorded.



MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jogi, please continue.

Shri Goyal, you should also go to your seat.

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can understand that for the farmers living in 8 lakh villages. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Goyal, nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Waiving off loan has brought happiness and the people in villages have been exulted. If loan waiving of Rs. 60 thousand crore is not bringing happiness to some people, we shall see to that also. If these people have some objections or some problems, the country can very well understand it. I would also like to say that the highest number after the farmers is of the labourers in the villages. This has happened for the first time that an arrangement for providing employment to three crore labourers daily has been made under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The scheme which was implemented in only half of the districts of the country our beloved Rahul ji took an initiative for that and this scheme has now been implemented in all the 596 districts of the country. We thank our leader Shrimati Sonia and our beloved young leader Shri Rahulji that this scheme has been implemented in all the 596 districts of the country. Now the labourers have got the right and asking for the wages. Today labourers can ask for their wages rightfully and every year he shall be given 100 days employment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to make one point more that the implementation of this good scheme has been left to the State Governments. There are many such State Governments, which I do not want to name. If I name them, people will rise against me. There are many State Governments which have misused the money meant for this scheme. I know about the district Kanker of my State where pesticides worth Rs. 100 crore have been purchased with the money of this National Rural

\*Not recorded.

Employment Guarantee Scheme. This money was meant for the labourers, where this money was given to the labourers for the sweat they shed, some State Governments are indulging in excessive corruption. Our Verma Saheb is referring to Gujarat only. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Varma, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I would like to submit that when a mover moves the Motion, normally, unless there is something serious, nobody interrupts. Again, they will start their speeches and we will listen to them patiently. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not disturb.

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: One after another best scheme has been described in it. If I am repeating them in brief, it is only for saying that the coalition Government under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh which is working on the guidance and guidelines of our greatest leader Sonia Gandhiji as to how this Government is taking care of society and every class of India and how it is looking after their interests. Look at the field of education, today when we are emerging as one of the super powers, when time and again people are saying that the increasing population in India is a curse to India then we see a ray of hope in the same picture when through education for all programme, we are educating population increasingly so rapidly. We are making them skilful so that they are no longer a burden on us.

*[English]*

They will not be a liability to us. They will be assets for us. They will not only serve this nation, but they will serve the entire humanity all over the world.

*[Translation]*

Thus we are materializing the dreams of our children for the first time under 'education for all' campaign. I remember when Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had visited the US, he said

*[English]*

[Shri Ajit Jogi]

"I am young, and I too have a dream."

*[Translation]*

Today, every child has this dream and to materialize his dream, if any weapon in his hands should be given is that of education. I want to express happiness at the balance effected at all the three levels of education for the first time at the school level, secondary education and higher education levels. By giving equal stress on these three levels, efforts are being made to strengthen future generations of the nation and to make them good citizens of the country.

*[English]*

Martin Luther King said that:

"I have a dream."

Rajivji had said that:

"I am young, and I too have a dream."

Today every child of the country is saying that:

"I have a dream."

*[Translation]*

I too have a dream I want to fulfil it. I thank her excellency the hon'ble President, and her Government for the opportunity our children have got for the first time to fulfil their dreams.

Sir, I talked about farmers in view of the condition of our country. Further, I would like to say that the UPA Government has taken effective steps ahead of all to give loan to farmers on low interest rates. As per the data are available in 2007-08 a loan of Rs. two crore twenty five thousand was given to the farmers through the banks. We are waiving off the loan of Rs. 60 thousand crores and every year we are giving them loan of Rs. Two lakh twenty five thousand. The farmers are not happy even today with the provisions being made for them. I think that what farmers desire, we are not able to do that much for them. But I think this also that for the first time such a bold and effective step has been taken for the peasants of the country. You can see that for the first time MSP of wheat as well as paddy has been increased very much. Rate at Rupees 1000 per quintal has been fixed. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Sir, it is not part of the President's Address. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Harin Pathak, please do not disturb the hon. Member.

...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : I would like to remind you the time when NDA Government was in power. Don't take it as a commentary, I am reminding you of the reality. The extent to which you increased MSP during your entire six years' tenure, we have increased it in respect of wheat and paddy every year. I am just expressing concern and pain we have for our farmers that. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Shri Ajit Jogi.

...*(Interruptions)\***[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I am talking about the farmers living in our villages. For the first time an allocation of Rs. 25 thousand crore are being made in the 11th Five Year Plan under National Agriculture Development Scheme. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please speak when you get your turn.

SHRI AJIT JOGI: All of you are our old friends. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: All these things are not included in President's Address. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no mention of farmer's debts. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Please tell me what is not there, I will just read out to you. ...*(Interruptions)* I am reading from President's Address only. Please tell me as to what is not there. You have not read it properly. I am sorry to say that you have not read such a good Address. Our

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\*Not recorded.

hon'ble President has given assurance to increase the allocation for agriculture and irrigation projects in this Address and accordingly, the 10th Five Year Plan allocation which was about 46-47 thousand crores of rupees, is to be increased to one lakh forty thousand crores of rupees and a mention in this regard has been made in the President's Address.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we all are sad and as our hon'ble Speaker, said recently in Nagpur that it is a matter of National shame if the farmers of this country are committing suicide. All these steps have been taken to reduce the burden of farmers, but I would like to make one point. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Shri Ajit Jogi.

...(*Interruptions*) \*

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I request the House that there are some other factors in this regard which deserve serious consideration by us. We, our Government and all of you need to think over it. I do not understand the reasons as to why more and more farmers are committing suicide in our prosperous States like Haryana, Punjab and Maharashtra? Farmers in poor States like Chhattisgarh and Orissa are not committing suicide in as much number as they are committing in the said States. We have to think over it. Why the number of suicide cases has increased in prosperous States? Why there is a check on such incidence in poor and backward States? These are the matters for our consideration.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do agree that this is a national problem. The plight and agony of our farmers is a big problem for all of us. I have myself in the early ten-to fifteen years of my life done farming, ploughed the field. So, I know how much work a farmer does, how much he sweats but it is an irony that he does not get the return in same proportion. I would, therefore, like to say again and again that if this loan has been waived off then it is not like that our Government have done any favour to him. We can never pay for what the farmer gives us. We will remain indebted to him throughout our lives. He is the man who produces foodgrains and feeds

us. We can never pay back for that. The loan waiver scheme of Rs. 60 thousand crore is meant only to enable him to recover from his debt problem and start his life afresh.

Sir, there are some other members who will speak on different subjects after me. But I would like to stress on one or two points more. I want to mention about the special provisions made for the SC and ST people. A provision of Rs. 900 crore has been made to give scholarship to 30 lakh SC children and Rs. 225 crore to give scholarship to 10 lakh ST children. I am glad to see that hon'ble President in her Address has announced that an Adivasi Vishwavidyalaya, the first of its kind will be established at Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh wherein culture of tribal people, their life style, their problems, their basic traits etc. will be the subjects of study and research. I am proud of Amarkantak where this university is being established as it is my birthplace also. I am happy to say that this a holy place situated on the border of Chhattisgarh, wherefrom the river Narmada, originates and now this university is being established there. It is a historical step in itself and it will prove to be a milestone in the development of tribals and to sustain their culture.

Sir, some days back we had passed the Scheduled Tribes Bill in this very House itself. For the first time we together, in this House provided these tribal people not only the tribals but also the non-tribal people who were not allowed to do farming, but had been doing farming on the forest land for generations, the right to cultivate on the said forest land. Surely, I would like to make one more point in this connection which is regarding the tussle between tribals and lions. It is tribal versus lions. Our Environment experts have strongly objected to this tribal Act. Even today this Act has been challenged in the court. I would like to clear their doubt that the tribals and the non-tribals living in forests are not anti-environment. I can say with confidence that the greatest contribution in saving our environment and lions has come from our tribal people. There is a story recorded in Guinness Book of World Record that a king in our country, who was fond of hunting, had killed 1500 lions. But today only 1400 lions are left the entire country. The killers of lions are not tribals. They are other people who kill lions. We love the forests, we love environment. Through tribal Act you have given us right. I thank hon'ble President very much for this.

Sir, a promise to enact a new law has also been made by the President in her Address. The Rehabilitation

(Shri Ajit Jogi)

and Relief Bill, 2007 will be introduced in the Parliament. This pain can be realised only by those people who have been displaced from their homes. One who is displaced is poor and it is our misfortune, especially that of tribals that all the big projects are coming up in tribal areas, be it a dam for irrigation or a power plant or coal-mines or iron-ore mines or for that matter any other projects — most of them are coming up in tribal areas. If anybody is to be displaced, it will be the tribals. The kind of arrangement being made is not a secret for any of us. Therefore, I would like to thank Her Excellency, the President for making a promise to make proper arrangement for re-settlement of displaced tribals in her Address and the Government headed by Shri Manmohan Singh ji is going to fulfil this promise.

I remember that when I was Collector in Sidhi district, an old tribal came to me with three papers. He was displaced due to construction of Rihand Dam, he showed me the lease deed and told me that till that time he had not been given compensation. He went to some other place, there also he was displaced due to coal mine, he showed me that document also, and third time, he was again being displaced from the place, where I was serving as Collector, due to construction of Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station. He said that he was being displaced third time and no adequate compensation has been paid to him. He said that no proper arrangement has been made for his rehabilitation, his family has been ruined. This is not the story of only one tribal. Wherever we make the schemes they face the same fate. Therefore, a very important Bill, a very important legislation is presented before us.

I would like to specifically speak on one more aspect. The hon'ble President has made a mention of minorities, the Sacchar Committee in her Address. Sacchar Committee's report is an eye-opener for one who has read the report. It has described how minorities are leading a life of hell in this country. ...*(Interruptions)* He is again and again disturbed.. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Has somebody allowed you? Please do not disturb.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I do not want to give him an opportunity to rise again by describing the plight of the minorities.

I would just like to tell you that one who has not read the report of Sacchar Committee, should definitely go through it to get acquainted with plight of minorities in the country. Smt. Indira Gandhi had implemented 15 point programme for minorities. I am happy to state that Her Excellency has made a mention of a new fifteen point programme in her Address, formulated by our respected Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. A mention of the provision for giving special attention to a particular class has been made in the Address at somebody's behest. Scholarships of Rs. 800 crore for professional education to minorities, Post and Pre-matric scholarships of Rs. 3500 crore for minorities and Rs. 3780 crore for selected districts where population of minorities is more, have been made. The President has made a mention of a total of Rs. 8 thousand crore for upliftment of minorities in her Address. Some people say it is an appeasement policy. I would like to submit with folded hands that this class is facing maximum difficulties. I would even go to the extent and say that though I hail from that community, probably minorities face more difficulties than people of SC/ST community of the country. I would particularly like to thank the President for making a provision of Rs. 8 thousand crore and I would like to say from core of my heart that it is not appeasement, the one who has been lagging behind. ...*(Interruptions)* One who has been left poor, one who has been exploited. ...*(Interruptions)*. If special attention is paid to them. ...*(Interruptions)* It is definitely not appeasement. This is fulfilment of their genuine demand. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your name is not going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Those who had ruled the country are living in this condition, all of us shall introspect, who is responsible for it? What was done in Gujarat? What happened in Ayodhya. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please maintain silence. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) \*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Sir hatred is spread and in this way these people are isolated from the society, wrong information is given about this religion, I do not want to talk about any religion, since it is said, therefore, I am replying, our colleagues say that. . . .(Interruptions)

*[English]*

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): May I intervene, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is not the time to intervene.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) \*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not allowed them, Jha ji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) \*

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: They have ruled for 48 years. . . .(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Please maintain silence.

...(Interruptions) \*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Please do not force me to open my mouth, do not compel me to narrate what kind of treatment was given to the minorities? We shall visit Gujarat to see this? What kind of treatments minorities got in Ayodhya during their regime. . . .(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) \*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I will speak, please have patience to listen. I will narrate in detail about all your deeds. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: What happened in Bhagulpur, say that also. . . .(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) \*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I will definitely follow your instructions and say. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): The funds which have been sent for the well being of minorities have been best utilized in Gujarat. Is it wrong? Has this report not been presented? . . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI: This is totally incorrect. . . .(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions) \*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Vermaji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your observations are not going on record. If you want the House to be run properly, please do not behave like this. The hon'ble Members and Advani ji have to speak from this side, other hon'ble Members have to speak as well. If you will continue this furore then.

[English]

How will it be possible for me to control these people.

[Translation]

When your party members will speak? So, I want you to keep silence and do not rise and make a noise.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is why I am checking them. Please allow him to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Thank you very much. A little bit interruption does not matter, however, continuous disruption is not tolerable. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You also try to be circumspect in your speech.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI : My only submission is, do not try to misinterpret this initiative by calling it appeasement tactics. I wonder why there is so much agitation as soon as I use the word Muslim. ... (Interruptions) This religion is being greatly misunderstood. That is why I would like to refer to that point in that context. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You should also confine to the President's Address.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : Sir, I am confining to the President's Address. I am just saying that when we talk

of Sachar Committee Report; when we talk of 15-Point Programme; when we talk of Muslim minority; when we talk of Christian minority; and when we talk of Sikh minority, certain section of the society gets unnecessarily agitated. They keep propagating these things which are totally untrue and false. That is why, I wish to say that we should be very clear. There is no religion in the world which teaches us to hate each other. That holds true for this great and modern religion called Islam. That is why, there is need to understand Islam. My Muslim brothers are here and they know when a Muslim prays what does he say—*Bismillah Hir Rahmanir Rahim, la elaaha illallah, Alhamdu Lillahi Rabbil Almin.* ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): "La Ilaha Illallah is followed by Mohammad-ur-Rasul-Allah. ... (Interruptions) You have read it incorrectly. ... (Interruptions) You have no right to read it incorrectly. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI: It is absolutely right.

[English]

I challenge you.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You cannot read it wrongly. ... (Interruptions)

15.19 hrs.

[SHRI MOHAN SINGH *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, it would be corrected.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I challenge you. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. I will be corrected.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, if you allow me I will read out 25 verses (aiten) just now. ... (Interruptions)

You are totally wrong. ...*(Interruptions)* You are not the only learned person, I have also read Kuran-e-Pak. I can understand and read it. I admit it very painfully that Kuran-e-Pak is that holy book which is most widely read yet least understood. I have understood and read it, if you sit with me I will interpret it for you. I am living at your old residence. Please come to my residence, Sometime I will read out the entire Kuran-e-Pak for you. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me interpret it for you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jogiji, please raise your point. Leave aside the controversial point.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I want to say that in Arabic only one syllable changes the meaning of the word. ...*(Interruptions)* If you do not know Arabic please restrict yourself to politics. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I know Arabic. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You are not a great Pir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have expressed your reservation.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I am not as learned as you are, however I have also read Kuran-e-Pak and read it for good. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Private and personal issues are not reported.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: I only meant to say that when a Muslim offers prayers he says Rab-ul-Almin. He would never say Rab-UI-Musalmin i.e. Oh God! Or my Lord! You are God of only Muslims. Whenever he raises hands to offer prayers he says Rab-ul-Almin i.e. you are God of the whole world. You also belong to Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian. A Muslim would offer such prayers. That is why I tell you not to misunderstand it. It is not appeasement, it is necessary. If we have to bring equality and weed out terrorism from the society, I did not want to get deflected, however, I will have to go in depth. Social justice needs to be invoked. We will have to

remove social barriers and inequalities only then we shall be able to have a classless or egalitarian society.

For the first time as expected I have witnessed such a massive representation of women empowerment in the Address. Our President is a woman, our UPA Chairperson is a woman. Third Address is quite comprehensive and includes all the provisions, promises and assurances due to womenfolk. Woman, Mother, motherhood is the pivotal point of our society. The entire family moves around the women of the House. That is why you would find that the H.E.'s Address clearly mentions that all the laws creating gender bias have been modified and men and women have equal rights. It has been mentioned in this Address that both men and women are being granted equal rights.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jogiji, please conclude now because many members from your party are yet to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI: If you allow me I would like to take some more time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can take another two-four minutes.

SHRI AJIT JOGI: There are five lakh women self-help groups in the country. These self help groups are the biggest, strongest and appropriate means of providing opportunities to women for the full utilization of their energy, strength and ability. I would like to reiterate this point since it has been repeated several times in the Address.

Sir, a particular point has been raised in several sections of this Address which is in regard to our internal security. I will not discuss other aspects of internal and external security since you have asked me to conclude. However, I am compelled to raise one aspect of internal security which is affecting my State and the entire country. We call it naxalism. I feel that Red Corridor which is dividing the entire country from Nepal to Andhra Pradesh into two parts, is the biggest menace before us. Neither guns nor law and order or paramilitary forces would solve this problem. We will have to understand that we would be able to solve this problem only when we would fight on three fronts. The biggest battle would be on socio-economic front. As long as poverty, unemployment, injustice and atrocities would prevail in these tribal areas

[Shri Ajit Jogi]

the problem which has cropped up in the form of naxalism would emerge before us with a different name tomorrow, but it would definitely crop up. So we should first focus on socio-economic front. Second is law and order. Today, Naxalism is not being looked at as a problem affecting only a particular State. It is emerging as a national problem so it needs to be looked at as a national problem. In Andhra Pradesh, the Government under the leadership of Shri Chandra Shekhar Reddy first tried to address this problem through negotiations and when the talks failed he has taken control on the problem in his own way. I would like to express my felicitations to the State of Andhra where they have reigned in naxalism. Other States should follow their suit. In my State of Chhattisgarh where I served as Chief Minister before the present Government, the problem of naxalism was restricted only to the borders adjoining Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. However, today this entire State has become naxalite infested. Naxalites are being apprehended in the State's capital Raipur. I would not like to level allegations or criticize any one in particular but the manner in which naxalism has assumed ominous proportions and flourished prove that the State Government is not properly addressing this problem. In the absence of socio-economic justice, political initiatives, maintenance of law and order, the problem of naxalism cannot be solved.

I would like to draw your attention to a particular point that the ongoing movement in Chhattisgarh called Selva Judum, means putting joint efforts for peace. It appears to be a very high sounding word on papers, if joint efforts are made for weeding out naxalism then nothing can be better than this, however, its actual form which has appeared is very dangerous. I would quote official figures that there is no inhabitant left in 700 villages, these villages are completely deserted and all the 70,000 people have been kept in various camps. Adivasis are not used to living in camps. Tribals are aborigines on a land and have first title on the land, and he is displaced from his land, shifted from his village and placed in camps and is compelled to lead a hellish life.

Their culture cannot flourish there. Marriages are not taking place in their homes, because not getting married because they don't establish matrimonial relations unless they see the houses and family antecedents marriages have been stopped. Their culture is getting ruined. There is neither arrangement of education nor health in the camps. There is no Aanganbadi. There is no primary or

secondary or high school. Do we want that the people of these 700 villages should be deprived of the facility of education and health? Naxalites make these camps their soft targets and each time 100-200 or 400 people are killed.

Finally, I will conclude my speech by making a small point. A few days back a tribal of this area came to see me in connection with some work. At that time I was taking my lunch. He was known to me though he is an illiterate person, we had friendship. I called him and asked him to have lunch with me. I said that that day fish from Shabri river had been cooked which is his favourite dish. On this he told me that the people of their village had decided not to eat fish. On being asked by me the reason for not taking fish, he told me that they have decided not to eat fish of that river since dead bodies of innocent tribals were thrown into that river. All this has happened due to "Selva Judum", the ongoing movement in Chhattisgarh and we are being asked to fight against naxalites. He asked me to tell as to how they who use bows and arrows can fight naxalites having AK47 and mortar. Such announcements are made there everyday. Sometimes we are told something and sometimes we are told nothing. He said that since so many dead bodies have been thrown into the river, therefore they have decided not to eat fish to that river. In this way genocide is taking place there.

Through this House I would like to submit that it is not the concern of any particular party, all of us should make united effort to stop this genocide. Corruptor prevailing in the camps should be checked.

While concluding, I would only say that performance of no Government is assessed on the basis of datas, the amount of money spent by it and the projects, rather the performance is assessed from the opportunities it has provided to its citizens and the atmosphere it has created for overall development of its citizens. Therefore I would like to say that the hon'ble President through this Address, has created that atmosphere, and given that kind of assurances and presented a scenario in which the citizens of our country can develop their personality.

I congratulate H.E. the President for delivering such a good Address which is taking care of every section of society on the whole and finally I would only like to tell her Government that it has done a lot for the people however many things are yet to be achieved.



"Sitaro se aage jahan aur bhi hai  
abhi Ishq ke imtihaan aur bhi hai  
tu shaheen hai, parvaaj hai kaam tera  
tere samne aasmaan aur bhi hai."

There are vast targets to pursue for you. I would like to say this much only.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. My colleague Shri Ajit Jogi, in his speech, has tried to place here in a structured way the sentiments of people of every section of the country on all aspects of the Government.

The Address had been delivered by Her Excellency, the President of India on 25th February in the joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament in the beginning of the Budget session, and the Motion of Thanks has been moved by Shri Ajit Jogi. I rise to second that Motion. I would like to say that due to the progress made by our Government, the people of independent India, be they men or women, labourer, youth or a senior citizen, all feel happy.

When I go into pages of history, I hear the voices of our freedom fighters. They had visualized the future of independent India. While paying homage to our freedom fighters who had sacrificed their lives for the country, I would like to say about the works being carried out by the Government.

When the country became independent, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru stressed Bharat Navnirman in his address to the nation. At that time the country did not have the capacity to manufacture even a small pin. He gave a clarion call to workers, youth and farmers to come forward. However, today the country has progressed so much that from aeroplane to submarine, every thing is being manufactured in our country itself. It is an open fact.

Just now, one of our colleague was asking as to what the Government did during the last 50 years? I would like to ask him if we have not done this, then who has done this? Have they done anything for the progress of the country during the last 10 years? I will tell them what they have done in the last 10 years. They have tried to divide the country on communal lines. Sometimes they visit Jinnah's tomb and call him secular. Jinnah was the same person who while sitting on dead bodies of

lakhs of Hindus and Muslims declared himself the leader of Pakistan and engineered Hindu-Muslim riots and divided this country into two parts. ...(*Interruptions*) \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This word will not be part of the proceedings.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH : I would like to mention about Liyakat Ali who had named the country 'Hindustan' but some Mungeri Lal had misinterpreted it as 'Hindusthan' i.e. the place of Hindus. But it is not so, it stands for Jaihind, Hind Mahasagar and we all Hindi speaking people know the Hindustan where we reside live and whose national language is Hindi.

I would like to explain the details of the works undertaken by Her Excellency, the President of India during the tenure of this Government in the country. What is the requirement of every person of our country? The Constitution of India is the highest authority, whether he/she is a poor, a farmer, a labourer, a woman belonging to any caste, creed and religion or any State. The Constitution of India provides us the rights and we ask for these rights while discharging our duties. It does not matter whether they are downtrodden, exploited, sufferer, scheduled castes/scheduled tribes, minorities, Hindu-Muslims-Sikh-Christians, Buddhists and Jains, but they all are proud of being Indians having been born in India. They know that they have been provided certain rights. The first right is towards our health. Mothers that give us birth should be healthy, children should also have a sound health, they should be given proper education followed by employment and accommodation. They will be able to know the law of the land only when they are educated.

Equal rights have been provided to women under the Constitution, drafted by Dr. Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar. When our national leader Shrimati Indira Gandhi found that the condition of women was very pathetic for want of nutritious food, she had launched ICDS Scheme under which provision of such food has been made for every woman so that they could get balanced diet and there could not be any deficiency in their blood. It is the same Parliament, where in 1975 the ICDS was proposed to be launched for each and every woman of this country irrespective of whether she hails from village, city or clusters.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the provision for nutritious food has been made for every woman belonging to the poorest

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\*Not recorded.

[Shrimati Krishna Tirath]

of the poor family by the Government of this country so that their newly born children could enjoy complete physical health by taking balanced diet. Funds have been provided also for the breast feeding mothers. All these things have been done by our Indian Government. If you want to discuss this issue openly on the road, we are ready. It has been mentioned in the President's Address that Navodaya Vidyalayas will be opened for poor and downtrodden. Some hon'ble Members have said that Jogi Ji was not reading out from the Address. So, you go through the Address. It was pinpointed each and everything whether it is education, agriculture, labour, industry, road connectivity from village to town, civil aviation sector, railways, electricity, etc. Coming to the point, I will tell you as to how much progress we have made in power sector. Today, various schemes have been launched by our Government for the people. Every person of the country is pleased with the Budget presented by the Minister of Finance and they are also ready to say that they are happy with the UPA Government - whose Chairman is Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister is Shri Manmohan Singh. The first Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had talked about the reconstruction of the country which has been included in the Common Minimum Programme of UPA Government because we know that history is the key to our future. If we want to make the future of our country bright, we will have to make the future of children bright first. In this contest, I would like to say that it is essential for us to give them right to make their future bright. Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi provided voting rights to our youth and lowered the voting age to 18 years and thus ensured their participation in the Government. Today, Rahul Ji holding the same thread has advocated the contribution of youths in the progress of the country. Our UPA Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhi has formulated various plans to empower women through various programmes. They all will come before you.

India is predominantly an agricultural country. There is all round development in villages. In order to facilitate the farmers settle land or other disputes, village courts have been set up by our Minister and they need not to go to courts now. This idea was beyond their imagination. They never made such a provision that the people need not to move outside the villages to get easy justice. We have advocated to provide justice to all. There has been constant demand that the agricultural loans should be waived off. So, the agricultural loans were waived off. We welcome it, but the price are still rising. Agricultural

loans have been waived off so that farmers of the country could live with dignity and produce quality grains, pulses and vegetables and fruits for the people of this country. When there is adequate availability of fruit and vegetables in the market, prices of these items automatically come down. That is why we had started the system of BPL or APL. There is a Member of Rajya Sabha who had once been the Chief Minister for few days before 1998. You might remember what was the prices of vegetables at that time. I would like to first remind one thing that the price of salt was Rs. 100 per k.g. we have a very short memory, but it is fed into my mind. People associated with you are big capitalists, traders who had hoarded the stocks of salt. The poor people of our country were deprived of even salt to eat. Why do you forget those days? They should be kept in memory. I am not mentioning about a onion and potatoes. I would like to remind you just about salt. During those days people were unable to get even salt.

We have launched Swarna Jayanti Employment Scheme. We have covered villages under this scheme. We have waived off the agriculture loans. We have brought Gramin Swarojgar Yojana.

We have launched Swarna Jayanti Rojgar Yojana. Self-Help-Groups (SHGs) are making fast progress under this scheme in which most of the beneficiaries are women. When the women are educated and participate in the programme like this, then we feel that the country is making progress. An educated women is not educated in herself but she makes the entire family educated including children who are the future of this country. When she goes on educating the children like this, it means that the country is making progress. She has an immense power with which she can lead the country bearing the whole burden at home as well as outside, in politics as well as in economy. Such women in the country are appreciating this Address and the Budget with a great pride. It is because of this that women are getting employment in organized as well as unorganized sectors. I have advocated to explore employment by promoting hotel industries, but my colleagues who were the part of the NDA Government sold many hotels to the private parties at very cheap rate. Delhi's Shangrila hotel is the example of it, which was sold only for Rs. 14 crore.

They have sold a number of hotels in Jaipur, Udaipur, Mumbai and Madurai to the private players. They talk about 'Swadeshi'. This is our country. We have seen our freedom fighter and forefathers going to gallows. Today,

we are breathing in independent India, but there were some people whose names figure in the black pages of the History. Those persons acted as informers of the Government and passed secret information about freedom fighters to the then Government and drove them towards noose. If one goes into the history of freedom struggle of India, he will find even today the martyrs are inspiring the countrymen and are telling to the youth, poor, women, farmers and labourers of this country, this country belongs to those who worship their country and love the soil of this country and chant the slogan of 'Jai Hind.' This is a country where Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians want to live together.

We have enacted National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Act, and launched Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan. We increased allocation for education in the budget. It has been increased from 7.68 percent to 19 percent in the 11th Five Year Plan. Now, you can make out what we mean by the promotion of education? We know the root of the country, how can the country progress, how it can be empowered, how new generation can progress, how second leadership can develop? We are concerned about giving Mid-Day-Meal because it has got dual benefit,—one is that the poor children who do not get nutritious diet, are able to get so through this scheme, and remain healthy, secondly, the poor children may get attracted to school because of this and should get education. We have started National Rural Health Mission. Lakhs of women who work under this mission educate people about their health, women and child health, intake of medicines and vaccination programme. All these things are told to them through 'ASHA'. Anganwadi workers are also working in our villages.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi had a dream of providing 33 per cent reservation to women in Panchayats, which was fulfilled by him. He started Panchayati Raj. Today, Panchayats and local bodies have 33 per cent women members. Today, Shri Rajiv Gandhi is no more, but he has shown us the way, we have to reach the destination, so that our country may progress and the name of our country is written in golden letters, we have formulated such programmes. Earlier, I have spoken about 18 years. Our Government have enacted the Right to Information Act. The loan waiver of Rs. 60 thousand crore for farmers has been given to provide all kind of assistance to them and to strengthen them.

We propose to increase the production of wheat, rice and pulses upto 8, 10 and 2 million tonnes respectively under the 11th Five Year Plan so that we

are able to supply foodgrains to every one at fair prices. I remember the day when the entire country was hit by such a severe drought in the year 1989, not witnessed during the past 100 years, our then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had announced that even if a single person dies of starvation, the Government would provide all kind of assistance or compensation to him, but at that time not even a single person died of starvation. Going back into the history, many things are stored in the computer of my mind, I can retrieve them anytime, and you are talking of time. The provision of Rs. 1,38,548 crore has been made to streamline agriculture, irrigation, water resources and food management under the 11th Five Year Plan which was merely Rs. 48131 crores in the past. One can see that the public money has been spent on the development of the people, because we intend to do so. Education shall be imparted to everyone and emphasis has been laid on empowerment of SCs, STs and OBCs. Provision has been made for granting scholarships of Rs. 900 crore to approximately 30 lakh students of scheduled castes; and Rs. 225 crore to ten lakh students of scheduled tribes. Shri Jogi ji has rightly said that Scheduled Tribes should have rights over water, land and forests. SCs and STs should be provided coaching under Rajiv Gandhi National Scholarship. I understand that STs should be given rights over forests and water.

Sir, other than this, Social Security Bill, 2007 has been presented for workers of unorganized sector and construction labourers. These families are given health security cover of Rs. 30,000 and the provision of bonus has also been made for them. Beside that, the amount given under Old Age Pension Scheme has also been increased. The provision of giving Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500 has been made for women working under ICDS and Anganwadi. The bonus for labourers has been increased to Rs. 10,000 per month. Labourers have been made eligible for getting bonus from building contractors, because we do not want contract system. Recently, a bill to set up village courts was brought up. The targets set under 15 point programme of the Prime Minister are to be achieved. The budgetary provision of crores of rupees has been made for SCs and STs. Then there is issue of scholarships and progress, so that SCs, STs people may not only be able to get education in country only but also abroad. Probably, most of the people are not aware that our Government have enacted a legislation to grant scholarship of Rs. 10, 15 or 20 lakh or whatever amount it may be, if a person of SC/ST community get admission in a foreign country. Through the Parliament, I would like

[Shrimati Krishna Tirath]

to say that the brilliant students should go abroad to get education, the Government of India will bear all expenses so that after getting education, they may return and work for the country. The National Literacy Mission has been set up to empower women and to make women literate. I am of the view that we should all come forward to enact legislation for giving equal status to the women. The Government is committed to strictly implement laws meant to check dowry, female infanticide, female foeticide, human trafficking, and gender bias. The resources has been provided to upgrade infrastructure in 1.38 lakh sub-centres, 3947 Community Health Centres and 540 District Hospitals, so that villagers may get complete health facilities. Around 5 lakh health workers are working under ASHA in our villages. We have appointed them for the welfare of the people. The villages should get connectivity under 'Bharat Nirman' and power, telephone and houses should be arranged for them. We have constructed 40 lakh houses for the rural and poor people and the scheme of water supply has reached 2 lakh settlements.

I would like to say one thing that one crore houses were stated to be constructed in the name of India shining, but unfortunately not even a single house was constructed. We have provided forty lakh houses and given a boost to investment for the development of all sources of energy including water, electricity and nuclear sources with which the country has witnessed all round development. Shri Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology has been set up in the country so that the technical workforce could get a boost in petroleum sector. So, we have done such jobs. It is our endeavour to modernize all the Railway Stations of India and bring. Its result should be better. Our airports are the examples of modernization. This year new international airports have been inaugurated in Bangalore and Hyderabad. The work on construction of terminal has been going on in New Delhi and other metropolitan cities. More air connectivity has been provided to various parts of the country including North-East. We have left nothing. There has been a rapid growth in print media, television, entertainment, film sector as well as in Indian entertainment media industry and they are providing employment to large number of our children for which I want to congratulate our minister Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunshiji who have met the requirement of employment in this sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are speaking the Hindi translation of speech delivered by the Minister of Finance. Now, you conclude.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: I am making my own speech. The birth anniversary of Rashtrapita (the father of Nation) was celebrated as an Antarashtriyah Ahinsa Diwas (International Non-violence Day). It should be a matter of great pride for us. Rashtrapita Mahatma Gandhi taught our country the lesson of unity and integrity. His emphasis was the need to form a classless society for which Dr. Manmohan Singh has formulated a 15-point programme. We are ready to implement it and bring the country together.

Our Government gives and takes international co-operation. Tripartite talks between the Minister of External Affairs belonging to three countries—India, Russia and China—had been fruitful. Not only that, in IBSA Summit held in October, 2007 in which, Dr. Manmohan Singh had participated as a Prime Minister and I myself was present, the name of India was taken with great honour and dignity stating that India is not lagging behind any other country. We are second to none. Not only that, today the entire world is looking towards this great democratic country with much hope and aspiration. An independent society exists in an open economic structure. We want to uproot terrorism from this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you conclude, you have covered all the points.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: We want to go against terrorism because last time when the NDA was in power, the terrorists has entered this very Parliament. So, we want terrorism to be abolished. We wish that our country should be free from terrorism. Nobody should live in fear from others and suffer separation of loved ones and we wish that our country should march on the path of prosperity. But, at the same time, intellectuals of this country who know as to who can lead the country better should judge themselves as to which Government can lead the country on the path of development. With these words, I extend my thanks to the Chairman for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for

the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on February 25, 2008."

Hon. Members, whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips at the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move. Those amendments only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of amendments treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

16.00 hrs.

*[Translation]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, earlier I thought that I would speak tomorrow because today was the turn of one of my colleagues but later I was told that I should speak today. I am saying this because as soon as the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs stated that I would speak today, Hon'ble Prime Minister himself came here. So, I am very thankful to him. I am happy that I will put my views in the very presence of you.

As per provision of the Article 87 of our Constitution, the President will address both the Houses of the Parliament either at the beginning of the each year or after elections. In the beginning, when the Constitution was enacted, the President used to address each of the sessions. This system continued for one year, so Rajendra Babu addressed the House three times in a year. Later this system was amended by making a provision that the President would address the House only in the first session of the year or after the elections. With this provision sometimes it happened that the President had to address the House twice in a year, once in the beginning of the year and the second time just after the elections. Why I am mentioning this thing is that the Prime Minister might have been knowing that since August last the general elections were always the talk of the town. Though your tenure is up to May, 2009, but at the outset, I would like to say that there is much possibility that this President's Address on which this House is debating upon could be the last address during the tenure

of this Government. It is possible. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not saying this without any reason. It is because of the fact that most of the things which should have normally been the part of the Address have come by way of a statement by the Minister. Normally these things should have been mentioned in the Address. We are always told that such and such foreign Ministers, Prime Ministers and so on had visited here last year and there has been improvement in our relationships with other countries. These are the things which are normally the part of the President's Address but these have come in the statement of the leader of the House delivered today this morning. There is no mention in the President's Address about the things which he has referred to today in his statement about IAEA. Otherwise, these would have been mentioned in the Address and the House could get apprised of it. It is the responsibility of the Government to mention those things in it but in my opinion this may be the reason and possibility that the Government is apprehensive about the elections which can be held in 2008 instead of 2009 or presumed that if they are held even in 2009, there may be no need of Address by the President. However, this is just a presumption but I would personally feel that the Motion of Thanks, as has been moved by Shri Jogi Jee and seconded by Shrimati Krishna Tirath Ji on the President's Address, traditionally does not get opposed until and unless the Government opposes it.

I agree with your viewpoint that more and more amendments are moved to it, however, I am sorry to say that this Address does not mention certain things. We extend our support to the Motion of thanks on the President's Address, do not oppose it, but regret that there is no mention in the President's Address about the number of farmers who have committed suicide in our country during the last one year. Someone may claim that many provisions have been made in the budget, however, during the last one year thousands of farmers have committed suicide and it is a different and serious issue. I do not know whether any survey has been conducted in this regard or not. However, during the last few years 16 thousand farmers have committed suicide. Last year, Radhakrishnan Committee, Expert Group on Agricultural Indebtedness had been constituted. As per the Committee's Report if one person commits suicide, it does not mean that only that person has been in distress.

*[English]*

"A combination of growing risk factors among the farming community triggers suicides. It is indicative

[Shri L.K. Advani]

of a larger socio-economic malice. This implies that for every farmer who has committed suicide, there are many more in distress."

[*Translation*]

It is noteworthy that if a farmer commits suicide, then it implies that many more farmers are in distress. They are in distress, though, they may not be committing suicide. Some people say that this decision of the Government regarding waiving off loans of farmers, was wrong but I do not think so. Their condition was such that it was necessary to waive off their loans. I do not oppose this but we have to delve deep whether these loan waiver schemes will be able to prevent suicides by the farmers. We will definitely have separate discussion on it but it has been repeatedly mentioned that this Government have provided Rs. 60,000/- crore for waiving off loan of the farmers. The Hon'ble Prime Minister himself had been the Finance Minister, we had certainly expected our Finance Minister to say as to why the Government did not make any provision in the Budget, if the banks are going to waive off such huge loans? He has not said anything about this. Later on we read in the newspapers that bonds will be issued, which will be paid to the banks in three years. Yesterday, I was surprised to hear this from a television journalist. When this question was asked to the Finance Minister as to what arrangements the Government will make in this regard, his reply was that, he will say only in the House, whatever he has to say on this issue. Thereafter, there were so many arguments and counter arguments on this issue that the Finance Minister had to leave. He was told later on that it was a live programme. I therefore, request the hon'ble Prime Minister to inform this House as to what provision they are going to make in this regard? Nobody will say that relief should not be provided to farmers, they should definitely be provided relief and particularly in such a situation when farmers are committing suicides in such a large number. Further, it has been stated in the said report that the small and marginal farmers who are in distress and who commit suicides, hardly approach the banks for any sort of credit.

[*English*]

"The dependency of marginal and small farmers was more on non-institutional agencies than of larger farmers. The marginal farmers had to depend more on private moneylenders."

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The speech of Shrimati Krishna Tirath will not go on record.

...(*Interruptions*) \*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: On 29th, when the budget was presented I received, phone calls from some States, and those who have knowledge about this said that in our country the number of farmers taking loan from banks is not very large as most of the farmers take loan from money lenders . ...(*Interruptions*)

When the Motion of thanks was moved here in the House in which there was a mention about providing assistance to farmers then I felt that I should ask the hon'ble Prime Minister to give clarification as to what is the intention of the Government in this regard? First thing which I have said is that it is fully appropriate to provide relief to the farmers considering their present condition. It is not wrong. But this assistance should be provided to only those farmers who actually need it. However, those farmers, who take loan from money lenders and constitute largest number among the farmers committing suicides, may not be able to get the benefit of this assistance.

Sir, I would like to say that farmers commit suicide not only because of loans. It has been stated in the said report that the farmers take loans due to agricultural prices. About the suicides which are taking place, it has been written that—

[*English*]

"It is because in addition to agricultural prices, the farmer is burdened with rising costs of meeting basic needs like education of children and family healthcare. As a result, there has been pervasive distress among the farming community."

[*Translation*]

It means that the price rise is also one of the factors responsible for this situation of farmers. I have also stated publicly so many times that this Government, who has won elections in the name of common man, have created a lot of problems for the common women of this country. The common man is already suffering. The family budget of women has been derailed. Everything has become costlier. The food stuffs have become costlier, the

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\*Not recorded.

education of children has become costlier. All these things are such. ...*(Interruptions)* When you were speaking, I had not interrupted you even once. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please listen to him. Whatever you are saying, nothing is going on record. Therefore, there is no use of making comments in this regard.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, in the last four years one thing which has created problems to all especially to the weaker sections of the society and rural people is price-rise. With regard to price-rise in para 4 of President's Address, it has been written that:—

*[English]*

"It will continue to be the endeavour of my Government to sustain growth".

*[Translation]*

More emphasis is on sustaining growth.

*[English]*

"While keeping prices under check. My Government has endeavoured to insulate the Indian consumer from these global inflationary trends."

*[Translation]*

I feel that this paragraph or this kind of statement would have been more appropriate in the year 2004-05.

*[English]*

Till the ultimate year of this Government.

*[Translation]*

Even then if it is said that we would make efforts enhance growth rate while keeping prices under check— I have objection to it.

*[English]*

This is not the time for this kind of statement for the future.

*[Translation]*

The Government says that it had kept the inflation under control and did not allowed the inflationary trend prevailing all over the world to affect our economy. I believe that inflation is the biggest failure of this Government and if the prices of food stuffs increase then it will affect common man.

On the basis of information which I have received can say that this is also one of the factors due to which elections may be held earlier. I have no objection if elections are held earlier. The common people will get an opportunity to give their decision on the basis of their assessment of the UPA Government which has been in power for the last four years.

They have seen 6 years rule of NDA and they have also seen four years rule of UPA, and now they will have an opportunity to take decision on that basis. We have no objection. We are not like those kind of people who threaten to withdraw support if their demand is not met. We are certainly not that kind of people. However, we have been constantly keeping an eye on what has happened since the month of August. A statement has been made today. Our leader of the House put it thus that they are going forward and reached upto this and they complete this, do whatever anyone can. I think that people of this side must have listened his reply in the morning. We have no problem in any case. I only think that it is not good if uncertainty continues in political arena of the country. I think all of us were quite sure in August 2007 that elections will be held in 2009. But, suddenly for the last 5-6 months we have been getting some or the other statement which give rise to more uncertainty. This uncertainty further leads to instability and an unstable Government can never do justice to its Governance.

This Address takes pride on our 9 percent growth rate. Some people may object to it but at least I and my party do not oppose it. It is a matter of happiness and pride for all of us. If the percentage of G.D.P. growth in our country is 9 percent. But earlier when our Minister of Finance had said that GDP growth rate was 8 percent then the then leader of the opposition had commented that it was just we building castles in the air and same could never be realized but today all can see that it is a reality. Even today I say that growth rate may go up from 9 to 10 percent. There should be two digit GDP growth rate. Nevertheless I do not agree that this growth

[Shri L.K. Advani]

is inclusive growth. The word 'inclusive' has once again been used here, and it also figures in the Address. My friend M.J. Akbar a journalist recently made a very good point, he said, I quote

*[English]*

"The kind of unequal economic growth that we are witnessing in India shows that there has been waterfall for a small minority and there are not even a few drops of water for the thirsty majority".

*[Translation]*

Some people might not agree with what M.J. Akbar said, but I would like to quote one more person whose statement had recently found place in the headlines of some newspapers.

*[English]*

"Twenty richest Indians today earn more than 30 crore poorest Indians.

*[Translation]*

Who said this? This is stated by Shri Vimal Jagan, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and the hon'ble member of the other House. Nobody can term it a inclusive growth.

I remember my formative years. I was a journalist and used to sit in the press gallery. One day Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia started a discussion by saying that today each person of India lives on 3 anas. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: 27 crore.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: He had said three anas. You have been a follower of Lohiaji, whereas I knew him in the capacity of a journalist only. When he had uttered the word 'three anas', it paved way for a heated debate on it. When Planning Commission said 15 anas, a full day debate took place on the issue of three anas vs 15 anas and today it seems twenty richest persons and 30 crore poor. ...*(Interruptions)* everybody knows who are their colleagues. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not blaming these 20 richest people and I have great respect for few of them because they are famous in the world and I have no objection if they make names in the remaining countries of the world, they are different people. But it is

a matter of governance so please at least do not make a claim of inclusive growth, because inclusive growth has not taken place yet. But we ourselves have faced consequences of similar campaign like India shining which caused huge damage to us. Had we named the campaign as India rising there would have been nothing wrong in it and even today India is rising, I do not object to it. I want it to progress.

If the country makes a progress it makes all happy and I am not different from others on this count. It is necessary that the country makes inclusive growth and all people are covered in it. If today it is not taking place and we claim that it is taking place and everything is fine then we are wrong. We must also think that if we take certain steps regarding the system then it will also have inflationary effects and all have to suffer. That is why I talked about soaring prices, inclusive growth and I want to say that nobody opposes the motion of thanks, rather every body want to highlight what is not mentioned and what should have been mentioned in the address.

I have nothing to say about Hon'ble President since many other Members have already mentioned that she is a women President. I just want to say that the only one thing this Alliance has mentioned in the Common Minimum Programme about women and other things about women like curbing infant mortality, mortality during pregnancy, infanticide has found a mention. Other problems of women were not mentioned. The only thing that has been mentioned is that we shall give them representation in Legislative Assemblies and Parliament.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): There are three pages on women's welfare in the National Common Minimum Programme. The hon. Leader of the Opposition have read the National Common Minimum Programme.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I stand corrected. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

that may be there but it is also written that we shall give them one third representation in Legislators. It has been repeated time and again.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Please give complete information do not give selective quotations.



SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have accepted it.

*[English]*

I do not stand on prestige issue when the core issue was why has it not been done? Why Rashtrapatiji's *bhasan* been silent on that? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

Why nothing was said about this? It has been continuously said on our behalf that there is a proposal which we had introduced but could not implement it. The Bill was introduced twice, but most of the people who opposed it are with you. They did not let us pass it and resorted to physically snatching it from our hands. Both of our Ministers of Law could not do it. The Constitutional amendment Bill cannot be passed amid such hue and cry.

Minister of Parliamentary Affairs also know it. Therefore when the Election Commission proposed that

*[English]*

instead of amending the Constitution to provide for women's reservation, why not make it mandatory for political parties to give a certain percentage to women when they put up their candidates?

*[Translation]*

I accept it that with this method the original objective envisaged will not be fulfilled, nevertheless the increase will be substantial. With the substantial increase there shall be one advantage

*[English]*

It can be done by simply amending the representation of people's Act.

*[Translation]*

secondly, no principle of rotation will come in that

*[English]*

The concern of the representatives for their constituencies should not be undermined.

*[Translation]*

That is why we have said that we are ready for that also.

Out of the two proposals, we are ready to accept any one to which the Government and Cabinet agrees but at least there should be a proposal. We all have made promise to the women, therefore, I would like to request the hon'ble Prime Minister to look for the consensus on the proposal in any way, whether it is a original proposal or the proposal of the Election Commission. ...*(Interruptions)*.

Now I will mention another point that I started in the morning when it was opposed here and I had to cut short my submission. It is about the idea of the Government to form Telangana State in Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Jairam Ramesh must be able to remember what has been written in the common minimum programme. I have also read it today. It is written there that they are in its favour. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Again, you are not quoting it properly. The exact wording is that we would search for a consensus, after appropriate consultations and cooperation of all the parties. But there was no explicit commitment.

*[Translation]*

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: How can you say that there is no consensus even when your party along with the ruling party which gave birth to TRS were agreed to it. Today you compelled them to resign here from the house. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not being recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not yielding.

*[Translation]*

I yielded to Mr. Jairam Ramesh as

*[English]*

he was precise; he was right when he said that,

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\*Not recorded.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

*[Translation]*

there was a talk of consensus. But behind that consensus. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Therefore, I would like to say that you compelled your companions and alliance partners of long who will also MPs to leave the alliance keeping aside your words which had never happened before. It had never happened in the sixty years history of Parliament that someone has resigned in the house after giving his speech and Mr. Speaker would tell them. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*.

*[English]*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*.

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already made your speech. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There have been demands for separate states from different parts of India. I am happy to state that in regard to the demand for three separate states of Jharkhand, Uttrakhand and Chhattisgarh to which extended our support when the occasion for that did arise before us, we chose to put forth just one condition about that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him speak. Let your leader speak. Why are you disturbing your own leader?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: When others are disturbing what will the members on our side do? They are interrupting. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: They want you not to speak and people on your side are unwittingly fulfilling their wishes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I want to say that we found a good way out by taking care to discern that the demand may not smack of parochialism. ...*(Interruptions)* but if the legislative assembly of the area state where the territory falls endorse the same, we will implement it. As soon as the three states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh confirmed the demands, we implemented the same. I am happy that whole of the house passed it with full consensus. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

I am not yielding to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Why are you making a noise?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would like to add to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record, so please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Goyal, nothing is going on record. Please maintain silence.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would like the hon'ble Prime Minister to clear the position regarding the women's Bill and Telangana as to what the Government want and expect? I understand that sometime we need to take care of our alliance partners, our coalition partners. It could be a condition that may be our party is in favour of Vidarbha but our alliance partners are not. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please maintain the silence. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Athawale, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I will take up one more issue in the presence of the hon'ble Prime Minister. I feel that as the price rise has remained the biggest failure of the present Government, similarly, the Government have also failed in the matter of internal security. The incidents of terrorism that have occurred after the year 2004 in the country. ...(Interruptions) Our Parliament was attacked. ..(Interruptions). All five terrorists who had attacked the parliament were killed on the spot. ...(Interruptions) Our nine security personnel were also killed while encountering the terrorists. ...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I myself had written a letter to the hon'ble Prime Minister asking him the reasons as to why the terrorists involved in serial blasts in seven local trains in Mumbai could not be arrested till date. What is the reason that in all major incidents since the year 2004, whether it was attack on the temples in Varanasi and Ayodhya, incidents of Malegaon or Delhi, Hyderabad, Imphal and Bangalore. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, why the judgement of the court regarding Afjal has not been executed. ...(Interruptions). If any clemency petition is pending then how long will it remain pending? ...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, while moving the motion of thanks, Shri Ajit Jogi has welcomed the National Tribal University being set up in Amarkantak. The said university has been named as Indira Gandhi Tribal University. All the projects which are going on or have been launched are named as Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology, Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission. ...(Interruptions). I am addressing the hon. Mr. Prime Minister. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Prime Minister that there have been many great persons like Sardar Patel, Jaiprakash Narayan, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Anna Durai, Morarji Desai in India. Narsimha Raoji with whom the present Prime Minister had worked was also a great person. Then what is the reason that the members of only one family take the centre stage. ...(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing is going on record. This entire pandemonium is not going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already told you that what you are saying is not going on record. You may speak when you are permitted.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Whatever comments I have made here in the House is simply because the hon'ble Prime Minister himself is present here. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already told you that nothing is going on record. So you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, this is objectionable. What he is saying is an insult to a national leader. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): You should be ashamed about it. ...(Interruptions) There is no name from the North-Eastern region. ...(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

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\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Despite getting delayed information, he came here. For this, I would like to extend my thanks to him for this gesture and while supporting motion of thanks, I conclude. ...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not get restless and let the proceedings of the House run smoothly. So please sit down.

*[English]*

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I beg to move:

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide, special category status to Orissa." (91)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to control the rise in prices of essential commodities. (92)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide financial and other necessary assistance to the farmers to prevent suicides by them." (93)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take stringent action against the naxals and maoists." (94)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to establish an IIT in Orissa." (95)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about opening of an IIM in Orissa." (96)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the address about establishing a Central University in Orissa." (97)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive plan for expansion of women education in the country." (98)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strengthening the health services in the tribal districts of the country." (99)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing adequate funds for development of infrastructure in the backward states of the country including Orissa." (100)

That at the *end of the motion*, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing labour intensive centrally aided

projects to provide employment to the rural poor in Orissa." (101)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the irrigation potential in the state of Orissa." (102)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about extending the benefits of urban development schemes to the needy persons in the country in general and Orissa in particular." (103)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to check unabated increase in unemployment in the country due to the ongoing economic reforms." (104)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to lower the prices of diesel, petrol and cooking gas." (105)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about lowering the prices of fertilizers, seeds and power to bring down the cost of agricultural produce." (106)

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about to grant of Special Category status to the State of Orissa." (339)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishment of a World-class National Science and Research Foundation in the State of Orissa at the cost of Rs. 1000 Crore on the lines of proposal mooted by the Scientific Community." (340)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishment of an IIT and an IIM in the State of Orissa." (341)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about immediate commissioning of six Regional Institutes of Medical Science Centres at Bhubaneswar and elsewhere in the country to provide quality health services to the people across the country." (342)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about financial assistance for the installation of a Liner Accelerator (LINAC) in the Department of Radiations, Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre, Cuttack (Orissa) to provide quality health services to the cancer patients in the State." (343)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about commissioning of oil refinery by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. at Paradeep in Orissa." (344)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishment of Tsunami Warning System in the coastal districts of Orissa." (345)

That at the end of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about immediate completion of four laning of the National Highway No. 5 in Orissa." (346)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any mechanism to resolve disputes among States particularly relating to construction of Dam/Projects on the interstate rivers such as Bansadhara and Godavari."(347)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about developing the Biju Patanaik Air Ports, Bhubaneswar as an International Airport."(348)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measure to check the growing maoist menace in different parts of the country." (349)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about growing problem of unemployment amongst the educated youths of the country."(350)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the unprecedented rise in prices of essential commodities and its effects on common man." (351)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increase in number of suicides by farmers in the country." (352)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there, is no mention in the Address about steps to address the issue of uneven economic growth of different parts of the country." (353)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to move :

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about waiver of farmers' loan in the Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput Region of Orissa." (464)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about waiver of farmers cooperative loan on agriculture." (465)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to stop farmers suicides in Orissa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and other paddy growing states" (466)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to bring more agricultural land under irrigation in New Nagpur Parliamentary Constituency and Kalahandi Parliamentary Constituency and Bolangir District of Orissa." (467)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishment of Tribal University in KBK region of Orissa." (468)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to activate the National Rural Health Mission which is lagging because of lack of doctors and medical staff injoiral areas of KBK." (469)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps initiated by the Government to make N.H. 201 into a Six Lane Highway." (470)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about step being taken by the Government to open International Airport at Jharsuguda."(471)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to upgrade the facilities at all Metro Airports." (472)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to implement the Swaminathan Committee recommendations on the All India Farmer Forum." (473)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to fix the minimum support price of paddy at Rs. 1000/- per quintal." (474)

That at the *end* of the motion" the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to provide safe drinking potable, piped water to all in the country."(475)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to provide electricity under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutkaran Yojana to villages in Nawrangpur Parliamentary and Kalahandi Parliamentary Constituency." (476)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to establish Tool Rooms in Kalahandi District."(477)

That, at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to establish a Central Marine and Oceanography Institute at Bhubaneswar." (478)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government to promote Eco-Tourism in the KBK region of Orissa." (479)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken for inclusion of Jodia-Parja Tribals of undivided Koraput District in the list of Scheduled Tribes for the state of Orissa." (480)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme of the Government to renovate old traditional water bodies in the district of undivided Koraput and Kalahandi." (481)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan of the Government to provide jobs to retired army personal in public sector."(482)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken by the Government for appointment of teachers under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and in Ashrams, Seva-Ashrams and Ashram High Schools in the Tribal areas of Orissa, especially in the Kalahandi and Nawobangpur Parliamentary Constituency area." (483)

*[Translation]*

MD. SALIM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. The hon'ble President had delivered the Address in the joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament and the Motion of Thanks thereon has been moved by Shri Ajit Jogi and seconded by Shrimati Krishna Tirath. It is necessary to have discussion on the Motion of Thanks, however, for the manner in which discussion has been taking place and aspersions are being cast, we have got our dilemma. The leader of opposition has also expressed his views. He has said that when the hon'ble President delivers her Address in the Parliament, no discussion takes place on it keeping in view the decorum. Motion of thanks on the President's Address is passed unanimously. However, the President's Address provides us an opportunity to discuss the policies and the balance-sheet of the Government. Therefore, the Motion of Thanks is important. This discussion is not an election discussion and it is not an electoral ground also. But the balance sheet thus presented raises a question as if it were an election speech. It was the first address of the hon'ble President before the joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament, however, the Motion of thanks thus brought before the House has created electoral ambience on part of both the treasury as well as the opposition benches. When the hon'ble Leader of opposition says that he thinks that the ensuing elections will be held within 6 to 8 months, it appears to me that he has been renewing his 6 months period right from the date the UPA Government came to power and is hoping against the hope. Earlier they expected elections to be held very soon because they were misguided by the astrologers but now after listening to the Address they think that elections are round the corner. ...*(Interruptions)* You do not listen to anyone else, other than hon'ble Advaniji. I think that it was a golden opportunity for the UPA Government to present its balance-sheet based on the Common Minimum Programme referred to by both the sides envisaging the issues of common interest which formed the basis for this Government. It is the fourth year of the Government and instead of raising new hopes if the Address made a mention of how far the Government succeeded in fulfilling the ray of hope which the common man saw in 2004 with the advent of this Government, then it would have been the proper balance sheet.

In the President's Address there is a mention of growth and regional balance which is also covered in the Common Minimum Programme. The Address does not reflect the right perspective. We are hearing during the

discussion that an euphoria is being created, a growth story is being told and in this Address as well that impression has been given. In the Address, there is a mention about the progress being made by our economy. There is mention of the shining India only but for making the balance sheet complete there should have been mention of the suffering India too. Being a leftist, I feel that in terms of dollar income in the country, 48 billionaires have come up in the country and it is the duty of the Government to ensure welfare of the 78% people who are ekeing out a living with an income of less than Rs. 20/- per day. Then only the balance sheet would have been complete. People should be aware of both the aspects. I am sorry to say that in the last four-five years, your feel good factor is turning out into a feel bad factor. Most of the times, the feel good factor of the Government is the feel bad factor for the opposition.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit a few things about the aspects that have been mentioned in the Address. The people of India were facing problems of price rise, inflation, unemployment, and poverty. Besides, the farmers, about whom we are discussing in the House, are also facing innumerable problems in the agricultural sector due to which they are committing suicide. It would have been better, had a mention of the problems being faced by the 100 crore people of the country been made in the Address. The Address of the President must put in perspective the condition of the 70% people of the country and must not only highlight State of the 20% people of the country. Therefore, I would like to say that a clear picture has not been presented. During the discussion, the issue of the budget provision has been raised. I feel that it would have been better had the budget provisions not been mentioned during the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Since the Address contains several issues which can consume the entire time in case a discussion takes place on all those issues and a separate discussion on budget is to take place, the members introducing the motion and the supporters of the motion as well as the leader of opposition also indirectly raise the question of budget or waiving off the loans, then it means that according to them the Address does not have enough issues on which discussion could be held. However, this Address contains so many issues for which we appreciate it. The Address speaks about the issue of development. This is mandatory and such commitments have been reiterated which is commendable in itself. However, it enumerates the provisions of inclusive growth made in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. This cannot be counted as the achievements of the UPA Government.



"Baba mariye to bail batiyen nahin". We shall have to evaluate how far we have succeeded in achieving the mandate of the national Common Minimum Programme with regard to the situation of inclusive growth from May 2004 to 2007 or February 2008. We are of course, proud to have the first woman President of the country who delivered her Address to the joint sitting of both the houses in this august Central Hall. We appreciate this achievement.

16.53 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

In the Chapter of the Common Minimum Programme regarding women there is a mention of reserving seats in Lok Sabha and State Legislatures for women and enactment of a law in this regard. I would like to read it out, it has been written in the Women-child section that

[*English*]

UPA Government will take the lead to introduce legislation for one-third reservation—it is mentioned very specifically:

"The UPA Government will take the lead to introduce legislation for one-third reservation—it is mentioned very specifically—in Vidhan Sabhas and in Lok Sabha. Legislation on domestic violence and against gender discrimination will be enacted."

[*Translation*]

We welcome the Legislation on Domestic violence which has been brought. We should feel proud as a supporter, however we regret and also demand that it's first line that—

[*English*]

"We will take the lead to introduce legislation for one-third reservation for women in Vidhan Sabhas and in Lok Sabha."

[*Translation*]

When Robert Gates comes from America and says that 'Time is ticking then are we the Leftists, the supporters of the Government not entitled to say that the UPA Government has been in power for 5 years and when for nuclear deal, the time is ticking and the Government is anxious for it then time is also ticking in respect of introducing the bill regarding reservation for

women. The Government should take care of this matter also for which they are committed.

[*English*]

It is because the Government, under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh, was constituted and has taken oath on the basis of the Common Minimum Programme. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The oath is taken under the Constitution.

MD. SALIM: The basis of this Government is to fulfill the aspirations of the people as enumerated in the Common Minimum Programme. The mandate is here. What we stress is "common" and "minimum" rather than devoting the time on "un-common" issues and "maximum" programme. Let us fulfill the "minimum" mandate which we have taken upon ourselves. That is what we demand.

[*Translation*]

If more energy were spent on that then, I understand, that it would have been a historical step for us, for the country and for the entire world. I still feel, and there is still time; the Women Reservation Bill should be introduced in the present Budget Session itself either in the first phase or in the second phase. It should have been a historical speech but that historical touch is not there in the speech.

The mandate of common minimum programme is not reflected in the President's Address and what is mentioned in the President's Address is not there in the common minimum programme so we are in a fix.

Rights of the children have been mentioned in the para related to the children and the women. When I go through the figures of the family health survey, I feel sorry to see that 70 per cent children in the country are anaemic. What growth we are talking about? It is a matter of sorrow that in the 21st century 70 per cent children in India are anaemic. We are not concerned about the children whom we treat as angels. We are launching space missions to explore the stars but we have failed to provide nutritious food to our children who are like stars on the earth. This cannot be a growth story. The Government should pay more attention towards stars on the earth than in space. Presently, the condition of children is very pathetic. Women and children are malnourished and the number of such women and children has increased during the last decade. I am not talking about

[Md. Salim]

NDA or UPA Governments, however, the number of such women and children is increasing which becomes-manifest from the Government data. On the one hand, there is economic growth and on the other, cases of malnutrition among children and women are rising. It is the responsibility of the Government to bridge this contradiction. How should we target the growth so that we may meet the challenge? For doing this, universalization of ICDS and achieving the target in five years was proposed in the Common Minimum Programme. I appreciate that the Government is maintaining its pace of development over the years. I will not raise the issue of budget here. I will raise that during the discussion on the budget. However, till now universalization could not be achieved. It is the last year when the Government had got an opportunity to do it. If it were included in the President's Address that the target of universalization of ICDS will be achieved by 31st March, 2009 we would have applauded that and said that the mandate has been kept and a little bit progress achieved. Every year, the Government have enhanced the provision but that is not sufficient. That mandate should be fulfilled. There is also a mention about the strengthening of PDS. It is mentioned in the Common Minimum Programme.

[English]

"The UPA Government will strengthen the Public Distribution System-PDS-particularly in the poorest and backward blocks of the country and also involve women's and ex-servicemen's cooperatives in its management."

[Translation]

This is the provision made in May 2004. I was expecting the Address to mention that the Government have achieved this target. I do not expect to listen that it has been postponed for the 11th Five Year Plan. I feel that something contrary to it has been done. The loan waiver scheme of farmers is certainly a great achievement, however, it was also required to take some measures that would have checked the trend of suicides. It will not serve any purpose if we do not go in for massive procurement in future and instead assign this responsibility of procurement to multinational companies like Kargil and Indian multinational companies like ITC which even do not give information as to how much rice, wheat is stocked in their godowns and what quantity they have procured. We talk about procurement because it is double

edged scheme. Small farmers get relief if the crop is procured at minimum support price the moment crops come in the market and on the other hand it also ensures food security. If we do not do procurement and think that private sector will take care of it then we do not get advantage. What is the outcome of the policy of liberalization introduced in 1991 in the country? The Government have no account and information regarding the trading of wheat and rice.

It has been mentioned in the paper laid today on the table of the House that the Government are amending the law to make it mandatory for the company to furnish information regarding the quantity and whereabouts of wheat and rice, whenever demanded. But these companies, the ITC company are not giving any information in this regard. It is not that whatever was mentioned in the common minimum programme has not been achieved on the contrary, on account of this, the food intake of the people has decreased and its availability has declined. I will not delve into the nuances of prices rise as the hon'ble Prime Minister is himself an economist. When I was the Member of Rajya Sabha, I had learnt a lot from him. First it was said that food intake is declining. Today it is being said that price rise is increasing because the prices of commodities in the international market have increased. I was going through an international magazine, an Australian Magazine in early 90s. There was a depiction of a cartoon in that magazine.

[English]

It is not a new world order. It is a new wheat order.

[Translation]

America and the World Bank were depicted in that cartoon as saying—

[English]

Too much money is chasing.

[Translation]

It is a new order of wheat. I am talking about cartoon that appeared in an Australian Magazine in 1991 that left strong impression on my mind and I had reproduced that in my magazine as well. However, regarding the hue and cry of the leftists that the availability of cereals has declined and pulses and rice are not available in sufficient quantity every time, the argument is being given that

leftists are not aware about the changing life style of the people on account of liberalisation. The new 20 crore strong middle class who talks about market, eat Pizzas, Patties and fast food and make a queue at Vimpies, so why do they talk about wheat and rice, that will certainly decline but the decline in the availability of wheat and rice does not mean that economic growth has declined rather such explanation was given when there was sufficient development. But, now it is being argued that since the purchasing power of people has increased and enough money has come in the market, hence the prices of commodities are increasing. However, I would like to submit that I am talking about essential commodities and those poor people who try to make their both ends meet on a paltry amount of twelve or twenty rupees. They do not have enough money to purchase things. Those who are billionaires do not stand in queue on the road to purchase wheat and rice. Those who have money are not purchasing these commodities as consumers, rather they are purchasing these for hoarding, for storing it in their godowns. After coming to power, the first thing that NDA Government did was to amend the essential Commodities Act so as to provide relief to the hoarders. They kept their hold on essential commodities and, thus, the Government favoured them. However, I would not like to blame them, rather, I would like to submit to the present Government as to how did they tackle this situation in the last four years. Even after 60 years of independence if people do not get food in the night and children are victims of malnutrition in 21 century then in which direction we are going? Thus, disparity is increasing. I wished it for a long time and now I listened it from the leader of the opposition, hon'ble Advaniji, who also quoted Bimal Jalan ji and Shri M.J. Akbar that disparity is increasing. After so many days and in this age, he tried to see the other side of the fact. It has been said that there is disparity and inequality is increasing. We do not have before us the issue of Maharastian and non-Maharashtian temple, mosque or Hindu-Muslim gather the issue is that the gap of inequality is widening. The neo liberal policy that we have adopted has certainly benefited the industries for the last 17 years. Our infrastructure has been benefited. The glamour of the cities has also increased and the vehicles of various models are available. Air conditioned Garib Rath is also running.

The person who discriminate against people who are not like them, who do not worship like them, or dress themselves like them, practice exclusive politics. Whether it is a Muslim fundamentalist, Hindu communal, Christian communal, all of them have one theory that is of exclusion

in politics. They practice exclusion even in their own society. But the UPA Government was formed with a new hope that we would take everybody along with us, we will unite everybody, we will seek partnership of everybody in the Government, in the society and in the job of economic development. There would be inclusion, growth with equity. Growth alone which has happened in this country or in the entire world for 15 years cannot satisfy us. It is like a long pillar. As per engineering, if pillar is erected in construction it lacks sustainability. Pyramids are durable because the basic unit of engineering is triangle. When we construct triangle to support it, it lasts, pyramid is like this. The people who tell us the story of the growth must understand the meaning of inclusive growth, even if the growth is a bit less, it should be in the form of a triangle, it's base line should increase. It should be observed whether it is covering most parts in respect of equity, it should not be for only 20-25 people. After that quality of life should be improved so that it may remain in conformity with the growth rate or vice-versa.

*[English]*

If this triangle is not there, then growth with equity with the development of the quality of life of our common people will not be possible.

*[Translation]*

Then, it would be sustainable. Otherwise, we are not able to achieve sustainable growth. What is two-digit growth? We can achieve it. Till now, we have not been able to include every section in the growth engineering. We are talking of 7-9 percent growth. If we are able to include the rest of the pack and tap its energy, we can achieve it very easily. We, the left parties, are supporting the UPA Government because first of all we do, not want exclusive politics, secondly exclusive economy, it should be inclusive. We will have to move taking everyone along with us. Even if we criticize it is on account of this only, not a single line of that criticism is outside the ambit of the common minimum programme. In fact, criticism is done at the time when the Government deviates from the common minimum programme. The heading of the last paragraph of the Common Minimum Programme is 'A Final Word'. Most of the times Common Minimum Programme is quoted, final words are not quoted

*[English]*

This is a Common Minimum Programme for the UPA Government. It is, by no means, a comprehensive agenda.

[Md. Salim]

It is a starting point. I emphasise these words. That highlights the main priorities, policies and programmes. The UPA is committed to the implementation of the CMP. This CMP is the foundation for another CMP—collective maximum performance. So, at the end of the fourth year and the beginning of the fifth year, what do we desire, not to remind you of the common minimum provision made in the Common Minimum Programme? We should find out the basis of the common maximum performance.

[Translation]

If we take its balance sheet, we hope to see the maximum performance.

[English]

I am reminding you of the Common Minimum Programme to show you the starting point. But, you should have silenced us saying that was in 2004-2005. This is the common maximum performance card. This is what we have achieved. We had started in 2004 and continued in 2005, 2006 and 2007. This is 2008 and this is the report card.

[Translation]

Then call this growth as an inclusive growth. Today, we are contending that we are beginning our journey towards an inclusive growth. Therefore, euphoria is being created. It can be seen in every case. Since time is very short, therefore, I would not quote what was in the Common Minimum Programme. It was said there that an inquiry Commission would be set up to analyse the condition. This Government is also having a political commitment and I understand that the Government will first review the situation and will thereafter take some effective steps and subsequent of which some outcome will emerge. A committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Justice Rajender Sachar in March 2005. The Government had come to power in May, 2004 and the Committee was set up in March, 2005. It was supposed to submit its report in June 2006, but it submitted its report in November, 2006 and the report was presented in Parliament in December, 2006. The year 2007 passed. This report is put at the last in the list of Business of every session, but till today, it has not been taken up for discussion. "Umradaraz manngkar laye the chaar din, do aarzo mein kat gaye do intezaar mein".

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That was on the List. The hon. Members did not find time to discuss it.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: But what happened? On one side they are talking of appeasement as if everything has been given. I am not undermining the Sachar Committee report. But this is not a prescription and this is also not a disease. Some people are thinking that this is a disease, some people are thinking it is a prescription or remedy, as if everything has been given. This is a diagnostic report. What is the condition of the minorities. As blood test, blood pressure, sugar etc. are checked to diagnose the disease, the report is similar to that, but for so many days you are thinking that appeasement policy is being adopted. After Independence, Muslims have got everything, it is not so. Rather, their condition has worsened and has become pitiable. Now, it is the duty of the Government to take action accordingly. The Government took up this topic for discussion in the Cabinet in May, 2007. I listened to the announcement. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, who also holds the portfolio of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting made certain promises. In August, 2007, the Minister of the Minority Affairs submitted.

[English]

Follow-up action to be taken, not the Action Taken Report.

[Translation]

For the first time action taken report was not presented in the Indian Parliament.

[English]

The Government is contemplating the follow-up action which was placed.

[Translation]

Follow-up Action to be taken submitted in August was the repetition of the Press Release made in May. Today, same thing is being repeated in the Budget. I came across the Indian Express, published on the next day of the last year's Budget. It was reported there that the Minorities got a big deal'. Since, the announcement was made, therefore, it was a big deal. It was said in the last year's budget that Rs. 500 crore were given for Minorities Welfare, which was meant for the total expenses of the whole department as the capital outlay. In the revised estimate, it was curtailed to Rs. 350 crore. That was not announced, not mentioned in the Address. When Rs. 500 crore were announced, it became the headline of the newspapers. During revision, it became Rs. 350 crore. I can say with challenge that in actual report which will

come after the 31st of March, it would be Rs. 200 to 250 crore. Now, again this time the Government can announce Rs. 1000 crore. It can be announced during the address from the Red Fort and newspapers will term it as a big deal. You people will say that appeasement has been done, everybody has got his share. So, the condition of poor Muslims is like sandwich. On one side, it is being argued that too much is being given to them and on other side much is being projected but actually they are getting nothing. By the way, I read out the Common Minimum Programme over here, you will know the truth. Promotion of professional education, technical education, employment have been envisaged and not tokenism through calling a few Ulemas and Maulanas for a traditional photograph and a bounty of some land for graveyard, some allocation for wakf and some funds for Haj Pilgrimage. No.

As a modern citizen of the 21st century developing nation, aspiring to become a developed nation he needs modern education, technical education and modern avenues of employment. The profession of a weaver or a farmer is not providing him sufficient means of livelihood. So, it is the responsibility of the Government to make him skilled for modern profession. The Sachar Committee has in its report, clearly stated all these things to the Government. We are making it a politically controversial agenda. We are making it an election agenda.

*[English]*

This way or that way.

*[Translation]*

It will further deteriorate the situation. Next time a fresh report will be submitted. That is why I am saying that

*[English]*

the title of this committee was, you must be remembering, 'Prime Minister's High Level Committee'. Mr. Prime Minister, I urge upon you that your prestige is also at stake.

*[Translation]*

This Sachar Committee was not any parliamentary committee or any other executive committee.

*[English]*

"It was Prime Minister's High Level Committee"

*[Translation]*

After the submission of report of the High level committee the people will see as to how the

*[English]*

Prime Minister has taken the initiative? Fifteen percent priority sector lending is there in the Address.

*[Translation]*

It is mentioned in the Address that the priority sector lending for weaker sections is 40 percent and 15 percent should be given to minorities. This much is being given. However, there is no mention about it in the budget speech. I would like to use an expression as to how the trick was used. It is a fact that the Government have stated in the budget speech that the branches of banks have been opened and more branches will be set up, however, it is the contempt of the President's Address. There is no mention of 15 percent anywhere in the programme. In the President's Address it is mentioned that the Government will provide loan in the priority sector to the 15 percent people of the weaker sections among minorities. If 15 percent is given within 40 percent, then it will be 6 percent in hundred percent. There are 13 percent such people in the country and out of those should loan be given to six percent people of the weaker sections or not? If not, then how will they develop and do their business. It has become squeezed after independence, the Government has to reopen it. However, the Ministry of Finance, Department of Banking and the Reserve Bank of the Government of India do not want this. I have with me the letter of the P.M. office. Several letters were written from the office of the Prime Minister to the Ministry of Finance. The Address is a recent thing. Last year I had recommended that in 2007, 15 percent lending of priority sector should be given to the minorities, so that they are able to engage in small businesses. You will find that Muslim people run hotels in the country but they are not two star, three star or five star hotels. They run garages but there is no transport company. They are drivers, helpers; however, they do not have bus transport companies so they have become squeezed. If the loan is provided to them, they will use their skill and brain and will improve their business and do well. If loan is provided to them they will purchase modern equipments from this money. They will take loan and not any arms. There was a film of Balraj Sahani entitled 'Garm Hawa' which was made after independence. Film depicted such

[Md. Salim]

a shock. I remember, that was the film of S. M. Sathyu. At the time of partition Balraj Sahani was doing business, he had good business of shoes. The country was divided and curfew was imposed. There was violence, however, he said that he would stay in India. He was playing the character of a Muslim businessman of Kanpur. He went to the bank. There he was offered tea and samosa as he was an old and established businessman. He tells them that he has good knowledge of work and has also orders but his business is shut down and if loan is given to him he will start his business. Then the manager of the bank asks him whether he will stay in India or will go to Pakistan. I do not know about this. Shri Sathyu had dealt it with great sensitivity. Balraj Sahani was a very powerful actor. He came out from there. Then there was a shot in which the face of Balraj Sahani was zoomed in front of the gate. Even after 60 years of independence that face has not changed. Credit has been squeezed. I was expecting the same from the UPA Government. The inclusive growth means that the economy will have to be opened. They are looking at the matter as an economist, former Governor of Reserve Bank, former Finance Minister, Prime Minister but it is not bearing any positive impact. If there were positive impact, I would have found the Minister of Finance announcing in the budget speech that next year 15 percent priority sector loan will be provided to minorities. But it is not so.

[English]

Please take this as a challenge, Mr. Prime Minister. This is the minimum programme.

[Translation]

We are making minimum demand to the Government and if it is not met then we will not allow this Government to remain in power. The Government blames the Leftists that they do not let the Government do this. Though the leftists are objecting against the programmes which are not within ambit of Common Minimum Programme, however, there are programmes within the common minimum programme and if even after the decision of the high power committee of the Prime Minister and dispatch of letters from the Prime Minister's office to this effect, the Ministry of Finance declines to comply with it, then, who is to blame? I can say a lot more things on the Budget and I will do so when a discussion is held, however, it is not a tokenism.

[English]

Some concrete step, no communal agenda and no communal overture.

[Translation]

It is not even a sentimental or emotional issue.

[English]

Some concrete hard economy, educational issue.

[Translation]

Whatever will be done will lead to economic and educational advancement. It will also provide level playing field and good citizens will emerge on equal footing in modern India. For this, Government will have to work.

[English]

Even for that, time is ticking out. You have to take this as a challenge.

[Translation]

It is not a matter of religions or linguistic minority.

[English]

It is the kind of economy that they are pursuing. Migration is taking place worldwide. It has to take place. International migration is taking place.

17.00 hrs

[Translation]

The people from villages are migrating to towns and cities. Three years back the present UPA Government had expressed desire in its budget speech to make Mumbai a global financial centre. At that time it was said that there should be a financial centre between Tokyo and London and that can be Mumbai only I represent Kolkata. After independence the headquarters of the State Bank and some major companies were deliberately shifted from Kolkata to create regional imbalance because at that time we had a Look West Policy. Since we wanted to serve the Middle East, enter into American market and the post second world war scenario was such that our economy became Wesbound. Now we are talking about look east,

however, we are once again patronizing the earlier policy. President's Address it has been said that regional imbalance will have to be removed. I appreciate that the Government have created a backward region fund to remove this imbalance and have allocated funds for this. Attention was not paid towards Jammu and Kashmir, North-East, Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh for a long time after independence but now some projects have been prepared for them. Thus efforts have been made to please these backward regions. However, it is important to know whether the efforts that have been made are sufficient to bring substantial difference in the level of development and we may say that five years back we were here and now we have reached to this place. If the people have done internal migration then it is their constitutional right. There, the politicians will give provocative speech that will lead to targetting outsiders from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. They will be asked to leave the place and go back to their respective states. If it is so then some innocent persons will also be affected. 27,000 workers of Bengal engaged in gems and jewellery have also returned back to Midnapur district during the last one month. During sixties and seventies it was said that such things will tighten the left a little bit. Trade Union movement is militant in nature and it will put a check on it in Mumbai. The present incident is a legacy of that. When we talk about integrating with the world,

*[English]*

Then, you think globally in the field of economy; and you think locally, parochially in the field of politics and society.

*[Translation]*

This is a big challenge of the 21st century. If we do not address Ethnic, linguistic, religious issues globally and promote fundamentalist elements or do bargaining, as it happened in Mumbai it would be wrong. I did not expect it from the UPA Government. It is in the agenda of Common Minimum Programme that we would deal with all such communal, fundamentalist, parochial, obscurantist, forces which try to raise their heads. Then why did their Government not take any action in Mumbai? Why did the Union Government not issue any instructions to the Government of Maharashtra? Why did their Minister of Home not visit Maharashtra when he belongs to that region. Why did he not take any action on these incidents? If timely action is not taken on such incidents then they will continue to pile up. I belong to Kolkata.

*[English]*

that is also a cosmopolitan city with minorities and Bengali speaking persons

*[Translation]*

People from Bihar, Orissa, Rajasthan, U.P., Gujarat and Punjab live there and it is a matter of pride. People of all ranks and files are necessary to run the engine of economy. If it happens in one State followed by another then it will spread across the country. That is why it is provided in the introduction of the Common Minimum Programme and

*[English]*

I have again to remind you. I would quote it. It says:

"To preserve, protect and promote social harmony—communal harmony—and to enforce the law without fear or favour to deal with all obscurantist and fundamentalist elements, who seek to disturb social amity and peace."

*[Translation]*

However, does this ideology match anywhere with that happened in Mumbai. I am not making any criticism on behalf of the Left. We have supported this Government for the last four years however, what is the yardstick to measure that the Government has proved its mettle or how much water it holds. CMP is the yardstick. I am reading it out, this is the situation. This situation used to be different in the past that Government scarcely bothered about its agenda during five years of its tenure, however, when left is supporting this Government, we would ensure that the Government complies with what they have written in their agenda.

Besides, there is the issue of internal security I am not discussing political points here. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): Who knows what promises were made.

MD. SALIM: That is what I am trying to remind you. The leader of the opposition also raised the issue of internal security. Undoubtedly, there has been a little improvement in internal security. When we look at Kashmir, we find some improvement. There are sporadic incidents in the North-East, however, the Government is

[Md. Salim]

making efforts. You will have to check the breeding of such forces and your temptation to succumb to an agreement with such forces or bestowing on them political prestige to the extent of putting them on an equal pedestal and allow their freewheeling anti-national activities and we them for drawing political mileage. This is the story of North East and Kashmir. After years of playing politics there was bloodshed. ...*(Interruptions)* Yes, it happened also in Bengal. Nandigram in Bengal is a lesson for us. In the year 2007 we had to hear a lot of....\*On account of it. Right now I am referring to Nandigram. You know that Maoists leaders were caught, Yadavs were caught in Jharkhand in November and Somens were caught in West Bengal in February. What documents, information is being recovered from them. Area commander of Jharkhand. W. Bengal, Bihar were caught and a letter of a working Member of the NDA, the Trinmull Congress which is the Mainstream party was recovered. He is saying that he was called, he has sent some people and given them training. Such people have also been caught who have confessed that they carried implements there and fought with A.K. 47. Regarding Maoists you stated in the internal security Conference that

*[English]*

It is a great challenge.

*[Translation]*

And number one leader of the Maoists of Bengal, who is Secretary General of the State was caught.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): He is not in NDA party, he is with the Congress Party. Are you afraid to say that? You know more than me. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: He has not yielded. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: Allright, allright!

*[English]*

I stand corrected

*[Translation]*

problem is that it is an illusion. You think he is with you and they think he is with them.

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\*Not recorded.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Salim, two more lion. Members of your Party have sent names. You may take time, but other Members' time will be reduced.

*[Translation]*

MD. SALIM: I am only trying to say that why do we defame only them, didn't leaders of all major political parties and Advaniji visit Nandigram two times? How many times he visited Dantewada? Dantewada is a Maoist infested region in Chhattisgarh, B.J.P. Government is in power there. Ajit Jogiji was saying right now that crops were not grown in 44 thousand hectares of land, 70 thousand farmers of Dantewada district are not only in prison. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Do not do that.

*[English]*

Do not record. The hon. Member has not yielded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MD. SALIM: As per the official figure they have migrated from there. People have run away from Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa in the name of Salva Judum. ...*(Interruptions)*. I reiterate, do not look at Maoist threat as a narrow political issue. I am not hiding anything, then why are you trying to hide. Why didn't it happen in Dantewada, why don't you accept the challenge, why don't you accept the truth. What is the use of hiding the truth. Earlier, it was kept secret. PWG was bred in Andhra Pradesh via Chhattisgarh, Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa border. Today, they are exporting it to Bengal and Orissa. It is a national issue."

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): In Nepal. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, if you want to yield, then sit down. Otherwise, it will not be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.



MR. SPEAKER: Please continue. Your time is getting over.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: It seems, I will have to study political science once again. Maoists from Nepal and Jharkhand and Orissa are not the same. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I have read it more than you.

MD. SALIM: Only seeing the colour of the flag you cannot say that he belongs to NDA. ...(Interruptions) You will have to study political science. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am not a pendulum like you.

MD. SALIM: Internal security is being constantly discussed, the hon. Prime Minister should also check his party leaders and Ministers, only a few persons are going to be benefited. He is talking of a pendulum the party leader who was caught in Jharkhand which is documented, has made a statement before the Police, he was used by the Ministers who were in BJP Government and are now in Madhu Koda's Government. He is making statement before the police, he was produced in the court. There are larger issues in Nandigram and Maoists tend to exploit such issues and use the fundamentalist and terrorists forces and exploit such atmosphere. If we do not comprehend that challenge, we will be in trouble. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Salim Saheb, were these 14 farmers, killed, Maoists? Please explain. ...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: Why is he putting words in my mouth?

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Are they Maoists or not?  
...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: They are farmers. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chowdhury, this is not right.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Those who were hacked to death, who were they, those who were fired bullets, who were they?  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: ....\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This will be deleted.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: It is a sample. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chowdhury, I do not permit such language. This is not right. That will be deleted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, will you please address the Chair?

MD. SALIM : Sir, this is disgusting. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you address the Chair?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, will you address the Chair? Your time is getting exhausted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lahiri, please sit down. Let him conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM : I wanted to see whether there are guts in any of the Congress leader or their Minister to face such a ... \* in their ranks. Let there be. Are there any guts in any of the Ministers or the Congress leaders to face such a.....I have the guts. I can face him.  
...(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, you come to the President's Address.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I call the next speaker.

MD. SALIM : Unless this is taken care of, I will not speak. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is expunged. What are you doing? I have expunged it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lahiri, you are speaking without my permission.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: You are speaking without my permission.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. You are defying the Chair. Shri Lahiri, you are defying the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Your Member of Parliament is competent enough to protect himself. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking somebody to do something. You are defying the Chair.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record one word.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, you have concluded your speech. Shri Ramesh Dube.

MD. SALIM : Sir, I have not concluded.

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you yielding?

MD. SALIM : Sir, if some hon. Member says that. ...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: You address the Chair. I shall deal with that.

MD. SALIM: On this assurance only, I continue.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: You may say whatever you feel like, they have been in the Government for so many years and the misdeeds were done by others and he is completely innocent. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Santosh Gangwar, please do not do that. You are a senior Member.

Mr. Salim, please conclude. Your time is over.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Similarly, terrorism is a big threat to internal security. I do not want to repeat the dangerous events that took place in the recent past. When the issue of internal security was discussed in this very House, then I had said that no clue was found, no conclusion arrived at. Thorough investigation should have been done. Yet, immature statements were made. Certain organizations were named, the police claimed that it had apprehended certain persons but in reality one finds that nothing was done, be it Malegaon or anywhere else. There was a blast in Tenkasi in Tamil Nadu recently. The Tamil Nadu Police. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Salim, you address the Chair.

MD. SALIM: Sir, I congratulate the Tamil Nadu Police.

[Translation]

They investigated the modus operandi of the bomb blasts and concluded that the workers of Hindi Munnani themselves did the bomb blasts and placed the caps to mislead the police that Muslims were responsible for the blasts. Thereafter it was reported in the newspapers the

first day that Muslims were behind the blasts. When this is the attitude thorough investigation should have been conducted. There should be no pre-conceived notion.

In regard to international situation it was rightly stated in the Address that we want to maintain relations with all the countries whereas, the UPA Government knows it well that no decision has been taken in regard to nuclear deal. There is a mechanism, negotiations are going on. Talks are on in the IAEA. The statement of the Minister of External Affairs today and the Address did not mention it. It is out of the agenda of the Common Minimum Programme of the Government. Unless the Government takes a decision this issue should not be raised. In the light of Robert Gates visit to the country followed by the visit of other Senators and the threats and ultimatums being given, I feel the Government should clarify its stance as to the present status of the case.

Finally, I would like to state that the manner in which Israel is launching offensives in Gaza. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Salim, you had better conclude now. Your Party's time is exhausted.

[*Translation*]

MD. SALIM: We have a role in the international forum. It would not be sufficient to say that we are with Palestinians. We should condemn the offensive of the Israelis instead we are sending their spy satellite to space not for information purposes but for espionage, it is regrettable. It is also over stepping the mandate of the UPA Government. I feel our growing engagement with Israel would have a reflection on our international standing as well. Similarly, in the case of the Government of India should have understood that Yugoslavia is a friend country and that Kosovo's declaration of independence was clearly an issue of insurgency. It should not have sent its forces under NATO, the way it did. These conditions prevail even in India. There are certain areas where people seek autonomy. We are also facing insurgency. This tendency is growing. The USA, Britain and Germany are disintegrating the country, balkanization is in process. Our Government should look into the mirror and analyse and decide and then take a concrete measure. If we fail to convey our ideologies and political philosophy in the international forum then I would like to know as to whom are we afraid of.

Finally, I would like to say that one should come out and speak because there is no gag.

SHRI RAMESH DUBE (Mirzapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the motion of thanks on President's Address, I would like to submit that when her excellency President was speaking I had become overjoyed as I was listening her address for the first time. Her address reflected the problems of poor, rich, farmers, labourers, all sections of India. As far as the issue of inclusive growth is concerned, I almost agree with whatever has been submitted by my colleague and the leader of opposition as well in this regard. Rich people are getting richer and poor people are getting poorer. Just now the example of twenty billionaires has been given here. I feel that if their influence grows in this manner then one day we will certainly come under the influence of those rich people and they will control the functioning of the Government and administration. Just now one of my colleagues discussed about Mumbai. I am sorry to submit that the incident that occurred there was very unfortunate. Words fall short to condemn this incident. When these incidents were taking place and the people of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were being harassed, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs and other Ministers were distributing awards for Bhojpur films over there. Thousands of police personnel were deployed at the venue where awards were being distributed. They did not think for a moment to take pain to visit and see those who were admitted there or say few words about them. Instead of raising voice against it there they call press conference after coming to Delhi. I am very much aggrieved to see this. It is very unfortunate when the functionaries come but do not hold discussion on such occasion.

Sir, the leader of opposition has mentioned here the names of some of the persons like Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Indra Gandhi etc. We have respect for all the leaders.

17.41 hrs.

[SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH *in the chair*]

We do not have objection to the names of those persons We support it. However, before giving names to such it should be kept in mind that the institutions should be named after those saints also who have worked for social change and reforms whether it is Mahatma Phule, Sahuji Maharaj or Savitri Bhai Phule so that they may also remain in the memory of the people.

[Shri Ramesh Dube]

Her excellency, President has understood the misery of farmers and the loans of the farmers were waived at her instruction. It is a commendable step. While supporting this step I would like to submit that the development of Uttar Pradesh has been overlooked. The hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Bahan Mayawatiji had asked for a package of Rs. 88 thousand crore for the development of Uttar Pradesh. However, till today neither any decision has been taken nor anything has been said in this regard. On several occasions development of Uttar Pradesh has been overlooked. Despite that we support the motion of thanks on the President's Address and extend my thanks to her.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri B. Mahtab—Not present.

Shri Ajay Chakraborty—Not present.

Shri Alok Kumar Mehta.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Madam Chairman, I rise to speak on motion of thanks on the President's Address. I would like to extend thanks to her on behalf of me and my party because in her speech she presented a detailed outline of inclusive growth. First of all I would like to extend my thanks to her that she, as a first Women President of the country addressed the joint session of Parliament and presented the map or outline of the inclusive growth. The outline of Bharat Nirman, Rashtriya Gramin Yojana, Sarvashiksha Abhiyan, Mid-day Meal Scheme, National Rural Health Mission, Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission etc. missions and schemes which are milestone of development done by the UPA Government during the last four years have also been reflected in the President's Address. The people and the people's representatives have witnessed this achievement during the last four years. It is evident from this that the present Government have made efforts to do justice with people living in the remotest villages and the most deprived section of society. 9 percent growth rate in four years is an achievement. The Railway Budget and the General Budget have been presented. However, I do not know why our colleague in opposition could not remain patient during the President's Address and now they should have maintained the dignity in the House because it was the Address of the first citizen of the country. The comments were being made not against the Government but against Her Excellency. Thus they did not show any respect and dignity. I feel that the opposition is baffled to see record growth rate, increasing rate of

Gross Domestic Product and calling this budget as elections budget shows the extent of frustration of the opposition, however, I feel that it is not justified to make comment on the President's Address out of desperation. I would like to submit only this that most of the provisions contained in 11th Five Year Plan and the contents of President's address have been included in the Budget. However, if anything has been left out—we will take up those issues through the House so as to incorporate necessary changes. First of all, I would like to extend my thanks to Her Excellency, President who announced that all the districts of the country will be covered under the National Employment Guarantee Scheme. The Government should pay attention towards the success of this scheme all over the country and should also pay attention towards the hurdles coming in the way of scheme. The State Governments are also responsible for the implementation of the scheme and it is also the responsibility of the State Government to remove the hurdles coming in the way.

It cannot be that all the success is attributed to States and the failure to the Centre. Therefore, there should be some provision whereby the State Governments could bear the responsibility of the implementation of the scheme so that the schemes meet success. Hon'ble President has given indication of laying a lot of stress on agriculture through National Food Security Mission and National Agriculture Development Scheme and I would like to say that in pursuance of the same, the Government has loans waiver package for the farmers to the tune of Rs. 60000 crore under the Budget. I would like to thank the Government for it. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that in villages small and marginal farmers take loans from the money lenders. I would like to request the Government that in future the farmers should be given permission to repay even the money borrowed from the moneylenders. I am sure that this will go a long way in checking the suicides by the small farmers in States and this step will resolve their problem to a large extent.

I would like to thank Her Excellency, President for her announcement of increasing the minimum wages from Rs. 66 to Rs. 90 in her Address. This is a good step especially for the labourers in the unorganized sector. I am hopeful that our Government would try to take initiative in this regard and give a better shape to it.

The assurance that 15 percent outlay under the new 15 points programme of Prime Minister would be spent

for the Ministries is certainly welcome step. Besides, I would also like to thank her Excellency, President for the provision of Rs. 3780 crore made for the 90 minority dominated districts under the 11th Five Year Plan as per the recommendations of the Sachar Committee. The Minimum Support Price of wheat and rice have gone up by 50 percent and 33 percent respectively during the last four years. It has certainly improved the lot of wheat and paddy growing farmers. However, there are even such regions whose condition is bad and I would like to draw attention towards them. The price of potato is same as it was 20 years ago. I would like to tell the opposition colleagues who make a lot of noise about price rise that a shoe costing Rs. 100, 20 years ago now costs Rs. 2000 and all of us are ready to purchase it. However when it comes to increase in the price of foodstuffs and if a large chunk of it goes to farmer, there is no harm in it. When inflation and price rise is talked everywhere then what is the harm if the small farmer get remunerative price for their produce. Besides, we should also see that inflation does not go out of control.

The provision for Bharat Nirman for which a mention has been made by her Excellency, hon'ble President in her Address is worth complementing. The recently presented Railway Budget has shown total profit at Rs. 25000 crore and it also talks about providing jobs to the coolies and reducing fares. This is a welfare step for the country. I would like to thank her for it.

Lastly, I would say a few things about Bihar and other backward States like it. The setting up of an Atomic Power Unit in Bihar is a long pending one. We had also met the hon'ble Prime Minister under the leadership of hon'ble Lalaji in this regard. However, there is no mention of it in the President's Address. We hope that this demand will definitely be met in this year's budget. Bihar urgently need opening of a medical college, Management College, Professional College, Engineering College and Polytechnique Institute for want of which a large number of Bihar is go to places like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Delhi etc. Provision for opening an IIT has been made for which I extend my thanks but there is an urgent need for setting up of a professional college there.

The discussion was held in the House regarding the incidents that took place in Maharashtra recently. I am of the opinion that there is a need for equitable growth in States. The issue of regional balance has been raised and that is right too. The regions which have been neglected for long and where the population is more need

to be developed in an holistic manner. Approximately 8 to 9 percent of the country's population is in Bihar but it never gets more than one and half percent-allocation in any sector. This certainly cannot be an example for inclusive growth. Unless the development of States like Bihar is paid any attention, inclusive growth can not be achieved. The Government is sympathetic towards farmers and a large section of population of the country and in doing so it is following this belief shared by Chaudhary Charan Singh and Ram Manohar Lohia that the path of the country's development goes through the farmlands. UPA Government deserves to be thanked for this thinking. Her Excellency hon'ble President has given such indications but I would certainly like to say that when such incidents are taking place in Maharashtra, there arises even more need to pay more attention to the inclusive growth in the States like Bihar. Public Sector Enterprises need to be set up there on a large scale. There is also a need to open the office of Public Sector Undertaking like Coal India. There is also a need to ponder over as to why Reserve Bank of India is located in Mumbai alone and not at other places of the country. Every effort to unite the country should be made. Every citizen of the country is free to reside in any State of the country and the constitution provides for it. If there is any attempt to disintegrate the country, I would request the people of the whole country not to allow such tendency anywhere in the country. The people of Maharashtra do neither support this tendency nor do they have any such mindset. The land giving birth to so many great persons can never be one encouraging such wrong doings. This is an attempt by few people having distorted mindsets. I am of the opinion that in the coming days, there would be harmony there, all the parts of the country will have opportunity to grow under the concept of inclusive growth and such a situation will not be created there again.

With these words, I conclude while thanking Her Excellency hon. President.

*[English]*

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I thank you, Madam Chairperson. I stand here to deliberate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

At the outset, I should express that the hon. President has addressed us in this great hall of democracy and has reminded us that the world is watching us with hope and expectation. The question before us today is how to

[Shri B. Mahtab]

liberate ourselves from poverty, ignorance and disease within the framework of an open society and an open economy. In the decade and a half that India has embraced economic reforms, a curious problem has haunted the country. The problem is as India is growing richer, Indians are growing hungrier. To many, that fact appears to be counter intuitive. How can it be that as income has risen, much needed calories have vanished from the plates of those who need them the most? Economists have not found an answer to it. Why is it that in the last seven years—a period of heady growth - the number of children under five years of age who are malnourished has dropped just by one per cent from 47 per cent to 46 per cent?

18.00 hrs.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Mahtab, you may please take your seat for a minute.

It is now 6 o'clock. What is the opinion of the House? Shall we continue the discussion?

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Madam, first you may take up the Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Madam, the Business Advisory Committee has fixed the time for reply to the debate at 12 noon on the 5th of March. So, practically we have just one day left for conclusion of the debate. Now, today if we get at least one more hour then we can accommodate five to six more speakers. So, I would request for extension of one hour.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: So, the time of the House is extended by one hour that is up to 7 o'clock. Thereafter we will see if it is to be further extended or not.

Shri Mahtab, you may now continue.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : This is according to the most recent National Family Health Survey. Recently in a book, "The Republic of Hunger", Prof. Utsa Patnaik of JNU has written and I quote: "between 1950 and 1991 consumption of foodgrains rose from 152 kg a year to 177 kg per person per year in India. But in 1991 *per capita* food grains consumption started to drop. By 1998 it fell by 3 kg and in 2003 it was back to almost the 1950 level." I

would like to know the reason behind this. I would like to know whether the Government is going to find out as to what are the reasons for this. Why? This country is rearing to become the third or the fourth largest economy of the world. It is not that it cannot give a poor pregnant woman a glass of milk so that the next generation is not stunted. But the current nature of reforms is, "do not tackle the problem head on". The reform mentality today is to forget about them because some day or the other percolation might resolve the issue. That is the mindset of the present day Government.

Today, extremely poor Indians number up to 301 million which is just 19 million less than what it was in 1983. At this rate, would it not take 300 years to lift all the people out even the most extreme level of poverty? Another recent report of Shri Arjun Sengupta on labour conditions says that another 50 per cent of India's people, over 500 million in all, live on less than Rs. 20 a day which though puts them above the official poverty line but leaves them in abject poverty. The recent publication of the Human Development Report by the UN has ranked India at 126th amongst 193 nations. This has occurred despite achievement of around nine per cent growth rate in GDP. It is pertaining to note that while population below poverty line has significantly decreased from 1470 million to 970 million across the world, India's share of poorest people in the world which was 25 per cent in 1980 has now increased to 39 per cent. The greatest impact of abject poverty and inequality is in India's rural areas which carry over 60 per cent of India's population. There is no way our agriculture can support this 60 per cent of our country's population. What is the Government doing for skilled development in rural areas? Here we are told about inclusive growth in the address of the President's Address. The amount of investment that is being done is not equitable. The amount of investment that is done in Orissa; the amount of investment that is done in Karnataka or in Kerala is not the same.

Similarly, we have discussed here about NREGS, a couple of weeks back, two Reports which have been brought out on programmes targeting the poor. The Comptroller and Auditor General's Report on National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREG) which states that only 3 per cent of the beneficiaries had access to the promised full 100 days of employment. It is only three per cent! The second Report indicates that though credit to agricultural sector has grown in the last three years, the number of farmers who availed of credit has declined. These are Government Reports. There is also

evidence that the small and marginal farmers had no access to credit and that lending by cooperative societies has also decreased. NREGS has failed to check migration. Be it naxalite infested Dantewada of Chattisgarh or comparatively peaceful Paschim Medinipur, only 3.5 per cent of families could get 100 days of employment and this is despite the availability of work. The demand driven nature of the programme instead of the usual targeted approach makes local officials to create limitless corruption for a limited scope of work. Now, all the districts are going to be covered but there is a need to check and to make it conducive for social audit.

Food grains productivity is also of concern and this refers to its availability of food grains in this country. A study has stated, in December, 2007, that the total demand of food grains would increase by 2 per cent in a year in the medium term, despite a slowdown in population growth. Meeting the projected demand for food grains would require 1.86 per cent annual growth of food grains production during the Eleventh Plan. What is our track record? During the last ten years, since 1997-98 to 2006-07, India's food grain production increased annually by a meagre 0.48 per cent. What would happen? Food prices would skyrocket. Does the Government have any plan to meet the problem? The Budget has already been placed and I am sorry to say that we are in for a major disaster in the near future. The World Development Report, 2008 has warned that unless cereal production increases by 50 per cent by 2030, world wide demand cannot be met. And what is our projection? It is 2 million tonnes by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

In the power sector, it has been repeatedly declared that 80,000 Megawatt of electricity generation be added in the Eleventh Plan. There is a Central Electricity Authority which had estimated the demand will increase from 94,000 Megawatt in 2007 to 1.53 lakh Megawatt in 2012. The projected increase is 60,000 Megawatt. Government has bloated it to 80,000 megawatt. But what is the trend in the power consumption during the last ten years? The Finance Ministry has said:

"The generation of electricity in the country increased at an average annual rate of 5.8 per cent in 1997-2001 and at a rate of 4.7 per cent in 2001-06."

It is 4.7 per cent between 2001-06. What would be the increase in generation in 2007-2011, if not 4 per cent? The generation in 2006 was 94,000 Megawatt. This will increase only by about 20,000 Megawatt. On what basis

is the CEA forecasting an increase of 60,000 Megawatt? Where is the demand? Are we following Latin American countries, Argentina and Columbia who fell into the trap of World Bank and Inter American Development Bank? This is my direct question to the Government.

As we deliberate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, I would like to refer to Radhakrishna Committee Report. It had made a number of recommendations for increasing the food grains productivity and also to deal with the credit structure in our society. I would refer to only two issues. I would be happy if the Government responds to them. One is about the agricultural indebtedness, which deserves very serious attention, but has been bypassed. The measures recommended by the Committee includes, inclusion of financially excluded sections of the farming community. Loan waiver scheme, which has been touted in this House with such full throttled lung power, does not offer anything for these farmers, who have been left out of the institutional credit facility. What specific steps are being taken in this regard? Second issue is about the recommendation in regard to creating Price Risk Mitigation Fund. It was to compensate farmers in situations of price collapse. I would like to know whether the Government is taking any step that would insulate the farmers from the clutches of moneylenders as well as from the risks of price volatility. There is no mention of it.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not make a mention about the sad incidents that have occurred in Maharashtra. The constitutionally defined image of our country is that of tolerant and liberal India; an India that understands and practises the maxim "Live and let live." That is being attacked by fringe groups around the country. The Governments, the State as well as the Centre, have capitulated to please one vote bank or the other, which is threatening our collective idea of India. No other nation, which is existing or which had existed, offers, under one flag, as much diversity in terms of language, ethnicity and religion, that too under a democratic, republican constitution, as India does. It is an exceptional experiment that has comfortably lasted other ambitious attempts to create one nation out of many, such as former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. They have failed. We are still holding our flag high. The founding fathers have created such a Republic because they knew that no monarch can hold such a nation together. The violent street protests against North Indians in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra have created panic and there is exodus of toiling people from Maharashtra. Hindi-

[Shri B. Mahtab]

speaking people are being murdered in Assam. A Minister in West Bengal is threatening a community in that State. Incidents of this nature actually chip away at the very foundation of democratic and republic India.

One is thankful to Shri L.K. Advani who came out in clear terms and said: "No political party should say or do anything that weakens country's unity or undermines the Constitution." I am really astonished to find that there is no statement from the hon. Prime Minister or from the Chairperson, UPA condemning these incidents. It is very clear if the embers of exclusionary, xenophobic and sub-nationalist demands are not stamped out as soon as they are spotted, the resulting fire can engulf the whole nation. Let us be very clear about it. There should be zero tolerance to such type of parochialism as it has no place in Indian Republic.

At the end, I would only mention one incident which relates to our foreign policy affair. As we deliberate on the Address of the hon. President—the Leader of the House the hon. External Affairs Minister also has made a Statement today—a new nation has been formed. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the peculiar situation that has evolved in this world. A new nation has come into existence despite protests from Russia, China and many European Union Members. Kosovo sets a dangerous precedent in international law. A unilateral declaration of independence has been recognised without an appropriate form of institutional mediation. Kosovo's two million population of Albanian descent is predominantly Muslim. This has led to uneasiness in many European countries like Spain besides Russia and China who face separatist movement. Russia has 20 autonomous ethnic republics like Chechnya and each of these is like Kosovo. It is bound to encourage separatist tendencies. What is our stand? Are we not affected by this type of fissiparous activities? What is the Government's reaction to this? Should we say silence is golden? The message is loud and clear that the United States and its Western allies are no longer interested in upholding the time-honoured principle of inviolability of a country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Should we believe that they prefer for ethnic self-determination? Should we not say in clear terms that the "Kosovo Precedent" will lead to destabilising consequences? Why are we silent? I do not understand it. Whom are we afraid of? Let us not forget that ours is the last Republic which is multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and has survived all turmoils in the past.

The silence after Kosovo is not only surprising but demonstrates glaringly the weakness of our policy-makers. It is not at all in India's interest. You may accept the birth of a new nation but the manner in which it has been engineered is really worrisome and shocking. I would conclude by saying one thing.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Thank you Shri Mahtab. Please conclude now because the time allotted to you is over.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Thank you, Madam. I will just mention one thing. Some months back, a lecture was delivered to all the hon. Members where we heard about Gosavi Pawar. I am dealing with the suicides of farmers. Today, a news item has been published in the *Hindustan Times*. If you allow me, I will just read a small paragraph of it.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Everybody knows about it. Everybody read the newspaper. So, think, you kindly conclude it.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: It is a wife's predicament. When the Rs. 60,000 crore loan waiver is being trumpeted, I would just mention how a large section of the farmers have been left out. Four crore farmers are going to be benefited. We have heard the Finance Minister say that Rs. 60,000 crore is going to be given. Today, the news item has come out that it will not be Rs. 60,000 crore but it will be Rs. 65,000 crore. But what is the actual indebtedness of farmers in this country? It is Rs. 3.5 lakh crore. Out of that, Rs. 60,000 crore or Rs. 65,000 crore will be there.

I quote the news item.

"Kamalabai Gosavi Pawar, 46, whose husband, Gosavi, committed suicide on May 8 last year, just 22 days before Prime Minister Manmohan Singh was scheduled to visit their village of Kelzhari in Yavatmal, faces a grim future.

Gosavi needed Rs. 65,000 to work in his seven acres. But he owed the bank Rs. 50,000.

He got Rs. 50,000 from a moneylender, repaid it back to the bank. He was supposed to pay Rs. 2500 per month. Today, what is the widow's condition? A new debt of Rs. 65,000 is there. The loan of Rs. 50,000 is there. The widow is not entitled to this waiver of credit and loan because she owns seven acres of land. What is



her fate? Practically, this waivment, this full-throated talk of release of Rs. 60,000 crore is just bypassing the actual farmers who are in turmoil.

I would only urge upon this Government to take this situation into consideration. I am sorry to mention here that in the President's Address, though the overall picture of the nation is given, the actual reality of poverty, of food production, of nutrition, of farmers' suicide is not being tackled to by this Government.

With these words, I thank you.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Thank you, Madam Chairperson. The hon. Rashtrapati addressed Members of both the Houses in the Central Hall. It was nothing new. It is as usual. Every year, before the Budget Session, hon. Rashtrapati delivers the Address before the Members of both the Houses. It is an usual practice as per the Indian Constitution.

This year, same thing happened. It is also an usual practice and custom that all the leading Governments, who are ruling the country, through the mouth of hon. Rashtrapati declare some projects and schemes before the nation. The Government is doing and what are the aims and objects of the Government for the people of our country.

Same thing happened this year. The Congress led UPA Government have declared so many projects in the name of different persons—I am not going to mention all that here—through Rashtrapati before the nation.

Same is in the case of Budget. So many farmers have committed suicides in different States. But this year, the hon. Finance Minister, in his Budget Speech, made an announcement for the waiver of the loans of the farmers. How will it be implemented and whether it will be implemented at all. I have 100 per cent doubt.

Same is in the case of the Railway Budget. We have reservations about the Railway Budget, but we are not going into that point. People are guessing, there are serious rumours and we can assume that Congress Party will go for earlier polls. That may be or may not be, we are not bothered about that.

But I am sorry to say that in the speech of hon. Rashtrapati serious and vital matters are totally omitted. One is price rise. Price rise has affected the common

people of the country, poor people of the country, and the toiling masses of our country.

If you go to the market, you can see what is the price of wheat, rice, pulses, mustard oil, salt, sugar, kerosene oil, potato, onion and different types of vegetables. Not a single word is uttered in the speech of the hon. Rashtrapati's as to how the Government would cut down the prices and reduce the price rise. In Rashtrapati's *bhashan*, Food Plaza, Food Security Mission and all these things have been declared. Food Plaza is there in very big cities and towns. Who is going to Food Plaza? Are the common people and the toiling masses of the country going to Food Plaza? They are not going to Food Plaza. The rich people, the upper-middle class people will go to Food Plaza.

They have declared the Food Security Mission but there is a way for the Government, in the hands of the Government, to combat price rise situation through PDS. The Government should take initiative to distribute rice, wheat, salt, sugar, kerosene oil etc. to the common people whether they are BPL or APL. But, on the contrary, the Government is demolishing, is destroying the PDS of the country. The photograph of our Agriculture Minister with Madam Sonia Gandhi and Dr. Manmohan Singh // is there everyday on a big page in English and Vernacular language newspapers.

Why is he destroying the PDS? Madam, you know, Kerala, West Bengal and some other States are successfully running the PDS system. Through PDS, common people are getting the essential commodities from the ration shop. But the Government is destroying it. The Government has cut the quota of Kerala and West Bengal. They have reduced the quota of Kerala and West Bengal in the PDS. It is very much shameful. That attitude of the Government should be condemned.

We are very much happy to have a *mahila* Rashtrapati, but whatever is the reason, she has not uttered a single word about the Women Reservation Bill. The BJP-led NDA Government in the last general election of Parliament in 2004 embedded in their Manifesto that if they come to power, they will bring the Women Reservation Bill and they will try to pass it. That is incorporated in their Manifesto. The Congress also declared the same thing in their Manifesto that they will bring the Women Reservation Bill and pass that Bill in the House. In every Session, the hon. Prime Minister declares that they will pass the Women Reservation Bill

[Shri Ajoy Chakraborty]

in the next Session. When will it be passed? The Government is totally violating the UPA's mandatory Common Minimum Programme.

Now I come to another issue, that is the unemployment problem. Shri Ajit Jogiji told about hundred days' work, that there is so much corruption going on in this work. I am not going to that point because I have got limited time to speak. But, Madam, as far as hundred days' work is concerned, will any graduate or any post-graduate or any educated youth go for hundred days' work? Will they engage themselves in cutting mud or excavation of pond or cutting or excavation of canal? They would not go for that work.

They are searching for employment in the Central Government and in the State Government. They are searching for employment in schools and colleges as a teacher but all the doors for employment have been closed in the Central Government and in the various State Government of India. What is happening in the Public Sector Banks? What is happening in LIC and GIC? I would like to give my personal experience. In front of my house, there is a branch of SBI. Before this branch had been shifted to the new building, 65 persons were working. After shifting this branch to the new building, only 15 persons are working. So, the number of employees has been reduced after it has been shifted to the new building. In the public sector banks, after the retirement of their employees, the vacancies have not been filled up. After the retirement of their employees in LIC, the vacancies have not been filled up. Similar is the case in the Railways. Every time, Lalu ji is saying: "I will recruit these people and that people." But it is a misleading statement. There is no recruitment in the Railways. Maybe some gang men or some coolies have been recruited. This is the position in respect of unemployment in the country.

Now, I come to internal security. I am not going into the details of internal security, and what happened in Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bangalore. Everybody is discussing about Naxalism and Maoism. Some States are affected by the activities of naxals and Maoists. Three districts in my State have been badly affected by naxalism. Some naxal leader has been arrested near Kolkata. My distinguished friend, Md. Salim has already mentioned his name and other names. I have heard in the television as to what they said to the Police. One of the naxal leaders has said: "I joined in the Nandigram episode."

He said this in the media. I had also said on different occasions in this House and especially during the discussion on internal security that AK-47, arms and ammunition would not solve the problem of naxalism or Maoism. This comes from the poverty of the people. After 60 years of our Independence, we felt shame as to what happened to the fate of the tribal people. Land reforms should have been done effectively. Otherwise, this problem cannot be solved. We should give land to the tillers and to the downtrodden. They are suffering a lot and are suffering irreparable loss and injury also. Madam, in the States excepting West Bengal, Kerala, Tripura and in two other States, land reform has not been implemented. A Bill has been passed in the Assembly but that has not been implemented in the root of the land. So, land hunger is one of the causes for Maoism and Naxalism. Shri Ajit Jogi has correctly mentioned as to who are these naxals.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. Your time is over.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: The tribal people, the *Adivasis* and a large number of people are joining with the activities of Maoists and Naxalists. Some designing persons, through manipulation, are misleading these tribal people to join with Naxalists and Maoists. It is the duty of the UPA Government and the NDA to see that the States ruled by the Congress or the UPA, and the States ruled by the BJP or NDA partners, are properly and effectively implementing the land reforms and having development work in the remote corner of the village and particularly in the areas where poor and tribal people are living.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Madam, within two minutes, I am concluding my speech.

Another thing, which was not mentioned, is on parochialism and provincialism. But what is happening today in the country? We are proud that we are Indians. Irrespective of the caste, creed or religion, we are carrying the tricolour; we are fighting for the sovereignty and unity of our country, for the unity of our motherland in the battlefield. Our jawans for the unity and sovereignty of our country. But I am sorry to state that some States are severely affected by the parochialism and provincialism. What happened in Maharashtra a few days back, everybody knows. The Government should feel the agony.

Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi and other big industrial cities are there in our country; and everybody has the right to go and settle down there or for that matter anywhere in the country for their livelihood.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chakraborty, it is already discussed. Please sum up.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Madam, do not be impatient. I am concluding within two minutes.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Your time is already over.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: No speakers are there in the House now.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Many speakers are present to speak.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Why are you so impatient? You had taken so much of time when you were speaking. Now, you are impatient when I am speaking! I would conclude in two minutes. I would keep my words.

Madam, I am very much glad and proud to say that, a good number of citizens from all over the country including Bihar, UP, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand, Orissa and even Andhra Pradesh are coming to my State of West Bengal including Kolkata, other big cities and industrial belts, for their employment, for their livelihood, to earn their bread and butter. Even in my own district, lakhs of people are coming from various parts for their livelihood. They are all our brothers and sisters. But I am very much pained to say as to what is happening in Mumbai, which is the heart of India, the Commercial Capital of India? The Government should take cognizance and take drastic action against the miscreants, whosoever they may be. We saw in the newspapers and TV as to whether there would be arrest or not. That game is going on. But I must say that we must try for the unity and sovereignty of our country at all cost.

Then on the question of minority, I am not going to raise it because you are ringing the bell again and again. My esteemed colleague, Mohd. Salim has correctly said on this point that it is the attitude of the Government.

So many projects and programmes have been declared by the Government through the mouth of hon. Rashtrapatiji. But I am not very much satisfied; rather I

am very much disappointed by the speech addressed by the hon. Rashtrapatiji.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Kharabela Swain.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Madam, with your permission, may I speak from this seat?

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Sure.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Thank you.

Madam, though the hon. Leader of the Opposition has already spoken on behalf of the BJP and the Opposition as a whole, I would repeat it that generally the speech of the President is not opposed. So, I am not opposing it. But as a Member of the Opposition, I would simply try to bring in certain lacunae and other things, which we expect should have been included in the Address of Her Excellency, the President.

While moving the Motion of Thanks, the hon. Member, Shri Ajit Jogi, who had also been the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, raised certain very pertinent points about the internal security, specifically naxalism. He said, what is the basic reason for the rise in naxalism in India.

The first point was that it is because of the rural deprivation. There is no school, there is no hospital, there are no roads etc. That is the main reason for which the tribals are taking to naxalism and taking to guns.

Madam, I will say that this is a very very confused mind of Shri Ajit Jogi and I will say that this is the confused mind of the Congress Party and this UPA Government also. Why did the naxals attack Nayagarh district in Orissa? Some 800 to 1,000 people, in vehicles, came and attacked. Whom did they kill? They did not kill any rich person; they did not kill the Collector; they did not kill the SP; rather, they could have killed them. They *gheraoed* them only; they did not allow them to come out of their homes. But, whom did they kill? They killed the constables, the persons who opposed them because they were taking away some of the tyres from a poor man's shop.

So, this perception to say that because of the deprivation in the rural areas the naxalism is raising its head is very wrong. The naxalism is succeeding to an

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extent in India because the States are confused. I also say that about my own State. It had a problem because of which also my Chief Minister probably thought that if he does not take any action against them, nothing will happen. But, probably, he has understood now that unless you go proactive, the naxalites will never, never stop. It is only to capture power through the gun. This is the only thing. That should be properly understood.

The naxals are taking 30 per cent cut from every developmental work in that area from all the contractors. They do not allow the roads to be built there. They do not allow that any Government official should go and stay there. On the one hand, you say that because there is no Government official, no road, no hospital etc. that is why the naxals are taking advantage and on the other hand you do not allow the roads to be built, you do not allow any Government official to stay there. This nation will have to settle its mind. The nation will have to understand as to who are these naxals. The naxals are not the emancipators of proletariats. They are the power-mongers, they are the power-grabbers. Unless we understand this very principle and unless the States join hands along with the Central Government, we are not going to succeed.

I will request that such a leading member of the Congress Party should not be confused and he should not say that this *Salva Judum* programme is wrong. It is because the naxals have attacked the very poor *Adivasis*, just to save their lives, it is there. They have run away from their villages and the Government is compelled to keep them in the camps. How can you say that this *Salva Judum* is wrong? The entire world sees as to who is against whom. These naxals are against these proletariats.

The Congress Party had got also the same problem everywhere. In Andhra Pradesh, when the present Congress Government came to power, they said—we will have talks with them, we will have negotiations with them. They held the talks. While they held the talks, the naxals said—'We will also carry the gun right to the meeting place. This gun is an inalienable part of our existence and our body, and wherever we go we carry the gun.' So, the Chief Minister himself did not come to attend the meeting. The Home Minister came. But he was very scared that these people are carrying the gun right to the meeting place.

I would say that everybody knew it pretty well that during the time of the last election, the Congress Party had a secret understanding with the naxals and they told that if they come to power, they will see that they are set free.' The same thing happened in Assam. In Assam, the Congress Party had a secret understanding with ULFA and after coming to power, they also held a ceasefire, when the naxals re-organised themselves, they raised money, they recruited more people and they procured more and more arms and ammunition and again waged an attack against this country.

I understand that probably the Congress Party would have understood that pandering to this type of criminals is against the nation.

Now I will come to another point. Take the example of President's Address. There is another very serious problem in this country. I will quote it from the *Telegraph* being published from Kolkata. Under no stretch of imagination, you can say that it is a communal paper and it is backing the BJP. It has been published on 12.2.08. It says a very serious thing, that in so many border districts of Assam, Bihar, West Bengal, now the Hindus are leaving the villages because of the fear that these villages have become Muslim-majority villages. How did they become Muslim-majority villages? If it was a Muslim-majority area at the time of Independence, why did it not go to East Pakistan? How did it remain in India? Now, the Muslims have become majority there.

Now our intelligence agencies are saying that the number of *madarasas* have sprung up in Indo-Nepal border areas, Indo-Bangladesh border areas and Assam-Bangladesh border areas. I am not saying that *per se* *madarasas* are against the nation, but the *madarasas* are being used by Islamic terrorists for hiding their arms and ammunitions and waging war against the State. In Dhubri area of Assam, between 1991 and 2001, the increase in Muslim population is 29.5 per cent and the non-Muslim population increase is 7.1 per cent only. In Goalpara, there is an increase of 31.7 per cent in Muslim population and 14.4 per cent in non-Muslim population. In Hailakandi district, the increase is 27.2 per cent in Muslim population and 13 per cent in non-Muslim population. In Kishanganj area of Bihar, the increase in Muslim population is 35.5 per cent while the figure is 25 per cent in respect of non-Muslim population. In Purnea, the figure is 34.1 per cent for Muslims and 30.8 per cent for non-Muslims.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Be on the President's Address only.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Madam, I am coming to the President's Address. Now you direct me what to say and then I will say only that much. ...(*Interruptions*) If you do not like what I say, you can guide me, then I would say that much and sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I am saying that you limit your points. It is good to give them in a crisp manner.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: If you want that the Opposition should speak in a particular manner, a certain manner, you tell me. I will sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: The Opposition's time is over.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: My Party's time is not over. I am the second speaker. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please give your points in a crisp manner on President's Address.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Madam, you allow me to speak. Please do not interrupt me. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I am not interrupting. I am saying that you speak on the President's Address only.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Madam, a Member from a 10-Member Party, in spite of your objection, spoke for about half an hour and you are stopping me just after ten minutes.

Even in Kolkata, the increase in Muslim population is 19 per cent and non-Muslim is 0.7 per cent. What is this Government doing about this? When the border areas of West Bengal, Assam and Nepal are now turning virtually into another Pakistan, what is this Government going to do about it? It is not my report. I have quoted from *Telegraph* which is not our paper, which does not support our party and our ideology also.

I am happy that Md. Salim is there. He says that when BJP was in power, it went for exclusive politics.

...(*Interruptions*) Please listen to me. I will just read certain things from the Kolkata edition of *The Times of India* dated 26.2.08. He can say that this is not our paper. What is written in this paper? It reads:

"The Minority Affairs Ministry has graded States on the implementation of nine schemes of a 15-point programme, after a review by the Prime Minister. These schemes include those on education, wage employment and skill development and are Centrally funded."

It says, "The Left bastion of West Bengal figures at the bottom of the list while BJP-ruled Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttarakhand and Orissa have been graded 'good', and Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Bihar have been termed 'fair'." Is it wrong Mr. Salim?

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): Why are you quoting from the newspapers? Go by the Planning Commission report. The review report is available in Parliament.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, please conclude. The time is available up to 7 o'clock only. There are other speakers also.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: If I do not complete today, I will continue tomorrow.

Madam, I do not expect at least you to stop me. I understand the Members on that side saying that.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Other speakers are also there.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Other speakers are there but I am the second speaker from my Party.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You do not obey the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: The report further says, "Congress States with strong minority presence such as Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa and Jammu and Kashmir have been graded 'poor'."

MD. SALIM: What is the authenticity of that report? That is not a Government document.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: This is the report given by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. This exposes the difference between the talk and the deed. What they talk and what BJP and NDA practice becomes clear from

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this. We took the money and we implemented the schemes for the benefit of the minorities and Muslims. But the UPA Governments have not been able to do so. That is a failure on the part of the Government.

I would like to quote another report which appeared in *The Economic Times* of 11th February, 2008. It quotes the National Sample Survey Organisation and says, "The NSSO's latest survey says that West Bengal has the maximum number of rural households where members do not get enough food in certain months of the year. The finding of the Survey shows that 10.6 per cent of the rural households in West Bengal did not get enough food during December, January, February, March and April." This is the achievement of the 30-year rule of the Left Government in that State. They are now giving sermons to the UPA Government at the Centre on how to implement the Common Minimum Programme while this is how their common minimum programme is implemented in their State.

Mr. Ajoy Chakraborty was saying that it is in West Bengal and Kerala that PDS is being utilized in the most proper way. If there is only one State in the entire country in which there was a lot of agitation and unrest against PDS, it is West Bengal. Who were the dealers there? The dealers were CPI(M) leaders. They are MLAs; they are Zila Parishad Members. ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: What is this, Madam? On what basis is he saying that? What is the source of his information? He cannot make a wild claim like that. This is not West Bengal Assembly or Orissa Assembly. This is Parliament of India. Which document of Government of India substantiates his claim? I challenge him because he is speaking untruths. If he has the courage, let him quote from an authentic report. Is there any Government report based on which he can substantiate this? He is making wild allegations.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Madam, I will give the evidence, let him sit down.

MD. SALIM: No, I am not a court of law. If you say something, you have to substantiate it.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I will substantiate it.

Is it not true that the Government of West Bengal passed a new law saying that the people's representatives in West Bengal cannot become control dealers? Following

this agitation, they had passed that resolution. Madam, let him say that it is wrong. I will show you the evidence. I have the evidence with me.

Why did they pass such a resolution? They passed this resolution because those leaders were the control dealers themselves.

They were looting. ...*(Interruptions)* I will not tell any such thing in Parliament if I do not know anything. This is how the CPI(M) Government behaves. ... *(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: I appreciate the fertility of your mind.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Swain, sum up your speech. Please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: I always stand by the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Address the Chair now, Shri Swain.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Now, take the example of the flagship NREGP Programme of the Government. All the reports say that it is the Congress-ruled States who have failed to implement it. It is the States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, even Bihar, Orissa which are all NDA-ruled States who have implemented the most and they are all very successful. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You complete your points within two minutes.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I will give another point. Take the example of Bharat Nirman. In the President's Address, it has been mentioned and since 2004 this Government is saying that we would provide electricity to all the villages and to all the houses by 2009. This time the hon. Finance Minister himself in his Budget speech said that out of Rs. 20,000 crore that are supposed to be given, the Government had given only Rs. 5,500 crore in this Budget. How many years will it take to provide electricity to all the villages and to all the areas? The Government can tell me. I am asking the Members from the Left parties. Let them say. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Do not ask them. Address the Chair.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: It has been stated by the Government that it will give electricity by 2009. But

it would take another 15 years if we go by what the Government had spent till now on this programme. If this Government remain in power till then, they would be rather lucky because the hon. Finance Minister has said that it helps to be lucky Finance Minister. He is rather lucky because we took the financial reforms; we did the financial groundwork and they are reaping dividend to them. The Government is lucky because there was a NDA Government before it. We did certain good things. Can the Government show us a single strong reformative step it took? The Government is so scared by the Left parties. The Left parties are totally against any development in this world. They are the most retrograde party in this world. The Government was scared of them. Just to remain in power, they do not listen to them and do not go for any reformative Budget. The sooner this Government is thrown out, it is better. Let the nation bring the NDA, which is a very strong alliance, to bring back prosperity to the country. I appeal to all the people of this country to think about it and go for the NDA Government next time.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Adhir Chowdhury, you can start your speech tomorrow. Now, we would take up "Special Mentions". As we can see, we have still one minute left. Hence, you can start your speech now. Shri Adhir Chowdhury.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Hon. Chairman, I am fortunate enough to get the opportunity to deliberate on the President's Address, which was piloted by a woman of our country. There is a maxim that "man has sight but woman has insight". By the dent of that insight, our President had delivered the speech to the nation.

Madam, the keynote of the speech is that this Government is going to build up a society which would be socially inclusive, environmentally sustainable and regionally balanced and the society as such was designed by the architecture of inclusive growth. As you know, the President's Address is the harbinger of the future plan of a Government.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Adhir Chowdhury, you may continue tomorrow.

Now, let us take up Special Mentions.

19.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAM (Mukundapuram):  
When the construction work of the four lane NH 47

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam

between Ankamali to Mannuthy is completed, all traffic movement at Chalakkudy Municipal junction will come to a stand still. All important Government officers, Educational institutions and the Railway station are situated on the western side of the highway.

Other important offices, trade and commercial centers, hospitals and places of worships are on the eastern side of the highway. The highway, thus divides Chalakkudy town into two halves. Hundreds of buses on the Chalakkudy-Mala route passes through Chalakkudy Municipal junction. Therefore, a flyover or underpass needs to be constructed at the Municipal junction. In the event an underpass is constructed by the Centre Government, the State Government has promised to provide, an approach road. A flyover or underpass is essential for the development of the entire Mukundapuram constituency.

In NH 47 between Ankamali to Mannuthy the acquisition procedures should be completed and the four lane construction should be speeded up. Those land owners, whose lands have been acquired, should be compensated as per the market rates of the land.

On the subject, a memorandum signed by three MPs, five MLAs and the Municipal Chairman was submitted to you, during the National Highway Development meeting held in Delhi on May 3rd 2007 in which Cabinet Ministers and MPs took part. This issue has been presented earlier also on the floor of the house. We request a favourable action from the Minister.

19.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to raise an important matter of urgent public importance.

I would like to ask the Government why the Government allowed controversial matters to be included in the textbooks. Why do the universities and institutions hurt the feelings of large sections of the society in the name of academic freedom? Who has given them the license to make fun of Hindu Gods and Goddesses?

At times, martyrs are also portrayed as extremists; social and cultural groups are termed as terrorists; and

now, in Delhi University, the History Faculty has a reference material in B.A. programme of History which has objectionable materials. How derogatory words are being printed in History books? Can any such words be used against any foreign or sematic religion? How offensive portrayal of mythical characters of Ramayana is being taught in Delhi University? This has given rise to violence in the campus; unsavoury incidents have taken place; and students have protested.

Earlier, I am told that despite their protests, the History Department declined to withdraw that book. I would like to know who has authored that book, who has compiled that book. Is it true that the compiler is related to a VVIP and that is why, the Delhi University is reluctant to withdraw that derogatory chapter, if not that book?

I would like to urge upon the Government to immediately withdraw the contentious essay that is written by Shri A.K. Ramanujam and stringent action be taken against the compiler who has played with the sentiment, belief and faith of a large section of this country.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I would like to associate with him.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You associate his name with Shri Mahtabji.

*[English]*

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): May I speak from here, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, you may.

DR. K.S. MANOJ: I rise to express my deep anguish and protest against the increasing incidences of attack on Christian churches, Convents and other Christian minority institutions in different parts of the country and strongly condemn those heinous acts on the part of the religious Fundamentalists.

Article 25 of our Constitution guarantees the Right to Freedom of Conscience and the right freely to profess practice and propagate religion. Ours is a secular democratic republic country but Christian minority in the country is frequently attacked in a concerted way.

Sir, Christians are a very micro-minority in this country which come to about only 1.3 per cent of the population. Their dedicated contributions in the field of education, health care, social services are remarkable and I am sure that everybody would appreciate it. They always reach out where nobody dares to reach like in the areas of tribals, adivasis, or for the care of HIV-AIDS or leprosy patients etc. But in spite of all these yeomen services they are subjected to torture, atrocities and brutal attack from those religious fundamentalists.

Sir, what happened on the Christmas Eve was highly condemnable and shameful to our country. It has caused a deep wound to the secular fabric of our country. In Khandhamal district in the State of Orissa on 24th evening while the Christians were preparing for their holy pooja to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, some miscreants of fundamentalist nature attacked the priests, nuns and all the people assembled there to celebrate the holy pooja and they set fire to the church. It was repeated in several parts of Orissa which made it clear that it was a concerted effort. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. MAHTAB: This is not correct at all. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Again churches were attacked in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Arunachal Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your demand?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN (Deogarh): Sir, they have tried to deprive poor adivasis of their rights. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Last week three churches in New Delhi were attacked. All these show the increasing trend of attack on Christian minority. ...*(Interruptions)* Christian community in the entire country apart from the States of Kerala and West Bengal are in a state of fear and insecure. ...*(Interruptions)* I would urge upon the Government to take prompt action against the culprits. ...*(Interruptions)*



MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your demand?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: You have tried to deprive Adivasis of their rights. ...(Interruptions)

DR. K.S. MANOJ: I would urge upon the Government to provide adequate security for the Christian institutions which are under threat from the attack of fundamentalists thereby ensure them a sense of security and guarantee the religious rights of Christian Minority enshrined in our Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now, nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (Bobbili): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to make a mention. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, the hon. Member has used derogatory words. How can he say all this? ...(Interruptions) He should withdraw these words. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Anything objectionable will be expunged.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Transition]

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: He has made an objectionable remark about Orissa. ...(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Not about Orissa, Hindu fundamental forces have been remarked upon.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You sit down, if there is something objectionable, it will be expunged. I have said it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There is nothing objectionable.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That I will see.

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA: Sir, I wish to raise a matter of urgent public importance regarding heavy crop losses suffered by farmers in Andhra Pradesh because of unseasonal heavy rains caused due to persistence of upper air through over the coast of Andhra Pradesh from 9th to 13th February, 2008.

The preliminary estimates show that an area of about 2.36 lakh hectares is affected in six coastal districts, namely, Prakasam, Krishna, Guntur, Srikakulam, Nellore and Visakhapatnam. In fact, crops were ready for harvest but unseasonal heavy rains have deprived them of their livelihood.

The Central Team has visited the flood affected areas. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for an interim relief of Rs. 90 crore for immediate relief. Pending the final report of the Central team, I would request the Union Government to release Rs. 90 crore to help the farmers at the earliest to mitigate their sufferings.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of Government towards some important subjects. Approximately 10 lakh labourers in the country work as casual labourers in the coal mines in the country. Approximately 4 lakh persons in the country are on the pay rolls of different subsidiaries of coal India Limited. It

is on account of the 10 lakh casual labourers, country produces almost 400 million tones of Coal. These are engaged in both underground and open mining. Transport sector also depends on them to thrive. All the maintenance, work of coal handling and loading on railway rakes is also done by those people but if one look at their wages and condition, one will find it to be absolutely pathetic. Through you, I would like to request the Government of India to spare a thought about their wages and their safety. They should be provided shoes, caps and dresses. Government also need to contemplate on providing medical facilities to them and the educational facilities to their children. There is a separate system of Provident Fund in Coal mining sector. In many of the subsidiaries, no PF is deducted for casual labourers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You ask as to what do you want?

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want Government to provide a special package and make arrangement from consolidated Fund for them and to consider over their health, safety wages.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the mustard crop in entire Northern India particularly in Rajasthan and in my Lok Sabha constituency, Alwar has suffered extensive damage due to excessive winter and frost during last few days. The farmers of my constituency have staged dharnas and demonstrations so that the farmers could be compensated for this damage. The Government of Rajasthan has been evading the issue earlier also and now I would like to request the Union Government that if the compensation is given for the crop damaged due to the drought and hailstorm, under CRF then compensation should also be given for the crops damaged due to frost. The Government of Rajasthan conducted survey but districts Alwar was completely excluded from it. Not a single farmer of Alwar was given compensation. I am very sad to say that as Alwar sends maximum MLA's and MP's from Congress party and it is due to this malafide intention that the farmers of the area have been given that treatment So, I would like to request that the Union Government should direct the Rajasthan Government to conduct a survey of district Alwar for providing compensation to the farmers here and frost should also be included under the guidelines for being covered for relief under Calamity Relief Fund.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring an important subject to your knowledge.

Bundelkhand has been reeling under drought for the last four years. The crop sown by the farmers is also getting damaged. During survey it has been revealed that the situation in the areas like Etawa, Oraiya, Kanpur rural, Fatehpur, Allahabad etc. situated in the Yamuna belt in Bundelkhand has become similar to that of Bundelgarh I would like to demand the Union Government that a survey team be sent to the areas situated in the Yamuna belt because the farmers are in a pathetic condition and their crops are also getting damaged. They should be given special assistance after conducting survey. Bundelkhand also be given justice and it should also be given a special package so that the farmers of the region could also get relief and they could also earn their livelihood.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a very important subject. At several places in district Sagar in Madhya Pradesh, gas starts to emanate from borewells made for installing tubewells as the less water starts to come out during the months of February-March. Gas is emanating out in large quantity from these tubewells at several places due to scanty rainfall this year. Earlier also, I had drawn the attention of the House in 2005 that in Rohatgarh one of the 'Dhaba' is being run on gas received from such borewells. Now gas is emanating from borewells in several villages in the vicinity of Godakota. While one one hand, the oozing out of gas in so large quantity is giving rise to apprehension of accident in the minds of the people in rural areas on the other hand, they are also curious to get the right perspective by getting the matter examined by ONGC so as to put to rest any misconception. The setting up of the gas based industries will also result in providing employment opportunities to the youth in the region.

\*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): In Tamil Nadu, there are 40 lacs of Family Ration Cards that include the new series cards also. About 77 thousand kilo-liters of kerosene is supposed to be released by the Centre to Tamil Nadu every-month. Whereas only 59 thousand kilo-liters of kerosene is to be released from April 2005.

The Centre has been impressed upon repeatedly of this decrease in supply of kerosene. Food and PDS Minister of the Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking it up with the Union Government both in person and through several correspondence. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to release the complete quota of

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\*English translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

kerosene. At this juncture, I would like to raise the issue of scarce short supply of LPG cylinders in Tamil Nadu particularly in Madurai. Those who have applied for new connections are waiting endlessly. Those who have two cylinders also can book for only one cylinder at a time. Those who have booked for refill are made to wait for more than ten days. Thereby many families have to face the hardship of going without cylinder for many days. When we sought explanation from the LPG companies and agencies about this LPG scarcity, the reply given at the first instance was that there were short supply of regulators. Later it was cited that scarcity was due to non-availability of cylinders and short supply of LPG itself. Though there is a claim that the situation has changed, the scarcity prevails. Hence, I urge upon the Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry to ensure the supply of full quota of kerosene meant for Tamil Nadu while streamlining the supply of LPG that make or mar the lives of middle class families.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the names of two Members to speak on the same issue—one of Shri Prahalad Joshiji and second of Shri Anant Kumarji. It is up to them to decide who will speak?

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad-North): First, let Shri Anant Kumarji, then I will speak. I will speak only for a minute.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is only one issue.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: I have given Notice at 8 o'clock in the morning, hence I should also be given an opportunity to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, on 26th of February, the State Government of Tamil Nadu has come out with a project called Hogenakal Drinking Water and Hydel Project and the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu went ahead ...(*Expunged as ordered by the Chair*) to lay its foundation stone. Actually, Hogenakal is part and parcel of Karnataka and we have been continuously communicating to the Government of Tamil Nadu that it is part of Karnataka and that they cannot proceed without the permission of the Central Water Commission. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except what Shri Ananth Kumar says.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, the basic point is that even the legal experts and the erstwhile Madras Government's topo sheets clearly proves that Hogenakal is part and parcel of Karnataka. ...(*Interruptions*) During the hearings before the Cauvery Water Tribunal, the Government of Tamil Nadu did not bring anything about this Project to the notice of the Cauvery Water Tribunal. They have misled the Tribunal and now after the Tribunal has given its final verdict, the whole matter is before the Supreme Court. The matter is *sub judice*. Since the whole matter regarding the Hogenakal Project is before the honourable Supreme Court, nothing should be done in that area. Therefore, we, from the State of Karnataka, register our strong protest against the Hogenakal Project.

We also urge that the Union Government through the Central Water Commission and the Ministry of Water Resources should immediately intervene and stop this illegal water project being constructed by the Tamil Nadu Government. ... (*Interruptions*) Sir, they have got no right on the water. They have got no right on the land as the land belongs to Karnataka and the water belongs to Karnataka. They have misled the Tribunal totally. When the matter is before the Supreme Court, they are not supposed to do anything in that area. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pralhad Joshi, Shri G. Karunakara Reddy, Shri Manjunath Kunnur, Shri Gaddigoudar and Shri G.M. Siddeswara may be associated with the matter raised by Shri Ananth Kumar.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow, the 4th of March, 2008.

19.22 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, March 4, 2008/  
Phalgun 14, 1929 (Saka).*

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Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha  
(Twelfth Edition) and Printed by M/s Dhanraj Associates Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

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