

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifteenth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 24, 2009/Phalgun 5, 1930 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central):
Long live Shri A.R. Rahman.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me complete first.

11.01 hrs.

FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER

**Congratulating Film Personalities-Sarvashri
A.R. Rahman, Gulzar and Resul Pookuty
on winning Oscar Awards**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is a matter of immense pride for us that the film "Slumdog Millionaire" has won eight Oscars including the award for the Best Picture. Three Indians, Sarvashri A.R. Rahman, Gulzar and Resul Pookuty have bagged Oscar awards.

The award for the Best Original Song has been shared by Shri A.R. Rahman and Shri Gulzar; the award for the Best Original Score has been given to Shri A.R. Rahman; and the award for the category of Best sound Mixing has been shared by Shri Resul Pookuty.

This historic achievement by these artists has warmed the hearts of every Indian. The nation is proud of their achievement. It is a clear acknowledgement by the international community of the high degree of excellence achieved by the Indian artists. Equally exhilarating is the bagging of an Oscar by the documentary film "Smile Pinky" based on Indian background under the Best Short Subject Documentary category.

I am confident, these achievements by our creative legends will inspire the talented youth of the country to

realise its infinite potential and prove its mettle globally. I am sure, the House will join me in congratulating the awardees as well as the entire teams of the two films and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Jai ho.

11.02 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 101, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy

Problems of Small Tea Growers

*101. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has explored the potential of small tea growers in the industrial growth of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the production of tea by such growers during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and variety-wise;

(c) whether the small tea growers face several problems in production and marketing their produce, including poor agricultural practices and lack of processing facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the plans/schemes launched to promote the small tea growers and remove the constraints faced by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes Sir. The contribution from small tea growers has been growing day by day and as of now their share in the total production of tea in the country is around 25%.

(b) Production of Tea in India from small growers during the last three years is as under

(Figures in Million Kgs)

Year.	Small Growers	Big Growers	Total
2005	231.29	714.68	945.97
2006	249.71	732.09	981.80
2007	237.00	707.68	944.68
2008 (E)	245.20	735.62	980.82

(E) Estimated and subject to revision

The small growers are mostly concentrated in Tamil Nadu, Assam and West Bengal and to some extent in Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and other states. The major share of production comes from Tamil Nadu and Assam and West Bengal. The tea produced by the small growers is given in the table below:

Profile of Small tea Growers (area less than 10.12 ha) in India 2006	Number	Area under Tea Hectares	Production '000 kgs
1	2	3	4
Assam	50795	80445	9511
West Bengal	8708	11094	60532
Tripura	1509	1956	535
Arunachal Pradesh	36	108	162
Manipur	427	1200	47
Sikkim	3	17	
Nagaland	1451	1800	141
Meghalaya	38	112	
Mizoram	269	388	
Uttaranchal	70	746	156
Himachal Pradesh	3695	1660	397
Bihar	980	1973	1067
Orissa			

1	2	3	4
Total North India	67981	101499	162568
Tamil Nadu	68147	47774	84990
Kerala	5402	4762	1942
Karnataka	14	64	214
Total South India	73563	52600	87146
All India	141544	154099	249714

(c) Major constraints faced by the small growers are as under:

- (i) The small growers are highly unorganized because their holdings are small, fragmented and scattered in remote areas.
- (ii) Many of them do not hold the land ownership title deeds and hence are not in a position to avail financial assistance from Tea Board and Banks.
- (iii) The small growers by and large are not well conversant with the Good Agricultural practices because of the remote location of their holdings and are unable to get technical know how.
- (iv) Owing to small volume of green leaf most of the growers are dependent upon of middlemen (Leaf agents) for selling the green leaf.
- (v) As the growers do not have their own processing facility, the harvested green leaf needs to be transported to private Bought Leaf Factories located at far off places. Because of poor transport arrangements, the leaf gets damaged in the transit which affects the quality of made tea.

(d) In order to mitigate the above noted constraints of small growers, the following measures adopted by Government are aimed at improving their yarn productivity and quality of their produce, and providing them with a market access to ensure a reasonable return from their investments.

Focused attention is being paid to organise the growers into Self help Groups (SHGs). Financial assistance is being extended to SHGs for facilitating

establishment of proper leaf collection systems, transport arrangements and establishing proper partnership arrangements with the quality tea processing factories. Each self help group is required to have a minimum membership of 50 small growers and the extent of tea area not less than 50 acres (20 Hectares). The self help groups are provided with 100% grant for setting up of leaf collection centers, storage godowns, purchasing Leaf weighing scales, Plastic crates/nylon leaf carry bags. Transport vehicles are provided at 50% of the cost. Each SHG is provided with a revolving fund @ Rs. 10,000/ ha for meeting the cost of field inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, sprayers etc. A special training on modern aspects of tea growing is organized for selected two members from each self help groups who in turn, on completion of the training, are expected to impart training to other members of the SHG and also take care of the management of the tea area under the command of the SHG. Besides meeting the training fee and boarding and lodging cost, each trainee is provided with stipend @ Rs. 500 per month for next six months from the date of completion of the training.

Government has recently sanctioned 8 additional posts for development of North East small growers.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, tea is a very important and prestigious commodity so far as our foreign trade is concerned. The contribution by our small tea growers is about 250 million kilograms, which accounts for nearly 25 per cent of the country's total tea production.

To harness the problem and the potential of the economic value in the small tea growers' production sector and to remove the constraints, which this sector is facing, the Government's intervention—in technological and financial terms—is very much necessary. But the Government is not taking care of the problems of the small tea growers to the extent it is required.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what comprehensive objective policy, the Government is adopting for the redressal of the problems and for the removal of the miseries of the 2,50,000 small tea growers in the country; and whether the Government is considering to extend the Minimum Support Price under the provision of Tea Act, 1953 to the produce of the small tea growers.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him answer, now.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, first of all, let me categorically dispel the notion that the Government is not concerned about the small tea growers.

If the hon. Member may recall, for the last three years, I, myself, have been pleading for a concentrated and focused attention on the concerns of the small tea growers because they represent a very important social and economic constituency as far as the tea production is concerned.

Today, as the hon. Member knows, about 25 per cent of our tea production comes from the small tea growers—about 50 per cent in Nilgiris, about 25 per cent in Bengal, and about 20 per cent in Assam. What we have done, as far as the small tea growers are concerned, number one, we have opened a separate Small Tea Growers Directorate as part of the Tea Board. This has happened for the first time. We have about eight professional staff that are going to be posted, looking at the problems of the small tea growers. Number two, for the first time in 50 years, we have opened a Tea Board Office in Dibrugarh, Assam and in Jalpaiguri, Bengal to address the problems of the small tea growers.

Thirdly, we are giving subsidies for small tea growers who associate themselves into Self-Help Groups. We give 50 per cent transport subsidy and 100 per cent subsidy for Leaf Collection Centres.

MR. SPEAKER: You have given that answer in the written reply.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: And, fourthly, we are looking at developing a processing mechanism that is relevant as far as small tea growers are concerned. The first such small scale tea processing factory has been commissioned at the campus of the Assam Agricultural University in Jorhat.

As far as the MSP issue is concerned, I am afraid I cannot give a clear and categorical answer to this. The Government of India announces MSP for about 24 agricultural commodities. There has been a persistent demand for MSP as far as green leaf is concerned. This matter is under the examination of the Government of India. I am not in a position to give a clear and categorical answer. But I want to assure the hon. Member that the interests of the small tea growers are paramount as far as the Tea Board is concerned, and contrary to what he has said we have demonstrated this concern by very specific actions as well.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: The Minister is not categorical so far as the MSP is concerned but under the provisions of Tea Act 1953, there is a provision that the Government, the Tea Board, should provide MSP to small tea growers. I want to know whether the Government is also considering to bear 50 per cent of the social infrastructure cost of the tea industry which would bring down the production cost, and thus make Indian tea more competitive in the global market. If so, when will it be implemented?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The second supplementary deals with the larger issue of tea production. The Tea Board has given a proposal to the Government of India. The Ministry of Commerce has given a proposal to the Ministry of Finance that the cost of social infrastructure be shared 50 per cent by the Government of India and 50 per cent by the tea garden owners. We have given this proposal in order to reduce the cost of production of tea and increase the competitiveness of Indian tea. If this measure is implemented, we expect that the cost of production could come down by anywhere between Rs. 6 and Rs. 8 a kilogram. This would also mean better export realization of Indian tea. This proposal has been submitted to the Planning Commission and to the Ministry of Finance. When the UPA comes back to power, I am sure this will be implemented.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: That is not now.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, as per the reply statement of the Minister, it has been found that West Bengal is a State which has a substantial number of small tea growers. In addition to it, there is a huge concentration of tea gardens that also existed in West Bengal. Over the years, the small tea growers are demanding for floor price of tea leaves for easy accessibility of fund, for simplification of the registration and for plantation credit card.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put a brief question.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, in addition to it, I seek a little indulgence from your end to deviate from the core of the Question. Already, our Minister has been insisting on the growth of the tea sector that we are also observing.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put the question.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Insofar as West Bengal is concerned, a substantial number of tea labourers are

suffering. They are in dire straits. Starvation death has already been reported from the tea garden areas. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether article 16E of the Tea Act, 1953 has been invoked on any tea garden. If so, what is the number of tea gardens? What is the outcome after invoking article 16E of the Tea Act?

MR. SPEAKER: This is Question Hour and not Discussion Hour. This is what I am trying to say as a last thing.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The hon. Member has asked two questions. One, as far as small tea growers are concerned, we have a 65:35 formula which we try to implement through the Tea Board, that is, 65 per cent of the value should accrue to the tea growers and 35 per cent should go to the Bought Leaf Factory. This is implemented very well in South India. But I am sorry to say that this has not been implemented to the same degree in Assam and in West Bengal. We are trying our best to ensure that the 65:35 formula does get implemented as much as it does in South India.

Sir, the hon. Member's second question is a larger question, of course... (*Interruptions*) I want to put this in its larger perspective. There are about 302 tea gardens in West Bengal in Duars, Terai and Darjeeling areas. Out of 302 tea gardens, only 12 are lying closed. So, I want to reiterate that out of 302 tea gardens, only 12 are lying closed. Every tea garden that is lying closed is a matter of concern and distress because workers are involved. In these 12 tea gardens, about 17,000 tea garden workers and their families are involved. We are trying our best to reopen the closed tea gardens. We had good success in Assam. Two out of the two tea gardens in Assam have reopened. In the case of Kerala, out of 17, we have reopened 12. Unfortunately, our success in West Bengal has not been very good. Out of 14 tea gardens, we have been able to open only two tea gardens and 12 remain closed. We have invoked Section 16(e) of the Tea Act. The lease has been cancelled for all the recalcitrant tea garden owners. We are trying to find new owners, but I am afraid the owners of the tea gardens in West Bengal have been very enterprising and very entrepreneurial and have been able to get stay orders from the Kolkata High Court. Without wishing to invite any contempt of court petition, every single case of closed tea garden in West Bengal is, unfortunately, now in the courts and the hands of the Tea Board and the Government of India are tied till the courts allow us to move forward in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: At least they have learnt litigation better than tea production!

Shri Dushyant Singh. Is there any tea garden in Rajasthan?

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Sir, I have a fond memory of Kolkata.

Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that tea prices for green leaves are between Rs. 13 per kilogram and Rs. 14 per kilogram. As he mentioned in his answer, the holdings are fragmented. Is the Government preparing a policy of fair price discovery mechanism? If so, can we not introduce the green leaf tea auction system, as is done in Sri Lanka and other places, which may be brought in and which can help the PROM system so that payment to the growers is given on time and thereby the helpful to the growers. You can have morning and evening auctions. Is the Government trying to do auction and is the Government trying to do anything about the fair price discovery mechanism?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member will be pleased to know that we have embarked on a very ambitious project of electronic auction for tea. We have already introduced electronic auction for cardamom and tobacco. It has resulted in a better price discovery and a fairer price discovery for the growers.

We have launched the electronic auction for tea. Out of about 980 million kilograms of tea that is produced in India, roughly about 540 million kilograms of tea gets auctioned manually. Our first objective is to ensure that all the tea that is auctioned today through traditional methods, goes to the electronic auction system. Over a period of time, we want to ensure that all tea that is marketed, the primary marketing of tea is done through electronic auction. Sri Lanka and Kenya are looking at what India has started. This project has just begun a couple of weeks ago. I am pretty confident that by the end of this year, we will begin to see results and the bulk of Indian tea, that is marketed, will go through electronic auction, which will help the tea growers and their families.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri N.N. Krsihnadas will ask the last question.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, very small and marginal growers of tea in Kerala have spread out the cultivating area with the help of the Tea Board through the non-traditional areas also.

MR. SPEAKER: There should be a brief question to be followed by a brief answer. You cannot have a long dialogue.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, I am framing my question.

In that particular areas, tribals are also involved in tea cultivation. They are facing a lot of difficulties, like lack of tea processing units. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any kind of such provision provided by Tea Board to set up mini tea processing units for these very small growers, particularly in tribal areas, who are involved in cultivation of tea.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I have already answered this Question. The first mini Tea Processing Factory has been commissioned in Jorhat, and I have promised that the second mini Tea Processing Factory will be established in Wayanad, which is a good area as far as small tea growers, marginal tea growers and tribal tea growers are concerned. Our policy is to ensure that the dependence of the small tea growers on bottling factories reduces, and the Self-Help Groups of tea growers are able to process their tea through these mini Tea Processing Factories. The hon. Member will be pleased to know that in this year we are committed to expanding the number of these mini Tea Processing Factories.

MR. SPEAKER: According to you Assam is doing well. Therefore, I am giving a chance to Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have given a chance to your very young and enterprising Member.

...(Interruptions)

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Sir, India has a major stake in the global tea market and considering the 25 per cent contribution of the small tea growers in Assam alone...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please put a brief Question. There is no need of giving any preface.

...(Interruptions)

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: I am just highlighting the problems...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister knows everything. Therefore, you just put the Question to the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: I am just highlighting the problems, especially, training of the small tea growers. What steps has the Government taken in this regard? The hon. Minister has taken a lot of care and he has taken initiatives for making policies, but the benefits are yet to reach the beneficiaries in Assam because of land problems, loan problems, etc. How are they going to mitigate these issues and resolve these issues of the small tea growers?

Thirdly, as regards the permanent membership of the...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How can you say 'thirdly'?

...(Interruptions)

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Sir, this is the last point. The small tea growers are a major chunk of the total tea community. The need a...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, I would not allow this.

...(Interruptions)

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: I want to know this from the hon. Minister. Is he thinking of a permanent membership in the Tea Board? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot put five supplementaries in a Question. Mr. Minister, please answer the first one.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I will be very brief. We are sending delegations of small tea growers from Assam, Bengal, and South India to countries like Sri Lanka and Kenya to see how the small tea growers there have been successful. Some delegations have already gone, and this is an ongoing activity.

Secondly, as I have already mentioned that for the first time we have opened a Tea Board office in Dibrugarh, which is a heart of the tea growing and small tea growers constituency as far as Assam is concerned, and Dibrugarh office will pay particular attention as far as the concern of the small tea growers are concerned.

As far as representation in the Tea Board is concerned, we have made a Confederation of Small Tea Growers and a permanent special invitee to the Tea Board. It is for the Parliament to decide it—whether they should be given a permanent seat in the Tea Board—in the next Session.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 102, Shri Tathagata Satpathy— not present

Shri Ravi Prakash Verma—not present

Q. 103—Shri Nikhil Kumar

Review of Trade Policy

*103. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the trade policy in the light of the commitments made before the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken further steps to make the trade policy result oriented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

Review of the trade policy by the Government is a continuous process aimed at dealing with ever changing domestic and international situations. Government announced the Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09, on 31st August 2004. The foreign trade policy is updated every year with a view to bring modifications, improvements and introduction of new schemes, as appropriate.

The export achievements during the period from 2004-05 to 2007-08, when exports increased from US \$ 83.53 billion* to US \$ 162.98 billion** demonstrates the effectiveness of the Foreign Trade Policy.

*Rs. 375340 crores 1US \$ =Rs. 44.93

**Rs. 655864 crores 1US \$ = Rs. 40.24

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Sir, I must begin by paying a compliment to the hon. Commerce Minister, who stood firm in the last round of WTO talks at Geneva in August last year and did not succumb to the pressures of the United States of America (USA). But that did lead to a stalling of the talks.

I notice from the reply given to us that the hon. Minister has said that our foreign trade policy is a continuing process and will be reported or cut or chopped as the case may be...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Question please.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: May I request the hon. Minister, through you, to kindly let us know as to when will the stalled talks be resumed. I believe that the talks were resumed sometime last year in October and went on till December, but thereafter once again there has been a deadlock. When will the talks resume? Will it mean that India's stand before...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is on 'Review of Trade Policy'.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I have no crystal ball to say as to when precisely the negotiations will begin or resume. There was a round of negotiations/discussions that took place in December 2008, but there has been a full of the negotiating process on account of various factors of not the least being the changed political situation in the USA. It is only anybody's guess as to when these negotiations will start. But whenever they do start, the position of India is very clear as far as the deal of the agreement on agriculture is concerned. Our position has been stated time and time again that the bulk of the subsidy cut and the trade distorting subsidy cuts, which are required to be done, had to be done by the European Union, Japan, and the USA, and adequate protection will have to be sought by us for special and sensitive agricultural products. There is going to be no dilution in that negotiating position.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: It is reassuring to hear the reply, especially, because it means that our farmers will be given due protection. But my second Question relates to a flooding of our markets by goods produced in China. I come from a State, which is full of such goods.

Another point that has come to our notice is the import of palm oil from Malaysia. Will the Government of

India, Ministry of Commerce be thinking about the impact that has been created by the influx of goods made in China on our products? What does the Ministry of Commerce propose to do about it?

MR. SPEAKER: This Question really does not arise.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: If there is an abnormal increase in import of goods from any country and it has a deleterious impact on the domestic industry, then we have various mechanisms to respond to it. We have the anti-dumping duty mechanism to respond to it. We have the anti-dumping duty mechanism and we have the safeguard duty mechanism, and both these mechanisms have been invoked.

In the specific instance of China, the hon. Member is aware that very recently a ban has been imposed on the import of toys from China for a limited period of six months. Similarly, safeguards duties have been applied on the import of a larger number of chemicals where there has been a spurt in import from China to the detriment of the domestic industry.

I want to reassure the hon. Member that as far as import and their impact on the domestic industry is concerned, this is an ongoing concern for any Government. We have adequate instruments at our command to respond in a manner that adequately protects the interest of the domestic industry.

MR. SPEAKER: Next supplementary to be asked by Shri Rupchand Pal. Please put a specific Question.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Yes, Sir. Most of our traditional export destinations are countries in the West including US, UK, European Union, Japan and others, and almost all of them are seriously afflicted by the global economic downturn and recession. In such a situation, more complications have been created by the latest protectionist call given by the latest American administration. In such a situation, may I know this from the hon. Minister? Is there is any aggressive economic diplomacy being pursued to explore new destinations? For example, are we thinking about countries like the Latin America and some Asian countries, which are less afflicted by the global downturn? What steps have been initiated by the Government in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is on 'Review of Trade Policy'.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The search for new markets is an ongoing process whether it is in Africa or Latin America, but we should recognize that the European market and the American market is a very deep market for many of the exports of our labour-intensive manufacturers and our services, and it is unrealistic to expect that the export shortfall in these major markets is going to be made-up by exports to the non-traditional markets. We must focus on non-traditional markets and we must focus on Latin America and Africa, which we are doing, but at the same time we must also recognize that these markets of Western Europe, Japan and the USA are very very important markets for us.

It is true that this year's recession has already had an effect on our exports. In 2008-09, our total exports are going to be around \$ 170 billion...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is already mentioned in your reply.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Initially, our target was supposed to be about \$ 200 billion, and we have fallen short of it. The primary reason for this is the recessionary conditions in North America and Western Europe.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 104, Shri Sugrib Singh—not present.

Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao Renge Patil—not present.

Q. 105-Shri Eknath Mahadeo Gaikwad

Non-Utilisation of Funds

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*105. **SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:**
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has granted funds to various State Governments under the scheme for Modernisation of Police Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a substantial part of the funds released remained un-utilised by States/Union Territories under the said scheme as reported in the Mint dated 27 January, 2009; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government to ensure proper utilization of funds in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Home Affairs has been implementing a non-plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in modernizing their police forces. Some of the major items covered under the Scheme include modern weaponry, construction of residential and non-residential buildings, mobility, communication/security/forensic science related equipment strengthening of intelligence branches, training infrastructure/facilities, etc. Under the MPF Scheme the State Governments are requested to formulate their requirements, which are considered and approved by Ministry of Home Affairs and funds are released to States under the Scheme.

Details of the year wise total funds released from 2000-01 to 2006-07 to various State Governments under the MRF Scheme and utilization reported by the State Governments thereon are as under:

(Amount in crore)					
Sl.No.	Year	Funds released	Utilization reported by States	% of Utilization	Unspent balances
1.	2000-01	1000.00	1000.00	100%	0
2.	2001-02	1000.00	999.98	99.99%	0.02
3.	2002-03	695.00	695.00	100%	0
4.	2003-04	705.27	703.14	99.69%	2.13
5.	2004-05	960.00	957.0	99.77%	2.20
6.	2005-06	1025.00	1014.40	98.97%	10.60
7.	2006-07	1065.22	965.70	90.66%	99.52

During 2007-08 an amount of Rs. 1248.7 crore was released to State Governments. The utilization certificate for the funds released in the financial year 2007-08 would become due on 01.04.2009.

(c) As may be seen from the table, given in reply to Parts (a) & (b), the utilization of funds ranges from 90.66% to 100%.

(d) Instructions have been issued from time to time to the State Governments to ensure proper and timely utilization of funds released during previous years as the funds are released in subsequent year on the basis of utilization certificates received from the States. The unspent balances, if any, for the previous financial years are adjusted while releasing funds in the subsequent year(s). In order to fulfill the objectives and to ensure the desired outcomes and impact, it has been decided to introduce concurrent audit on a quarterly basis starting from the last quarter of the present financial year. The audit observations will be utilized to guide the release of funds to the States in the succeeding quarters.

[Translation]

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Statewise scheme for modernization of the police forces has been chalked out by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Every State has been provided funds under this scheme launched to help them. Sir, in 2006-07 funds to the tune of about Rs. 100 crore could not be utilized. Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister about the details of those States which have not utilized this fund?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, we calculate utilisation based on Utilisation Certificates that are received. Utilisation Certificates can be submitted within 18 months of the end of financial year. Therefore, these certificates will come in due course. So, I do not think we can reach any conclusion at this stage whether the money has been unspent; it is perhaps on the way. If you look at the earlier years, the utilisation is well above 99 percent. I am sure even for 2006-07 when the UCs are received you will find that the utilisation is pretty close to 99 per cent.

[Translation]

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Sir, whether it is a fact that only 49% utilization of the above fund has been made by the Government of Maharashtra during 2007-08 as reported in newspapers? If utilization has not been made, do you propose to reallocate that fund to them?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I cannot comment on the newspaper report. Money has been released to Maharashtra. I have year-wise release to Maharashtra

from 2000-01; but Utilisation Certificates are not received. It cannot be, Sir, because for the whole country it is close to 99 per cent. If there is a shortfall in any particular State, it will be adjusted against the new releases. The money cannot really remain unspent or be spent for any other purpose. Either they have to give us UCs or it will be adjusted against the release for the next year.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Nivedita Mane—Not present.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the wake of Mumbai attacks not only the police forces of Mumbai and Maharashtra but the police forces of the country as a whole need to be imparted training. Do you propose to impart training on the lines of Chhattisgarh where the police force is imparted trained by the army and in Indore the training is given by the BSF? The Government of Maharashtra had demanded 9 m.m. rifles from the Ministry but these have not been provided to them. They have not got these rifles even after so many days of the Mumbai terrorist attacks.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is on non-utilisation of funds.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I would like to speak on utilization only.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the hon. Member knows I visited Maharashtra recently. I have reviewed the security situation in Maharashtra. I have also reviewed their requirements. We have agreed upon enhancing their training facilities. They have given a list of weapons they require. All that has been accommodated in the Modernisation of Police Force scheme. They have been requested to submit their requirements for 2009-10 by the end of this month. All State plans will be cleared before the end of March so that spending may begin on the 1st of April. I think the Maharashtra Government is quite satisfied with our response. Both training and weapons issues have been addressed in the meeting that I took in Maharashtra. This is all recorded and the minutes have been shared with the Maharashtra Government. We will implement what has been agreed upon.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: You have not issued the weapons.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: How can I?

SHRI P. S. GADHAVI: Sir, in my Constituency in the Kutch District of Gujarat, we have got vast stretches of sea and land borders with Pakistan. The Pakistani National Marine Security Agency personnel are forcibly taking away our fishermen's boats. They have captured a large number of our fishermen. So, the Gujarat Government has demanded modernization and creation of new coastal police stations. But, Sir, on this long standing demand, the response of the Government of India has not been fully satisfied. I, therefore, want to know from the hon. Minister whether the demand of modernisation and creation of new coastal police station would be conceded or not.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is a coastal policing scheme under which funds are released to the States that includes Gujarat. Now, of course, after the Mumbai attacks, we have decided to create a Coastal Command, which means that blue waters are secured by the Navy up to the territorial limits by the Coast Guard and the coasts by the State Police. The concept of Coastal Command is more or less final. I think, it is in the last stages of approval. Gujarat's requirement of coastal policing will also be taken care of under the Coastal Policing Scheme. I have not received any complaint from Gujarat on this matter.

[Translation]

Abandoned Mines

*106. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evolved any policy in relation to reclamation of abandoned mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of abandoned mines reclaimed/rehabilitated during the last three years;

(d) the number of mine sites identified for reclamation; and

(e) the further action being contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):
(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) National Mineral Policy, 2008, enunciates scientific mine closure after the process of economical extraction in a mine is complete. The Policy further refers to reclamation and re-vegetation of the mined area. The policy also provides for reclamation of old disused mining sites. Since April 2003, the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, provide that a mining lease holder shall abandon or close his mines in terms of an approved final mine closure plan.

(c) to (e) 297 mine sites, abandoned prior to April 2003, have been identified. Of these, a total of 106 abandoned mine sites were shortlisted for reclamation. Out of the 106 mine sites, in the last three years (2006-08) 16 mine sites are now operational again. The reclamation of abandoned mine sites is as per the policy guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make a speech just put your question.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker Sir, National Mineral Policy, 2008 enunciates scientific mine closure after the process of economical extraction in a mine is complete...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not read the answer. The reply is already given. Put your supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Sir, I am putting question. I want to know the number of abandoned mines which are located in Maharashtra out of total 297 identified mine sites which were abandoned prior to April, 2003?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got the information, Mr. Minister? He will send you the information.

[Translation]

SHRI SIS RAM OLA: Sir, no information with regard to the closure of any mine in Maharashtra has been

given by the I B M in the list available with me today. However, there is information about other States and if the hon'ble Member so desires, I would seek that information and furnish the same to the hon. Member.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know about Maharashtra. Shri Athawale, do you have any other supplementary? I do not think so.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: No, Sir.

Shri D.P. Yadav

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, illegal mining is going on in the mountains of the 'Brijmandal' in Deeg and Kouma Tehsils of Rajasthan lying there for the last five thousand years. But illegal mining is going on there... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: For 5,000 year!

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:- Sir, it is five thousand year old religious 'Krishna Leela' site. Illegal mining through dynamite is being done here constantly. What efforts are being made by the Government to prevent illegal mining at unleased and unpermitted sites?

SHRI SIS RAM OLA: Mr. Speaker Sir, this is under the jurisdiction of the State Government, it is controlled by the State Government. The Government of India have no control over it. But as the hon'ble Member has put a query unrelated to this question, I would like to assure the hon'ble Member to furnish this information to him after having obtained it from the State Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Before the next elections.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 107, Shri P.C. Thomas-Not present

Q. 108, Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul.

Raising Enrolment Rate at Secondary School Level

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*108. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decline has been noticed in the transition rate from the upper primary to the secondary levels in schools in many States;

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

(c) the present status of launching of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan aimed at universalising secondary education; and

(d) the measures taken by the Union Government to raise secondary school enrolment across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) As per the figures in the Selected Educational Statistics for the relevant years, the transition rates from class VIII to IX, for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 were 88.5%, 88.5% and 86.4% respectively. The State wise figures of transition rate are given in the enclosed Annexure.

(c) The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in January, 2009.

(d) The following are some of the measures taken by the Central Government to raise secondary school enrolment across the country:

- (i) 11th Plan allocation for secondary education has been enhanced to Rs. 53,550 crore from Rs. 4,325 crore during the 10th Plan.
- (ii) Under the Centrally Sponsored scheme "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan", there is a provision for opening of new secondary schools, strengthening of existing secondary schools and improvement of pupil teacher ratio to cater to additional enrolment.

- (iii) A new centrally sponsored scheme to establish one high quality model school in each block of the country to serve as schools of excellence has been launched in 2008-09.
- (iv) A new centrally sponsored scheme to set up girls' hostels in about 3,500 educationally backward blocks has been lanunched in 2008-09.
- (v) A National Merit-cu-Means Scholarships Scheme for awarding of 1 lakh scholarships to Class 9 students every year @ Rs. 6000 per years has been launched in 2008-09.
- (vi) A "National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education", to provide a one time financial incentive mainly for SC & ST girls joining class 9 has been launched in 2008-09.
- (vii) Under the scheme "Integrated Education for Disabled Children", financial assistance is provided to mainstream the disabled children in regular schools.
- (viii) The Centrally sponsored scheme "Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in schools" is meant to provide ICT infrastructure and resources and internet connectivity in Government and Government-aided secondary and higher secondary schools in the country to facilitate, inter alia, ICT enabled education.

Annexure

Transition Rates from class VIII to IX

Sl.No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	94.20	95.10	93.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	79.90	92.10	92.60
3.	Assam	100.90	88.30	89.60
4.	Bihar	81.00	85.40	78.90
5.	Chhattisgarh	61.80	62.70	52.60
6.	Goa	82.80	85.70	83.60
7.	Gujarat	83.40	89.40	83.90

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	69.90	70.30	66.70
9.	Himachal Pradesh	75.60	124.20	123.30
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	67.20	82.10	83.10
11.	Jharkhand	88.50	74.90	75.70
12.	Karnataka	85.40	93.60	86.40
13.	Kerala	97.70	97.90	98.80
14.	Madhya Pradesh	65.30	67.60	63.10
15.	Maharashtra	88.70	91.30	89.80
16.	Manipur	92.50	91.70	91.60
17.	Meghalaya	72.90	88.40	75.10
18.	Mizoram	85.60	88.90	82.70
19.	Nagaland	73.80	66.80	71.10
20.	Orissa	99.00	100.00	98.70
21.	Punjab	86.90	89.50	86.40
22.	Rajasthan	82.30	78.30	73.20
23.	Sikkim	64.70	76.50	76.20
24.	Tamil Nadu	92.60	96.30	91.50
25.	Tripura	112.10	104.50	109.20
26.	Uttar Pradesh	101.80	98.00	98.10
27.	Uttarakhand	96.70	93.70	99.80
28.	West Bengal	94.00	76.50	84.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	96.90	101.80	97.50
30.	Chandigarh	92.90	97.40	105.90
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	76.20	89.10	77.40
32.	Daman and Diu	81.40	93.30	81.40
33.	Delhi	94.80	94.50	105.70
34.	Lakshadweep	92.80	96.50	94.90
35.	Puducherry	98.40	101.00	103.00
	India	88.50	88.50	86.40

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Sir, the basic issues of quality, equity and access to secondary education in India still unresolved, apart from the Central legislations by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. A large majority of children and youth belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities do not have access to secondary education and less than 10 per cent of girls of SC/STs have access to the Plus Two stage. It is always told that 'Education' is a State subject. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister Unless there is coordination between the States and the Centre, we cannot achieve anything. What steps the Union Government has taken to see that access to secondary education is given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and particularly to the girls in those categories? Unless secondary education is provided to them, there is no use.

[*Translation*]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Mr. Speaker Sir, a number of measures are being taken. In the days to come, a large number of children will be able to attend classes under secondary education. The major step that the Government of India have decided to take is the National Secondary Education Mission. About 44 thousand existing schools in the States will be provided every possible assistance under the mission. In addition to this 11, 188 new secondary schools will be opened in which around 1.7 lakh additional teachers will be appointed and 88,500 additional class rooms will be constructed. Apart from it, there is a provision of National Scheme of Incentive Programmes for secondary education for the girl students belonging to the SC/ST. About the Scheduled Castes you have asked I would like to inform you that the involvement of children of the age group of ninth state to length standard students is 52.26% whereas it is 48.11% and 38.95% in case of the SCs and STs respectively. Moreover, an amount of Rs. 3000 will be deposited in the bank accounts of the SC/ST girls when they will be promoted to ninth standard and that amount will be paid to them when they attain the age of 18. This monetary provision has been made exclusively for the SC/ST. It would be our endeavour to open new schools in the predominantly SC/ST and minority areas which are without schools, as I have already mentioned that 11800 new schools will be opened, so that children of those areas are able to enroll in schools and complete their education.

[*English*]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: I am happy to know that the Government has taken a number of good steps, but still the point remains that the number of girls among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is less than 10 per cent. Whatever incentives that you are giving, will solve the problems in the future. I would like to know what steps that are taken by the Indian Government to achieve a general enrolment ratio for class 8 and 12, and to remove the gender, socio-economic and disability barriers, particularly in Maharashtra?

[*Translation*]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Mr. Speaker Sir, our target is to increase the enrollment of school going children from 52.26% to 75% in five years and by the year 2017 it will be accessible universally. Foolproof measures will be taken to retain all children in schools by 2020.

Sir, you are already aware that the Prime Minister has announced to open a model school in every Block to impart quality education to children. Besides, there are a number of other schools through which secondary education will be strengthened be it the State of Maharashtra or any other State. Assistance will be given wherever it is required.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao-not present.

SHRI CHARNJIT SINGH ATWAL:-Mr. Speaker Sir, I am thankful to you for permitting me to put a supplementary to this question. I have gone through the reply given by the Minister on this question. It talks of universalisation of education. He has announced opening of model schools in every Block. Sir, through you I would like to know from him whether children of Government schools from those villages which are deprived of teachers, school-buildings and other basic infrastructure will be admitted in these schools. In our area there is a saying in Panjabi-"Bheegi Tab jab Saam Ma Aaya". How children of our village schools will be admitted if they do not Pass Primary? You are opening Model Schools where admissions will be made on the basis of competitive tests. I would like to ask as to what criteria do you propose to follow in admissions for children of Government schools in villages?

Sir, alongwith this my another question is that, we have two education boards in the country-one is State board and the second one is CBSE. The syllabus at

both these boards is different. Thus, we see that all the education boards in the country, be it State education board, CBSE or any other Board, their syllabus is different. Will you allow admission to those children who come from State education boards without having a uniform syllabus at these education boards as their drop-out rate is quite high. There are some such States. In our State drop-out rate is 50 per cent and in some other States drop-out rate has even reached 89 per cent. Will you be able to have a uniform syllabus there, so that the children of poor strata also get admission in those model schools?

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Hon'ble Sir, as far as the question of Primary and Upper Primary education is concerned...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a State subject.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: No, Sir, 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan' is vigorously looking into this matter and it is running successfully throughout the country.

SHRI CHARNJIT SINGH ATWAL: Sir, I have asked in regard to education of poor children. My only doubt is that if model schools too will give admission to children on competition basis, then the children of rich people will get admissions through competition, but, how poor children would get through the competition?

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI:- Sir, as I have Stated that free education will be given to children and that schools too will be within one kilometer range.

Sir, no fees is taken from the children who come to school through 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan' and we would make provision of primary school within one kilometer for 100 per cent population. Still two per cent area has been left over where these schools are not available and Upper Primary schools will be opened at a distance of two kilometers.

Sir, block level competitions will be held for the children of model school and the children of that particular village, who are already studying in those schools, will participate in the competition. Thus, selection will be made from those children only. In this way, the poor children can go to these schools. We are not going to open one-or-two schools rather these schools will be opened in 6000 blocks. One model school will be opened in each block.

Sir, as far as the question of CBSE is concerned, it comes under our jurisdiction and the States have their own education boards. If they want to run at par with the CBSE or they want to take help from CBSE, then they can do so. We are ready to help them in every manner. States are independent to run their own boards.

Sir, as far as the question of national curriculum framework is concerned, these boards are required to work and operate within this. Therefore, if any education board wants to improve its system, then it can seek help from us. We are always ready for help, but we cannot intervene in their matter and we cannot ask them to close down their board and implement CBSE syllabus there.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan' we aimed at 100 per cent enrolment and zero per cent drop-out, but the migrant community which is residing in our country, go outside to earn their livelihood in season. Some innovative programmes are there for their children, but Narendra Modi's Governments in Gujarat has extended these innovative programmes and they have provided full time schools for migrant community and even more wages are given to the teachers working there and teachers are also qualified...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should not give the facts you should ask question. You are giving information.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: I am saying so because I want that this scheme should be implemented throughout the country. They have appointed full time teachers, who are well qualified, they are also being paid good wages so that the children can study in these schools. My second question is a supplementary...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, I will not allow.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Secondly, there are seasonal hostels and it is also an innovative idea.

MR. SPEAKER: We do not discuss ideas here.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Sir, a concept of seasonal hostel is there because if the migrant parents have to go outside, then their children can stay in the village in a seasonal hostels and arrangements can be made for their boarding and lodging, till their parents

come back. If the Government provides funds for their boarding and lodging then this concept should be considered in budget...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are not fair to us. I would not allow this supplementary.

[*Translation*]

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: O.K. Sir. Whether he will implement this scheme throughout the country by making a provision in the budget or not?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am disallowing your supplementary. Mr. Minister, do not reply it.

[*Translation*]

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: When you will implement this scheme?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are unnecessarily defying the Chair. I have lot of respect for you. You know that.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Sir, I am sorry.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Today, you are insistent to your point.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Already I am being targeted. All right speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Under alternative innovative education of 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan' permission is given to States to run such programmes. During the rule of Sh. Lalul Prasad Yadav, such a programme was implemented in Bihar as well in which the children who take their animal for grazing, schools were provided to them at that very place and this programme is still in

existence. State Government can take any such step and the Government of India will help it through 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan'.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot do more than four questions. Let me have the satisfaction of taking a few more questions on the last day.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: Sir, the transition from class VIII to IX is very important in the educational system and the rates which are given here are very impressive. But I am sorry to note that these figures were taken from the selected educational statistics for the relevant years. I would very humbly suggest that there should be sample survey on this and not like this when you have selected educational statistics.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken to improve the transition rates from class VIII to IX for all over India because I know that these rates are not as high as this and sometimes it is less than 60 per cent or 50 per cent:-

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered that elaborately.

[*Translation*]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Government have taken some more steps such as, a scholarship will be given to the students of class IX, it would be a merit-cum-new scholarship under which Rs. 6000 would be given p.a. A Nationwide competition would be held for it. Apart from this, we would provide this to our disabled children also...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned that in your reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: We have already sanctioned twenty Navodaya Vidyalayas for the places where children of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are in majority. This way, a number of steps are being taken so that the path of secondary education could be easier and children in remote areas could also go to schools. For this reason, we are paying attention towards secondary schools.

I would like to tell you that for this, allocation has been increased to Rs. 53,550 crore in the 11th Five Year Plan which was Rs. 4,325 crore in the 10th Five Year Plan. So, you can very well understand as to how much more amount we are going to spend on secondary education during Eleventh Plan. You can judge that a large number of our children will be benefited from this system and the quality of education will improve. When we have this much of funds we are sure that involvement of boys as well as quality of education will go up and the boys would not go out of school, they would be retained.

MR. SPEAKER: Boys and girls both.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Yes, Sir, both boys and girls.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 109. Shri Ram Singh Kaswan—
Not present.

Q. 110—Shri Kiren Rijju—Not present

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey

[Translation]

Cross Border Infiltration

+
*110. SHRI KIREN RIJJU:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of large scale infiltration from foreign countries regularly;

(b) if so, the details of the cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, border-wise and country wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the remedial measures taken in: this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*Not recorded.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Government is seized of the problem of cross border Infiltration on the Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Pakistan borders. There is no significant incidence of infiltration on the other borders.

The details of interception/apprehension of infiltrators made by the Border Security Force on the Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Pakistan international borders during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year	Indo-Bangladesh Border	Indo-Pakistan Border
2006	5130	128
2007	4206	128
2008	2559	131
2009 (Upto January)	199	7

The Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain cross-border infiltration which, inter-alia, includes round the clock surveillance & patrolling on the border and establishment of observation posts; construction of border fencing and flood lighting; introduction of modern and hi-tech surveillance equipment; upgradation of intelligence set up and coordination with the State Governments and concerned intelligence agencies.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bangladeshi infiltration and the infiltration from other countries have been discussed and the hon. Minister has given the figures of the infiltrators, but I would like to draw the kind attention of hon. Minister and the Government to the point that Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court had drawn their attention towards it. Drawing attention, the court had mentioned how to detect these outsiders or infiltrators and deport them. They also said that there is a need to issue multi-purpose national identity cards.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: These are all Executive Acts. Nobody can direct.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: The Supreme Court has issued the order to the Government, I have just reminded that and asked as to what action the Government have taken in this regard? Sir, I would like to know the number of infiltrators deported from here.

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the National Population Register will coincide with the National Census in 2010-11. We have advanced the process for the coastal villages of India to the year 2009-10. The pilot project has started in February. Once the Population Register is ready, the Multi-purpose cards will be issued. As you are aware there is a UID which has been set up under the supervision of the Planning Commission and that would be the authority to ensure that the Unique Identification Cards are issued. I expect that MNICs would be issued in 2010-11.

In the meanwhile of course steps that are being taken for the deportation of over-staying Bangladeshi nations are that the State Governments are empowered under Section 32C of the Foreigners' Act to detect and deport foreign nationals. As far as Bangladeshi nationals are concerned, the policy is that anyone who came after 25.03.71 is treated as illegal migrant and they are intercepted at the border and they are pushed back even at the border. Those who succeed in entering India across the border are to be detected and deported. A number of steps have been taken on the Indo-Bangladesh border and those include construction of border fencing, surveillance by the BSF, setting up of 1185 border outposts out of which 802 have already been established, induction of hi-tech surveillance equipment, upgradation of intelligence machinery etc. I can give the figures, but that is, perhaps, not necessary. We are taking steps to push back attempted infiltrants and where they cross the border we take steps to detect and deport them.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has just stated about the construction of border fencing, other measures and deportation of infiltrators but it is a matter of concern for us, the way they have shaken the balance of the population, they have become not only the citizens but also representatives of the people. As you said about the construction of fencing, I would like to draw your attention that there is still a need to change the 900 km long jencing and to repair it. In

the same way, you have said about the flood lights. The existing number of flood lights is not sufficient. There should be more flood lights. With that, you have talked about the outposts. Soldiers are not there. Now outposts should be set up. I would like to know the opinion of the Government in this regard, and the other steps taken by the Government.

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I do not know how the hon. Member has come to the conclusion that there are no soldiers there. The BSF is deployed on the Indo-Bangladesh border. I have just said that 802 outposts have been set up and the remaining outposts are being set up. The BSF is indeed patrolling the border. The border is not an easy border. The Indo-Bangladesh passes along West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya., Tripura and Mizoram. The entire stretch consists of plain, riverine and jungle areas and therefore, it is not easy to patrol that border. But a lot of effort has been put in over the last several years to patrol that border and to stop infiltration. I am not denying that there is infiltration, I have given you the number. There is infiltration and we try to push back people whenever we detect them.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 111—Shri Kishanbhai V. Patel—
not present.

Q. 112—Shri Abu Ayes Mondal.

Growth Rate of SMEs

*112. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government assists the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) for marketing their products and services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the small scale industries have shown growth during the last three years?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government implements various schemes like Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme, Vendor Development Programme (VDP) and Buyer-Seller Meets for assisting the marketing of products manufactured by micro and small enterprises. In addition, National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) through its Marketing Assistance Scheme provides assistance to small and medium enterprises in the country to market their products and services.

(c) The growth rate in MSE sector during the last three years is as under:

Year	% age growth rate achieved in MSE sector at 2001-02 prices.
2005-06	12.32
2006-07	12.60
2007-08	13.00 (provisional)

[English]

SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Sir, from the reply given by the hon. Minister to the Question, it is known that Government provides marketing assistance to micro, small and medium enterprises in various ways and rate of growth is increasing.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government supports micro, small and medium enterprises by procuring and supplying raw materials like steel, aluminium and copper, etc. alongwith financial assistance required; if so, during 2008-09, what is the quantity of raw materials procured and supplied to them?

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has asked about the micro, small and medium enterprises. In this regard, I would like to submit that we are taking various measures to increase growth rate in micro, small and medium enterprises. MDA has been implemented in it. Secondly, we are implementing the programme of package and training for export. We are working on instituting national awards so that our small enterprises may get publicity abroad also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking about the raw materials.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: So far as raw materials are concerned, I would like to inform you that we have NSIC schemes through which the Government are making raw materials such as iron, brass, aluminium etc. available.

[English]

SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: I want to know from the hon'ble Minister as to whether there is an organisation set up called the national small industries corporation to enhance the competitiveness of micro and small enterprises, if so, what are the details.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member would like to know whether there is any scheme under NSIC?

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the House, through you, that this sector of ours is constantly making progress and it has one crore thirty lac units throughout the country.

12.00 hrs.

We provide employment to around 4.20 crore people. Therefore, we would like to enhance it further by adding 12 various programmes under NSIC. We export 40 per cent of it to help the industries in competition. Alongwith 40 per cent, our sector is contributing around 45 per cent of production. So, I would like to inform the House, through you, that our sector is the backbone of Indian economy.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Implementation of SSA

*102. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of performance of the State Governments under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during the last three years;

(b) whether the implementation of SSA is constrained due to lack of funds;

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

(d) whether the State Governments have asked for more funds under the Scheme; and

(e) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) till 31.12.2008, 276903 new schools have been opened, 172531 school buildings and 740289 additional classrooms constructed, as well as 9.68 lakh teachers recruited. States/Union Territories are participating in the SSA programme enthusiastically. States/UTs implement the SSA programme as per their approved Annual Work Plan & Budget, towards which Rs. 7561.49 crore, Rs. 10884.43 crore and Rs. 11477.39 crore were provided by the Government of India in 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, respectively. Rs. 13100 crore have been provided in the Central Budget of SSA in 2008-09.

Impact of FDI on Rural Economy

*104. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the country's rural economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Council of Applied Economic Research has submitted its report on growth linkages of FDI and its impact on the rural economy of the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations/ observations made in the report alongwith the action taken by the Government on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) Government has commissioned a study to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on Growth linkages of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India with focus on the impact of FDI on rural economy. The terms of reference for the study are given in the enclosed Statement. The final report of the study has not yet been submitted whereafter the Government will take a considered view on the subject and assess the impact of FDI on the country's rural economy.

Statement

No. 2(1)/2007-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
FC Section

New Delhi, dated the 3rd July 2007

To,

Dr. Rajesh Chadha,
Senior Fellow and Senior Counsellor (Operations) &
Secretary
National Council of Applied Economic Research
Parisila Bhavan, 11, Indraprastha Estate
New Delhi-110002

Subject: Study on FDI in India and its Growth linkages-reg.

I am directed to convey the sanction of the Government of India to a Study to be assigned to the National Council of Applied Economic Research on Growth linkages of FDI in India. The Objective and terms of Reference of the Study are laid down as under:

A. Objective/Terms of Reference

- 1. Spatial Spread**—to take stock of the spatial spread of the FDI-enabled production facilities in India during the last five years (2001 to 2006). The production facilities to be studied would include manufacturing plants as well as service providing facilities as these evolved, either as Greenfield or as M&A processes, located in cities other than Metros and Tier 1 and in rural areas, in particular.

2. **Sectoral Clustering**—To bring out the sectoral clustering across the states and sub-state regions (cities, towns and rural areas of districts) with a view to assess the types of production facilities which have entered relatively small towns and rural areas outside Municipal limits.
 3. **Depth of Value-Added**—To enable a comprehensive understanding of the value-added features of the FDI-linked production facilities and its role on employment opportunities.
 4. **Analysis of FDI inflows and their impact on rural activities with special emphasis on the Employment Generating Effects**—To analyse the impact of FDI in various rural activities especially in the sectors of Agriculture and Food processing and to assess the positive and negative impact on employment through the FDI-enabled production facilities.
 5. **Labour and Capital Intensity**—To identify various FDI-enabled sectors by their levels of skill, scale, capital and labour requirements and compare these features with the domestically invested production facilities producing similar kinds of products and services and provide a comprehensive documentation of the FDI-enabled production facilities by their labour and capital intensities.
 6. **Comparative Performance**—To make a comparison on efficiency of the MNC affiliates established in India with firms under their parent companies operating outside India and their profit levels. To make a similar comparative analysis between the FDI-enabled production facilities in a sector with domestically invested production facilities in the same sector.
 7. **Forex Implications**—To understand the implications of repatriation of profits earned in India versus profits retained and reinvested.
 8. **Backward and Forward Linkages**—To estimate the backward and forward linkages of these sectors through mapping these on the latest available input-output Tables for India.
 9. **FDI in Service Sectors**—To study the impact of FDI in Service sectors on the rural economy.
 10. **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**—to study the concentration of production facilities in SEZs and analyse the relative performance of such plants inside and outside SEZs and the impact of such production to the Index of Industrial Production.
 11. **Export Potential**—To assess the share of export seeking FDI in various sectors of production to gauge the un-tapped potential of exports of labour-intensive goods from India.
 12. **Greenfield FDI versus FDI through Mergers and Acquisitions**—To document the sectoral distribution of FDI through these two routes and to compare and contrast the rural and suburban linkages of these two routes.
 13. **Country-wise & Sector-wise analysis of FDI.**
 14. **Data Reporting by RBI/Sectoral Classification**—to identify the issues of sectoral classification and data-reporting in unison with the ongoing work of the Technical Monitoring Group of Foreign Direct Investment which had First Action Report in June 2003.
- B. Methodology to be followed by NCAER**
- The study by NCAER will involve the following:
- Literature survey of existing studies
 - Collection and collation of data sourced from-
 - SIA database of D/o IPP
 - RBI
 - CMIE Prowess Database of 10,000 large and medium listed Indian firms; and
 - CAPITALINE Database of 13,000 Indian listed and unlisted companies organised under more than 300 industries.
 - Primary survey a select sample of FDI-enabled production units to know about the physical location of their production units. The selection of the production units would be based on random as well as purposive sampling techniques so as to cover a diverse group of sectors while keeping their physical vicinity to rural and suburban areas in view.
 - Use of econometric tools to test various hypotheses to be identified during the course of the study.
- C. Cost Estimates**
- The total cost of the study would be Rs. 50 lakh. This would include work on the primary survey as well as holding a national workshop at the time of submission of Draft Report.
- D. Timeframe and Schedule of Payment**
- Submission of draft report-within 9 months from the date of release of the first instalment.
- Submission of the Final Report-within 2 months after receiving the comments from the Ministry.

Sl.No.	Activity	Time Frame	Instalment
1.	Approval of TOR and sanction of study	July 2007	60%
2.	Submission of Draft Report	March 2008 (viz. 9 months after sanction of study and payment of first instalment)	30%
3.	Submission of Final Report	May 2008	10%

2. This issues with the concurrence of the IF Wing vide their UO Dy. No. 794/AS&FA/DIPP dated 20th June 2007.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(Pramila Raghavendran)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Telefax: 23062327

Export of Natural Rubber

*107. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of natal rubber exported from the country during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(b) whether the farmers have requested for additional incentives/support to facilitate the export of natural rubber to offset the losses suffered due to fall in the domestic prices of the said commodity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The details of the quantity and value of Natural Rubber (NR) exported from the country during each of the last year three years and the current year, country-wise, are as under:-

Country	2005-06		2006-07p		2007-08p	
	Quantity (tonnes)	Value Rs. '000)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value Rs. '000)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value Rs. '000)
China	26521	1691729	16592	1654157	20222	1807846
Sri Lanka	7556	496359	4760	418513	2789	227446
Malaysia	6363	481289	10412	1097676	12092	1117024
Germany	5680	258628	2658	179704	2480	157526
Belgium	2501	194920	2324	148944	2873	182442
Turkey	2355	127893	1751	103398	1178	85213
Vietnam	2271	163609	2641	268050	208	16215
UK	2098	121510	1238	79527	1177	71048
USA	1954	97795	1567	125413	4888	307633
Spain	1634	91101	1204	95540	1052	65774
South Korea	1360	83006	608	66451	776	77131
Nepal	1201	91819	656	67489	685	60570
Others	12336	683254	10134	832515	9933	767211
Total	73830	4582912	56545	5137377	60353	4943079

P=provisional

Export of NR from 1st April 2008 to 11th February 2009 totalled 42,128 tonnes with a value of Rs. 4206.40 million. Country-wise statistics of export of NR with value for 2008-09 are not currently available.

(b) and (c) Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Marketing Federation Ltd (Rubber Mark) had requested to introduce a one-time export subsidy scheme for the immediate export of NR. There is no glut situation in the domestic NR market necessitating immediate export of NR under a one-time incentive scheme. The stock of NR at the end of January 2009 is 241,096 tonnes as compared to 225,340 tonnes at the end of January 2008.

[Translation]

Operation of fake Foreign Universities

*109. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that several fake foreign universities are cheating the students in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government including issuing of notices cautioning the public against such fake universities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) In the absence of any mechanism to regulate the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions, no authentic information is available with the Government about the number of foreign universities operating in the country. However, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has framed regulations, for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education in India. A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India is under the consideration of the Government.

A public appeal was issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 17th June, 2008 in the print media cautioning parents/guardians and students that while seeking admission in higher educational institutions, they

should satisfy themselves that such institutions are recognized under the relevant laws and are of quality and repute. Even in the case of recognized institutions and universities, parents and students have been advised to satisfy that the courses for which admissions are being offered/advertised are duly recognized and further that the campuses to which admissions are being offered are also recognized campuses of such institutions and universities. In case of any doubt, they have been advised to obtain information directly from the statutory bodies such as the University Grants Commission (UGC) or All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). These statutory authorities have also been directed to launch effective campaign against institutions which are unrecognized and unauthorized and to take appropriate penal action under law. An appeal has also been made to the media to refuse publishing of misleading advertisements even if it meant loss of advertising revenue to them.

The AICTE has put a list of unauthorized institutions as also a public notice on its website. According to the AICTE public notices have been issued by them cautioning the students, parents and the general public regarding such unapproved foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education without AICTE approval. Show cause notices are issued to such unapproved institutions either to seek AICTE approval or to close down unapproved programmes, and the list of unapproved institutions are referred to the concerned State Government/Union Territory for taking appropriate legal action.

[English]

Trade Agreements

*111. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed Free Trade Agreement/Preferential Trade Agreement with several countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise, date-wise in the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment on the impact of these agreements on the domestic industries and farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Following Free Trade

Agreements/Preferential Trade Agreement have been signed
by India in the past three years and the current year:

Sl.No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement
1.	India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)	29th June, 2005	1st August, 2005
2.	Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)	July, 1975 (revised Agreement signed on 2nd November, 2005)	1st Nov, 1976 Fourth Round of negotiations started.
3.	India-Chile Preferential Trade Agreement	8th March, 2006	September, 2007
4.	India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade Commerce and Transit	Renewed wef 29th July, 2006	Agreement valid for ten years wef 29th July 2006.
5.	India-Nepal Treaty of Trade	6th March 2007	Agreement valid for five years from 6th March 07.

(c) and (d) Before entering into negotiations with its trading partners, studies are undertaken internally, as well as through joint study groups to study the feasibility of the proposed FTAs, including their impact on the domestic industry. Consultations are also held with the domestic stakeholders including the Apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industry associations as well as the administrative Ministries and Departments. In order to protect the interests of the domestic industry, these Agreements provide for maintaining sensitive/negative lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted under the FTA. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards.

National Police Mission

*113. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives, the functional responsibility and accountability of the National Police Mission;

(b) whether any road map has been drawn by the Mission to transform the police force in view of the emerging security scenario; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The National Police Mission (NPM) seeks to transform the police forces in the country into effective instruments for maintenance of internal security and facing the challenges of the next century by equipping them with the necessary material, intellectual and organizational resources. The Mission is thus charged with the responsibility of creating a new vision for the Police. In order to accomplish the tasks of the NPM, a two tier system consisting of an Empowered Steering Group (ESG) chaired by the Home Minister, and under this Group, an Executive Committee (EC) chaired by the Home Secretary has been established. The basic policy guidelines and approaches are to be decided by the ESG, while the EC will pursue the milestones so set up. For the actual programme and project implementation, an officer oriented Mission Directorate has been established in the Bureau of Police Research and Development.

(b) and (c) Under the National Police Mission the following six Micro-Missions (MM) have been established:

Micro Mission: 01 Human Resource Development

MM: 02 Community Policing

MM:03 Communication and Technology

MM: 04 Infrastructure

MM: 05 New Processes (Process Engineering)

MM: 06 Proactive Policing and Visualizing future challenges

Each Micro-Mission has been tasked to identify key deliverables and specify time frames and other related issues in their given domains. The areas delineated and assigned to the Micro-Missions have been designed so as to encompass as far as possible the entire canvas of policing. Working in a given time frame of 4 months, the 6MMs have recommended 12 specific projects for inclusion in the National Police Mission.

[Translation]

Industrial Growth

*114. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of industrial growth in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of industrial sectors registering low/negative growth rate alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to increase the growth rate in the aforesaid sectors and the outcome achieved thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The industrial growth measured in terms of Index of Industrial Promotion (IIP) during 2005-06 to 2007-08 and 2008-09 (April-December) is given below:

Sector/Industry	Weight (in percent)	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (April-December)
Mining & Quarrying	10.5	1.0	5.4	5.1	3.0
Electricity	10.2	5.2	7.2	6.4	2.7
Manufacturing	79.4	9.1	12.5	9.0	3.3
Overall	100	8.2	11.6	8.5	3.2

Source: Central Statistical Organisation

The global recession has mainly affected some of the export oriented industries in the manufacturing sector in India, such as textiles, handicrafts, leather, and gems and jewellery. Slowdown in the demand for automobiles and its ancillaries, cement, steel, housing sector etc. has also been seen.

A number of steps have been taken by the Government to stimulate demand for the industry with the objective to address the impact of global recession. Government announced two stimulus packages in December, 2008 and January, 2009 to stimulate industrial growth. Measures introduced in these two packages, interalia, include:

Reduction in Cenvat/Excise duty: As an immediate measure to encourage additional spending, an across-the-board cut of 4% in the ad valorem CENVAT (Central Value Added Tax) rate except petroleum was announced.

• **Measures to Support Exports:** Several measures have been taken to support exporters such as:

- Interest subvention of 2% for pre and post shipment export credit for labour intensive industries such as textiles, handlooms, handicrafts, leather, gems and jewellery, marine products and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise sector.
- Additional funds of Rs. 1100 crore to ensure full refund to Terminal Excise duty/Central Sales Tax.
- An additional allocation of Rs. 350 crore for export incentive schemes.
- Government back-up guarantee to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) to the extent of Rs. 350 crore to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products.

- Refund of service tax to exporters on foreign agent commissions of upto 10 percent of Freight On Board (FOB) value of exports.
 - Enhancement of duty drawback benefits on certain items including knitted fabrics, bicycles, agricultural hand tools and specified categories of yarn.
 - Providing pre-shipment credit, in rupees or dollars to Indian exporters at competitive rates by Export Import (EXIM) bank.
- **Housing:**
- Refinance facility of Rs. 4000 crore for the National Housing Bank by RBI.
 - To facilitate access to funds for the housing sector, the development of integrated townships have been permitted as an eligible end-use of the External Commercial Borrowing (ECB).
- **Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) Sector:**
- Refinance facility of Rs. 7000 crore for Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to support MSMEs.
 - Enhancement of the loan limit to Rs. 1 crore under Credit Guarantee Scheme.
 - Grant of need-based ad-hoc working capital loans upto 20% of the existing fund-based limits.
 - Reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1% and in respect of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) by 0.5%.
- **Textiles:**
- An additional allocation of Rs. 1400 crore to clear the entire backlog in Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) Scheme.
 - All items of handicrafts included under 'Vishesh Krishi & Gram Udyog Yojana'.
- **Cement:** Countervailing Duty (CVD) on cement reimposed to protect and promote domestic cement industry.
- **Steel:**
- Removal of export duty on long term steel products and pig iron to promote domestic steel industry.
 - Reimposition of import duty on Pig iron, Semi-finished flat and long steel products to protect domestic steel industry.
- **Automobile:**
- Accelerated depreciation of 50% for commercial vehicles.
 - Assistance to the state under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for the purchase of buses for the urban transport system.
- **Power**
- Elimination of import duty on Naptha for use in the Power Sector.
- **Mining**
- Elimination of export duty on iron ore fines.
 - Reduction of export duty on iron ore lumps.
- **Others:** Government Departments are allowed to replace government vehicles within the allowed budget, in relaxation of extant economy instructions.
- In addition, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken a number of steps to reduce the cost of credit and improve liquidity for industry by reducing Repo rate, Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), and Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR).
- The lowering of cost of credit through reduction in interest rate and across the board reduction of 4% in CENVAT rate have helped to stimulate the demand for industry.
- [English]*
- Hurdles faced by Coir Industry**
- *115. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Coir Industry is facing several constraints, including regulatory and the arbitrary hurdles being erected by the importing countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Coir Industry is a traditional labour intensive industry and is facing some challenges like the need for modernizing production and manufacturing technologies, strengthening of credit facilities from financial institutions and improved marketing facilities like any other traditional industry. The Coir Board, an organization established by an act of Parliament under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has been implementing various programmes for development of Coir Industry in the country as per the details given in the enclosed statement.

There are no specific hurdles that have been created by the importing countries for Coir Products that have come to the notice of Government in the Ministry of MSME. However, the Coir exports are also facing adverse effect of the current global economic recession. Government have been providing fiscal and other incentives for encouraging export of Coir Products which has increased over the years as indicated below:-

	Quantity (MT)
Year	Coir Exports
2005-06	136027
2006-07	168755
2007-08	187566

Statement

- (i) Training of women spinners and providing subsidy @ 75 per cent of the cost for purchase of 'ratts the "Mahila Coir Yojana".
- (ii) Financial assistance for development of production infrastructure and setting up new coir units at the rate of 25 per cent of the cost of machinery, subject to maximum of Rs. 1.5 lakh.
- (iii) Entrepreneurs Development Programme and Quality Improvement Programme to promote enterprise and install quality consciousness respectively.

- (iv) Intensification of research & development efforts for introducing new technologies for extraction and processing of coir fibre, development of machinery, product diversification, introduction of new products, etc.
- (v) Efforts for promoting domestic market for coir products through publicity measures, providing Market Development Assistance to units in the co-operative and public sector, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, maintenance of Coir Board Showrooms and Sales Depots to supply quality products at standardized price.
- (vi) Financial assistance to small exporters for participation in international trade fairs and exhibitions abroad, product promotion programmes, catalogue shows, etc.
- (vii) A new Central Sector Scheme of Rejuvenation, Modernisation and Technology Upgradation of Coir Industry has been launched on a pilot basis during March 2008 for implementation during XI Plan with a total outlay of Rs. 243 crore involving a government grant of Rs. 99 crore, beneficiary contribution of Rs. 12 crore and a term loan of Rs. 132 crore from Banks. Two categories of beneficiaries viz. Spinners and the tiny household producers are covered under the Scheme. The scheme envisages providing of worksheds and replacement of ratts and looms for increasing the efficiency and productivity of the beneficiaries.

India-Myanmar Trade

*116. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the volume of trade between India and Myanmar during the last three years;
- (b) whether cases of unofficial trade with Myanmar has been reported in the recent past;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the mechanism available for sorting out issues concerning India-Myanmar bilateral trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The volume of trade between

India and Myanmar, during the last three years, has been as under:

(In Rs. Lakhs)

Year	Import	Export
2005-06	2,32,862.78	49,009.53
2006-07	3,54,094.53	63,374.59
2007-08	3,25,928.14	74,619.38
Total	9,12,885.45	1,87,003.50

(b) and (c) No case of unofficial trade has come to notice, so far.

(d) An agreement on border trade between India and Myanmar was signed on 21st January, 1994, which was operationalized on 12th April 1995. Subsequently a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the two countries on 14th July 2003 for setting up of Joint Trade Committee (JTC) to look into the bi-lateral economic relations. Accordingly there have been three Minister level meetings of the JTC, on 15th July, 2003, 12th May 2006 and on 14th & 15th October, 2008.

Import of Pulses

*117. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of pulses imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to encourage import of pulses to meet the domestic requirement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The quantity and value of pulses imported during each of the last three years is as follows:

Import of pulses

Year	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Value (in Rs. crores)
2005-06	16.96	2477.13
2006-07	22.71	3891.91
2007-08	28.35	5374.94
2008-09 (April 08-Oct. 08) -Provisional	12.22	3095.85

Country-wise details of import of pulses are given in publication, 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Vol. II (Imports), Annual Number' published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the Library of the Parliament.

Import of pulses is allowed freely at zero percent customs duty to meet the deficit in domestic production over the domestic demand.

Export of Fruits

*118. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the share of Indian fruits including mangoes in world production and trade;

(b) the quantity and value of various fruits imported and exported from various countries during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise and item-wise;

(c) whether the ban imposed by the Government of the United States of America on Indian mangoes has been lifted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for promoting the export of fruits?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) India is the second largest producer of fruits in the world after China and has share of 12% in global production.

(b) The quantity and value of various Fruits imported and exported from various countries during each of the last three years and the current years, country-wise and item-wise is available on Export Import Data Bank of the Department of Commerce's website at commerce@gov.in.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The United State of America has granted market access to Indian mangoes with effect from 26th April, 2007. United States of America has accepted the import of Indian mangoes after irradiation process to mitigate fruit flies. The Krushi Utpadan Sanrakshan Kendra (KRUSHAK) facility of the Board of

Radiation & Isotope Technology (BRIT), at Lasalgaon is the approved facility for irradiation of mangoes for export to USA.

(e) The Government of India through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) extending financial assistance to the exporters, PSUs and State Governments etc. under its six Plan schemes like:

- (1) Scheme for Infrastructure Development
- (2) Scheme for Quality Development
- (3) Scheme for Market Development
- (4) Scheme for Research & Development
- (5) Scheme for Transport Assistance
- (6) Marketing Development Assistance.

Apart from the above, efforts are also being made to obtain Market Access for fresh fruits & vegetables in several countries. Protocols have also been signed with General Administration of Quality Supervision Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) for Market Access for grapes, bitter gourd and mangoes. 21 Agri Export Zones in 11 States in the country have also been set up for overall development of supply and value chain of the identified produce by creating common Infrastructure facilities. APEDA also participates in International Trade Fairs to popularise and showcase Indian fruits and vegetables.

[Translation]

India's Position in Scientific Research

*119. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding India's position globally in terms of quality of scientific research;
- (b) whether India's position in the quality of scientific research is declining;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the measures being taken to improve the country's position in scientific research?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) India's position globally in terms of quality of scientific research as measured by the number of research

papers published has improved from 12th position in 2001 to 10th position in 2006 as per the Scopus International database. The growth rate of research papers published during the period 1996 to 2006 is 7.0% which is higher than the world average of 4.1%. Further, the citation per paper of Indian publications improved from 3.95 (during 1996-2006) to 4.40 (during 1998-2008) as per the ISI Web of Knowledge database.

- (b) No Sir.
- (c) Doesn't arise.

(d) The Government have taken various measures for the promotion and growth of scientific research in the country. These measures include higher allocation for scientific research from Plan to Plan, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence and facilities in emerging and frontline areas in academic and national institutes, induction of new and attractive fellowships such as INSPIRE, strengthening infrastructure for R&D in universities, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, national awards for outstanding R&D etc. Accordingly, the Government have enhanced XI plan allocation for Scientific Departments to Rs. 75,304.00 crores from Rs. 25,301.35 crores during X Plan.

Import of Edible Oil

*120. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to increase the import of edible oil in view of its shortage and price hike in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has put a ban on the export of edible oil in view of its shortage in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Imports of edible oil are freely allowed. To ensure availability of edible oil in India, Government have also reduced the customs duty on some edible oils and eliminated the customs duty on others.

(c) and (d) To ensure adequate availability of edible oils in the market, the Government has prohibited export of edible oils. Export of edible oil is however allowed in small consumer packs upto 5 kg, subject to a limit of only 10,000 MT during the next one year upto 31.10.2009. Export of Coconut Oil is however allowed through Kochi port.

[English]

Admission of Children belonging to BPL Families

502. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any direction/order has been issued by the Government to public and private schools to admit atleast 20% students in their schools from students belonging to below poverty line families and to provide them with free education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to bear the educational expenditure of these students;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent to which the public and private schools have adhered to the directions; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the defaulting schools in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (f) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008, to put into effect the Fundamental Right to free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years, has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill, inter alia, contains provision that an unaided school, not receiving any kind of aid or grants to meet its expenses from the appropriate Government or the local authority, shall admit in class I, to the extent of at least twenty-five per cent of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood and provide them free and compulsory elementary education. The Bill further makes provisions regarding reimbursement of expenditure by such schools to the extent of the per child expenditure incurred by the State, or the actual amount charged from the child, whichever is less.

NUEPA Report on Enrolment Rate

503. SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently released district level report of the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) has revealed significant increase in enrolment in primary and upper primary classes during 2007-08;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other salient features of progress made during 2007-08 under the Universal Elementary Education Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The enrolment has significantly increased from 12,46,15,546 in 2005-06 to 13,41,32,183 in 2007-08 at the primary level and from 4,36,67,786 in 2005-06 to 5,09,11,110 in 2007-08 at the upper primary level.

(c) Data of 2007-08 also reveals that there has been significant improvement in student classroom ratio to 37:1 coverage of primary schools with drinking water to 84.18%, Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) at primary level to 34:1 and Gender Parity Index at primary level (GPI) at 0.93.

Cross Border Tunnel in Rajasthan

504. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existence of a cross border tunnel underneath the fencing along the international border in Rajasthan has come to light through which drugs and fake currency were being smuggled into the Indian Territory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per inquiries conducted by BSF, no such

cross-border tunnel underneath the fencing along the international border in Rajasthan could be located. Strict vigilance is being maintained by the BSF to check illegal trans border activities.

[Translation]

Sophisticated Instrument in Small Scale Pharma Units

505. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to fund sophisticated instruments to small scale pharma units for improving the quality of medicines in the country;

(b) the details of research projects funded by the Government through national laboratories for small scale pharma units year-wise during the last three years;

(c) the details and value of instruments that are non-functional for more than six months in various Government aided scientific laboratories in the country; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto and remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Department of Science and Technology (DST) under a Plan scheme "Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP)" has been supporting setting up of national facilities with state-of-the-art sophisticated instruments of pharma sector in national laboratories and academic institutions to cater the needs of pharma industries including the small scale pharma units for improving the quality of medicines in the country. Upto 2007-08, 35 such national facilities in areas like bioavailability, toxicology, safety pharmacology, bioequivalence, neuro-toxicity, pharmacovigilance, combinatorial natural products, herbo-metallic preparations, animal house for pre-clinical toxicology, Bio-safety Level 3&4 etc. have been established. In addition, 82 research projects having joint partnership with industries including the small scale pharma units have also been sanctioned during this period. These projects also have enabled the institutions to procure a number of sophisticated instruments.

(b) During 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, 14 joint collaborative projects with industry were sanctioned to national labs./academic institutions in which 6 projects costing Rs. 794.00 lakhs pertained to small scale pharma units.

(c) and (d) There is no database available centrally on the status of equipments commissioned in various scientific laboratories. However, under Instrumentation Development Programme of DST, trainings to technicians on repairs and maintenance of DST, trainings to technicians on repairs and maintenance of scientific instruments are organized through specialized institutions like Central Scientific Instruments Organization, Chandigarh, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi etc. to maintain and upkeep of such instruments.

[English]

Increase in Population

506. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has experienced phenomenal increase in its population; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The population of the country has increased from 54.82 crore in 1971 to 102.87 crore in 2001 as per Statement I. However, decadal growth rate of population in percentage terms has registered a decline since 1971-81, as per Statement II. It has declined from 24.7 percent in 1971-81 to 23.9 percent in 1981-91 and further to 21.5 percent in 1991-2001.

The decadal growth rate of population in percentage terms has declined in all the States/UTs except for Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Nagaland, Gujarat, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, in 1991-2001 compared to 1981-91.

Statement I*Total population for India/State/Union territory: 1971-2001*

Sl.No.	India/State/Union territory	Total population			
		1971	1981	1991	2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
	INDIA ^{1,2}	548,159,652	683,329,097	846,421,039	1,028,737,436
1.	Jammu and Kashmir ²	4,616,632	5,987,389	7,837,051	10,143,700
2.	Himachal Pradesh	3,460,434	4,280,818	5,170,877	6,077,900
3.	Punjab	13,551,060	16,788,915	20,281,969	24,358,999
4.	Chandigarh	257,251	451,610	642,015	900,635
5.	Uttaranchal ³	4,492,724	5,725,972	7,050,634	8,489,349
6.	Haryana	10,036,431	12,922,119	16,463,648	21,144,564
7.	Delhi	4,065,698	6,220,406	9,420,644	13,850,507
8.	Rajasthan	25,765,806	34,261,862	44,005,990	56,507,188
9.	Uttar Pradesh	83,848,797	105,136,540	132,061,653	166,197,921
10.	Bihar	42,126,236	52,302,665	64,530,554	82,998,509
11.	Sikkim	209,843	316,385	406,457	540,851
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	467,511	631,839	864,558	1,097,968
13.	Nagaland	516,449	774,930	1,209,546	1,990,036
14.	Manipur ¹	1,072,753	1,420,953	1,837,149	2,293,896
15.	Mizoram	332,390	493,757	689,756	888,573
16.	Tripura	1,556,342	2,053,058	2,757,205	3,199,203
17.	Meghalaya	1,011,699	1,335,819	1,774,778	2,318,822
18.	Assam ²	14,625,152	18,041,248	22,414,322	26,655,528
19.	West Bengal	44,312,011	54,580,647	68,077,965	80,176,197
20.	Jharkhand ³	14,227,133	17,612,069	21,843,911	26,945,829
21.	Orissa	21,944,615	26,370,271	31,659,736	36,804,660
22.	Chhattisgarh ³	11,637,494	14,010,337	17,614,928	20,833,803
23.	Madhya Pradesh	30,016,625	38,168,507	48,566,242	60,348,023
24.	Gujarat	26,697,475	34,085,799	41,309,582	50,671,017

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Daman and Diu	62,651	78,981	101,586	158,204
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	74,170	103,676	138,477	220,490
27.	Maharashtra	50,412,235	62,782,818	78,937,187	96,878,627
28.	Andhra Pradesh	43,502,708	53,551,026	66,508,008	76,210,007
29.	Karnataka	29,299,014	37,135,714	44,977,201	52,850,562
30.	Goa	795,120	1,007,749	1,169,793	1,347,668
31.	Lakshadweep	31,810	40,249	51,707	60,550
32.	Kerala	21,347,375	25,453,680	29,098,518	31,841,374
33.	Tamil Nadu	41,199,168	48,408,077	55,858,946	62,405,679
34.	Pondicherry	471,707	604,471	807,785	974,345
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	115,133	188,741	280,661	356,152

Note:

1. Includes the estimated population of Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub division of Senapati district of Manipur for 2001.
2. Includes estimated population of Jammu and Kashmir for 1991 and of Assam for 1981 as census could not be conducted in the states.
3. Figures for Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are recasted figures based on 2001 jurisdiction.

Statement II*Decadal growth rate for India/State/Union territory: 1971-1981 to 1991-2001*

Sl.No.	India/State/Union territory	Decadal growth rate		
		1971-1981	1981-1991	1991-2001
1	2	3	4	5
	India^{1,2}	24.7	23.9	21.5
1.	Jammu and Kashmir ²	29.7	30.9	29.4
2.	Himachal Pradesh	23.7	20.8	17.5
3.	Punjab	23.9	20.8	20.1
4.	Chandigarh	75.6	42.2	40.3
5.	Uttaranchal ³	27.4	23.1	20.4
6.	Haryana	28.8	27.4	28.4
7.	Delhi	53.0	51.4	47.0
8.	Rajasthan	33.0	28.4	28.4

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Uttar Pradesh	25.4	25.6	25.8
10.	Bihar	24.2	23.4	28.6
11.	Sikkim	50.8	28.5	33.1
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.1	36.8	27.0
13.	Nagaland	50.0	56.1	64.5
14.	Manipur ¹	32.5	29.3	24.9
15.	Mizoram	48.5	39.7	28.8
16.	Tripura	31.9	34.3	16.0
17.	Meghalaya	32.0	32.9	30.7
18.	Assam ²	23.4	24.2	18.9
19.	West Bengal	23.2	24.7	17.8
20.	Jharkhand ³	23.8	24.0	23.4
21.	Orissa	20.2	20.1	16.3
22.	Chhattisgarh ³	20.4	25.7	18.3
23.	Madhya Pradesh	27.2	27.2	24.3
24.	Gujarat	27.7	21.2	22.7
25.	Daman and Diu	26.1	28.6	55.7
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	39.8	33.6	59.2
27.	Maharashtra	24.5	25.7	22.7
28.	Andhra Pradesh	23.1	24.2	14.6
29.	Karnataka	26.7	21.1	17.5
30.	Goa	26.7	16.1	15.2
31.	Lakshadweep	26.5	28.5	17.3
32.	Kerala	19.2	14.3	9.4
33.	Tamil Nadu	17.5	15.4	11.7
34.	Pondicherry	28.1	33.6	20.6
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	63.9	48.7	26.9

Note:

1. Includes the estimated population of Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub division of Senapati district of Manipur for 2001.
2. Includes estimated population of Jammu and Kashmir for 1991 and of Assam for 1981 as census could not be conducted in the states.
3. Figures for Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are recasted figures based on 2001 jurisdiction.

Mechanism for Mineral Sector

507. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism for engagement between Government and prospective investors in mineral sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) to (c) In order to have pro-active engagement between Government and prospective investors in mineral sector in the country, Ministry of Mines has constituted Mineral Advisory Council under the chairmanship of the Mines Minister and Granite Development Council and Group on Marble Development under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Mines. These forums have representations from concerned Central Ministries/Departments, State Governments and the industry including prospective investors. Meetings of these forums are held from time to time and issues raised in those meetings are considered and also taken up with concerned Central Ministry and State Government, as the case may be.

Reservation for OBCs in IIT's

508. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) has been extended for lecturers in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and other centrally assisted professional institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and percentage of posts reserved;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to review the above policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The present policy is of 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in

vacancies to be filled up by direct recruitment at entry level upto the level of Lecturer in all teaching and non-teaching posts in Central universities and institutions which are deemed to be universities receiving aids from public funds, other than the minority institutions under Article 30(1) of the Constitution. Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) follow the Government's reservation policy for recruitment in non-teaching posts. The institutes have been requested to follow the same policy for recruitment in all faculty posts for subjects other than Science and Technology and in respect to the posts of Assistant Professors and Lecturers in Science and Technology subjects.

[Translation]

Surrender and Rehabilitation Scheme

509. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has implemented the scheme for the surrender and rehabilitation of the terrorists/extremists;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States where this scheme has been implemented;

(c) the year-wise/State-wise number of surrendered terrorists/extremists under the scheme during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the details of expenditure incurred under the said scheme during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Policies for surrender cum rehabilitation of militants are being implemented in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern States. Under the policy, a monthly stipend of Rs. 2000/- per month is given to surrenderees for a period of three years after surrender, and an immediate grant of Rs. 1.50 lakh to be kept in the shape of Fixed Deposit Receipts in a Bank in the name of the surrenderee which can be drawn by him on completion of three years period subject good behaviour. Incentives for surrender of weapons are also given as per the prescribed rates. Besides, there is provision for vocational training for self-employment to those who undergo such training. The expenditure incurred by the States in this regard is reimbursed under the Security Related Expenditure scheme of the Government of India.

Some Naxalite affected states also have their own state specific surrender and rehabilitation policy for Naxalities who surrender. Expenditure is reimbursed to the Naxalite affected states for various items, which include reimbursement of expenditure upto Rs. 10000/- for a surrenderee without arms and upto Rs. 20000 with regular weapons under the SRE Scheme.

(c) The details of militants and naxalites who have surrendered in J&K, North Eastern States and Naxal affected States during the year 2006, 2007 and 2008 is detailed below:

States/Year	2006	2007	2008	2009 (Upto February, 2009)
Jammu and Kashmir	190	122	38	0
North Eastern States				
Arunachal Pradesh	02	011	08	0
Assam	385	229	724	83
Manipur	20	07	37	0
Meghalaya	41	40	14	1
Mizoram	847	13	0	0
Nagaland	07	04	04	0
Tripura	128	220	325	154
Naxal affected States (2009 figures upto January 31)				
Andhra Pradesh	282	162	197	10
Bihar	15	21	028	0
Chhattisgarh	901	167	8	0
Jharkhand	10	02	6	0
Madhya Pradesh	01	—	1	0
Maharashtra	67	35	150	6
Orissa	03	03	06	0
Uttar Pradesh	02	0	4	0

(d) The details of the amount reimbursed by the Central Government to the State Governments during the last three years are given below:

Year	Jammu and Kashmir	NE States
2005-06	Rs. 0.49 Crore	Rs. 3.85 Crore
2006-07	Rs. 0.31 Crore	Rs. 6.54 Crore
2007-08	Rs. 0.66 Crore	Rs. 5.32 Crore
2008-09 (Upto February 2009)	Rs. 0.71 Crore	Rs. 8.93 Crore

Details of expenditure incurred under the state specific surrender and rehabilitation policy in naxal affected states are not centrally maintained.

Export of Khadi and Village Industries Products

510. SHRI PUSP JAIN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote export of the products manufactured in the villages by conferring the status of Export Promotion Council to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether new jobs are likely to be created for the women and rural people as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In order to streamline and increase the export of khadi and villages industry (KVI) products, the Government (in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce) conveyed the approval of the competent authority granting the deemed Export Promotion Council (EPC) status to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in December, 2006. KVI products, under the fold of KVIC-EPC, are promoted through the Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme implemented by the Government (in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce). 763 units/institutions have become members of KVIC-EPC till January 2009. Action plan has been prepared by KVIC

to participate in international exhibitions/Trade fairs to facilitate participation of Khadi institutions/village industry units by providing the following incentives:

- (i) 75 per cent of the air fare towards travel by economy class or train fare, as the case may be to one representative each of the participating units of the general category while 100 per cent of such airfare is provided to one representative each of the participating units belong to women entrepreneurs, SC/ST entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs from North Eastern Region;
- (ii) up to 50 per cent of the space rent actually paid is reimbursed. In case of women entrepreneurs, SC/ST entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs from North Eastern Region, etc., reimbursement of space rent is 100 per cent,
- (iii) assistance for space rent and travel expenses for each participating entrepreneur/unit would be limited to Rs. 1.25 lakh; and
- (iv) all exporting units/institutions are eligible to get 5 per cent export incentives on 'Free-on-board (FOB)' value of the items exported directly by them.

(c) and (d) Since the KVIC-EPC is in its initial stage of operation, jobs/employment opportunities likely to be generated for women and rural people specifically attributable to deemed EPC status of KVIC cannot be ascertained in a definitive manner. This status is however expected to have positive effect also on employment generation in KVI sector especially as exports of KVI products have shown an increasing trend and grown from Rs. 53.73 crore in 2006-07 to Rs. 91.93 crore during 2007-08.

[English]

Education Development Index

511. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Puducherry has replaced Kerala from the first position in elementary education in the country as pointed out by Educational Development Index (EDI) for 2007-08 prepared by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration;

(b) if so, the reasons for Kerala slipping from its first position; and

(c) the variables that are taken into consideration while deciding the rank in EDI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) A set of indicators on access, infrastructure, teachers and outcomes in elementary education are used by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), in the computation of Educational Development Index (EDI). The EDI rankings are relative in nature. In the case of Puducherry better scores on access to elementary education & outcomes in primary education, have led to an improved ranking than Kerala.

Financial Assistance for Minority Education

512. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of requests have been received from people belonging to minority communities and institutions for providing financial assistance to fulfil their educational needs;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the amount sanctioned to these institutes during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the details of requests pending with the Government indicating the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) Under Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernization Programme (AIMMP) for minority communities, proposals of madrasas and minority institutions for providing financial assistance are received through State/UT Governments in respect of both the components (madrasa modernization and Area Intensive) of the scheme. The State-wise details of amount released under these components are given in the enclosed statement. Proposals have been received from State Government of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Kerala for renewal of already funded madrasas.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT's	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (as on 20-2-2009)
Madrasa Modernization Component				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48.60	48.60	0.00
2.	Assam	—	—	360.00
3.	Bihar	—	79.92	—
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	12.60	—	—
5.	Orissa	189.84	104.40	104.40
6.	Madhya Pradesh	287.69	75.10	746.16
7.	Maharashtra	—	—	2.87
8.	Kerala	338.91	—	—
9.	Tripura	45.72	45.72	45.72
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2481.96	3010.54	3552.66
11.	Chhattisgarh	242.92	—	112.92
12.	Chandigarh	0.72	—	—
13.	Karnataka	77.41	—	—
14.	Uttarakhand	109.03	—	—
Total (Madrasa Modernization)		3835.40	3364.28	4924.72
Area Intensive Component				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	664.25	—	—
2.	Bihar	—	76.25	—
3.	Uttar Pradesh	—	1054.19	25.00
Total (Area Intensive)		664.25	1130.44	25.00

Facilities to Refugees

513. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large population of Tibetans and Nepali have come to stay permanently in India, as refugees;

(b) if so, the total number of said refugees staying in India;

(c) whether in order to provide due security to life and property, Government proposes to issue identity cards to them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken and being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A large number of Tibetans have come to stay in India. As per passport (Entry into India) Act 1920, a citizen of Nepal entering into India by land or air through the Nepal border does not require a passport for entry into India. A Nepali citizen does not require to be registered with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer/Foreigners Registration Officer since as per Registration of Foreigners Act 1939, he can enter India without a passport/visa.

(c) to (e) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government to issue Identity Cards to Tibetan refugees.

Smuggling of Cows

514. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hawala money generated through smuggling of cows from India to Bangladesh is being used to finance smuggling of arms and ammunition to India as reported in *The Times of India* dated 3 October, 2008;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported alongwith total number of cases of cow smuggling during each of the last three years and current year; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) There is no specific information in this regard.

The Government of India, as part of its security strategy, has nevertheless taken the following steps to curb smuggling and other trans-border activities and crimes.

(i) Construction of border fencing and roads & flood lighting.

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of the borders by Boarder Security Force, which has been deployed along the Indo-Bangladesh border and which patrols both land and riverine stretches of border.

(iii) Setting up of 1185 border out posts along Indo-Bangladesh border, of which 802 border outposts have already been established.

(iv) Introduction of modern surveillance equipments including night vision devices, etc.

(v) Up-gradation of intelligence machinery.

The number of cattle seized by the BSF during the last three years and in the current year is as follows:-

Year	No. of Cattle seized
2006	1,29,313
2007	1,33,173
2008	1,19,832
2009 (upto 31.1.2009)	12,381

[Translation]

Export of Indigenously Manufactured Goods

515. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of indigenously manufactured goods has been declining in the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise and item-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of export of indigenously manufactured goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) India's exports of manufactured goods (excluding POL) has increased on an average by 19.2 per cent, in US\$ terms, during the last three years ending 2007-08. During 2008-09 (April-December), the growth of export of manufactured

goods has decelerated to 12.9 per cent due to adverse impact of global slowdown. The slow growth of exports during the current year is mainly on account of fall in exports particularly of the labour intensive exports such as Gems & Jewellery, Handicrafts, Carpets and slow growth in the exports of Leather and Manufactures, Textiles etc. Details of India's exports are available in the official website of the Department of Commerce <http://commerce.gov.in>.

(c) The promotion of India's exports has all along been the constant endeavour of the government. The key strategies for export promotion include simplification of procedures, reduction in transaction cost, neutralization of incidence of all levies/duties on inputs used for export and emphasis on special focus areas like agriculture, handlooms, handicraft, gems & jewellery, leather, footwear etc. During the current year Government has also announced a series of measures to arrest the deceleration in India's exports in the wake of global slowdown. These measures, inter-alia, include provision of interest subvention in pre and post-shipment export credit for labour intensive exports, provision of additional funds for full refund of Terminal Excise Duty/ CST, Government back-up guarantee to ECGC to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products, allocation of additional funds for export incentive schemes, etc.

[English]

Sea Erosion

516. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any measures have been taken by the Government to check sea erosion and land-slide including identification on places prone to earthquakes in the country including State of Orissa;

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

(c) the total funds provided to the State Government including the Government of Orissa under various projects in this regard during each of the last three years and current year;

(d) the details of schemes suggested by the Government of Orissa for the aforesaid purpose and the assistance sought therefor; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) The necessary details are being collected and will be placed in due course.

Foreign Funds to Religious Institutions

517. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the religious institutions in the country are allowed to receive foreign contributions under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976;

(b) if so, the total funds received by such institutions during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether there is any ceiling on receipt of contribution to limit inflow of such foreign funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Associations having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme can accept foreign contributions subject to registration or prior permission under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976. An association may exercise a choice to have itself registered in one or more of the five areas mentioned above.

(b) As per information available, the total amount of foreign contribution received by the associations, which have registered themselves as religious associations as one of their areas of activity is given below:

Year	Amount of foreign contribution received (Rs. in crores)
2005-06	3075.77
2006-07	5558.72
2007-08 (Provisional)	3511.07

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Submergence of Coastal Areas

518. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some coastal areas of the country have submerged due to rise in the level of the oceans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment in this regard;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent loss to lives and property due to rise in the level of the ocean?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The submergence is reported in two islands of Indian region in the Sundarbans delta system, namely Lohachara (inhabited) and Suparibhanga (un-inhabited). Another island Ghoramara has lost 41% of its land area between 1970-2000. Causes for such submergence may not be due to global warming as no significant sea level rise is recorded along the Indian coastline in last 40 years. The submergence might be attributed to normal deltaic subsidence along the east coast.

(b) to (d) Indian scientists have studied local sea level rise at various places from Indian Tide gauge data, which indicates the observed trends during the past century. These are as follows:

- (1) Cochin (1939-1991) = 1.2 mm/year
- (2) Vishkhapatnam (1937-1991) = 0.9 mm/year
- (3) Mumbai (1870-1990) = 0.8 mm/year
- (4) Sunderban (1985-2000) = 3.14 mm/year

Analysis of past tide gauge records for the Indian coastline regions shows that there is an average estimated sea level rise of 1.29 mm/year for the last 40 years.

As no comprehensive study has been made systematically in respect of coastal submergence by taking all possible factors and coastal zone processes into consideration, identification of islands under the threat of submergence has so far been not possible with confidence.

(e) Sea level rise is a relatively slow phenomenon occurring in the background of more dramatic manifestations like storm surges and tidal variations. Thus,

in order to minimize the impacts viz. coastal erosion and coastal zone (covering land and EEZ) management, the Governments at Central and State levels have accorded higher priority to these aspects in their various Programmes.

[Translation]

Funds for World Class Universities

519. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to open world class Universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of funds allocated by the Government for establishing world class universities in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) the names of States where the said Universities are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to establish 14 National Universities aiming towards world class standards during the 11th and 12th Plan periods. An allocation of Rs. 4500 crore has also been made in the 11th Plan for the purpose. A State-wise list of the cities identified for locating these Universities is enclosed as statement.

Statement

State-wise List of the Cities Identified for Locating the National Universities Proposed to be Established During the 11th and 12th Plan Periods

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Name of the City
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
2.	Assam	Guwahati
3.	Bihar	Patna
4.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar

1	2	3
5.	Karnataka	Mysore
6.	Kerala	Kochi
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
8.	Maharashtra	Pune
9.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
10.	Punjab	Amritsar
11.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
12.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
13.	Uttar Pradesh	Greater Noida
14.	West Bengal	Kolkata

[*English*]

Nutrition for Adolescent Girls in Schools

520. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government extends any financial assistance to States for providing nutrition to adolescent girls in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the ratio of children enrolled in schools especially girls in each State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The Government is implementing a National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools (NP-MDMS), commonly known as Mid Day Meal Scheme in which children including girls studying in classes I to VIII in Government, Government-aided and Local body schools and centres run under Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE), are provided a mid day meal of nutritional value of 450 calories and 12 grams of protein at primary; 700 calories and 20 grams of protein at upper primary stage. Upto Financial Year 2006-07, the Mid Day Meal Programme was implemented in primary schools only. It extended to Upper Primary schools of 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) with effect from 1.10.2007. From 1.4.2008, it has been extended to all eligible upper primary schools in the country. With the extension of mid day meal in upper primary schools, adolescent girls are also benefitted by this scheme. Central assistance released to the States/UTs during the last three years viz. 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2007-08 and during the current year 2008-09 (upto 15.02.2009) is given in the enclosed Statement I. The percentage of girls, enrolment during the last three years viz. 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2007-08 at primary and upper primary is given in the enclosed Statement II.

Statement I

Central assistance released during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 under Mid-Day Meal

		(Rs. in crore)			
Sl.No.	Name of the State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (provisional as on 15.2.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	212.01	368.85	467.42	105.05
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.02	28.41	12.17	13.40
3.	Assam	108.85	297.29	146.90	253.87

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	367.83	478.30	487.24	413.39
5.	Chhattisgarh	96.76	155.33	171.47	252.20
6.	Goa	1.77	2.78	3.07	6.04
7.	Gujarat	105.27	176.41	143.05	226.74
8.	Haryana	40.50	59.27	63.69	74.41
9.	Himachal Pradesh	21.97	44.00	31.08	112.39
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	15.43	58.77	37.41	57.40
11.	Jharkhand	131.63	154.29	217.52	184.22
12.	Karnataka	147.26	247.46	338.51	285.91
13.	Kerala	44.76	62.32	74.20	151.12
14.	Madhya Pradesh	261.97	497.18	635.83	593.70
15.	Maharashtra	135.64	453.28	337.03	729.55
16.	Manipur	9.15	14.15	9.87	15.29
17.	Meghalaya	16.01	26.51	37.44	25.23
18.	Mizoram	2.91	6.22	4.85	15.49
19.	Nagaland	5.50	16.93	11.95	11.42
20.	Orissa	73.05	279.81	382.94	304.46
21.	Punjab	17.74	62.25	81.00	177.02
22.	Rajasthan	174.11	275.62	483.31	357.71
23.	Sikkim	4.64	7.89	4.19	4.87
24.	Tamil Nadu	136.47	144.84	180.31	286.46
25.	Tripura	16.88	27.62	24.49	35.06
26.	Uttar Pradesh	512.78	826.64	946.90	782.93
27.	Uttaranchal	29.62	49.48	45.45	70.18
28.	West Bengal	454.65	396.44	415.45	561.20
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.40	0.47	1.26	3.94
30.	Chandigarh	1.73	0.17	3.62	3.69
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.89	0.26	1.81	1.81

1	2	3	4	5	6
32.	Daman and Diu	0.51	0.25	0.54	0.88
33.	Delhi	30.94	9.44	29.14	63.93
34.	Lakshadweep	0.20	0.01	0.00	0.20
35.	Pondicherry	1.28	2.02	2.44	5.18
	Total	3185.13	5230.93	5833.55	6186.34

Statement II*Ratio of girls in enrolment*

Sl.No.	State/UT	% Girls' Enrolment@					
		Classes I-V			Classes VI-VIII		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	49.12	49.08	48.76	46.94	47.58	47.50
2.	Andhra Pradesh	49.37	49.29	49.26	47.78	48.20	48.57
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	47.41	47.66	47.91	46.72	47.15	47.20
4.	Assam	49.28	49.27	49.35	48.82	49.40	50.14
5.	Bihar	44.36	45.89	46.56	38.87	41.66	43.04
6.	Chandigarh	45.48	44.58	44.72	46.38	45.19	44.63
7.	Chhattisgarh	48.61	48.88	48.88	46.09	47.29	47.99
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	46.96	47.65	47.68	40.73	41.62	43.03
9.	Daman and Diu	46.30	47.88	46.73	46.13	47.68	44.23
10.	Delhi	47.05	46.73	46.92	46.80	46.82	46.08
11.	Goa	47.36	48.01	48.46	46.95	46.66	46.00
12.	Gujarat	46.97	46.81	46.70	44.16	44.68	45.31
13.	Haryana	47.36	47.31	46.06	48.14	48.18	46.63
14.	Himachal Pradesh	47.62	47.29	47.30	47.38	47.16	47.24
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	45.95	46.15	46.47	44.71	44.81	45.02
16.	Jharkhand	47.50	48.59	49.02	44.08	45.24	46.39
17.	Karnataka	48.61	48.40	48.44	48.11	47.96	48.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Kerala	49.40	49.46	49.62	48.25	48.25	48.93
19.	Lakshadweep	47.75	47.94	49.27	42.41	49.92	46.73
20.	Madhya Pradesh	48.85	48.75	48.91	44.22	45.03	45.71
21.	Maharashtra	47.48	47.31	47.13	46.80	47.07	46.81
22.	Manipur	49.65	49.84	49.69	49.19	49.33	49.00
23.	Meghalaya	50.44	50.35	50.18	52.03	52.44	52.37
24.	Mizoram	48.51	48.22	48.62	48.98	48.83	49.09
25.	Nagaland	49.00	49.07	48.78	49.47	48.78	48.91
26.	Orissa	48.17	47.64	48.83	46.17	46.39	47.58
27.	Puducherry	51.60	48.42	51.03	51.21	47.83	49.14
28.	Punjab	46.34	45.87	45.97	46.72	46.05	46.27
29.	Rajasthan	46.79	46.78	46.66	38.20	39.88	40.84
30.	Sikkim	49.69	49.64	49.45	53.11	53.10	54.07
31.	Tamil Nadu	48.28	48.39	48.43	48.05	48.14	48.07
32.	Tripura	47.67	47.85	48.33	48.74	48.78	49.05
33.	Uttar Pradesh	47.77	48.86	49.21	45.31	47.29	48.52
34.	Uttarakhand	49.49	48.84	48.79	48.76	48.56	48.83
35.	West Bengal	49.55	49.30	49.09	48.97	49.56	49.62
	All States	47.79	48.09	48.22	45.80	46.51	46.99

● Source: District information on School Education (DISE)

[Translation]

Demand for Calamity Relief

521. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request for release of Rs. 1000 crores has been received by the Government from the State of Himachal Pradesh for calamity relief;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Financial assistance in the wake of natural calamities is provided as per the Scheme of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). Under the Scheme, a CRF has been constituted for each State, as ready availability of funds, which is contributed by the Government of India and State Government in the ratio of 75:25. Additional financial assistance is also extended from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the event of a natural calamity of a severe nature, in accordance with the established procedure, when the fund available in CRF account is inadequate.

An amount of Rs. 109.87 crore has been allocated to the State in CRF for the year 2008-09 consisting of Rs. 82.40 crore as Central contribution and Rs. 27.47 crore as State contribution. The 1st Instalment of the Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 41.20 crore was released to the State, on 3rd June 2008. On the request of the State Government, this Ministry has also released, in advance, 2nd instalment of the Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 41.20 crore on 22nd September 2008, which otherwise was due for release in December, 2008, to the Government of Himachal Pradesh pending receipt of utilization certificate and Annual Report.

Further keeping in view the damage caused by the flood landslide during 2008, Government of India has released Rs. 50.00 crore as advance (Rs. 21.2275 crore as advance release of Central share of CRF for the year 2009-10 and Rs. 28.7725 crore on account release from NCCF).

The State Government of Himachal Pradesh had projected a requirement of additional Central assistance of Rs. 1616.00 crore from NCCF for relief operations in the areas affected by floods/ landslides during the year 2008. The request of the State Government was considered by the High Level Committee (HLC) in its meeting held on 05.02.2009, after taking into consideration the memorandum, report of the Central Team, recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group and the norms and guidelines for expenditure from CRF/NCCF, approved the assistance of (i) Rs. 93.42 crore from NCCF subject to adjustment of 75% of balances available in the CRF account for instant calamities and (ii) Rs. 6.00 crore from Special Component of the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

[English]

Separate Statutory Development Board for Konkan

522. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carried out any evaluation of the existing three development boards in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, details thereof and outcome of such evaluation;

(c) whether the Government is also considering to change the names of the said development boards;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the proposal for separate statutory development board for Konkan region of Maharashtra is being considered; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Programme Evaluation Organisation Division of the Planning Commission undertook detailed study and submitted its final report on 3.9.2003. The Report observed that the three existing Development Boards have been discharging their assigned functions and responsibilities reasonably well and has brought about important changes for balanced regional development.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Government had received a Resolution passed on 20th February, 2005 by both the Houses of Maharashtra State Legislature recommending the establishment of a seprate Development Board for Konkan region of the State. The Planning Commission, who were consulted in the matter in February 2006, are of the view (May 2006) that backwardness by itself is not a reason for constitutional amendment for establishing a separate Development Board for Konkan region as there are other instruments available to the centre and State Governments to gear up their developmental machinery. The matter was referred back to Planning Commission in 2007 for re-examination in view of the persisting demand of Government of Maharashtra. However, they reiterated their earlier view. No definite time-frame can be specified in this regard.

Teachers' Training

523. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from State Governments including West Bengal to commence courses to bridge the gap of Primary Teachers Training Course for one year in three phases;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the action taken thereon; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) had recently received a proposal from the Government of West Bengal to grant them permission to conduct a one year bridge course in respect of persons who have undertaken a one year primary teacher training course in teacher training colleges of West Bengal. The bridge course has been proposed so as to draw equivalence with the 2 year primary teacher training course stipulated by NCTE. The NCTE has "in principle" agreed to the proposal in respect of such persons who had the basic qualification of 10+2 with 50% marks therein.

Pay Scales in CSIR

524. SHRI RAJU RANA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CSIR has been taken into consideration the modifications and clarifications made by the Government in the date of adoption of the scheme granting Non-functional pay scale of Rs. 8000-13500 to the Section Officers;

(b) if so, the details of implementation of the scheme by CSIR;

(c) whether the said scheme is not being implemented in accordance with the approvals granted by the Government;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps being taken to ensure proper implementation of the scheme by CSIR;

(e) whether any complaints have been received by the Government regarding tardy implementation of the Scheme and against the spirit of the Government approvals thereto;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No Sir, as the scheme formulated by Department of Personnel and Training was specific to Section Officers of Central Secretariat Services, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure did not agree to extent it.

(b) The Non Functional Scale of Rs. 8000-13500 was implemented in respect of Section Officers w.e.f. 03.10.2003, based on the approval given by the Governing Body of CSIR in its 166th meeting held on 16.02.2006 and the decision dated 17.05.2007.

(c) Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, did not agree to extend Non Functional Scale to the CSIR as the scheme was specifically formulated by Department of Personnel and Training for Section Officers of Central Secretariat Services.

(d) The issue regarding grant of Non Functional Scale to the Section Officers was taken up with Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure both formally and informally and it was not agreed to by the Government.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. Representations from the employees and references from Director Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow and Hon'ble Members of Parliament were received for implementing the Non Functional Scale of Rs. 8000-13500 notionally from 1.1.1996 with actual benefit from 3.10.2003. Details of same are given in the enclosed statement.

(g) In view of the observations of Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, Non Functional Scale of Rs. 8000-13500 could not be extended notionally wef 01.01.1996.

Statement

List of representations received from the employees of CSIR for grant of Non-functional Scale w.e.f. 01.01.1996 notionally with monetary benefits w.e.f. 03.10.2003:

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Lab/Instt.	Replied
1	2	3	4	5
1.	K. Purushothaman	Administrativer Officer	NAL, Bangalore	Replied vide CSIR letter No 3-33(113)/2004-EI dated 26.11.2008
2.	J. Jagadeesh Rao	Section Officer (General)	NAL, Bangalore	
3.	Smt. Chandra N. Prasad	Section Officer (General)	NAL, Bangalore	

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Smt. Jaya Venkatesh	Section Officer (Finance & Accounts)	NAL, Bangalore	
5.	P. Venkata Rao	Section Officer (Finance & Accounts)	NAL, Bangalore	
6.	A. Chidambaram	Section Officer (Finance & Accounts)	NAL, Bangalore	
7.	Jai Parkash	Finance & Accounts Officer	IMT Chandigarh	Replied vide CSIR letter No 3-33 (113)/2004-EI dated 26.11.2008
8.	Brijesh Kumar	Finance & Accounts Officer	IMT Chandigarh	
9.	Cheering Tobden	Administrative Officer	IMT Chandigarh	
10.	Parag Saxena	Section Officer (General)	IMT Chandigarh	
11.	B.K. Singh	Administrative Officer	IHBT, Palampur	Replied vide CSIR letter No 3-33(113)/2004-EI dated 26.11.2008

References received from Director for implementing Non-functional Scale w.e.f 01.01.1996 notionally with monetary benefits w.e.f. 03.10.2003:

Sl.No.	Name	Reference No. & Date	Replied
1.	Dr. P.S. Ahuja Director, CIMAP, Lucknow	D.O. No. DIR/1/2008 dated 01.12.2008	Reply sent vide letter No. 5-1(3)2008-PD dated 18.12.2008

References received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament for implementing Non-functional Scale w.e.f. 01.01.1996 notionally with monetary benefits w.e.f. 03.10.2003:

Sl.No.	Name	Reference No. & Date	Replied
1.	Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, MP(LS) Calling Attention Notice	LSS UO No. 9/1 XII/2008/T dated 5.3.2008	Factual statement sent vide CSIR OM No. 26-1(7)/2008-PU dated 14.03.2008
2.	Sh. Ram Swaroop Prasad, MP (LS) Unstarred Question Dy. No. 11997	LSS DO No. 11997/22.04/2008-Q dated 11.4.2008	Facts sent vide CSIR OM No. 26-1(11)/2008-PU dated 16.04.2008
3.	Sh. Raju Rana MP (LS) Unstarred Question Dy. No. 171	LSS Do No. 171/17.2/2009-Q dated 4.2.2009	Facts sent vide CSIR OM No. 26-1(1)/2009-PU dated 16.2.2009

[Translation]

Fake Visas and Passports

525. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of fake visas and passports are on a rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and current year;

(c) whether involvement of travel agents has been reported in such cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) As per the available information, the number of cases of forgery in visas and passports detected at the five major International Airports namely, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Amritsar during the last three years are given in the table below:

Sl.No.	Year	Number of cases reported
1.	2006	1492
2.	2007	1251
3.	2008	865

Prompt action is taken as and when such cases of foregery/fake visas and passport are detected. Agents involved in preparing such forged/fake documents are apprehended by the local police authorities and appropriate action is taken against them as per law.

A number of steps have been taken by the government to check travel by persons on forged/fake documents. These steps include:

- (i) Use of mangifying glass and Ultra Violet lamps at all International Airports for scrutinizing the features of the travel documents;
- (ii) Issuance of machine-readable passports with improved security features;
- (iii) Installation of Passport Reading Machines (PRMs) for verifying the genuiness of the passports;
- (iv) Installation of Questionable Document Examiner (QDX) machines for detection of sophisticated forgeries in travel documents;
- (v) Installation of Immigration Control System (ICS) software which verifies the passport details of passengers to prevent impersonation; besides
- (vi) Special training is also imparted to Immigration Officers at airports on a regular basis to detect forged/fake travel documents.

Steps have also been taken by the Government to prevent the Recruiting Agents (RAs) from facilitating emigration of persons on fake/forged documents, whereby (i) Recruiting Agents are required to submit all the employment documents in original for obtaining emigration clearance; and (ii) Publicity campaigns have been undertaken to make prospective emigrants aware of the provisions of the Emigration Act and the rules made thereunder.

Calculation of Price Indices

526. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of commodities included in calculation of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) along with the percentage share of each commodity;

(b) the details regarding rate of WPI and CPI during the last six months;

(c) whether there has been an increase of 11.14% for agricultural and small labourers under CPI during the period ending December, 2008;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the status of implementation of the recommendations made by working group for revision of WPI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The details of commodities and their weights in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) [Base: 1993-94= 100] is given below:

Discription	Weight (%)
1	2
All Commodities	100.00
I. Primary articles	22.02
Food Articles	15.40
Non-Food Articles	6.14

1	2
Minerals	0.48
II. Fuel, Power, Light & Lubricants	14.23
Coking Coal	1.75
Mineral Oils	6.99
Electricity	5.48
III. Manufactured Products	63.75
Food Products	11.54
Beverages, Tobacco & Tobacco Products	1.34
Textiles	9.80
Wood & Wood Products	0.17
Paper & Paper Products	2.04
Leather & Leather Products	1.02
Rubber & Plastic products	2.39
Chemicals & Chemical Products	11.93
Non-metallic Mineral products	2.52
Basic Metals, Alloys & Metal Products	8.34
Machinery & Machine Tools	8.36
Transport, Equipment & Parts	4.29

The details of commodities and their weights in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) [Base: 2001=100] is as under:

Discription	Weight (%)
1	2
All Commodities	100.00
I. Food	46.20
Cereals and Products	13.48
Pulses and Products	2.91
Oils and Fats	3.23
Meat, Fish and Eggs	3.97

1	2
Milk and Milk Products	7.31
Condiments and Spices	2.57
Vegetables and Fruits	6.05
Other Food	6.68
II. Pan, Supari, Tobacco & Intoxicants	2.27
III. Fuel & Light	6.43
IV. Housing	15.27
V. Clothing, Bedding & Footwear	6.57
VI. Miscellaneous	23.26
Medical Care	4.56
Education, Recreation and Amusement	6.18
Transport & Communication	4.87
Personal Care and Effects	4.22
Other Miscellaneous Items	3.43

(b) The rates of inflation based on monthly WPI [base: 1993-94=100] and CPI (IW) [base: 2001=100] during the period from July 2008 to December 2008 are as follows:

Month	Rate of Inflation based on	
	WPI [Base: 1993-94]	CPI (IW) [Base: 2001]
July 2008	12.36	8.33
August 2008	12.82	9.02
September 2008	12.27	9.77
October 2008	11.06	10.45
November 2008	8.48	10.45
December 2008	6.47*	9.70

*Provisional

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Point to point rate of inflation based on All India CPI Numbers for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) with base: 1986-87=100 for the month of December, 2008 was 11.14%. The details of All India

CPI-AL and point to point rate of inflation from July, 2008 to December, 2008 are given below:-

Month	All India CPI-AI	Point to point rate of inflation based on All India CPI-AL (in per cent)
July 2008	442	9.41
August 2008	450	10.29
September 2008	455	10.98
October 2008	459	11.14
November 2008	460	11.11
December 2008	459	11.14

(e) The Working Group for revision of WPI Numbers, set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission, submitted its Technical Report in May 2008; Scrutiny and validation of price data received is currently in progress. No date as yet has been fixed for the release of the new series of WPI.

[English]

Investments in India

527. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) The details of investment proposed/received through Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEM), Letter of Intent (LOI) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in each of the last three years and the current year, state-wise;

(b) the details regarding rate of utilization of such investment during the above period; and

(c) the details regarding employment generated through such investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The details of statewise and yearwise break up of investments proposed through Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEM) Letter of Intent (LOI) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The details of the implementation as reported by the entrepreneurs by way of filing Part B of IEMs and Letters of Intent, Converted into Industrial Licence are given in the enclosed Statement-II and the FDI inflow since 2005-06 to 2008-09 (upto September 08) is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(c) Employment for 62,06,119 persons have been proposed through the investment in terms of IEMs and LOIs during the said period. Employment generation through FDI is not maintained centrally.

Statement I

State-wise and Year wise Break up of Proposed Investment in Terms of IEMs Filed, LOIs Granted and FDI (In Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2005-06			2006-07			2007-08			2008-09 (upto Dec)		
		IEMs	LOIs	FDI	IEMs	LOIs	FDI	IEMs	LOIs	FDI	IEMs	LOIs	FDI*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	123	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	17311	14	371.82	47828	0	501.03	65628	0	4273.94	114818	0	914.56
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	41	0	0	111	0	0	37	0	0	147	0	0
4.	Assam	807	2	0.51	2044	0	0	1333	0	35	7185	0	0
5.	Bihar	3913	0	0	4850	0	0	6564	0	0	9194	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	234	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7.	Chhattisgarh	39901	0	0	118737	0	1650	222510	0	0	145244	0	0
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2373	1	0	2794	0	0	3024	0	0	1458	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	779	1	0	1559	0	0	2176	0	0	213	0	0
10.	Delhi	20	0	740.99	218	0	3318.32	93	0	507.94	48	0	2206.63
11.	Goa	296	0	39.41	316	0	0	745	0	0.05	625	0	30
12.	Gujarat	82793	35	153.05	72093	0	65.79	118800	2	365.15	78252	0	150.91
13.	Haryana	5577	0	57.54	16095	0	5.64	6340	7	126.63	5409	0	2.45
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1763	11	9	1906	0	0	3596	0	0	1425	0	0
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2058	0	0	2306	0	0	1897	0	0	576	0	0
16.	Jharkhand	54089	0	0	35257	0	0	165482	0	0	31241	0	0.42
17.	Karnataka	15066	0	917.02	71844	1	4750.09	167649	0	196.78	29746	0	318.12
18.	Kerala	600	10	76.77	1141	28	0.09	263	0	0	104	0	57.59
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	18778	0	6	12530	0	0	30385	0	0	187068	0	0
21.	Maharashtra	24480	0	3961.85	60864	40	12916.78	77570	0	5551.92	69198	30	1712.11
22.	Manipur	7	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	632	2	0	1280	0	0	4384	0	0	1107	0	0
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Orissa	38255	0	0.35	96869	0	192.5	220529	0	0	111084	0	0
27.	Puducherry	411	0	0	753	0	5	911	0	0	977	0	0
28.	Punjab	6340	1	19.11	9507	0	1.75	8989	0	3506	3033	0	19
29.	Rajasthan	5077	0	0.2	10034	6	0	16277	23	288.37	16300	0	16
30.	Sikkim	548	0	0	882	0	0	808	0	0	506	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	11365	93	261.63	19850	25	805.14	32710	5	1394.82	13971	0	28.03
32.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	151	0	0	68	0	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	31702	7	82.48	33739	6	5.13	12979	0	106.05	11305	8	3.38
34.	Uttarakhand	5703	3	28.63	14883	0	0	8132	0	0	3970	0	0
35.	West Bengal	12028	4	113.66	51830	0	17.22	45678	0	223.97	75303	0	3444
36.	Locations in More than one State	0	0	1750.98	0	0	2801	0	0	858.81	0	0	757.08
Total		382743	184	8591	692364	106	27035.48	1225761	37	17405.43	919788	38	9680.28

*Data upto September 08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Orissa	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
27.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0
28.	Punjab	2	0	9	0	61	18	266	0
29.	Rajasthan	138	0	1209	0	143	0	194	0
30.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	4	0	7	21	1568	5	1340	0
32.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	332	0	1771	6	2325	0	446	8
34.	Uttarakhand	17	0	369	0	578	0	707	0
35.	West Bengal	7	0	56	0	180	0	155	0
36.	Locations in More than one State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		17984	0	6199	27	11157	60	8270	10

Statement III*State wise and Year-wise Break up of FDI Inflows (in Rs. Million)*

Sl.No.	Regional Offices of RBI	States Covered	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto Sep)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	10567.84	26955.96	39528.78	42997.99
2.	Guwahati	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura	0	0	110	1764.66
3.	Patna	Bihar, Jharkhand	0	6	0	0
4.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	6663.55	16828.12	72152.02	108720.53
5.	Bangalore	Karnataka	18180.49	32098.11	64859.36	47,785.25
6.	Kochi	Kerala, Lakshadweep	578.99	607.19	1449.11	3012.91
7.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	425.51	1315.57	1524.63	1036.47
8.	Mumbai	Maharashtra, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	42901.74	161946.19	415552.5	254514.46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Bhuvaneshwar	Orissa	3158.76	493.82	302.63	0
10.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	33.15	2314.32	1649.29	993.47
11.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	11901.02	58919.25	22641.12	47104.97
12.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal	0	576.98	139.34	0
13.	Kolkata	West Bengal, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4078.24	2632.6	17953.46	18816.06
14.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh	3781.62	986.25	1746.89	0
15.	New Delhi	Delhi, Part of UP and Haryana	45649.25	110791.05	137478.52	70921.15
16.	Panaji	Goa	337.26	3454.72	1822.03	420.76
17.	Region Not Indicated	Region Not Indicated	97586.31	143976.07	207511.2	133016.91
Grand Total			245843.73	563902.2	986420.88	731105.59

Bio-Technology Parks

528. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will The Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the objective behind setting up of Bio-technology Parks in the country and the achievements made therein; and

(b) the details of fund allocation for the existing and proposed Bio-technology Parks during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL

SIBAL): (a) The objective behind setting up of Bio-technology Parks in the country is to facilitate product advancement and innovation through the development of a biotechnology industrial cluster and to produce biotechnologists and entrepreneurs that have a strong foundation in research and innovation. This has helped in the promotion of commercial development of biotechnology within the country by setting up of research laboratories for product development, startup companies and small and medium enterprises.

(b) The details of funds released during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise are as under:

Name of Park	State	Funds released during 2005-06 (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds released during 2006-07 (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds released during 2007-08 (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds released during current year 2008-09 (Rs. in lakhs)
Biotechnology Incubation Centre at Shapoorji Pallonji Park Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	447.44	490.00	314.94	—
Biotechnology Park, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	191.68	58.95	244.47	425.52

Dumping of Stainless Steel Products

529. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding dumping of stainless steel and hot rolled steel products in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether anti-dumping duty is being imposed to the said products retrospectively;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Separate applications were filed in Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied duties (DGAD) by domestic industry alleging dumping of (i) Cold-Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel and (ii) Hot Rolled Steel Products from some countries. After examination of the contents of applications filed by the domestic industry, the Designated Authority has initiated antidumping investigations as per the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 vide, notifications no. 14/6/2008-DGAD dated 25.11.2008 and no. 14/23/2008-DGAD dated 28.11.2008.

(c) to (e) In both the aforesaid cases, the applicants have requested for retrospective imposition of anti-dumping duty on the ground that there is history of dumping and injury to domestic industry. The interested parties have been provided an opportunity to offer their comments. So far no Anti-dumping duty has been imposed in above cases.

[Translation]

Policy for Development of Mining Areas

530. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any policy to develop the areas adjoining the mining-areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total amount spent during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise, mining company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) Mining is an economic activity entailing investment in mining areas which contributes to economic growth and development of surrounding areas also. As

per available information, some of the mining companies are contributing for peripheral development around the mining areas, i.e. on housing, water supply, health medical facilities and education etc. However, details of contribution made by these companies for peripheral development are not centrally maintained.

Financial Irregularities in KVS

531. DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of irregularities in accounts of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of officers/employees found guilty of financial irregularities in Departmental Audit during 2004 to 2008 and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) As per reports submitted by All India Council of Auditors and Accountants (AICAA), New Delhi which conducted the departmental audit of accounts of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) Headquarters during 2004 to 2008, there were no cases of serious financial irregularities requiring any administrative action against any employee of KVS, Headquarters.

[English]

Atrocities against Women

532. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to depute special police officials to probe cases of atrocities against women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, details of measures to ensure expeditious investigation of cases relating to atrocities against women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) As per the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as

such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State. However, the Union Government has issued advisory to the State Governments from time to time to give focused attention to the prevention and control of crimes within their jurisdiction with special emphasis on prevention of atrocities against women. A copy of the consolidated advisory issued on 5th May, 2004 enumerating various steps for improving effectiveness of the machinery in tackling atrocities against women and increasing responsiveness of the law and order machinery is enclosed as statement. The Government had constituted Sorabhjee Committee to draft a new police Act. The draft Model Police Act inter-alia provides that "Each Police Station shall have a Women and Child Protection Desk, staffed, as far as possible, by women police personnel to record complaints of crimes against women and children and to deal with the tasks relating to administration of special legislations relating to women and children". The draft model Police Act has been sent to all States for consideration as Police is a State subject.

Statement

File No. 15011/21/2004-SC/ST Cell
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

New Delhi dated 5th May, 2004

To

The Chief Secretaries,
All State Governments & Union Territory
Administrations

Subject: Crime against Women-measures needed to curb-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

The Government of India have been advising the State Governments from time to time regarding the steps that need to be taken to offered a greater measure of protection to the women and in particular to prevent incidence of crimes against them. The advisories issued earlier with particular reference to the crime against women vide DO letters No. 15018/214/94-GPA. VI dated 17.4.1995, No. 24013/65/96-GPA. VI dated 12.9.1996, No. 15018/214/96-GPA. VI dated 18.3.1997, No. 24013/84/97-GPA. VI dated 6.10.97, No. 24013/50/98-GPA. VI dated 8/11.9.1998 and No. 24013/83/2001-GPA. VI dated 19/

26.3.2002 may be referred to in this regard. These advisories, inter-alia, include gender sensitization of the police personnel, adopting appropriate measures for swift and salutary punishment to public servants found guilty of custodial violence against women, minimizing delays in investigations of murder, rape and torture of women and improving its quality, setting up a 'crime against women cell' in districts where they do not exist, providing adequate counselling centers and shelter homes for women who have been victimized, setting up of special women courts, and improving effectiveness of schemes developed for the welfare and rehabilitation of women who are victimized with greater emphasis on income generation to make the women more independent and self-reliant.

2. Through the aforesaid advisories, the State Governments were also requested to undertake a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the machinery in tackling the problem of women and to take appropriate measures aimed at increasing the responsiveness of the law and order machinery. No doubt, some State Governments have taken some measures in this regard, however, the inputs regarding crime against women available with this Ministry indicate that these measures need to be strengthened further, so that the women folk feel secure, enjoy their human rights and live their life with dignity and respect that they deserve.

3. The National Commission for Women has been undertaking visits to various States to review the status of women and has been conducting its own investigations in certain cases of serious incidents of crime against women. The Commission has been making available findings of their inquiry to the concerned State Govt. as well as to this Ministry. The reports of the inquiries conducted by the Commission in these specific incidents indicated that the level of sensitiveness and care with which crime against women should be handled is not up to the desired level. The Commission has pointed out laxity and insensitiveness on the part of certain police officials in some specific cases. The Commission has observed that filling of FIRs even in heinous cases continues to be a problem. Some critical observations & recommendations made by the National Commission of Women in its various reports of investigations into major incidents of crime against women are annexed herewith.

4. The Government of India is deeply concerned with this trend and ground situation and would therefore

reemphasize that urgent action should be taken on the following:-

- (i) Crime prone areas should be identified and a mechanism be put in place to monitor infractions in schools/colleges for ensuring safety and security of female students. Women police officers in adequate number fully equipped with policing infrastructure may be posted in such areas.
- (ii) There should be no delay whatsoever in registration of FIR in all cases of crime against women.
- (iii) All out efforts should be made to apprehend all the accused named in the FIR immediately so as to generate confidence in the victims and their family members.
- (iv) Cases should be thoroughly investigated and charge sheets against the accused persons should be filed within three months from the date of occurrence, without compromising on the quality of investigation. The medical examination of rape victims should be conducted without delay.
- (v) Help-line numbers of the crime against women cells should be exhibited prominently in hospitals/schools/colleges premises, and in other suitable places.
- (vi) Women police cells in the police stations and exclusive women police stations should be set up as needed.
- (vii) Police officials charged with the responsibility of protecting women should be sensitized adequately.
- (viii) Police personnel should be trained adequately in special laws dealing with atrocities against women. Enforcement aspect should be emphasized adequately so as to streamline it.
- (ix) Women police officials in the State Police Force should be recruited widely.
- (x) Close coordination between the police and the NGOs dealing with the interests of women may be ensured.

(xi) The local police should arrange for patrolling in the affected areas and more especially in the locality of the weaker sections of the society. Periodic visits by DM & SP will create a sense of safety and security among these sections of the people.

(xii) Through counselling through professional counselors is required for victims as well as her family to overcome the trauma of the crime.

(xiii) The effectiveness of schemes developed for welfare and rehabilitation of women who have been victimized should be improved.

5. It is requested that action taken in this regard may be reviewed by the State Governments and UT Administrations and a report indicating the present status sent to this Ministry within a month.

6. The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(A.K. Srivastava)
Joint Secretary (CS)

[*Translation*]

Tribal Students in NVs

533. SHRI HEMANT KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribal student in Navodaya Vidyalayas, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase their strength?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The number of students belonging to Scheduled Tribes (ST) in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), State-wise including Madhya Pradesh, is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) There is provision of reservation in admission for ST students. As on 31.12.2008, ST students enrolled in JNVs constitute 17%. The Government has recently approved opening of 10 JNVs in districts having large concentration of Scheduled Tribes population.

Statement

State-wise Number of Scheduled Tribes Students in Navodaya Vidyalayas as on 31.12.2008

Sl.No.	State	No. of ST Students
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1120
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3263
3.	Assam	2269
4.	Bihar	600
5.	Chhattisgarh	1777
6.	Delhi	41
7.	Goa	73
8.	Gujarat	1015
9.	Himachal Pradesh	766
10.	Haryana	63
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1373
12.	Jharkhand	2216
13.	Karnataka	1363
14.	Kerala	284
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4102
16.	Maharashtra	1491
17.	Manipur	1823
18.	Meghalaya	1617
19.	Mizoram	651
20.	Nagaland	1477
21.	Orissa	2697
22.	Punjab	15
23.	Rajasthan	2405
24.	Sikkim	570
25.	Tripura	458

1	2	3
26.	Uttar Pradesh	551
27.	Uttarakhand	280
28.	West Bengal	224
29.	Union Territories	407
Total		35121

Sexual Harassment in Educational Institutions

534. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of sexual harassment in educational institutions in the country are on the rise; and

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received by the Government so far along with the action taken thereon in the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No Sir, the Central Government are not aware of any such trend.

(b) Does not arise.

Capital Investments

535. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding total capital investment in the economy by public and private sectors separately during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the share of domestic and foreign capital in the private sector during the above period; and

(c) the details, in term of quantum of capital investment by the Central and State Governments in the economy during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Gross Capital Formation by

Public, Private Corporate and Household Sectors for the last four years as per National Accounts released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) are given below in Table I:

Table I

	(Rs. Crore)			
Item	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*	2007-08**
Public Sector	2,16,962	2,71,835	3,29,679	4,29,014
Private Corporate Sector	3,38,755	4,91,983	6,11,044	7,49,894
Household Sector	3,39,328	4,43,679	5,12,076	5,96,846

Source:-CSO *provisional** Quick estimate

Gross Capital Formation by private corporate sector and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during the last four years are given below in Table II:

Table II

	(Rs. Crore)			
Item	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Private Corporate Sector	3,38,755	4,91,983	6,11,044	7,49,894
FDI	17,138	24,613	70,630	98,664

Separate data for Central and State Governments are not maintained.

[English]

Impact of Global Recession

536. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the impact of recession on domestic industry;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof indicating the number of industrial units closed down as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering any bail-out package for such industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of short term and long term strategies being prepared to increase investment in industrial sector and enhance job opportunities alongwith the achievements made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The industrial growth is monitored through Index of Industrial Production (IIP) released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO). The industrial growth in terms of IIP for April-December, 2008-09 was 3.2% compared to 9.0% of the corresponding period of the previous year.

The global recession has affected some of the export oriented industries in India, such as textiles, handicrafts,

leather, and gems and jewellery. Slowdown in the demand for automobiles and its ancillaries, cement, steel, housing sector etc. has also been seen.

(c) to (e) Government has announced two stimulus packages on 7th December, 2008 and 2nd January, 2009 to protect industries from global recession. Measures introduced in these two bail-out packages, interalia, include:

- **Reduction in Cenvat/Excise duty:** As an immediate measure to encourage additional spending, an across-the-board cut of 4% in the ad valorem CENVAT rate except petroleum was announced.
- **Measures to Support Exports:** Several measures have been taken to support exporters such as:
 - Interest subvention of 2% for pre and post shipment export credit for labour intensive industries such as textiles, handlooms, handicrafts, leather, Gems and jewellery, marine products and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise sector.
 - Additional funds of Rs. 1100 crore to ensure full refund to Terminal Excise duty/Central Sales Tax.
 - An additional allocation for export incentive schemes of Rs. 350 crore.
 - Government back-up guarantee to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) to the extent of Rs. 350 crore to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products.
 - Refund of service tax to exporters on foreign agent commissions of upto 10 percent of Freight On Board (FOB) value of exports.
 - Enhancement of duty drawback benefits on certain items including knitted fabrics, bicycles, agricultural hand tools and specified categories of yarn.
 - Providing pre-shipment credit, in rupees or dollars to Indian exporters at competitive rates by Export Import (EXIM) bank.

- **Housing:**

- Refinance facility of Rs. 4000 crore for the National Housing Bank by RBI.
- To facilitate access to funds for the housing sector, the development of integrated townships have been permitted as an eligible end-use of the External Commercial Borrowing (ECB).

- **Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) Sector:**

- Refinance facility of Rs. 7000 crore for Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to support MSMEs.
- Enhancement of the loan limit to Rs. 1 crore under Credit Guarantee Scheme.
- Grant of need-based ad-hoc working capital loans upto 20% of the existing fund-based limits.
- Reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1% and in respect of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) by 0.5%.

- **Textiles:**

- An additional allocation of Rs. 1400 crore to clear the entire backlog in Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) Scheme.
- All items of handicrafts included under 'Vishes Krishi & Gram Udyog Yojana'.

- **Cement:** Countervailing Duty (CVD) on Cement reimposed to protect and promote domestic Cement Industry.

- **Automobile:**

- Accelerated depreciation of 50% for commercial vehicles.
- Assistance to the state under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for the purchase of buses for the urban transport system.

- **Power**

- Elimination of import duty on Naptha for use in the Power Sector.

- **Mining**
 - Elimination of export duty on iron ore fines.
 - Reduction of export duty on iron ore lumps.
- **Others:** Government Departments are allowed to replace government vehicles within the allowed budget, in relaxation of extant economy instructions.

In addition, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken a number of steps to reduce the cost of credit and improve liquidity for industry by reducing Repo rate, Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), and Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR).

The lowering of cost of credit through reduction in interest rate and across the board reduction of 4% in CENVAT rate have helped to stimulate the demand for industry, investment and creation of jobs.

[Translation]

Strength of Security Personnel in CPMFs

537. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of security personnel in Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) as on date, force-wise, genderwise

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the strength of CPMF including CRPF to combat terrorist and naxalites in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Details are under:-

Force	Sanctioned strength	Posted strength		
		Male	Female	Total
CRPF	263598	246861	4151	251012
BSF	210301	203333	1126	204459
CISF	112516	93910	4064	97974
ARs	65185	63423	521	63944
ITBP	57475	45055	380	45435
SSB	55351	46668	1130	47798
NSG	8395	7247	40	7287

(b) and (c) Augmentation in the force strength is continuous process carried out on the basis of review conducted from time to time keeping in view the security scenario of the country.

[English]

Underselling of Iron-Ore by MMTC

538. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been underselling of minerals particularly Iron Ore by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) to various countries including Japan and South Korea;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise, quantity-wise, value-wise and mineral-wise;

(c) whether MMTC follows the practices as are followed globally;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid underselling of minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) MMTC is exporting iron ore to Japanese steel mills, POSCO, South Korea and Chinese buyers by way of entering into long term contracts/annual memorandum of agreements. The quantity and prices with Japanese steel mills and POSCO, South Korea are finalised at the beginning of each financial year. Such benchmark prices are finalised based on increase/decrease in line with the international iron ore prices and are applicable for full year. For the current year 2008-09, the Australian suppliers finalised the increase in benchmark price of iron ore lumps by 96.50% and iron ore fines by 79.88% over the price levels of the previous year. This was also followed by MMTC and the benchmark prices were increased with Japanese steel mills and POSCO South Korea at the same percentages.

In respect of China, the annual quantity is finalised at the beginning of each year. However, the prices are finalised with these buyers on spot basis keeping in view the market scenario on transaction-to-transaction basis.

The prices of chrome ore and concentrates are decided by the chrome producers generally on a quarterly basis for which the chrome producers meeting is held in MMTC. These prices are decided keeping in view the market environment, domestic scenario, competitors activity and sustainability of prices over the period under consideration.

The prices of Manganese Ore are finalized on back to back basis with the supplier and foreign buyers.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export Promoting Units

539. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the share of exports made by Export promoting units in total exports of the country during each of the last three years and the current year, percentage-wise;

(b) the details of tax rebates and other facilities extended to these units during the said period, value-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any report on tax rebates and other facilities being misused by some of these units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The share of Export Oriented Units (EOUs) in the total exports of the country are about 10.84%, 12.24%, 24.58% (provisional) and 21.52% (provisional) during the year 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (April-December) respectively.

(b) Export Oriented Units (EOUs) are eligible for fiscal concessions which include duty free import/domestic procurement and reimbursement of Central Sales Tax (CST) on capital goods, raw materials, consumables for their production activities and corporate tax exemption on export income for a specified period.

(c) and (d) Instances of misuse etc. are dealt by the concerned Development Commissioners/Central Excise and Customs authorities etc. as per the relevant provisions of law as and when detected. Steps have been taken for proper co-ordination between concerned authorities viz. Jurisdictional Central Excise and Customs/directorate of Revenue Intelligence etc. and the Development Commissioner concerned.

[English]

Setting up of Central Universities/Institutions

540. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR
BWISEWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish some central/premier educational institutions including central universities both in the fields of technical and professional education in the Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD) under the provision of the Sixth Schedule of the constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and salient features thereof along with the progress made so far institution-wise and location-wise; and

(c) the time by which these institutions are likely to be established and made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As far as the Bodoland Territorial Area is concerned, out of four districts, the three districts of Udalgiri, Chirang and Baska have been identified for providing one time financial assistance of Rs. 12.3 crores each for establishing new polytechnics during the XI Plan Period. In Kokrajhar district, one centrally funded Diploma level Institution namely Central Institute of Technology (CIT) has since been established and is functioning. Presently there is no proposal to establish any Central University in the Bodoland Territorial Area, as there are two Central Universities, viz., Tezpur University and Assam University, Silchar in the State of Assam.

[*Translation*]

Display of Vital Installations on the Internet

541. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the display of vital installations of the country on internet websites including www.wikimapia.org is prejudicial to national security; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and details of steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of images of some vital installations/areas available on the websites including www.wikimapia.org and has initiated necessary steps with reference to the matter of hosting of such images on the website.

[*English*]

Setting up of Academy for Teachers

542. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/National Council for Teacher Education is contemplating to set up an academy for teachers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Extending Validity of Arms Licences

543. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has recently sent any guidelines to the State Governments for extending the validity of the arms licences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received objection on certain guidelines from the Members of parliament; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However some guidelines were issued vide Ministry of Home Affairs No. V-11025/106-94-arms dated 11.10.1995.

(c) to (d) Two Hon'ble Members of Parliament have made some observations regarding non-extension of area of validity of Arms Licences by the Government of NCT, Delhi. The observations made by these two Hon'ble Members of Parliament have taken up with the Government of NCT, Delhi.

[*English*]

Meeting of Police Officers

544. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of senior police officials was held in January, 2009 to discuss various issues including preparedness to counter terrorism as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 2 February, 2009;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No Conference of Senior Police Officers was held in January, 2009 at NPA, Hyderabad. However, as a part of regular training, a strategic Management Programme on Policing (Level-III) for IPS Officers of the rank of IGP and above was organized during January 12-17, 2009.

(b) The participants discussed the main theme "Urban Terrorism" with special reference to issues such as intelligence collection, strategic action plan, inter-departmental co-ordination etc.

(c) Such programmes contribute towards capacity building and professional development of the participants.

Funds for MEGA City Policing

545. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the components of Mega City Policing and Desert Area Policing have been merged for disbursement of grants under the scheme Modernization of Police Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal for releasing dequate funds for Mega City Polcing and Desert Area Policing keeping in view the threat from terrorism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing a Non-Plan Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF) towards supplementing the efforts of State Governments in modernizing their police forces, especially for meeting the emerging challenges to Internal security in the form of terrorism, naxalism etc. The Mega City Policing and Desert Policing are components of the MPF Scheme and were introduced in the year 2005-06. The Mega City Polcing covers cities of Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Ahmedabad and Desert Policing covers the States of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Financial assistance is given to the respective State Governments under the MPF Scheme to meet the requirements of mega city policing and desert policing. The amount of funds released by Ministry of Home Affairs for Mega City Policing and Desert Policing under the MPF Scheme during the period 2005-06 to 2007-08 is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Component	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Mega City Policing	22.00	96.43	69.82
Desert Policing	5.00	14.00	10.50

Funds for NCT of Delhi are provided to Delhi Police under a separate Modernisation Scheme for UTs.

B. Ed Colleges

546. SHRI K. VIRUPAKSHAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government/National Council for Teacher Education for setting up B. Ed. Colleges;

(b) the number of B. Ed. colleges sanctioned during each of the last three years, State-wise including Karnataka;

(c) whether all basic facilities have been provided in the B. Ed. Colleges;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor along with the details of colleges which are not having basic facilities;

(e) whether the Government proposes to establish B.Ed. colleges in rural areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Recognition to an institution for conducting B. Ed. Course is granted by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) in accordance with the NCTE (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations, 2007.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Before grant of recognition, physical infrastructure and instructional facilities are verified by a visiting team comprising of expert members. Thus, before grant of recognition it is ensured that institution fulfills the requirements and have all the facilities as laid down in Regulations.

(e) and (f) There is no specific scheme or provision under the NCTE Act for grant of recognition to teacher training institutions on a rural-urban basis. The applications,

as received from institutions located in different places, are considered in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations of NCTE for grant of recognition.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT.	No. of B. Ed. Courses recognized during		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	—	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	19	01	243
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	0	0
4.	Assam	11	02	01
5.	Bihar	07	01	11
6.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
7.	Chhattisgarh	27	15	10
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
9.	Daman and Diu	—	01	—
10.	Delhi	01	04	05
11.	Goa	01	—	—
12.	Gujarat	70	75	101
13.	Haryana	05	57	24
14.	Himachal Pradesh	03	16	25
15.	Jharkhand	22	01	03
16.	Karnataka	110	07	52
17.	Kerala	20	01	24
18.	Lakshadweep	—	01	—
19.	Madhya Pradesh	184	50	53
20.	Maharashtra	110	63	60
21.	Manipur	0	0	01
22.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
23.	Mizoram	0	0	02

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Nagaland	0	0	0
25.	Orissa	0	0	01
26.	Puducherry	23	02	03
27.	Punjab	68	36	03
28.	Rajasthan	78	186	107
29.	Sikkim	0	0	0
30.	Tamil Nadu	167	147	183
31.	Tripura	02	0	0
32.	Uttar Pradesh	125	65	51
33.	Uttarakhand	32	15	07
34.	West Bengal	12	11	29
Total		1098	757	999

Amendment in IPC

547. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to amend the relevant section of the Indian penal Code (IPC) to provide for deterrent punishment to the persons driving vehicles rashly or in an inebriated state resulting in loss of human lives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2007 has been introduced by the Department of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways in the Rajya Sabha on 15th May, 2007. The Bill has been examined by the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. The Committee has recommended with respect to clause 9 of the Bill that provisions may be made in the law (namely IPC) that death due to drunken driving should be culpable homicide not amounting to murder and also that an accident by a drunken driver

should not be considered as mere negligence but should be treated as a premeditated commitment to a crime and the driver should be punished under the relevant provisions of IPC. The views of the Ministry of Home Affairs on the said recommendation of the Committee have been communicated to the Department of Road Transport and Highways. Presently, the matter is under consideration of the Department of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways.

Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension Scheme

548. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any direction to the Governments of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana, Goa, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh with regard to granting Central Pension to the Participants of 2nd Phase of Goa Liberation Movement (1945-55) by relaxing the eligibility criteria under Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980;

(b) if so, whether orders are not applicable to the remaining State Governments including Kerala;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The Government has decided on 4.2.2003 to grant central pension to approximately 3500 participants of Phase II of Goa Liberation Movement (1954-55) from the State of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Goa by relaxing the eligibility criteria of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980. At the time of taking the above decision, information that some freedom fighters from Kerala and other States had also participated in GLM Phase II and the State Governments had granted them pension, was not available/provided. Therefore, the benefit of pension could not be extended to such freedom fighters.

Survey by GSI

549. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been conducting surveys on mineral resources in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such surveys during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise, mineral-wise;

(c) the quantum of metal and mineral reserves estimated in these areas;

(d) the total amount spent by GSI on each of such surveys during the said period, State-wise; and

(e) the details of new areas identified by GSI for conducting fresh surveys?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India [GSI] has been conducting regional scale surveys for mineral resources in the country. The details of such surveys during the last three years (including the current year), State-wise and mineral-wise is as below-

Mineral	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4
Coal/Lignite	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu
Basemetal	Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Meghalaya	Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Meghalaya	West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Meghalaya
Gold	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttarakhand	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Uttarakhand
Diamond & Gemstones	Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Kamataka, Goa	Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh	Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh
Platinoid Group of Elements (PGE)	Orissa, Maharashtra, Kamataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya	Maharashtra, Kamataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya	Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu

1	2	3	4
Iron Ore	West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu	Orissa, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu	Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu
Manganese	Jharkhand	Orissa,	Orissa
Bauxite	Orissa		

(c) GSI estimates resources of minerals by regional scale surveys. Reserves are estimated by other agencies after carrying out detailed survey, drilling etc. and also taking the economic feasibility of the deposit into consideration.

(d) GSI does not maintain survey-wise and State-wise expenditure. However, Region-wise operational expenditure [excluding salaries and overheads] is as below:

[Figures in Lakhs]

Region	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto January 09)
Eastern Region [ER]	110.48	96.42	72.10
Coal Wing [CW]	473.39	460.42	467.01
North Eastern Region [NER]	25.35	17.08	11.08
Northern Region [NR]	83.04	84.64	109.95
Central Region [CR]	105.80	82.06	46.23
Western Region [WR]	156.07	131.80	108.50
Southern Region [SR]	190.68	171.17	147.30

Note: ER= Andaman and Nicobar Islands, West Bengal, Sikkim, Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa
 NER= Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura
 NR=Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir
 CR= Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
 WR= Rajasthan, Gujarat
 SR= Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala

(e) GSI has identified the following new areas for conducting fresh surveys—

Minerals	Areas (in sq km)	States
1	2	3
Coal/Lignite	60,935	Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Gujarat
Basemetal	1,82,000	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Maharashtra

1	2	3
Gold	1,12,000	Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Kerala, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan
Diamond & Gemstones	3,00,000	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala
Platinoid Group of Elements (PGE)	8,000	Orissa, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh
Iron Ore	5,000	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Goa
Manganese	4,600	Karnataka, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Goa.
Bauxite	30,000	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa
Chromite	2,500	Karnataka, Orissa, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu

Nursery Schools

550. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has directed the Government to start nursery classes in Government schools with better facilities to meet the increased demand for nursery admissions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount earmarked for the purpose;

(d) the time by which these classes are likely to be started; and

(e) the States which have been selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) The Govt. of NCT of Delhi had taken a decision to introduce one year pre-primary class in all Government Sarvodaya Vidyalayas having class-I within

its jurisdiction within 3 years. Children from the immediate neighbourhood completing 4 years of age by 31st March of the academic year are eligible for admission to such pre-primary class. The High Court of Delhi in its order dated 26.9.2007 in WP(c) 12490/2006 had noted the decision of the Government of NCT of Delhi. An approximate expenditure of Rs. 15 crores for schools run by Department of Education of Delhi was indicated as an estimation in the High Court order. This is in addition to further requirement in MCD schools.

Insurance Cover for MSMEs Workers

551. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of insurance schemes for workmen employed in Medium and Small Scale Industries;

(b) whether the Government has raised Insurance Cover for workmen employed in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the above industries due to the impact on present global financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Employees State Insurance (ESI) Scheme formulated under the provisions of Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, is applicable in all such factories/establishments having more than 10/20 employees/workers (with/without power). The Scheme covers all employees/workmen who are drawing monthly wages up to Rs. 10,000/- which, inter alia, include workmen employed in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). From 01.04.2005, to enhance the benefits under ESI the Government introduced "Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana" to provide for unemployment allowance along with other medical and insurance benefits to the insured workers/workmen including employees of MSMEs.

In addition, the Government has the following sector/trade or occupation specific health/life insurance schemes, which cover all employees, including eligible workmen of MSMEs engaged in those areas:

- (i) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme;
- (ii) Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme;
- (iii) Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana for BPL workers in unorganized sector;
- (iv) Janshree Bima Yojana for BPL workmen engaged in 43 notified occupations;
- (v) Khadi Karigar Janasree Bima Yojana (JBY) wherein enhanced risk cover is provided for khadi artisans from 2006-07; and
- (vi) Coir Board Coir Workers Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, wherein risk cover has been doubled for each coir workers engaged in coir industry from 01.12.2005.

(d) Keeping in view the impact of present global financial crisis on MSMEs, the Government, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Public Sector Banks have taken several measure for protecting and providing a stimulus to the MSMEs which, inter alia, include: (i) extending the loan limit under Credit Guarantee Scheme from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore with a guarantee cover

of 50 per cent; (ii) increasing the guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme from 80 per cent to 85 per cent for credit facility up to Rs. 5 lakh; (iii) an advisory to Central Public Sector Enterprises to ensure prompt payment of bills of MSMEs; (iv) interest subvention of 2 per cent in pre and post-shipment export credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector up to 31.03.2009; (v) refinance limit of Rs. 7,000 crore to Small Industries Development Banks of India (SIDBI) for incremental on-lending to the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) sector; (vi) grant of need-based ad hoc working capital demand loans up to 20 per cent of the existing fund-based limits; and (vii) reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1 per cent and in respect of SMEs by 0.5 per cent.

District Primary Education Programme

552. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by the Union Government for the District Primary Education Programme during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the amount allocated has been diverted for other purposes;

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

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) A statement giving details of funds released to States under District Primary Education Programme during the last 3 years is enclosed. During the current year the programme is operative only in the State of Orissa and no funds have so far been released as the State has unspent balances.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement*Funds Released Under the Scheme of District Primary Education Programme*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Uttar Pradesh	178.42	PC	—	—
2.	Uttaranchal	56.51	PC	—	—
3.	Bihar	60.00	PC	—	—
4.	Jharkhand	62.51	PC	—	—
5.	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	PC	—	—
6.	West Bengal	37.90	PC	—	—
7.	Gujarat	7.95	PC	—	—
8.	Rajasthan	125.52	31.90	58.22	PC
9.	Orissa	27.06	66.01	35.96	—

PC= Project Closed.

*[Translation]***Retail Sector**

553. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have banned certain domestic and multinational companies from doing business in retail sector and have closed their business establishments;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details of measures being taken by the Union Government for safeguarding the interest of small domestic retailers; and

(d) the outcome achieved thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) While Foreign Direct Investment

(FDI) is not allowed in retail trading except for retailing of Single Brand Products, there is no restriction on domestic retailers to establish retail stores in the country. However, State of Kerala, has, in principle, opposed entry of domestic companies in to the retail sector in the States.

(c) and (d) Government has received various representations from industry associations, against allowing FDI in retail trade. The present policy does not permit FDI in retail trade except Single Brand retail where FDI up to 51%, with prior Government approval, is allowed. Products sold under Single Brand Retail with FDI cater to the brand-conscious, young, middle, class clientele having a different niche as compared to that served by the small traders. Hence FDI in retail trade of single brand products is not expected to affect the existing small traders. Government had instituted a study to assess the impact of organised retailing on unorganised retail trade through Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). The findings/recommendations of the ICRIER study are given in the enclosed statement. Government is fully conscious of the concerns of small domestic retailers and remains committed to securing the legitimate interests of all stakeholders engaged in the retail business.

Statement

Findings and Recommendations of ICRIER

The real GDP is expected to grow at 8-10 per cent per annum in the next five years. As a result, the consuming class with annual household incomes above Rs. 90,000 is expected to rise from about 370 million in 2006-07 to 620 million in 2011-12. Consequently, the retail business in India is estimated to grow at 13 percent annually from US\$ 322 billion in 2006-07 to US\$ 590 billion in 2011-12. The study shows:

- The unorganized retail sector is expected to grow at about 10 per cent per annum with sales rising from US\$ 309 billion in 2006-07 to US\$ 496 billion in 2011-12.
- Give the relatively weak financial state of unorganized retailers, and the physical space constraints on their expansion prospects, this sector alone will not be able to meet the growing demand for retail.
- Hence, organized retail which now constitutes a small four per cent of total retail sector is likely to grow at a much faster pace of 45-50 per cent per annum and quadruple its share in total retail trade to 16 per cent by 2011-12.
- This represents a positive sum game in which both unorganized and organized retail not only coexist but also grow substantially in size.
- The majority of unorganized retailers surveyed in this study, indicated their preference to continue in the business and compete rather than exist.

The Empirical Basis

The study comprised of survey of all segments of the economy that could be affected by the entry of large corporates in the retail business. The findings are based on a survey of 2020 unorganized small retailers across 10 major cities; 1318 consumers shopping at both organized and unorganized retail outlets; 100 intermediaries; and 197 farmers. In addition, a "control sample" survey was done of 805 unorganized retailers who are not in the vicinity of organized retail outlets in four metro cities.

Detailed interviews were also carried out for 12 large manufacturers, 20 small manufacturers and six established modern retailers.

The study contains an extensive review of international retail experience, particularly from the major emerging market economies.

Main Findings

Impact on Unorganized Retailers

- Unorganized retailers in the vicinity of organized retailers experienced a decline in their volume of business and profit in the initial years after the entry of large organized retailers.
- The adverse impact on sales and profit weakens over time.
- There was no evidence of a decline in overall employment in the unorganized sector as a result of the entry of organized retailers.
- There is some decline in employment in the North and West regions which, however, also weakens over time.
- The rate of closure of unorganized retail shops in gross terms is found to be 4.2 per cent per annum which is much lower than the international rate of closure of small businesses.
- The rate of closure on account of competition from organized retail is lower still at 1.7 per cent per annum.
- There is competitive response from traditional retailers through improved business practices and technology upgradation.
- A majority of unorganized retailers is keen to stay in the business and compete, while also wanting the next generation to continue likewise.
- Small retailers have been extending more credit to attract and retain customers.
- However, only 12 per cent of unorganized retailers have access to institutional credit and 37 per cent felt the need for better access to commercial bank credit.

- Most unorganized retailers are committed to remaining independent and barely 10 per cent preferred to become franchisees of organized retailers.

Impact on Consumers

- Consumers have definitely gained from organized retail on multiple counts.
- Overall consumer spending has increased with the entry of the organized retail.
- While all income groups saved through organized retail purchases, the survey revealed that lower income consumers saved more. Thus, organized retail is relatively more beneficial to the less well-off consumers.
- Proximity is a major comparative advantage of unorganized outlets.
- Unorganized retailers have significant competitive strengths that include consumer goodwill, credit sales, amenability to bargaining, ability to sell loose items, convenient timings, and home delivery.

Impact on Intermediaries

- The study did not find any evidence so far of adverse impact of organized retail on intermediaries.
- There is, however, some adverse impact on turnover and profit of intermediaries dealing in products such as, fruit, vegetables, and apparel.
- Over two-thirds of the intermediaries plan to expand their business in response to increased business opportunities opened by the expansion of retail.
- Only 22 per cent do not want the next generation to enter the same business.

Impact on Farmers

- Farmers benefit significantly from the option of direct sales to organized retailers.
- Average price realization for cauliflower farmers selling directly to organized retail is about 25 per cent higher than their proceeds from sale to regulated government mandi.

- Profit realization for farmers selling directly to organized retailers is about 60 per cent higher than that received from selling in the mandi.
- The difference is even large when the amount charged by the commission agent (usually 10 per cent of sale price) in the mandi is taken into account.

Impact on Manufacturers

- Large manufacturers have started feeling the competitive impact of organized retail through price and payment pressures.
- Manufacturers have responded through building and reinforcing their brand strength, increasing their own retail presence, adopting, small retailers, and setting up dedicated teams to deal with modern retailers.
- Entry of organized retail is transforming the logistics industry. This will create significant positive externalities across the economy.
- Small manufacturers did not report any significant impact of organized retail.

Policy Recommendations

On the basis of the results of the surveys and the review of international retail experience, the study makes the following major recommendations:

1. Modernization of wetmarkets through public-private partnerships.
2. Facilitate cash-and-carry outlets, like Metro, for sale to unorganized retail and procurement from farmers, as in China.
3. Encourage co-operatives and associations of unorganized retailers for direct procurement from suppliers and farmers.
4. Ensure better credit availability to unorganized retailers from banks and micro-credit institutions through innovative banking solutions.
5. Facilitate the formation of farmers' co-operatives to directly sell to organized retailers.
6. Encourage formulation of "private codes of conduct" by organized retail for dealing with small suppliers. These may then be incorporated into enforceable legislation.

7. Simplification of the licensing and permit regime for organized retail and move towards a nationwide uniform licensing regime in the states to facilitate modern retail.
8. Strengthening the Competition Commission's role for enforcing rules against collusion and predatory pricing.
9. Modernization of APMC markets as modelled on the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Safal market in Bangalore.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures being taken by the Government to improve performance of the industrial park scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) As per the Industrial Park Scheme, 2002, the Government of India has granted approvals to one hundred seventy three Industrial Parks for claiming tax exemptions under Section 80 IA of Income Tax Act, 1962 during the period from 1.04.2005 to date. Details of these Parks are given in the enclosed Statement.

Follow up action on the ICRIER Report:

The ICRIER Report has been forwarded to the State Governments and Ministries/Departments of the Central Government Ministries for comments.

Industrial Parks

554. SHRI PUSP JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial parks set up in the country during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to set up more such parks in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the industrial parks have been able to achieve their objectives especially after launching of other schemes for industrial development;

(b) and (c) The Government of India does not set up Industrial Parks on its own. Rather it provides a ten year tax holiday to entrepreneurs who set up Industrial Parks under clause (iii) of sub-section (4) of section 80 IA of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961). Some Industrial Parks have also been set up by State Government Undertakings.

(d) and (e) Yes, the Industrial Parks have been able to achieve their objectives. 232 live approvals for Industrial Parks have been granted (from 1.04.1999 up to date) involving 17,200 industrial units with an investment of Rs. 16,924 crore. 198 industrial parks have since commenced their operation.

(f) The Government of India (Department of Revenue) has introduced the revised Industrial Park Scheme, 2008 in January, 2008 to facilitate and incentivize setting up of Industrial Parks.

Statement

Details of Approvals Given Under the Industrial Park Scheme During Each of the Three Years and Current Year, State-wise (1.04.2005 upto date).

A. Industrial Parks set up during the year (1.04.2005 to 31.03.2006)- State-wise.

Sl.No.	Registration Number	Name of the undertaking and location of park	Date of approval
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	53/SIA/IP/04 dated 17.12.04	M/s JVP Soft Private Limited, Hyderabad.	12.4.05

1	2	3	4
2.	21/SIA/IP/05 dated 21.2.05	M/s Nuziveedu Seeds Limited, Hyderabad	12.4.05
3.	46/SIA/IP/05 dated 4.5.05	M/s Ramky Pharma City (India) Limited, Parwada Village, Parwada Mandal, Vishkhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	30.6.05
Gujarat			
4.	48/SIA/IP/05 dated 11.5.05	M/s Shri Rang Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad	1.6.05
5.	4/SIA/IP/05 dated 27.1.05	M/s Shri Iaxminarayan Indl. Co. Op. Service Society Ltd., Surat	21.6.05
Karnataka			
6.	13/SIA/IP/2003 dated 4.4.2003 request for amendment received vide 34/SIA/IP/05 dated 7.3.05	M/s RGA Software Systems Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	5.6.2003 amended on 11.4.05
7.	29/SIA/IP/04 dated 29.9.04	M/s Chathur Realtors Private Limited At Divyasree Techno Polis, Bellandur, Amanikane Village, Varthur Hobli, Off Airport Road, Bangalore	11.4.05
8.	18/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05	M/s Coretech Realty Private Limited Plot No. 1 Sy. No. 143, 212, 213, 214 & 214, EPIP Industrial Area, Hoodi Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore	11.4.05
9.	35/SIA/IP/05 dated 11.3.05	M/s RGA Software Systems Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 3 Sy. No. 20 & 22, I Phase, Electronic City, Hosur Road, Bangalore	3.5.05
10.	6/SIA/IP/05 dated 31.1.05	M/s BIP Developers Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 3, EPIP, Whitefield, Bangalore	13.5.05
11.	36/SIA/IP/05 Dated 11.3.05	M/s RGA Software Systems Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	8.12.05
12.	63/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.6.05	M/s SJR Infrastructure Private Limited, Bangalore,	8.12.05
13.	81/SIA/IP/05 dated 17.8.05	M/s Salarpuria Properties Private Limited, Salarpuria Hallmark, Bangalore Tr. To M/s SPPL Prop. Mgt. P Ltd. (2.8.06)	8.12.05
14.	82/SIA/IP/05 dated 17.8.05	M/s Quadro Info Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore. Transfer of IP to M/s SPPL Property Mgt (P) Ltd taken on record vide lr. dated 19.10.2007 & corrigendum issued on 22.10.07	12.12.05
15.	90/SIA/IP/05 dated 24.8.05	M/s G.K. Ventures Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	12.12.05

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra			
16.	33/SIA/04 dated 2.11.04 amendment through 19/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05	M/s N.S. Software, New Delhi, (Industrial Park in Mumbai)	5.11.04 amended on 12.4.05
17.	41/SIA/IP/05 dated 24.3.05	M/s Wadhwa & Associates Realtors Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	4.4.05
18.	39/SIA/IP/04 dated 2.12.04	M/s Vansum Industries, Pune.	11.4.05
19.	31/SIA/IP/05 dated 2.3.05	M/s M.L. Infoway Projects Limited, Mumbai	11.4.05
20.	83/SIA/IP/05 18.8.05	M/s Naman BKC Properties Pvt. Ltd., Andheri, Mumbai	30.9.05
21.	84/SIA/IP/05 18.8.05	M/s Naman BKC Properties Pvt. Ltd., Andheri, Mumbai	30.9.05
22.	38/SIA/IP/05 dated 21.3.05	M/s Hindumal Balmukund Invest-ment Co. Pvt. Ltd., (Industrial park in Pune)	6.12.05
23.	43/SIA/IP/05 dated 15.4.05	M/s Akruiti Nirman Ltd., Mumbai Change of name to M/s Akruiti City Ltd taken on record on 20.2.08	9.12.05
24.	59/SIA/IP/05 dated 1.6.05	M/s Sai Construction Pvt. Ltd., Pune	9.12.05
25.	67/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.6.05	M/s S Balan ● Shanmugam Balikrishnan Chettiar, Sai Trinity, Pune	9.12.05
26.	68/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.6.05	M/s Indrani Balikrishnan Chettiar, Sai Hira, Pune	9.12.05
27.	152/SIA/IP/05 dated 5.9.05	M/s City Parks, Taluka-Haveli, Pune	9.12.05
28.	54/SIA/IP/05 dated 17.5.05	M/s India Land Infrastructure Development Pvt. Ltd., Pune	12.12.05
Rajasthan			
29.	86/SIA/IP/05 dated 18.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited	19.9.05
30.	85/SIA/05 dated 18.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited IID Centre Kaladwas, District-Udaipur, Rajasthan	27.9.05

1	2	3	4
31.	88/SIA/IP/05 dated 18.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited Balotra III Phase Extn. District Barmer, Rajasthan	27.9.05
32.	89/SIA/IP/05 dated 18.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited II Phase Extension, Barmer, Rajasthan	27.9.05
33.	87/SIA/IP/05 dated 18.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl. Devpt. & Inv. Corpn. Ltd., Industrial Area Bhamshah, Kaladwas, Udaipur, Rajasthan	6.10.05
34.	101/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s RIICO Ltd., Industrial Area Zadri Falna (IID Centre), Pali, Rajasthan	24.10.05
35.	108/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Devpt. & Investment Corporation Ltd.- Park at Singhana, District Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan	3.11.05
36.	111/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Devpt. & Investment Corporation Ltd.- Park at Industrial Area Silora, District Ajmer, Rajasthan	3.11.05
37.	118/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s RIICO Ltd. IID Centre, Bayana, District Bharatpur, Rajasthan	17.11.05
38.	132/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Devpt. & Investment Corporation Ltd.- Park at IID Centre, Industrial Area Khuskhera, Bhiwadi, District Alwar, Rajasthan.	22.11.05
39.	136/SIA/IP/05 dated 8.12.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt & Investment Corp. Ltd., Industrial Area Chanderia (Ext), Dist. Chittorgarh, Rajasthan	8.12.05
40.	115/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl. Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Industrial Area, Stone Park, Mandore, Jodhpur, Rajasthan	13.12.05
41.	145/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl. Devpt & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Industrial Area Raisingh Nagar, RICCO Ltd., Sriganganagar, Rajasthan	13.12.05
Uttaranchal			
42.	32/SIA/IP/05 3.10.05	M/s State Infrastructure and Industrial Development Corporation of Uttaranchal, Near Ranipur, Haridwar, Uttaranchal	3.10.05
43.	33/SIA/IP/05 dated 7.3.05	M/s State Infrastructure and Indl. Devpt. Corpn. of Uttaranchal, Pantnagar Indl. Estate, Rudrapur, Uttaranchal	10.10.05
44.	3/SIA/IP/06 dated 2.1.06	M/s State Infrastructure and Industrial Development Corpn. of Uttaranchal. Park in Dehradun	23.2.06
45.	5/SIA/IP/06 dated 2.1.06	M/s State Infrastructure and Industrial Development Corpn. Of Uttaranchal. Park Shastradhara Road, Dehradun	17.3.06

1	2	3	4
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West Bengal

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| 46. | 13/SIA/IP/04 dated 3.6.04 amendment requested vide SIA Regn. No. 26/SIA/IP/05 dated 25.2.05 | M/s DLF Info City Developers (Kolkata) Limited, Gurgaon. Industrial Park Dist. 24.-Parganas | 9.7.04
modified
on 13.5.05 |
| 47. | 5/SIA/IP/05 dated 31.1.05 | M/s Bengal Intelligent Parks Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. A2, M2 and N2, Block No. EP and GP, Sector V, Salt Lake Electronics Complex, Kolkata | 13.5.05 |

B. Industrial parks set up during the year (1.04.2006 to 31.03.2007)-State-wise.**Andhra Pradesh**

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| 1. | 40/SIA/IP/04
3.12.04 | M/s Jayabheri Properties (P) Ltd, Hyderabad Transfer to M/s JST Realty Pvt. Ltd. taken on record on 20.12.06 | 13.12.04
modified
on 5.12.06 |
| 2. | 150/SIA/IP/05
dated 1.9.05 | M/s RMZ Corp. Holdings Private Ltd Hyderabad, Dist-R R, A.P. M/s Paliwal Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd-change of name taken on record on 19.6.07 | 13.4.06 |
| 3. | 157/SIA/IP/05 dated
23.9.05 | M/s Janapriya Engineers Syndicate, Hyderabad
(Park at Hyderabad) | 25.9.06 |
| 4. | 158/SIA/IP/05
dated 23.9.05 | M/s Annapurna Builders, Hyderabad (Park at Hyderabad) | 25.9.06 |
| 5. | 159/SIA/IP/05
dated 23.9.05 | M/s Sri Balaji Construction Company (Park at Hyderabad) | 25.9.06 |
| 6. | 164/SIA/IP/05 | M/s G. Amrender Reddy, Hyderabad | 5.12.06 |
| 7. | 167/SIA/IP/05 | M/s G Laxmi Devi, Hyderabad | 5.12.06 |
| 8. | 171/SIA/IP/05 | M/s Gavva Estates Pvt. Ltd-Park at Secunderabad | 5.12.06 |
| 9. | 172/SIA/IP/05 | M/s Dynamic Constructions Private Ltd-Park at Secunderabad | 5.12.06 |

Haryana

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| 10. | 29/SIA/IP/06 | M/s Finest Promoters Pvt. Ltd-Park at Gurgaon | 5.12.06 |
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Karnataka

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| 11. | 3/SIA/IP/2000 dated 15.2.2000 request for amendment received vide 16/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05 again amended vide SIA Regn. No. 74/SIA/IP/05 | M/s Shyamaraju & Co. (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore | 29.3.2000
amended
on 29.4.05
again
amended
on 21.4.05
and on
5.12.06 |
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1	2	3	4
12.	9/SIA/IP/2001 dated 21.8.2001. Amended vide SIA Regn. No. 55/SIA/IP/04 dated 21.12.04	M/s Subramanya Construction and Development company Limited, Bangalore	19.12.2001 amended on 13.4.06
13.	1/SIA/IP/2003 dated 15.1.2003 Amended by SIA Regn. No. 61/SIA/IP/05	M/s Abhilash Software Development Centre, Bangalore	8.8.2003 modified on 13.4.06
14.	21/SIA/IP/2003 dated 3.9.2003 Request for amendment received vide 17/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05 89/SIA/IP/06 dated 22.8.06	M/s Shyamaraju & Company (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore Transfer of IP to M/s DivyaSree Tarbus Builders Private Limited taken on record vide tr. dated 1st March 2007	6.10.2003 modified on 11.4.05 and on 25.9.06
15.	3/SIA/IP/2004 dated 3.2.2004 179/SIA/IP/2005	M/s Goif Links Software Park Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore	2.4.2004 modified on 25.7.06
16.	18/SIA/IP/03 dated 26.6.03 amended vide 62/SIA/IP/05	M/s Prasad Technology Park (P) Ltd., Park at Bangalore	13.9.04 amended on 13.4.06
17.	20/SIA/IP/04 dated 11.8.04 177/SIA/IP/05 dt. 24.10.05	M/s Magrath Properties Private Limited, Bangalore	1.11.04 modified on 25.7.06
18.	35/SIA/IP/04 10.11.04 155/SIA/IP/05	M/s Velankani Information Systems Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	3.12.04 and amended on 5.12.06
19.	28/SIA/IP/05 dated 2.3.05 14/SIA/IP/06 dated 18.1.06	M/s Safina Towers Private Limited, Bangalore	14.3.05 modified on 26.7.06
20.	24/SIA/IP/05 dated 21.2.05 1/SIA/IP/06	M/s Ozone Many Tech Park (Software Park of) Ozone Properties Pvt. Ltd Ozone Many Tech Park, 56/18, Hongasandra Village, Bommanahalli CMC, Bangalore South, Kamataka	4.4.05 and modified on 6.12.06
21/	80/SIA/IP/05 dated 11.8.05	M/s Shreetronics Enterprises. 26-A, Electronic City, Hosur Road, Bangalore	25.7.06
22.	22/SIA/IP/20.2.06	M/s Somu Properties Pvt. Ltd, 100, Money Terrace, KH Road, Bangalore	25.7.06
23.	23/SIA/IP/06 dated 20.2.06	M/s Salarpuria Softzone, 100 Money Terrace, KH Road, Bangalore	25.7.06

1	2	3	4
24.	154/SIA/IP/05 dated 12.9.05	M/s Kirloskar Systems, Ltd., Bangalore	19.4.06
25.	206/SIA/IP/05	M/s Primal Projects Ltd-Park at Bangalore	5.12.06
26.	73/SIA/IP/06	M/s Paliwal Overseas Pvt. Ltd-Park at Bangalore	5.12.06
27.	10/SIA/IP/06	M/s Kanyakumari Builders Pvt. Ltd, Park at Hoodi, Hobli, Bangalore	5.12.06
Maharashtra			
28.	29/SIA/IP/2003 dated 2.12.2003 Modified vide SIA Regn. No. 51/SIA/IP/05 dated 17.5.05	M/s ICC Realty Pvt. Ltd., Pune	9.1.2004 modified on 21.4.06
29.	30/SIA/IP/2003 dated 2.12.2003 modified vide SIA Regn. No. 53/SIA/IP/05 dated. 17.5.2003	M/s ICC Realty Pvt. Ltd., Pune	9.1.2004 modified on 13.4.06
30.	24/SIA/IP/2003 dated 22.9.2003 Amended by SIA Regn. No. 49/SIA/IP/05 dated 16.5.05	M/s Advacado Properties & Trading (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	22.4.2004 Amended on 13.4.06
31.	2/SIA/IP/04 dated 21.1.04 29/SIA/IP/05 dated 2.3.05	M/s Pantheon Infrastructure Private Limited. Park in Mumbai	June 28, 2004, modified on 10.12.04 modified on 26.7.06
32.	57/SIA/IP/04 dated 22.12.04 and 185/SIA/IP/05 dated 31.10.05	M/s Hamlet Constructions (India) Private Limited, Mumbai	5.1.05 amended on 25.7.06
33.	47/SIA/IP/04 dated 6.12.04 amended vide SIA Regn. No. 50/SIA/IP/05	M/s Ashray Premises pvt. Ltd. (Panchshil Tech Park), Pune Transfer of IP M/s Varieties Builders and Trustees Pvt. Ltd (Authorised trustees of M/s Goldcrest Realty Trust) taken on record vide letter dated 11/12/06	7.1.05 amended on 13.4.06 (non-auto)
34.	20/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05 21/SIA/IP/06 dated 15.2.06	M/s Murti Realtors Private Limited, Pune	12.4.05 and modified on 25.9.06
35.	151/SIA/IP/05 Dated 5.9.05 amended vide 28/SIA/IP/06	M/s Indiabulls Properties Pvt. Ltd., C.S. No. 841, Lower Parel Division, Mumbai	17.11.05 amended on 21.4.06

1	2	3	4
36.	207/SIA/IP/05 dated 21.11.05	M/s Varsha Ritu COstructions Pvt. Ltd. Bandra (West), Mumbai	26.7.06
37.	9/SIA/IP/06 dated 5.1.06	M/s Silver Land Developers Pvt. Ltd, Ghatkopar (East), Mumbai	24.7.06
38.	20/SIA/IP/06 dated 21.4.06	M/s indiabulls Real Estate Co. Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai	21.4.06
39.	215/SIA/IP/05	M/s Suma Shilp Ltd-Park at Pune	5.12.06
Pondicherry			
40.	45/SIA/IP/06 dated 4.4.06	M/s Pondicherry Industrial Promotion Development and Investment Corporation Ltd-Park at Pondicherry	30.3.2007
Tamil Nadu			
41.	49/SIA/IP/04 dated 14.12.04, 23.2.06 and 66/SIA/IP/05 dated 24.6.05	M/s R.K. Investments, Chennai	14.12.04 Modification on 31.1.05 and 26.7.06
42.	12/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05	M/s Khivraj Tech Park Pvt. Ltd., 617, Anna Salai, Chennai	25.7.06
43.	76/SIA/IP/05 dated 8.8.05 and 7/SIA/IP/07 dated 12.1.07	M/s SIPCOT Ltd., Chennai	3.8.06 and amended on 24.1.07
44.	77/SIA/IP/05 dated 8.8.05 and 6/SIA/IP/07 dated 12.1.07	M/s SIPCOT Ltd., Chennai	3.8.06 and amended on 24/31.1.07
45.	79/SIA/IP/05 dated 8.8.05 and 9/SIA/IP/07 dated 12.1.07	M/s SIPCOT Ltd., Chennai	3.8.06 and amended on 24/31.1.07
46.	9/SIA/IP/05	M/s Millennia Realtors Pvt. Ltd-Park at Kanchipuram	5.12.06
Rajasthan			
47.	188/SIA/IP /05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Bassi Extn., Bassi, District Jaipur	24.4.06
48.	190/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Hirawala Extn., Jaipur	24.4.06
49.	191/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Jhunjhunu, Phase-II, District Jhunjhunu	24.4.06
50.	192/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Sitapura Phase III, Jaipur	24.4.06
51.	197/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Sotanala, Dt. Alwar	24.4.06
52.	201/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd. Neemrana Phase-I. District-Alwar	24.4.06

1	2	3	4
53.	202/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Hanumangarh, Phase-II, Hanumangarh	24.4.06
54.	203/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Export Promotion Indl. Park, Sitapura, Jaipur	24.4.06
55.	211/SIA/IP/05 dated 19.12.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Growth Centre Khara, Dt. Bikaner	24.4.06
56.	212/SIA/IP /05 dated 19.12.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., S.G.C. Kami, Dt. Bikaner	24.4.06
57.	204/SIA/IP /05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Matsya Indl. Area Extn. (North & South), Alwar	25.4.06
58.	91/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Johtwara Ext. II, Samadungar, Jaipur	4.5.06
59.	91/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd. Indl. Area Avkia (Extn)., Village Badhama, Tehsil-Amer, Jaipur	4.5.06
60.	93/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Jhotwara Ext. I, Samadungar, jaipur	4.5.06
61.	94/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., IID Centre Vanasthali Road Newai, Dt.-Tonk.	4.5.06
62.	95/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area, Rampur, Mundana, Bhiwadi, Alwar	4.5.06
63.	96/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt Corpn. Ltd., Shri Katushyamji Indl. Complex, Reengus, Sikar.	4.5.06
64.	97/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Ajeetgarh, Sikar.	9.5.06
65.	98/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Neem ka Thana, Sikar	9.5.06
66.	99/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Growth Centre Palsana, Sikar	9.5.06
67.	102/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Mama Bhanja Phase III, Jhalawar	11.5.06
68.	103/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl. Area Bhawani Mandi, Jhalawar	11.5.06
69.	104/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. Corpn. Ltd., Indl Area Chandrawati Growth Centre, Jhalawar	11.5.06
70.	189/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Devt. & Investment Corp. Ltd, Tilak Marg, japur	26.7.06

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71.	196/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.11.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Devt. & Investment Corp. Ltd, Tilak Marg, Jaipur	26.7.06
72.	133/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment corporation Ltd. Jaipur	8.8.06
73.	134/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment corporation Ltd. Jaipur	8.8.06
74.	137/SIA/IP/05-IP & ID	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	5.9.06
75.	138/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd. Jaipur	22.9.06
76.	119/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd. Jaipur	22.9.06
77.	120/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd. Jaipur	25.9.06
78.	124/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	20.10.06
79.	125/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	20.10.06
80.	127/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	20.10.06
81.	135/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	20.10.06
82.	146/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	20.10.06
83.	123/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	23.10.06
84.	130/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	23.10.06
85.	143/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur. (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	23.10.06
86.	144/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	23.10.06
87.	148/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur (Park at Indl. Area Bhitwara, Phase-IV)	23.10.06
88.	126/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.8.05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur.	23.10.06

1	2	3	4
89.	107/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur	6.12.06
90.	109/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur	6.12.06
91.	121/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur	6.12.06
92.	122/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd. Jaipur	6.12.06
93.	139/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd. Jaipur	6.12.06
94.	149/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur	6.12.06
95.	106/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Alwar	18.12.06
96.	112/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Ajmer	19.12.06
97.	113/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Ajmer	19.12.06
98.	114/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Ajmer	19.12.06
99.	116/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Ajmer	19.12.06
100.	128/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Bundi	19.12.06
101.	131/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Kota	19.12.06
102.	198/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at pali	19.12.06
103.	199/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at pali	19.12.06
104.	193/SIA/IP/05	M/s Rajasthan State Indl Devpt. & Investment Corpn. Ltd., Jaipur-Park at Jaipur	4/5.1.07
Uttaranchal			
105.	24/SIA/IP/06 dated 22.2.06	M/s Datt Infrastructure & Services Ltd., New Delhi. Park in Hardwar, Uttaranchal	10.8.06 & 25.8.06

1	2	3	4
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West Bengal

- | | | | |
|------|---|--|--|
| 106. | 6/SIA/IP/2002 dated 9.5.2002 and 90/SIA/IP/06 | M/s Infinity Infotech parks ltd., Kolkata (Industrial park in North 24 Parganas), | 3.6.2002
modified on
21.1.2003 and
on 25.9.06 |
| 107. | 156/SIA/IP/05 dated 22.9.05 | M/s Phoenix Software Ltd., North 24 Parganas, West Bengal
Change of name-M/s Forum Project Holdings Pvt. Ltd-taken on record on 24.3.2008 | 13.4.06 |

C. Industrial Parks set up during the year (1.04.2007 to 31.03.2008) State-wise.**Andhra Pradesh**

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | 24/SIA/IP/04 dated 3.9.04
13/SIA/IP/06 | M/s SDE Engineers Limited, Hyderabad, Industrial park in Rangareddy District | 22.9.04
and amended
on 10.4.07 |
| 2. | 13/SIA/IP/05 dated 10.2.05
12/SIA/IP/06 | M/s Meenakshi Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd (Transfer of Industrial Park to M/s Vijay Infotech Ventures taken on record (Dt. August 9, 2006 and on 3.8.07) | 17.2.05
and amended
on 10.4.07 |
| 3. | 91/SIA/IP/06 | M/s VITP Private Limited-Park at Rangareddy Dist. | 10.4.07 |
| 4. | 116/SIA/IP/06 | M/s L&T Infocity Ltd-Park at Dist. Rangareddy | 11.4.07 |
| 5. | 112/SIA/IP/06 | M/s VITP Private Limited-Park at Dist. Rangareddy | 10.4.07 |

Karnataka

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|
| 6. | 26/SIA/IP/2003 dated 6.10.2003
104/SIA/IP/06 | M/s Cyber Park Development & Construction Ltd., Bangalore | 15.3.2004,
modified on
31.12.04
and on 11.4.07 |
| 7. | 69/SIA/IP/05 dated 29.6.05
126/SIA/IP/06 | M/s DivyaSree Valdel Venture., Divyasree Towers, Bangalore
Transfer of IP to M/s Divyasree Valdel venture taken on record vide lr. dated 19th October 2006 | 8.12.05
and amended
on 10.4.07 |
| 8. | 136/SIA/IP/06 | M/s Primal Projects Private Limited-Park at Bangalore
Transfer of IP to M/s Pri Tech Park Trust taken on record vide letter dated 27.6.07 | 10.4.07 |

Maharashtra

- | | | | |
|----|--|--|---|
| 9. | 48/SIA/IP/04 dated 6.12.04
Amended vide SIA Regn.
No. 52/SIA/IP/05 | M/s Panchshil Techpark Private Limited | 7.1.05
amended
on 13.4.06
(non-auto) and
on 5.12.06 &
on 10.4.07 |
|----|--|--|---|
-

1	2	3	4
10.	58/SIA/IP/06	M/s Hiranandani Builders, Park at Mumbai	10.4.07
Rajasthan			
11.	110/SIA/IP/05	M/s RIICO Ltd-Park at Ajmer	10.4.07
12.	141/SIA/IP/05	M/s RIICO Ltd-Park at Sirohi	10.4.07
13.	142/SIA/IP/05	M/s RIICO Ltd-Park at Sirohi	10.4.07
14.	147/SIA/IP/05	M/s RIICO Ltd-Park at Sriganganagar	10.4.07
15.	194/SIA/IP/05	M/s RIICO Ltd-Park at Jaipur	10.4.07
Uttar Pradesh			
16.	161/SIA/IP/05 dated 28.9.05	M/s Indian Express Multimedia Ltd (Park at NOIDA) Change of name to M/s ETT Limited taken on record on 23.7.07	26.9.06 & corrigendum issued on 12.6.07
Uttaranchal			
17.	47/SIA/IP/07	M/s Sara Industrial Estate Ltd Park at Dehradun	30.8.07
D. Industrial Parks set up during current year (1.04.2008 upto date)- State-wise.			
Karnataka			
1.	4/SIA/IP/2002 dated 12.4.2002	M/s Bagmane Developers Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore	11.7.2002 modified on 21.1.2003 and 11.02.09
Rajasthan			
2.	117/SIA/IP/05	M/s RIICO Ltd-Park at Ajmer	22.8.08

Year-wise break-up of approvals

2005-06	=	47
2006-07	=	107
2007-08	=	17
2008-09	=	2
Total approvals	=	173

*[English]***SC Guidelines on Arrests**

555. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any guidelines on arrests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various State Police have requested for change in the guidelines; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The Supreme Court in the case of D.K. Basu Vs. State of West Bengal (Writ Petition Criminal No. 539 of 1986) issued guidelines to be followed in the case arrest/detention.

(b) The Supreme Court's guidelines regarding arrest are as follows:

- (i) The police personnel carrying out the arrest and handling the interrogation of the arrestee should bear accurate, visible and clear identification and name tags with their designations. The particulars of all such police personnel who handle interrogation of the arrestee must be recorded in a register.
- (ii) The police officer carrying out the arrest of the arrestee shall prepare a memo of arrest at the time of arrest and such memo, shall be attested by at least one witness, who may be either a member of the family of the arrestee or a respectable person of the locality from where the arrest is made. It shall also be counter signed by the arrestee and shall contain the time and date of arrest.
- (iii) A person who has been arrested or detained and is being held in custody in a police station or interrogation center or other lock-up, shall be entitled to have one friend or relative or other person known to him or having interest in his welfare being informed, as soon as practicable, that he has been arrested and is being detained at the particular place, unless the attesting witness of the memo of arrest is himself such a friend or a relative of the arrestee.
- (iv) The time, place of arrest and venue of custody of an arrestee must be notified by the police where the next friend or relative of the arrestee lives outside the district or town through the Legal Aid Organization in the District and the police station of the areas concerned telegraphically within a period of 8 to 12 hours after the arrest.
- (v) The person arrested must be made aware of this right to have someone informed of his arrest or detention as soon as he is put under arrest or is detained.

(vi) An entry must be made in the diary at the place of detention regarding the arrest of the persons which shall also disclose the name of the next friend of the person who has been informed of the arrest and the names and particulars of the police officials in whose custody the arrestee is.

(vii) The arrestee should, where he so requests, be also examined at the time of his arrest and major and minor injuries, if any present on his/her body, must be recorded at that time. The "Inspection Memo" must be signed both by the arrestee and the police officer affecting the arrest and its copy provided to the arrestee.

(viii) The arrestee should be subjected to medical examination by a trained doctor every 48 hours of his detention in custody by a doctor on the panel of approved doctors appointed by Director, Health Services of the concerned State or Union Territory. Director, Health Services should prepare such a panel for all Tehsils and Districts as well.

(ix) Copies of all the documents including the memo of arrest, referred to above should be sent to the illaqa magistrate for his record.

(x) The arrestee may be permitted to meet his lawyer during interrogation, though not throughout the interrogation.

(xi) A police control room should be provided at all districts and state headquarters where information regarding the arrest and the place of custody of the arrestee shall be communicated by the officer causing the arrest, within 12 hours of effecting the arrest and at the police control room it should be displayed on a conspicuous notice board.

(c) and (d) The Commissioner of Police, Delhi has requested to have re-look at some of the guidelines issued by the Supreme Court on arrest, particularly on their ramification in the event of arrest of terrorists/gangsters/dreaded criminals etc.

The Supreme Court Judgement has the force of law unless and until the same is overruled by a large Bench of the Supreme Court or by an appropriate legislation.

[Translation]

Meeting of DGPS and Chief Secretaries

556. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting of the Chief Secretaries and Director Generals of Police of States was held recently;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study for setting up Special Security Zone; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) A one day Conference of Chief Secretaries/Home Secretaries and Directors General of Police of all States was held on 8.8.2008 to review the prevailing security scenario in various parts of the Country and to discuss the recent terrorist incidents, naxalite violence, etc. The discussions highlighted the need for strengthening of Police infrastructure, improving response capabilities necessary to address the emerging threats, enhanced surveillance of crowded areas such as markets, malls, etc., in urban areas, stricter enforcement of existing regulation on explosives, countering the menace of Fake Indian Currency Notes, regulations of cyber cafes and retailers of SIM cards etc., with the involvement of all stakeholders, harnessing of technology towards this end, involving the community in countering threats posed by terrorist elements and generating awareness. There was a board consensus to focus on capacity building through training skill upgradation, incentivisation of Special Branches of the States, and the need for effective investigation and efficient prosecution of cases having inter-state and international linkages was emphasized.

(c) and (d) The Model Police Act, inter-alia, refers to the creation of Special Security Zones where the police will have enhanced powers to deal with the security situation. It is for the States to consider this suggestion.

Cooperative Money Lending Act, 2008

557. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a Bill with regard to "Cooperative Money Lending Act, 2008" from Government of Maharashtra for approval of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has approved the said Bill;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which said Bill is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) An Ordinance, namely, the Maharashtra Money-Lending (Regulation) Ordinance, 2008 has been received in this Ministry on 3.9.2008 for obtaining instruction of the President under Article 213 (1) of the Constitution of India to its promulgation. The State Government is of the opinion that the "The Bombay Money-Lenders Act, 1946", is found to be too inadequate to prevent the harassment of the farmers debtors by the money-lenders. The State Government has therefore, proposed to promulgate an Ordinance to make better provisions to regulate the transactions of Money-lending in the State.

(c) and (d) No, Sir,

(e) The Ordinance is being examined in consultation with the administrative Ministries Concerned. The State Legislations are examined from three angles viz. (a) repugnancy with Central Laws, (b) deviation from National or Central Policy and (c) legal and Constitutional validity. In this case, there are certain policy issues to be sorted out in consultation with the concerned Ministries/ Departments as well as State Government. Hence, no time-frame can be fixed in this regard.

[English]

Research by IIT and IIS Students

558. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students from Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Science who submitted their Ph. D. and other research papers in foreign countries during the last three years, institution-wise;

(b) whether such students have been given financial support; and

(c) if so, the details thereof institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The students of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) are not permitted to submit their Ph. D. theses to institutions in foreign countries. They can, however, present their papers in foreign countries in International conferences, seminars, symposia, etc, for which financial assistance are given by the concerned Institutes, Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Science & Technology (DST), University Grants Commission (UGC), etc.

B. Sc. Course in Delhi University

559. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Delhi University have decided to look favourably into a suggestion by three national science Academies for starting a four year B.Sc. Course in Delhi University;

(b) if so, the reasons behind this move and the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented and the purpose sought to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, no proposal for starting a four year B.Sc. course in Delhi University has been considered by its Academic Council and the Executive Council.

Export of Marine Products

560. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for export of marine products during each of the last three years and the current year, item-wise alongwith the success achieved;

(b) the rate of growth of marine products; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to encourage marine exports and to achieve export targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Details are enclosed as Statement.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to encourage export of marine products and to achieve export targets:

- (i) With the objective of improving aquaculture practices and quality of aquaculture production and export, an out reach organisation, namely the National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA) has been established at Kakinada for providing extension services to farmers of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa & Karnataka. NaCSA is promoting the organisation of farmers into clusters with the objective of popularizing Better Management Practices and safe production methods i.e. 'Residue less shrimps'.
- (ii) In order to ensure full traceability of products, a comprehensive farm level data base is being created through a satellite based Geographical Information System;
- (iii) A Mission Mode Programme in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Orissa has been launched to expand aquaculture;
- (iv) With the objective of diversifying India's export basket in marine products and to improve the quality of Indian marine exports, MPEDA is targeting the development of new technologies in aquaculture such as specific pathogen free broodstock development and domestication of shrimp. An outlay of Rs. 97.96 crore has been made available for the purpose during the XIth Plan;
- (v) Aquatic Quarantine facility for use when *L. vannamei* broodstock is imported, is being set up in the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture.
- (vi) The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has launched the Indian

Organic Aquaculture Project with technical assistance from the Swiss Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO). Recently organic freshwater prawn was farmed and cultivated for the first time in the world in Kerala. The programme is in progress in Andhra Pradesh also.

- (vii) MPEDA is working with the Norwegian Government to develop cage farming of fin fish in the country. The project is expected to take off in 2009.
- (viii) MPEDA is participating in various international fairs/seminars/training of marine products to keep updated about the recent developments in the international markets and also to frame better export policy from time to time to compete with our counterpart in the international markets.

Statement

(a) The targets set for export of marine products during each of the last three years and the current year is furnished below:

Year	Export Target (US \$ Million)
2005-06	1450
2006-07	1625
2007-08	1825
2008-09	2100

The item wise target was not fixed. Item wise export is furnished below:-

Item-wise Export of Marine Products

(Q: Quantity in MT, V: Value in Rs. Crore, \$: US Dollar Million)

Item		April-December 2008-09*	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06
1		2	3	4	5
Frozen Shrimp	Q:	94672	136223	137397	145180
	V:	2824.13	3941.62	4506.08	4271.51
	\$:	641.32	980.62	997.64	970.43
Frozen Fin Fish	Q:	172095	220200	270751	182344
	V:	1242.66	1303.41	1452.88	998.7
	\$:	275.35	326.29	321.95	225.94
Frozen Squid	Q:	42592	34172	47252	52352
	V:	491.3	408.42	568.32	575.52
	\$:	113.62	101.29	126.25	130.49
Frozen Cuttlefish	Q:	38990	45955	55701	49651
	V:	599	744.13	797.37	549.15
	\$:	134.71	185.66	175.75	124.48
Dried items	Q:	20219	22414	24293	14167
	V:	280.85	258.88	183.16	132.56
	\$:	63.67	64.72	40.75	30.03
Live items	Q:	2165	2498	2478	2568
	V:	65.27	69.07	64.06	61.71
	\$:	14.84	17.21	14.22	13.99

1		2	3	4	5
Chilled items	Q:	13735	6541	7200	5060
	V:	132.01	118.11	117.3	81.56
	\$:	30.7	29.62	26.63	18.4
Others	Q:	54301	73698	67571	60841
	V:	756.69	777.29	674.35	574.58
	\$:	174.98	193.68	149.72	130.46
Total	Q:	438768	541701	612641	512164
	V:	6391.9	7620.92	8363.53	7245.3
	\$:	1449.2	1899.09	1852.93	1644.21

(*) Provisional

(b) the rate of Growth of Marine Products is indicated below:

(Q: Quantity In M. Tons,
V: Value Rs. Crore, \$: US \$ Million)

Year		Export	Growth	%
2005-06	Q	512164	50835	11.02
	V:	7245.3	598.61	9.01
	\$:	1644.21	165.74	11.21
2006-07	Q	612641	100478	19.62
	V:	8363.53	1118.23	15.43
	\$:	1852.93	208.72	12.69
2007-08	Q	541701	-70941	-11.58
	V:	7620.92	-742.61	-8.88
	\$:	1899.09	46.16	2.49

[*Translation*]

Enrolment Rate in Rural Areas

561. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of children admitted to schools in the country including the rural areas remained low during the year 2007-08;

(b) if so, the details of enrolment in the schools in the rural areas, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated for Primary and Secondary schools in the rural areas during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the enrolment rate in the schools particularly in the rural areas during the said period;

(e) whether some States are still lagging far behind in enrolment rate and ensuring quality education for them;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Statement-I giving the latest State/UT-wise Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for classes I-VIII (6-14 years), classes IX-X (14-16 years) and classes XI-XII (16-18 years) for the year 2005-06 is enclosed. Annual Class-wise Gross Enrolment Ratio urban and rural areas separately are not calculated.

(c) State-wise details of the approved outlay under SSA for 2006-07 to 2008-09 and Central assistance released under Mid-day Meal Scheme for 2005-06 to 2007-08 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The funds allocated for secondary education under plan scheme during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 were

Rs. 895 crore, Rs. 1087 crore and Rs. 3164 crore respectively. Central Sector and Centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented in rural as well as urban areas. Out of these, the scheme for Navodaya Vidyalayas mainly caters to the students of rural areas for which the budget provision of Rs. 1910 crore (plan) was provided during last three years.

(d) to (g) The Mid-day Meal scheme that provides a cooked meal to all children of Government, Local Body and Government-aided schools and EGS & AIE Centers has been extended upto upper primary stage. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) several steps have been taken to improve enrolment and quality of elementary

education which includes inter-alia, free distribution of textbook for all children, construction of school buildings, additional classrooms, recruitment of additional teachers to improve the pupil-teacher ratio, in-service training of teachers, regular academic support through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centers and regular evaluation of students. The Central Government has approved a centrally sponsored scheme for universalisation of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage in the country in 2008-09. This is called as "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). Besides, this scheme for setting up of Model Schools in 2500 economically backward block has been launched in the current financial year 2008-09.

Statement I

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Gross Enrolment Ratio during 2005-06		
		Classes I-VIII (6-14 years)	Class IX-X (14-16 years)	Class XI-XII (16-18 years)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86.63	56.72	41.17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	114.39	55.01	29.06
3.	Assam	94.18	49.36	14.30
4.	Bihar	67.84	22.67	8.92
5.	Chhattisgarh	102.56	38.94	23.78
6.	Goa	103.58	75.09	40.23
7.	Gujarat	102.29	53.49	25.51
8.	Haryana	77.79	52.43	32.04
9.	Himachal Pradesh	108.48	134.89	128.20
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	85.94	43.49	28.11
11.	Jharkhand	83.09	27.39	3.20
12.	Karnataka	97.87	57.11	33.45
13.	Kerala	95.39	93.30	36.67
14.	Madhya Pradesh	124.35	48.01	26.91
15.	Maharashtra	107.91	70.49	43.25
16.	Manipur	134.52	74.44	23.92

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Meghalaya	134.81	45.60	25.99
18.	Mizoram	148.83	61.14	23.99
19.	Nagaland	78.08	31.30	17.03
20.	Orissa	97.57	53.37	32.19
21.	Punjab	73.54	49.77	29.95
22.	Rajasthan	104.11	45.89	22.25
23.	Sikkim	119.10	44.25	25.96
24.	Tamil Nadu	114.89	82.62	45.40
25.	Tripura	118.62	58.16	21.32
26.	Uttar Pradesh	88.94	48.77	22.45
27.	Uttarakhand	108.35	80.44	43.67
28.	West Bengal	90.25	44.66	26.23
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	102.32	89.16	28.45
30.	Chandigarh	74.75	63.77	50.58
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	121.06	60.51	23.78
32.	Daman and Diu	131.48	108.40	51.35
33.	Delhi	107.01	62.99	42.29
34.	Lakshadweep	62.25	67.63	31.74
35.	Puducherry	122.33	105.89	54.55
	India	94.85	52.19	28.47

Statement II

(Value in Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Approved outlay under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan			Central Assistance released under Mid-Day Meal Scheme		
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1305.25	1246.07	1197.34	212.01	368.85	467.42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	119.28	124.97	181.33	4.02	28.41	12.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	1042.07	621.38	619.54	108.85	297.29	146.90
4.	Bihar	2414.08	3339.30	3664.16	367.83	478.30	487.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	821.32	784.78	900.00	96.76	155.33	171.47
6.	Goa	20.78	16.80	16.70	1.77	2.78	3.07
7.	Gujarat	389.39	382.22	500.05	105.27	176.41	143.05
8.	Haryana	365.02	357.07	425.50	40.50	59.27	63.69
9.	Himachal Pradesh	121.18	121.98	143.91	21.97	44.00	31.08
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	354.54	321.52	499.45	15.43	58.77	37.41
11.	Jharkhand	1042.85	1321.92	1672.82	131.63	154.29	217.52
12.	Karnataka	742.15	697.46	960.14	147.26	247.46	338.51
13.	Kerala	171.54	159.56	188.61	44.76	62.32	74.20
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1869.88	1798.24	1843.28	261.97	497.18	635.83
15.	Maharashtra	1064.60	895.23	1092.35	135.64	453.28	337.03
16.	Manipur	62.37	48.09	39.30	9.15	14.15	9.87
17.	Meghalaya	91.54	140.07	166.13	16.01	26.51	37.44
18.	Mizoram	46.07	48.03	67.39	2.91	6.22	4.85
19.	Nagaland	62.04	51.36	57.18	5.50	16.93	11.95
20.	Orissa	939.61	1088.44	1050.41	73.05	279.81	382.94
21.	Punjab	232.78	184.89	265.10	17.74	62.25	81.00
22.	Rajasthan	1253.37	1599.99	1798.04	174.11	275.62	483.31
23.	Sikkim	24.39	23.03	23.02	4.64	7.89	4.19
24.	Tamil Nadu	723.18	702.71	782.30	136.47	144.84	180.31
25.	Tripura	90.85	48.32	74.69	16.88	27.62	24.49
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3678.51	3441.53	3746.27	512.78	826.64	946.90
27.	Uttarakhand	248.21	252.84	272.96	29.62	49.48	45.45
28.	West Bengal	1464.87	1438.76	1737.79	454.65	396.44	415.45
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	13.50	9.29	14.04	0.40	0.47	1.26
30.	Chandigarh	11.63	19.54	18.86	1.73	0.17	3.62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8.30	7.94	10.02	0.89	0.26	1.81
32.	Daman and Diu	2.61	2.58	2.93	0.51	0.25	0.54
33.	Delhi	84.44	52.34	61.25	30.94	9.44	29.14
34.	Lakshadweep	4.18	2.35	3.47	0.20	0.01	0.00
35.	Puducherry	9.42	8.94	13.14	1.28	2.02	2.44
	India	20895.78	21359.56	24109.47	3185.13	5230.93	5833.55
	National Component	11.79	18.00	14.61			
	Grand Total	20907.58	21377.56	24124.08			

**Setting up of Higher Technical Institutes
in Border States**

562. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up a higher technical institute on the lines of IIT, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute, Chandigarh in the hilly and border States including Himachal Pradesh which are having extremely low levels of industrial and commercial development;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of places selected for the purpose, State-wise including Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) the time by which such institutions are likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government have decided to establish eight new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Orissa, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh during the XIth Plan period. While, the classes in the first six new IITs have already started from the current academic session of 2008-09, IITs at Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh will start functioning from the next session of 2009-10.

[English]

India-Bangladesh Official Level Talks

563. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meetings of Home Secretaries, Joint Secretaries and Director Generals of Border Security Force and Bangladesh Rifles are held at regular intervals; and

(b) if so, the details of such meetings held during the last three years and the current year alongwith the issues discussed and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) While the meetings of Home Secretaries of India and Bangladesh and Director Generals of Border Security Force (BSF) and Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) were held at regular intervals during the last three years, Joint Secretary level talks between India and Bangladesh was held in May, 2008, after a gap of almost five years.

During the Joint Secretary level talks between India and Bangladesh held in May, 2008 various issues relating to security, border management and enhanced cooperation between law enforcement agencies of both countries were discussed. Among other issues, there was a decision to activate the nodal points between the two countries for sharing of information on issues of mutual concern. The Bangladesh side reiterated that Govt. of Bangladesh will not allow her territory to be used by members of Indian Insurgent Groups for criminal and insurgent activities.

In the meeting of Director Generals of BSF and BDR held in August, 2008, BSF raised issues of the presence of Indian insurgent groups in Bangladesh and their training camps/hide outs; construction of border fence; and development works for border population within 150 yards of the International Border. Issues of enhanced co-operation between Border Security Force (BSF) and Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) to check trans border crimes, illegal cross border movement and construction of border pillars were also discussed. During the last three years, 12 development works on the border have been settled and some wanted criminals have been handed over to either country. Director General BSF has also handed over a list of forty-six (46) patches, where border fencing within 150 yards of the border is required on a priority basis. Simultaneous coordinated patrolling by the BSF and BDR has been agreed upon to prevent trans border illegal activities and in this context, both sides have also agreed to identify vulnerable stretches along the border for such patrolling, and to finalize modalities in this regard at the sector/Battalion level.

In the Home Secretary level talks between India and Bangladesh held in 29-31 August 2008, both sides agreed, inter alia, that designated nodal points in the two countries would regularly and continuously exchange information and pursue focused action on identified areas regarding activities of militants, insurgents, terrorists, extremists, criminals and smugglers of arms, ammunitions, explosives and fake currency notes. It was also agreed that the nodal points would regularly exchange available information about militants/insurgents/terrorists/extremists groups, exchange information about criminals, exchange details of selected identified subjects about Red Corner Notices, dealers/conduits/smugglers of fake currency notes, arms & ammunitions, etc.

Master's and Doctoral Courses

564. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to start Combined Master's and Doctoral Courses for engineering and science students to obviate brain drain; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have endorsed the proposal of IITs to introduce Joint M.Sc-Ph. D. and Joint M. Tech.-Ph. D. Programmes in which would augment the research base as well as number of research students in IITs.

Earthquake Monitoring Laboratories

565. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce earthquake monitoring laboratories in schools all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National School of Seismology Project has evolved strategies/technologies for handling the effects of earthquakes on human and infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to introduce earthquake monitoring laboratories in schools all over the country. However, a pilot project on School Earthquake Monitoring Laboratories, that has been sanctioned by the Department of Science & Technology and continued in the Ministry of Earth Sciences now, covering 100 identified schools in seismic zones IV and V in NW Himalaya (Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh etc.) and north eastern parts of India covering all 7 North East States. The project is under implementation since 2004 with a total cost of Rs. 4.0 crores. Apart from installing the equipment in duly identified schools, series of training programmes have also been organised with the help of experts for the students and science teachers.

(c) There is no project on National School of Seismology.

(d) Does not arise.

Closure of Export Oriented Fishing Project

566. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an export oriented fishing hook project at Ghutgoria, district Bankura, West Bengal has been closed down; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has not undertaken any export oriented fishing hook project at Ghutgoria, district Bankura, West Bengal.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Responsibility of Teachers in Mid-day-Meal Scheme

567. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether teachers in some schools have refused to take their responsibility of arranging/providing Mid-day-Meal as reported in Dainik Jagran dated 28 January, 2009;

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

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

(d) the number of such matters reported from various States including Jharkhand during each of the last three

years and current year alongwith the amount released under the scheme; and

(e) the action taken against the guilty persons/ teachers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The MDM Guidelines stipulate that teachers under no circumstances be assigned responsibilities that will impede or interfere with teaching learning process in schools. Their involvement in the programme is limited to ensure that good quality, wholesome food is served to children and actual serving and eating is undertaken in a spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions and in an orderly manner in about 30-40 minutes. It is also provided that the food prepared is tasted by 2-3 adults including atleast one teacher before it is served to children. No incident of refusal to take these responsibilities by any teacher has been reported so far by any States/Union Territory including Delhi and Jharkhand.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above, question does not arise. However, the details of Central assistance released during the last three years viz. 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2007-08 and during the current year 2008-09 (upto 15.02.2009) are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Central assistance released during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 under Mid-Day Meal

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (provision as on 15.2.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	212.01	368.85	467.42	105.05
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.02	28.41	12.17	13.40
3.	Assam	108.85	297.29	146.90	253.87
4.	Bihar	367.83	478.30	487.24	413.39
5.	Chhattisgarh	96.76	155.33	171.47	252.20
6.	Goa	1.77	2.78	3.07	6.04
7.	Gujarat	105.27	176.41	143.05	226.74

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Haryana	40.50	59.27	63.69	74.41
9.	Himachal Pradesh	21.97	44.00	31.08	112.39
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	15.43	58.77	37.41	57.40
11.	Jharkhand	131.63	154.29	217.52	184.22
12.	Karnataka	147.26	247.46	338.51	285.91
13.	Kerala	44.76	62.32	74.20	151.12
14.	Madhya Pradesh	261.97	497.18	635.83	593.70
15.	Maharashtra	135.64	453.28	337.03	729.55
16.	Manipur	9.15	14.15	9.87	15.29
17.	Meghalaya	16.01	26.51	37.44	25.23
18.	Mizoram	2.91	6.22	4.85	15.49
19.	Nagaland	5.50	16.93	11.95	11.42
20.	Orissa	73.05	279.81	382.94	304.46
21.	Punjab	17.74	62.25	81.00	177.02
22.	Rajasthan	174.11	275.62	483.31	357.71
23.	Sikkim	4.64	7.89	4.19	4.87
24.	Tamil Nadu	136.47	144.84	180.31	286.46
25.	Tripura	16.88	27.62	24.49	35.06
26.	Uttar Pradesh	512.78	826.64	946.90	782.93
27.	Uttaranchal	29.62	49.48	45.45	70.18
28.	West Bengal	454.65	396.44	415.45	561.20
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.40	0.47	1.26	3.94
30.	Chandigarh	1.73	0.17	3.62	3.69
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.89	0.26	1.81	1.81
32.	Daman and Diu	0.51	0.25	0.54	0.88
33.	Delhi	30.94	9.44	29.14	63.93
34.	Lakshadweep	0.20	0.01	0.00	0.20
35.	Pondicherry	1.28	2.02	2.44	5.18
Total		3185.13	5230.93	5833.55	6186.34

*[English]***Illegal Mining**

569. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining of iron ore and other minerals is going on in the country including Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand;

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

(c) whether the Government has prepared any strategy in consultation with the State Governments to check illegal mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government/State Governments to stop such illegal mining of iron ore and other minerals; and

(f) the details of loss to the exchequer due to the aforesaid reasons during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) and (b) As per available information cases of illegal mining of major/minor minerals detected by the State Governments in the period 01.7.2005 to 30.9.2008 are give below:-

Sl.No.	State	Nos. of cases detected
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20319
2.	Chhattisgarh	5833
3.	Goa	251
4.	Gujarat	21752
5.	Haryana	2314
6.	Himachal Pradesh	478
7.	Jharkhand	1533
8.	Karnataka	10794

1	2	3
9.	Kerala	5753
10.	Madhya Pradesh	12669
11.	Maharashtra	12550
12.	Orissa	1405
13.	Punjab	239
14.	Rajasthan	6818
15.	Tamil Nadu	3781
16.	Uttarakhand	191
17.	West Bengal	593

(c) to (e) State Governments have been empowered under the Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 to curb illegal mining, transportation & storage etc. The Central Government has also directed State Governments to frame rules under section 23C of MMDR Act, constitute task forces at State/District level for prevention of illegal mining and furnish quarterly returns on illegal mining for review by Ministry of Mines. Central Government also monitor the instances of illegal mining, action taken by the State Governments to curb illegal mining in the review meeting with the Secretaries of State Governments held for the purpose.

(f) The assessment of total loss suffered due to illegal mining are not centrally maintained.

*[Translation]***Target under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

570. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target period of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is likely to be extended upto 2015 in view of non-fulfilment of target set including for girl education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) An outlay of Rs. 71,000 crores has been provided for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the Xlth Plan period.

[English]

Establishment of Cashew Board

571. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the establishment of Cashew Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the place where the said Board is proposed to be established;

(c) whether any objection have been received against the establishment of the Cashew Board;

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

(e) whether India produces only half of the demand for cashew;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the establishment of Cashew Board is likely to facilitate the boost in production and marketing of cashew; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir. The objections received are being examined by the Govt.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir, India produces approximately half of its requirement of raw cashew nuts. During 2007-08, the domestic production was only 6,66,000 MT against our total requirement of about 12,70,000 MT.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. The establishment of Cashew Board is likely to facilitate the boost in production and marketing of Cashew, as this will bring focused and undivided attention of the Government on the sector.

FDI in Book Publishing

572. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to conduct a study on the impact of 100% FDI in book publishing on the domestic publishing industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the aforesaid study is likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Government, in order to carry out an in-depth study of the issues raised by the book publishing industry in India, has entrusted a study to the Indian Institute of Public Administration. The broad issues to be covered by the study are as under:

(i) Study the Book Publishing industry in India including the size, capital adequacy, content regulation and competitiveness of the industry.

(ii) Assess the global practices in book publishing adopted by the Indian book publishers.

(iii) Based on the above study and assessment, suggest measures for increasing the global competitiveness of the Indian book publishing industry.

(iv) Study and assess the impact of economic policies including FDI policy on the Indian book publishing industry.

(v) Study the impact of operation of foreign book publishing companies through branch office/subsidiaries on the Indian book publishing industry.

(vi) Study the impact of foreign companies on pricing of books.

(vi) Study issues relating to reprint rights for text books.

(viii) Study the impact of operations of foreign book publishing companies in EPZ and SEZs on the Indian book publishing industry.

(c) As per the terms of reference, IIPA is to submit its report by July, 2009.

Inducting Teachers in IITs

573. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to induct Indian professionals working abroad as teachers in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have been inducting Indian professionals working abroad as teachers in the Institutes. IITs are recruiting Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) for various faculty positions. Copies of advertisements are also sent to be the Indian Embassies/High Commissions abroad viz the USA, the UK, Canada, Italy, Austria, Japan, etc, to give wide publicity for which arrangements are made for interviews through video-conferencing/tele-conferencing. Also, whenever Directors, Deputy Directors, Deans and senior faculty members visit abroad for other assignments, they make it a point to motivate outstanding prospective applicants to join IITs.

[*Translation*]

NSG Cover to VIPS

574. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided National Security Guard (NSG) cover for protection of VIPS in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of NSG personnel deployed for this purpose and number of persons provided protection during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the criteria to extend NSG protection to VIPS;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on such arrangements during the said period and details of reimbursement made by the said persons/State Governments to defray security expenses;

(e) whether the Government proposes to raise a separate security agency for providing security cover to VIPS and other officials; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of NSG personnel deployed on VIP security duties during the last three years and the current year is enclosed as statement.

(c) NSG protection is provided in consultation with the Central Security Agencies to certain highly threatened protectees who face serious threat from militant/terrorist/extremist groups, etc., requiring professionally trained manpower to deal with such threats.

(d) NSG only provides mobile security cover. The total expenditure incurred in this is difficult to estimate as the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administration provide the vehicles, accommodation, fuel, logistics, etc., required for this purpose. Further the said persons are not required to defray expenses as it is provided on Government cost to certain highly threatened individuals.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal to raise a separate security agency for providing security cover to VIPS and other officials presently.

Statement

Year	No. of personnel deployed for protection	No. of protectees
2005-06	538	17
2006-07	556	18
200-08	638	20
2008-09	638	20

Corruption in Central Institutions

575. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any provision to register corruption cases in the central education institutions through a centrally computerised system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the name of the institutions covered in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) NO, Sir, there is no such centralized system at present. However, corruption related complaints against Central Educational Institutions can be registered in the Vigilance Wing of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, as well as with the Central Vigilance Commission.

[English]

Bodo Political Accord

576. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BUISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bodo Political Accord has been signed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of clauses mentioned therein; and

(c) the details of implementation of the said Accord?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) A memorandum of Settlement (MoS) was signed between the Central Government, Government of Assam and the Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) on 10.2.2003. The main clauses of the MoS interalia includes setting up of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) in the State of Assam under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution on India, inclusion of Bodo language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, revision of list of Scheduled Tribes for the State of Assam, setting up of Central Institute of Technology, additional development package of Rs. 100 crore per annum for 5 years over and above the normal plan assistance to the State of Assam, rehabilitation of BLT cadres, etc. Following action has been taken to implement the MoS:

(i) The Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India was amended for creation of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC).

(ii) General Election to the Council held on 13.5.2005 and Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) took office.

(iii) Scheduled Tribe (list) of Assam has been revised by amending the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes), Order 1950 to protect the interest of Bodo Tribe.

(iv) Bodo language has been included into the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

(v) Article 332 (6) of the Constitution of India has been amended by enacting Constitution (Nineteenth) Amendment Act, 2003 for ensuring the existing representation of the Scheduled Tribes and non-Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Assam from Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD).

(vi) Rs. 47.92 crore have been released during the years 2003-2004 to 2006-07 for development of administrative infrastructure in the BTAD.

(vii) The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) has sanctioned 39 projects worth Rs. 439.02 crore for creation of socio-economic infrastructure since the year 2004-05 and Rs. 381.64 crore has been released to the State Government of Assam so far.

(viii) Central Institute of Technology (CIT) has started functioning at Kokrajhar since 2006.

(ix) 835 ex-BLT cadres have been recruited in the Central Police Forces (CPFs) and approval for appointment of 400 ex-BLT cadres as Special Police Officer (SPOs) has been given to state Government.

Spice Industry

577. SHRI E. DAYAKAR RAO:
SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of various spices exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise and item-wise;

(b) the details of places which are encouraged by the Government for the production and export of different spices during the above period, item-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether pepper market is facing the problem of low stocks;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to promote the production and export of various spices and to protect the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Details of exports of major species to major countries for the last three years viz. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 is given in the enclosed statement I. Item-wise exports for the year 2008-09 (April-December) is given in the enclosed statement II.

(b) Production Development programmes for cardamom (small) is mainly taken up in the states of Kerala (Idukki, Wynadu and palghat districts), Karnataka (Coorg, Hassan, Chickmagalore, Shimoga and North Canara districts) and Tamil Nadu (Nilgirs, Madurai, Thirunelveli, Kamarajar and Coimbatore districts). For large cardamom the programmes are being implemented in the State of Sikkim and Darjeeling District of West Bengal. Post harvest programmes are implemented in major spice producing centers throughout India. The export development & promotion programmes are implemented on All India basis for the benefit of spices exporters located in various states. National Horticulture Mission is providing assistance to the State Governments and State Horticulture Mission for production of other spices. A scheme called Technology Mission & Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States and Himalayan States is also in operation for production of Spices.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) During XI Plan period Spices Board is implementing production development programmes of cardamom small & large and post harvest improvement programmes for other spices. Two schemes viz. "Special Purpose Fund for Replantation & Rejuvenation of Cardamom Plantations" and "Export Oriented Production & Post Harvest Improvement of Spices" are being implemented for providing assistance to farmers for improving production and productivity of cardamom small & large and improving quality of the spices, in the various spice growing States of the country.

The major export development/promotion programmes of the Board implemented during the XI plan period are as follows.

- Adoption of Hi-tech in Spice processing
- Technology process upgradation in processing units
- Set up/Upgrade quality evaluation lab by the exporters, Quality certification
- Packaging development and Bar coding
- Product development and research for high-end value addition
- Sending business samples abroad, brochure printing
- Setting up of common facilities for cleaning, grading, processing, ware housing, packaging etc. (Spice Parks).
- Participation in international fairs/meetings/seminars.

Statement I

Quantity in MT Value in Rs. lakhs

Commodity	Country	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pepper	USA	6596.3	5368.5	13886.0	14408.1	14496.4	21149.9
	Germany	1346.4	1649.3	1406.0	1633.1	1690.7	2741.2
	U.K.	1977.5	1769.1	2002.6	2048.2	1817.8	2583.5
	Canada	1064.4	801.7	1106.7	1261.8	1397.0	2119.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Chilli	Malaysia	26804.4	8955.9	43625.4	25133.2	51782.4	30520.7
	Bangladesh	670.7	166.0	28424.6	15507.7	34678.9	16120.3
	Sri Lanka	27582.2	7482.2	21822.4	11228.6	29504.8	13501.1
	USA	16579.7	8592.0	13058.2	8382.2	19712.6	12956.9
Turmeric	UAE	7361.0	1963.5	7823.8	2042.4	5150.6	1442.7
	Japan	2608.3	1126.5	2631.9	1189.1	2797.1	1237.2
	USA	2634.5	1425.1	2460.6	1378.8	2648.6	1206.2
	Malaysia	2940.0	1028.5	2263.5	761.4	2895.4	910.5
Coriander	Malaysia	7529.6	2366.5	5898.7	2188.0	5072.4	2111.5
	UAE	328.4	712.3	3635.8	1091.1	4825.9	1849.1
	U.K.	1691.1	598.5	1818.4	781.7	2245.9	1003.4
Cumin	USA	1875.3	1582.4	3948.4	3182.5	3013.8	3202.8
	Nepal	3065.6	2062.8	3055.5	2377.7	2919.1	3116.9
	UAE	561.4	347.5	17675	1186.4	2840.7	2708.8
	UK	1604.5	1324.2	1833.9	1568.8	1860.5	2115.1

Statement II

Items	2008-09 (APR-DEC)	
	QTY (MT)	Value (Rs. Lakh)
1	2	3
Pepper	19,100	31777.00
Cardamom(s)	375	2469.75
Cardamom(L)	1,200	1486.25
Chilli	1,41,000	79317.50
Ginger	3,250	2400.00
Turmeric	40,000	18836.50
Coriander	19,600	13722.50
Cumin	28,500	29612.98

1	2	3
Celery	2,225	1466.50
Fennel	4,350	2378.25
Fenugreek	11,500	4120.50
Other Seeds (1)	13,100	5099.00
Garlic	545	217.75
Nutmeg & Mace	1,375	3921.40
Vanilla	230	2095.80
Other Spices (2)	17,000	8,361.00
Curry Powder	10,500	12444.50
Mint Products (3)	14,750	103945.08
Oils & Oleoresins	5,550	57422.75
Total	3,34,150	381095.00

Madaras

578. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert all the madaras in the country as Government institutions and setting up an All India Madarasas Board on CBSE pattern;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments would still play a role in the new dispensation in terms of running and providing financial aids in the Madaras;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has also decided to set up Central Madarasa Board;

(f) the aims, functions and responsibility of the Board;

(g) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Central Board of Secondary Education and Council of Board of School Education (COBSE) to give equivalence to Madarsa education; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) No Sir, the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsa (SPQEM) is a voluntary scheme. Madarsas opting to introduce modern subjects, in addition to the traditional religious instructions, are provided financial assistance through the respective State Government. A proposal is being examined on the desirability of setting up a Central Madarsa Board to coordinate education in modern subjects imparted by madarsas on a voluntary basis and to coordinate the activities of State Madarsa Boards, where required.

(g) and (h) On the recommendation of an Expert Committee set up by the Government of India, a notification dated 30th January, 2009 has been issued,

equating certificates given by the State Madrasa Boards to those of Secondary and Senior Secondary levels, in cases where such equivalence is in place in the respective States.

Vacant Posts in NSG

579. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various posts in the National Security Guard (NSG) are lying vacant as reported in the *Asian Age* dated 14 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the total number of vacant posts, rank-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Details of vacant posts in NSG as on 1st February 2009 are as under:-

Rank	No. of Posts vacant
Officers	123
Assistant Commanders	438
Rangers/Combatised Tradesmen	547
Total	1108

This includes 1081 posts which were created only on 22nd January 2009.

(c) The NSG is 100% deputationist Force and relies on Army, Central Police Forces and other organizations, who have been requested to sponsor sufficient number of officers and personnel to NSG to fill up vacancies.

Misuse of Funds for Tsunami Victims

580. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from some State Governments regarding misuse of funds meant for Tsunami victims;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, the Question does not arise.

Genetically Modified Food Products

581. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that imported Genetically Modified (GM) food products are entering Indian supermarkets and food chains unchecked;

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

(c) whether Director-General, Foreign Trade has taken any action to check the illegal entry of GM food products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) As per the Foreign Trade Policy, the import of Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) and Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) for the purpose of (i) Research & Development (R&D); (ii) Food; (iii) Feed; (iv) Processing in Bulk and (v) for Environment release will be governed by the provisions of the Environment Protection Act 1986 and Rules 1989. The import of any Food, Feed, raw or processed or any ingredient of food, food additives or any food product that contains GM material and is being used either for industrial production, Environmental release, or field application will be allowed only with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC). Institutes/Companies who wish to import GM material for R&D purposes will submit their proposal to the Review Committee for Genetic Modification (RCGM) under the Department of Bio-Technology. In case the Companies/Institutes use these Genetically Modified material for commercial purposes, approval of GEAC is also required. At the time of import, all consignments containing products, which have been subjected to Genetic Modification, will carry a declaration stating that the product is Genetically Modified. In case a consignment does not carry such a declaration and is later found to contain GM material, the importer is liable to penal action under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act 1992.

[Translation]

Awareness About WTO

582. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established information centres/consultation centres to spread awareness about World Trade Organisation keeping in view the interest of Indian Traders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Industry, particularly pharmaceutical industry has been affected by the World Trade Organisation agreements; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interests of Indian Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government disseminates information and spreads awareness about the World Trade Organisation (WTO) through consultations with the State Governments, administrative ministries, apex chambers of commerce and industry and other stakeholders. Information on WTO negotiations is uplinked on the website of the Department of Commerce at www.commerce.nic.in and is updated on a regular basis. The Centre for WTO Studies, a professional body created by the Department of Commerce acts as an institutional information centre on WTO negotiations. The Centre carries out various activities relating to awareness on WTO issues such as organising seminars and conferences; capacity building through training workshops; updation of information on their website and publication of a WTO newsletter.

(c) and (d) At the Non Agriculture Market Access (NAMA) negotiations at the World Trade Organisation, Indian has been negotiating for safeguarding the interests of the industrial sectors including pharmaceuticals. In the ongoing Doha Round of trade negotiations, India along with its coalition partners has been negotiating for flexibilities that are both adequate and appropriate for protecting the interests of Indian industries.

*[English]***Development in Mining Activities**

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

(a) the details of technology and investment required to fully exploit the potential of commercial mining of metals and minerals in the country;

(b) the number of domestic and foreign companies allowed to take up mining and exploration of minerals in different States;

(c) whether the Government has notified Exclusive Economic Zone for development and regulation of mineral resources in territorial water of the country and invited private investment therein;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response received by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to encourage domestic and foreign investment in mining?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) Mining of minerals depends broadly on availability of mineral resources, economic viability, demand of the market etc. The technology and investment required for exploration and mining varies for different minerals and areas. Under liberalised economic environment, investment decisions, including choice of location, are taken by the entrepreneurs based on their techno-economic judgements and commercial considerations. The details are not centrally maintained.

(b) The details of prior approvals conveyed by the Government to the State Governments for grant of mineral concessions are given on the website of Ministry of Mines (<http://mines.gov.in>).

(c) and (d) The Government has notified the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development & Regulation) Act, 2002 and the Offshore Areas Mineral Conservation Rules, 2006, which allows investment, in exploration and Mining in offshore areas.

(e) The Government has recently enunciated the new National Mineral Policy, 2008, in order to attract investment, including FDI, into the mining sector in India.

Induction of Dhruv Helicopters

584. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to induct 'Dhruv' Advanced Light Helicopters for quick mobilisation of forces to deal with emergency situations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Letter of Intent (LOI) has been placed on M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Bangalore, on 08.12.2008, for procurement of eight numbers of Advanced Light Helicopters for various requirements of the forces, including quick mobilisation to deal with emergency situations.

Census for Small Scale Industries Sector

585. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details and outcome of the Third Census of Small Scale Industries (SSIs) sector of the country;

(b) whether the Government has made an evaluation of the performance of the SSIs sector in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Government had conducted Third All India Census of 22,62,401 micro and small enterprises (MSEs) registered up to 31.03.2001 and sample survey of unregistered MSEs with reference year 2001-02. Some of the salient outcomes of the Third All India Census MSEs sector of the country is summarised in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The Government continuously monitors the performance of MSEs with reference to its contribution to gross domestic product, manufacturing output, exports as well as with reference to growth in production. The estimated growth rate of production in MSE sector has been consistently higher than the overall industrial sector of the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement*Outcome of the Third All India Census of Micro and small enterprises with reference year 2001-02*

Characteristics	Details of MSE sector		
	Registered	Unregistered	Total
1	2	3	4
1. Size of the sector	1374974	9146216	10521190
2. No. of rural units	609537 (44.33%)	5198822 (56.80%)	5808359 (55.00%)
3. No. of urban units	765437 (55.67%)	3947394 (43.20%)	4712831 (45.00%)
4. No. of SSIs	901291 (65.55%)	3544577 (38.75%)	4445868 (42.26%)
5. No. of SSSBEs	473683 (34.45%)	5601639 (61.25%)	6075322 (57.74%)
6. No. of ancillary units (% age of no. of SSIs)	45797 (5.08%)	86516 (2.44%)	132313 (2.98%)
7. No. of tiny units among SSIs	882496 (97.9%)	3543091 (99.9%)	4425587 (99.5%)
8. No. of women enterprises	137534 (10%)	926187 (10.13%)	1063721 (10.11%)
9. Nature of activity:			
Manufacturing/Assembling/ Processing	872449 (63.45%) 28843 (2.10%)	3303366 (36.12%) 1692663 (18.50%)	4175815 (39.69%) 1721506 (16.39%)
Repairing & Maintenance Services	473682 (34.45%)	4150187 (45.38%)	4623869 (43.95%)
10. Type of organization:			
Proprietary	1221702	8862548 (96.9%)	10084250 (95.8%)
Partnership	(88.85%)	103662 (1.13%)	202852 (1.9%)
Pvt. Company	99190 (7.21%)	38153 (0.42%)	71437 (0.68%)
Co-operatives	33284 (2.42%)	9854 (0.11%)	14569 (0.14%)
Others	4715 (0.34%)	131999 (1.44%)	148082 (1.41%)
	16083 (1.17%)		
11. Main source of power:			
No power needed	360611 (26.23%)	3855035 (42.15%)	4215646 (40.00%)
Coal	28841 (2.10%)	295165 (3.23%)	324006 (3.10%)
Oil/LPG	47623 (3.47%)	610653 (6.67%)	658276 (6.25%)
Electricity	899657 (65.43%)	4025262 (44.01%)	4924919 (46.80%)
Others	38242 (2.78%)	360101 (3.94%)	398343 (3.78%)
12. No. of units managed by:			
Scheduled Caste	107934 (7.85%)	943969 (10.32%)	1051903 (10.00%)
Scheduled Tribes	48560 (3.53%)	474271 (5.19%)	522831 (4.97%)
Other Backward Classes	529406 (38.50%)	3811372 (41.67%)	4340778 (41.26%)
Others	689074 (50.12%)	3916604 (42.82%)	4605678 (43.80%)

	1	2	3	4
13. No. of units having outstanding loan as on 31.03.2002		276333 (20.10%)	501306 (5.48%)	777639 (7.39%)
14. Total employment		6163479	18769284	24932763
15. Per unit employment		4.48	2.05	2.37
16. Total original value of Plant & Machinery (Rs. lakh)		3032868	2456492	5489360
17. Per unit original value of Plant & Machinery (Rs. lakh)		2.21	0.27	0.52
18. Total Fixed Investment (Rs. lakh)		9179207	6255660	15434867
19. Per unit Fixed Investment (Rs. lakh)		6.68	0.68	1.47
20. Total Gross Output (Rs. lakh)		20325462	7901536	28226998
21. Per unit Gross Output (Rs. lakh)		14.78	0.86	2.68
22. No. of directly exporting units		7344	43262	50606
23. Value of exports (Rs. lakh)		1230826	189130	1419956
24. Employment per Rs. one lakh investment		0.67	3.00	1.62
25. No. of products/services as per ASICC produced/rendered in SSI sector		5983	2680	6003
26. No. of reserved products (as per the reserve list effective on 31.03.2001) produced in SSI sector		877	382	878

Magnesite Deposits

586. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge deposits of magnesite exist in the country including Tamil Nadu;

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

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to develop/exploit such deposits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Large deposits of magnesite exist in

the country including Tamil Nadu. The most prominent magnesite deposit in Tamil Nadu is located in Chalk Hills, Salem district. The State-wise details are as follows:-

State	Reserve (in million tonnes)	Total Resource (in million tonnes)
All India	76.133	337.88
Uttarakhand	40.58	231.27
Rajasthan	3.28	53.80
Tamil Nadu	28.42	45.51
Karantaka	1.02	3.85
Jammu and Kashmir	2.81	3.00

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. According to the Indian Minerals Yearbook 2007, the total production of magnesite during 2006-07 is as follows:

State	No. of Mines	Quantity (in tonnes)	Value (in Rs. '000)
All India	11	241920	330928
Karnataka	2	8552	10684
Rajasthan	1	352	411
Tamil Nadu	6	176135	273219
Uttarakhand	2	56881	46614

Issuance of MNIC

587. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the constraints being faced by the Government to achieve the target set for the issuance of Multi-Purpose National Identity Cards (MNIC) in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the such constraints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Following the amendment to the Citizenship Act 1955, a Pilot Project on Multi-Purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) has been implemented in selected areas of twelve (12) States and on (1) Union Territory to understand the complexities involved both in the process and technology for the identity (smart) cards. The pilot Project has since been completed on March 31, 2008. Nearly 13 lakh identity cards have been issued to the citizens in the pilot areas.

The implementation of Pilot has highlighted the problems involved such as non-availability of data entry operators in regional languages, difficulties in capturing of photographs and finger biometrics, verification of citizenship due to weak document base specially in rural areas etc. Based on these learnings, the Government has decided that a National Population Register (NPR) would be created for all the residents with one reference date at the time of next decennial Census in 2011. The NPR will have information on specified characteristics of each individual and will include the photographs and finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above.

[Translation]

Allotment of Mineral Reserves

588. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision regarding the allotment of iron-ore and other mineral reserves to the private sector as captive Blocks;

(b) if so, the details of policy/rules laid down for the allotment of captive Blocks consisting of iron-ore and other minerals to the private sector;

(c) whether there is a demand from the private sector regarding the allotment of iron ore and other mineral captive Block through auction; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) State Governments are the owners of the minerals and grant mineral concessions as per the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed there under. Prior approval of the Central Government is required only in respect of grant of mineral concessions for minerals mentioned in the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957. After the enunciation of National Mineral Policy in 1993, mining sector has been opened for private sector. In terms of the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Government may give preference in grant of mineral concession on the basis of qualifications of any private industry under Section 11 of the MMDR Act giving preferential rights. As per National Mineral Policy, 2008, value addition will be actively encouraged. However, such value addition of any mineral by private sector will go hand in hand with the growth of the mineral sector as a stand alone industrial activity.

(c) and (d) In order to increase transparency in grant of mineral concession on areas explored by the Government agencies, there is a proposal to grant mineral concessions on such area through auction.

[English]

Capitation Fee/Donation

589. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has constituted any committee to inquire into the allegations of charging of donations/capitation fees by some institutes;

(b) if so, the details of inquiry and the outcome thereof;

(c) the action taken by the AICTE against the institutions so far; and

(d) the steps taken to restrain institutions from charging such fees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. As per information received from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Committees have been constituted to enquire into the complaints of charging of capitation fee against the People's Education Society (IT), Bangalore (PESIT) and Babaria Institute of Technology, Vadodara (BIT). During the course of enquiry, both the institutions have admitted to having received voluntary contribution/donations in one case each towards admission. The PESIT, Bangalore has refunded the amount taken as donation to the complainant. A legal opinion has been sought on the further course of action to be taken against the Institute. BIT, Vadodara has refused to refund the donation, claiming that the same has been made voluntarily and cannot be refunded once accounted for in the books of the Trust. Observing that, it is a clear case of an institute accepting donations against admission, which amounts to commercialization of technical education, a show cause notice has been issued directing the institute to show cause as to why action including withdrawal of approval should not be taken against it.

(d) The Letter of Approval granted to technical institutions has the following provisions:

"That the tuition and other fees shall be charged as prescribed by the Competent Authority within the overall criteria prescribed by the Council from time to time. No capitation fee shall be charged from the students/guardians of students in any form".

Whenever a complaint regarding the charging of Capitation Fee is received, it is enquired into and appropriate action is taken based on the findings of the inquiry.

MSME Development Institutes

590. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Institutes (MSME-DIs) impart various types of training to participants from different countries;

(b) if so, the number of trainees who participated in such training programmes during each of the last three years and the current year, institute-wise;

(c) the criteria for selection of candidates by these Institutes;

(d) whether the National Small Industries Corporation Limited has signed Memorandum of Understandings/agreements with various countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes Sir. NSIC has signed over 20 Memorandum of Understanding/agreements of co-operation with 23 countries.

(e) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Memorandum of Understanding/Agreements of Cooperation Signed by National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) With Organisations in Different Countries

Sl.No.	Name of Agency	Country
1	2	3
1.	Ministry of Small & Medium Enterprises	Republic of Congo
2.	Small Business BC. Vancouvour	Canada
3.	Bulgarian Small & Medium Enterprises Promotion Agency (Bsmepa)	Republic of Bulgaria

1	2	3
4.	Directorate General for Development of Small & Medium Enterprises (Dgdsme)	Sultanate of Oman
5.	Servico Brasileiro De Apolo As Micro E Pequenas Empreas (Sebrae)	Brazil
6.	Small Enterprise Development Agency	South Africa
7.	Small Business Corporation	South Korea
8.	Taipei World Trade Centre (TWTC)	Taiwan
9.	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)	Fiji
10.	Caribbean Association of Industry & Commerce Trinidad & Tobago	Trinidad & Tobago
11.	Uganda Small Scale Industries Association	Uganda
12.	Federal Micro and Small Enterprises Development	Ethiopia
13.	Agency for Promotion of Small & Medium Enterprises	Senegal
14.	Basotho Enterprise Development Corporation	Lesotho
15.	Small Industries Development Organization	Tanzania
16.	Ministry of Industry of Syrian Arab Republic	Syria
17.	National Women Entrepreneur Council	Mauritius
18.	Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for Young Business Leaders, Dubai	UAE
19.	Jeddah Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Saudi Arabia
20.	Social Fund for Development an Agency of Government of EGYPT	Egypt
21.	Confederation of Small Industries (CONFAPI)	Italy
22.	Bundesverband Mitteistandische Wirtschaft (BVMW)	Germany
23.	Israel Smes Authority	Israel

[Translation]

Soft Loans by CSIR for R&D

591. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of soft loans sanctioned by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to various companies for carrying out research and development projects, company-wise and project-wise;

(b) the criteria for sanctioning loans to these companies by CSIR;

(c) the present status regarding repayment of loans by these companies; and

(d) the corrective measures being taken by the Government against the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The details of soft loan released to various companies for carrying out research and development along with the name of projects are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The loan is repayable in a maximum of 10 equal yearly installments, starting six months after closure of the projects.

(b) Both 'push' and 'pull' type of projects are evolved under NMITLI, which are appropriately named as (i) Nationally Evolved Projects (NEP) and (ii) Industry Originated Projects (IOP). The step-wise procedures for these two categories are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Only four companies have not been able to repay due amount of loan in time *viz.* Encore Software, Bangalore; Lense Optics Pvt. Ltd., Pune; FITL, Hyderabad and Divinet, Pune. These companies have requested for deferment of loan repayment Statement-III.

(d) The requests of these companies are being examined.

Statement I

(Rs. in lakh)

SI.No.	Project Name	Party Name	Loan released
1	2	3	4
1.	5 & 25kw decentralized power packs	Sud-Chemie India Ltd., New Delhi	50.00
2.	Latent M. Tuberculosis: New Targets, Drug Delivery system, bio-enhancers and therapeutics	Lupin Ltd., Mumbai	1016.00
3.	Nano-material catalysts and associated process technology for alkylation/acylation/nitration of well identified industrial chemicals, pre-reforming of hydro-carbons and sulphur removal (<50 ppm) from petroleum fuels	Sud-Chemie India Ltd., New Delhi	95.00
4.	Development of versatile, portable software for bioinformatics & Development of Linux cluster version of Bio-suite	TCS, Hyderabad TCS, Hyderabad Jalaja Techn. Bangalore FITL, Hyderabad	780.00 174.00 24.00 40.00
5.	Development of an Oral herbal formulation for treatment of Psoriasis a clinical and scientific challenge	Lupin Ltd., Mumbai	1430.46
6.	Development of novel biotech therapeutic molecule- Lysostaphin	BBIL, Hyderabad	560.62
	Phase II	BBIL, Hyderabad	77.20
7.	Microbiological conversion of Erythromycin to Clarithromycin and other novel biologically active molecules	Alembic Ltd., Vadodara	28.50
8.	Novel molecular diagnostics for eye diseases and low vision enhancement devices	Lensel Optics Pvt Ltd., Pune Xcyton Diagnostic, Bangalore	14.75 69.56
9.	Recombinant approach to produce- α -linolenic acid and docosahexanoic acid (DHA) in sunflower and yeast DHA	Avestha Gengraine, Bangalore	303.50
10.	A cost effective Simple Office Computing (Sofcomp) platform to replace PC	Encore Software, Bangalore	320.00
11.	A PC based high-end 3D visualization platform for computational biology-'Darshee'	Strand Life Sciences Bangalore	186.40
12.	Improved Genome Annotation Through a Combination of Machine Learning and Experimental Methods: Plasmodium falciparum	TCS, Hyderabad	291.00
13.	Development of Novel Fungicides	Rallis Research Centre, Bangalore	188.29

1	2	3	4
14.	Novel Expression System	Biocon, Bangalore Shantha Biotech, Hyderabad	33.12 56.07
15.	Development of Globally competitive 'Triple-Play' Broadband Technology	Divinet, Pune	938.75
16.	Market seeding of Sofcomp and Mobilis to develop wide-ranging applications as well as increase	Encore Software, Bangalore	537.00
17.	Development of an integrated micro PCR system with in-situ Identification	Bigtec, Bangalore	550.00
18.	Novel formulation for treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis-clinical studies	Lupin Ltd., Mumbai	213.00
19.	Development of high throughput market assisted selection system for improvement of drought tolerance and fibre quality related traits in cotton	JK Agri, Hyderabad	549.90
20.	Novel method for development of B-type Natriuretic peptide (BNP) for diagnosis and treatment of congestive heart failure	Virchow Biotech, Hyderabad	298.10
21.	Development of Next Generation Plasma Display Technology and a 50 inch High Definition (HD) TV prototype	Samtel Color, Ghaziabad	1946.00
22.	Chipset for wireless sensor	Virtual wire tech, New Delhi	322.00
23.	Lactic acid and lactic acid based polymers	Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd., Mumbai	210.00
24.	Design and development of cushion bonded organic ceramic clutch discs	Clutch Auto Ltd., Faridabad	1060.00
25.	Novel therapy for management of sepsis	Cadila Pharmaceuticals, Ahmedabad	1465.00
26.	A syndromic approach to diagnosis of infections: development of dna macro-chips for simultaneous detection of pathogens causing aes (Acute Encephalitic Syndrome) and septicaemia	Xcyton Diagnostic, Bangalore	114.44
27.	Distributed video surveillance system	Mind Tree Ltd., Bangalore	180.06
28.	Development and characterization of an indigenous vaccine for Johne's disease	Biovet, Bangalore	110.72
29.	Development of rice resistant to the fungal blast disease	Metahelix Life, Bangalore	31.79
Total			14265.23

Statement II**Steps-wise procedure for developing the Nationally Evolved Projects (NEP) under NMITLI****I. National Consultations**

- (i) Wide-spread and wide-ranging national consultations are held to identify the potential niche ideas. The consultations are usually done through letters from DG, CSIR to eminent personalities in all walks of life.
- (ii) The suggestions so received are compiled into a database.

II. Selection of suggestions/ideas

The two-tier mechanism as given below:

First Level:

- (i) A Screening Committee comprising of experts including senior officers from Government departments with wide exposure over different disciplines shortlist the suggestions/ideas for their conformance to NMITLI objectives;
- (ii) The Screening Committee's recommendations are placed to DG, CSIR for his consideration, review and confirmation; and
- (iii) The short listed suggestions/ideas are then categorized into different areas, e.g. Agriculture, Biotechnology, Chemicals, Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, Energy, Materials, Information and Communication Technology etc.

Second Level:

- (i) Separate Expert Groups are constituted by DG, CSIR to consider the short listed suggestions/ideas for selecting those of the few ideas that could provide an advantage to India. Each of the Expert Group has 4-5 experts from the relevant areas;
- (ii) The selected suggestions/ideas are then put up to DG, CSIR for his consideration, review and approval; and
- (iii) Selected ideas are then communicated to all the contributors.

In addition, CSIR proactively scout for project ideas through interaction with industry and researchers. This is done by organizing interactive meetings with researchers in specific areas to catalyze potential project ideas. The selected ideas are then taken through a brainstorming meeting and the concepts are placed before DG, CSIR

for his consideration and approval. These concepts are then developed into projects following the subsequent steps.

III. Preparation of Project Proposals

- (i) For each selected idea, a Specialist Expert Group (Champions Group) is commissioned to evolve the selected idea into a project. The Group comprises of three to four experts in the relevant area with at least one of them being from industry, to provide an industrial perspective to the project. The Champions Group is provided a free hand in zeroing in on the niche segment within the selected area, developing it into a project, selecting the (best) partners, project time frame and budget estimates etc.
- (ii) Towards evolving the project, the Champions Group, besides having internal meetings among themselves, have at least one meeting with the domain specific researchers from academia, institutions & Industry.

It is important to recognize that participation in NEP category of NMITLI projects is not by application, but by invitation. Further, individuals who suggested an area may or may not be part of the research project.

IV. Involvement of Industrial Partners

Some of the approaches among others that are followed to enlist the industry partners are:

- (i) Industrial partners are invited for the brainstorming meeting at the time of evolving the projects;
- (ii) Where the industry participation in the brainstorming meeting is minimal or nil, CSIR specially addresses letters to the firms in that industry sector for soliciting their interest;
- (iii) TNBD Division at CSIR independently also interacts with the relevant industries and solicit their participation in the project; and
- (iv) Firms that show interest in participating in the programme are enlisted in the projects.

V. Approvals:

- (i) The final project as developed is submitted for consideration of a High-Powered Committee (HPC), which is constituted by DG, CSIR. In facilitating the HPC to arrive at a decision, the Champions are invited to make a presentation to the HPC; and

- (ii) The project proposal along with HPC comments/recommendations including the funding aspect is then put up to DG, CSIR/GB (SFC)/EFC as appropriate for final consideration and approval.

VI. Disbursal of Funds

A MOU/legal agreement is entered among the partners and funds are then released to implement the project.

Step-wise procedure for developing Industry Originated Projects (IOP) under NMITLI

I. Solliciting conceptual ideas/proposals

- (i) Through press advertisement in leading national newspapers inviting conceptual proposals from Indian Industry under the scheme; and
- (ii) Letters from CSIR are addressed to a large number of Indian industries inviting conceptual ideas/proposals for support under the scheme.

II. Selection of conceptual proposals

First level:

- (i) Compilation of the conceptual ideas/proposals received within the specified time; and
- (ii) Prima facie evaluation of the conceptual ideas/proposals for their conformance to NMITLI objectives by a committee of experts drawn from different fields (set up by DG, CSIR).

Second level:

- (i) Assessment of short listed conceptual ideas/proposals by a committee of eminent technical domain experts (minimum of 3 experts) rated on 1 to 10 scale for further consideration and examination; and
- (ii) Selection of top rated one or two ideas based on average rating with a minimum rating of (5) in each broad area.

III. Development of conceptual ideas into projects:

Development of selected idea/conceptual proposal into project proposal with the guidance of national experts and concerned industry partner. CSIR identifies and provides these experts for helping the industry to build the proposal.

IV. Approvals

- (i) The final project proposal as developed is submitted to the High-Powered Committee for consideration and recommendation; and
- (ii) The project proposal along with HPC recommendations is then put up to DG, CSIR/SFC (GB)/EFC, as appropriate for final consideration and approval.

V. Disbursal of funds:

An agreement is entered among the partners and then funds are released to partners for implementation of the project.

Statement III

List of Defaulters

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Project Name	Party Name	Loan to be Repaid
1.	Development of versatile, portable software for bioinformatics	FITL, Hyderabad	40.00
2.	A cost effective Simple Office Computing (Sofcomp) platform to replace PC: Phase I Market seeding of Sof Comp and Mobilis to develop wide-ranging applications as well as increase: Phase II	Encore Software, Bangalore	320.00 537.00
3.	Development of Globally competitive 'Triple-Play' Broadband Technology	Divinet, Pune	938.75
4.	Novel molecular diagnostics for eye diseases and low vision enhancement devices	Lensei Optics Pvt. Ltd., Pune	14.75

*[English]***Tea Exports**

592. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has identified nations to give a major thrust to tea exports and capturing a major share of the world market;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(c) whether India has signed any Memorandum of Understanding with any of the identified countries for export of tea;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the countries importing tea from India have been insisting on the reduction of the price for different varieties of tea;

(f) if so, the extent to which the export of tea has been affected by this; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to promote production and export of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following 22 countries have been identified as thrust export markets for Indian tea.

Russia, U.K., Pakistan, USA, Egypt, Japan Morocco, Iraq, Iran, Poland, Dubai, Syria, Germany, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Sudan, France, South Africa, Chile, Ireland and Netherlands.

The Tea Exports to major countries from India is given in the enclosed Statement I and II.

(c) and (d) The Memorandum of Understanding of the 15th Session of the Joint commission between the Republic of India and the Islamic republic of Iran was

signed between the two governments during 1-2 November, 2008 in Tehran. The salient features of this MOU included easing of the restrictions imposed by the Iran health Ministry on tea imports. A Joint Statement was issued after the Fourth Round of India-Pakistan Commerce Secretary level talks on Economic & Commercial Cooperation within the framework of the composite Dialogue held on 31st July-1st August, 2007 in New Delhi, which includes holding of trade exhibitions in each others countries, to facilitate the movement of cargo by rail and opening up for freight movement by introducing a new rail route.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The steps taken by the Government to promote production and export of teas is given below:

Production of Tea

- i. New planting by the Small Growers
- ii. Replanting, Rejuvenation pruning, infilling and consolidation of existing tea areas,
- iii. Creation of irrigation and drainage facilities in the tea gardens,
- iv. Organising Self Help Groups of small growers
- v. Setting up of new factories, modernization of existing factories, creation of new facilities for product diversification, ISO/HACCP Certification and Quality Awareness Programme.
- vi. R& D support to tea gardens,
- vii. Training of Tea Plantation workers, Managers
- viii. Welfare measures covering health, sanitation, drinking water, medical care, education of wards of workers etc.
- ix. It is also proposed to set up three quality testing laboratories in order to facilitate the exporters to ensure the export of tea consignments conforming to the quality standards.

Export of Tea

The Board undertakes promotional activities in the foreign markets and also lands support to Indian tea

exporters in their marketing efforts. Such activities are carried by Board through its overseas offices at London, Moscow and Dubai undertake the following activities;

- (i) Participation in international and/or specialized fairs and exhibitions.
- (ii) Field sampling at speciality stores and/or principal markets.
- (iii) Media publicity.
- (iv) Buyer Seller Meets.

(v) P.R. activities to establish closer link between importers and exporters.

(vi) Exchange of tea delegations between India and Tea importing countries.

Transport subsidy is being provided to tea exporters towards meeting the additional transport and handling charges incurred for teas exported through I.C.D. Amingaon in Assam to increase the overall export of tea from India.

Statement I

Major Country wise Export of Tea from India

Name of the Countries	April to Nov 2008 (Estimated)			April to Nov 2007 (Final)			Inc (+)/Nov (-) in 2008 over 2007	
	Qty (M. Kgs)	Value (Rs. Crs)	UP (Rs./Kg)	Qty (M. Kgs)	Value (Rs. Crs)	UP (Rs. Kg)	Qty (M. Kgs)	Value (Rs. Crs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Russian Federation	22.09	219	99.14	27.12	227.03	83.71	-5.03	-8.03
Kazakhstan	6.64	85.81	129.23	6.06	61.14	100.89	0.58	24.67
Ukraine	0.93	9.13	98.17	1.00	7.28	72.80	-0.07	1.85
Uzbekistan	0.03	0.47	156.67	0.03	0.33	110.00	0.00	0.14
Other CIS	0.35	5.04	144.00	0.19	4.45	234.21	0.16	0.59
Total CIS	30.04	319.45	106.34	34.40	300.23	87.28	-4.36	19.22
United Kingdom	14.42	160.31	111.17	13.9	133.83	96.28	0.52	26.48
Netherlands	1.80	43.27	240.39	2.08	38.38	184.52	-0.28	4.89
Germany	3.07	68.55	223.29	4.51	79.92	177.21	-1.44	-11.37
Ireland	1.19	26.12	219.50	1.75	28.88	165.03	-0.56	-2.76
Poland	1.99	24.29	122.06	3.09	25.3	81.88	-1.10	-1.01
U.S.A.	5.7	90.55	158.86	6.83	94.22	137.95	-1.13	-3.67
Canada	0.81	13.84	170.86	0.80	9.74	121.75	0.01	4.10
U.A.E.	12.04	140.97	117.08	13.97	139.22	99.66	-1.93	1.75
Iran	10.52	148.78	141.43	8.66	98.46	113.70	1.86	50.32
Iraq	5.08	64.68	127.32	0.04	0.40	88.43	5.04	64.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Saudi Arabia	1.53	17.23	112.61	1.03	8.65	83.98	0.50	8.58
A.R.E.	9.86	73.77	74.82	3.26	20.37	62.48	6.60	53.40
Turkey	0.07	0.90	128.57	0.03	0.45	150.00	0.04	0.45
Afghanistan	8.18	58.58	71.61	4.65	23.84	51.27	3.53	34.74
Singapore	0.14	3.43	245.00	0.23	3.86	167.83	-0.09	-0.43
Sri Lanka	3.22	32.83	101.96	2.34	19.01	81.24	0.88	13.82
Kenya	1.16	7.25	62.50	2.41	11.54	47.88	-1.25	-4.29
Japan	1.88	44.58	237.13	1.58	34.94	221.14	0.30	9.64
Pakistan	4.69	37.14	79.19	2.91	14.47	49.73	1.78	22.67
Australia	3.27	73.11	223.58	3.55	68.96	194.25	-0.28	4.15
Other Countries	3.92	35.47	90.48	3.98	59.23	148.82	-0.06	-23.76
Total	124.58	1485.10	119.21	116.00	1213.90	104.65	8.58	271.20

Statement II*Country wise Exports of Tea from India during last three years*

Name of the Country	2007-08		2006-07		2005-06	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. West Europe:						
(a) E. E.C.						
United Kingdom	17937	1665053	22858	2140891	21588	1861670
Ireland	2145	385637	2374	467342	2078	284688
Denmark	46	8248	57	12295	49	15271
Netherlands	2686	460352	3125	480000	2782	362960
Germany	5743	972672	4508	890247	4965	1008365
Belgium	16	12673	16	13662	6	4903
Italy	169	51883	46	12206	60	16220
France	281	116039	185	85352	221	76827
Spain	35	4288	1	316	25	3047

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Portugal	—	—	4	640	2	209
Reunion	—	—	0	39	1	139
Greece	3	2363	24	1365	—	—
Sub-Total (a)	29061	3679208	33198	4104355	31777	3634299
(b) Other West Europe:						
Austria	1	444	1	190	1	1365
Finland	106	12638	32	5399	125	13897
Norway	7	1570	1	601	1	414
Sweden	89	27204	52	13085	27	9102
Switzerland	33	8842	33	13216	17	7179
Sub-Total (b)	236	50698	119	32491	171	31957
Sub-Total (I)	29297	3729906	33317	4136846	31948	3666256
II. East Europe						
Russian Fed.	44277	3775375	39362	3222080	326474	2682201
Ukraine	1460	110256	1150	87536	903	58680
Latvia	10	820	0	22	10	901
Kazakhstan	10812	1110514	9686	1046694	10826	1142810
Estonia	44	35986	20	12305	15	7355
Uzbekistan	71	8125	223	16470	239	17159
Kyrgyzstan	167	16400	25	2809	197	19609
Azerbaijan	15	2322	14	1740	29	5448
Tazikistan	58	4853	66	5526	184	11880
Belarus	59	10963	80	8257	84	7014
Armenia	—	—	—	—	4	940
Total CIS	56973	5075614	50626	4403439	48965	3953997
Czechoslovakia	246	22182	52	4810	178	10789
Poland	4446	380934	3940	349967	4001	312977
Hungary	—	—	—	—	3	924

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bulgaria	18	1210	9	708	9	648
Slovakia	—	—	—	—	0	35
Sub-Total II	61683	5479940	54627	4758924	53156	4279370
III. America						
(a) North America & West Indies						
U.S.A.	9896	1351851	8763	1389914	9297	1363039
Canada	1225	146101	924	125002	1614	196117
Sub-Total (a)	11121	1497952	9687	1514916	10911	1559156
(b) Latin America						
Argentina	3	417	—	—	3	373
Mexico	4	2173	2	1109	—	—
Panama	—	—	—	—	0	0
Suriname	51	5304	—	—	8	1132
Brazil	—	—	—	—	2	640
Chile	0	344	—	—	11	1302
Suriname	—	—	47	7506	—	—
Sub-Total (b)	58	8238	49	8615	24	3447
Sub-Total (III)	11179	1506190	9736	1523531	10935	1562603
IV. West Asia & North Africa						
(a) North Africa						
A.R.E.	7593	496596	3403	253191	742	50489
Libya	108	9332	55	3621	2158	145716
Sudan	34	4053	10	1199	—	—
Morocco	6	1314	—	—	—	—
Tunisia	839	46105	294	13693	11	835
Sub-Total (a)	8580	557400	3762	281704	2911	197040
(b) West Asia						
Iran	14045	1547045	9912	1057899	6493	650211
U.A.E.	25911	2538929	22769	2312155	26783	2658721

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Qatar	295	36813	278	58750	209	27634
Kuwait	304	27271	391	52348	307	41406
Iraq	46	4046	34915	1807556	30532	1580598
Saudi Arab	1991	171310	1117	110449	1266	124872
Bahrain	166	23259	160	31882	207	32890
Muscat	183	19476	148	22141	331	35192
Jordan	39	2743			217	24992
Yemen	104	8134	723	47946	306	19546
Turkey	63	7048	198	12742	115	10181
Syria	200	11412	45	3479	116	7918
Lebanon	—	—	7	533	18	1971
Israeli	578	94879	239	61240	130	35056
Sub-Total (b)	43925	4492365	70902	5579120	67030	5251188
Sub-Total IV	52505	5049765	74664	5850824	69941	5448228
V. Asia other than West:						
Afghanistan	6804	368196	9438	517552	3523	165345
Bangladesh	—	—	23	1074	1	167
Hong Kong	694	116394	715	130662	770	128969
Japan	2373	503396	2604	618252	2953	693751
Malaysia	217	20182	532	37574	193	18659
Singapore	384	69613	468	72223	489	69157
Nepal	0	9	0	19	276	26239
Philippine	143	39110	139	36277	152	40432
Pakistan	5489	302118	14061	906652	10712	438684
Taiwan	361	43987	342	35601	475	37957
Korea	35	9017	31	10210	25	8391
Sri Lanka	4857	398168	3077	291446	2687	250308
China	96	12817	64	13210	278	57059

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Indonesia	548	49781	877	65536	389	32405
Thailand	140	31630	131	35063	125	29679
Vietnam	24	7774	82	15652	48	14406
Brunei	0	65	—	—	0	27
Maldives	0	77	—	—	0	1
Madagascar	—	—	0	9	—	—
Seychelles	0	2	1	155	1	159
Sub-Total (V)	22165	1972336	32585	2787167	23097	2011795
VI. Africa other than North						
Djibouti	—	—	—	—	7	1076
Ghana	—	—	15	2074	0	2
Nigeria	1	156	51	11298	0	96
Niger	1	163	0	13	0	13
South Africa	33	9178	37	10835	80	18760
Kenya	3278	166107	8366	464482	2648	117712
Tanzania	—	—	—	—	0	6
Ivory Cost	—	—	0	123	0	5
Congo	24	982	6	2248	25	3066
Zambia	0	34	0	19	0	63
Benin	16	3032	—	—	0	25
Algeria	33	2337	246	16211	58	3707
Angola	—	—	—	—	0	2
Sub-Total VI	3386	181989	8721	507303	2818	144535
VII. Australia & Ocenia						
Australia	5080	962394	4491	890494	4760	819459
New Zealand	27	4278	11	2102	16	3567
Sub-Total VII.	5107	966672	4502	892596	4776	823026
Grand Total	185322	18886798	218152	20457191	196671	17935811

"0" is less than 500.

Development Plan for Naxal Affected States

593. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to bring 33 naxal affected districts to the level of development mandated by the National Development Index by 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said plan is likely to be implemented along with the funds allocated for the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Based upon a detailed analysis of the spread and trends of naxalite violence, 33 affected Districts in 8 States have been taken up for special attention on planning, implementation and monitoring of development schemes. 69 Schemes of 20 development Ministries/Departments have been identified. Planning Commission has constituted eight Inter-Ministerial Groups to assist and guide the District Administration to formulate the District Plans.

Textile Exports

594. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of textiles exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise alongwith its share in total export earnings of the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to include textiles among the dynamic sector identified in foreign trade policy to enhance its competitiveness; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The export

data is available in the Department of Commerce's website <http://commerce.gov.in> and also the website www.dgciskol.nic.in.

(b) and (c) Under the Foreign Trade Policy, there is no sector identified as dynamic sector. However, Government have provided incentives to the textile sector under the Focus Market Scheme, Market Linked Focus Product Scheme; and Vishes Kriahi & Gram Udyog Yojana.

Demand of Iron-Ore

595. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fe quality iron-ore available in the country would last for 50 years in view of domestic demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a shortage of good quality of iron-ore reserves in the country in view of its increasing demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to meet the said demand?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (e) India has ample resources of Iron Ore-both hematite and magnetite-which can suitably cater the needs of steel industry in India. As on 1.4.2005 these resources are estimated at 25.25 billion tonnes. The resources of iron ore are dynamic in nature and bound to increase with further exploration. The level of steel production and the grade of iron ore, taken for purposes of calculating the resources, are important parameters for determining how many years the iron ore deposits will last. The estimated figures can be between 150 to over 200 year depending on the assumptions made.

Enrolment of Minorities

596. SHRI E. DAYAKAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the enrolment and drop out rate of students belonging to minority communities in primary and secondary stages, State-wise, community-wise including Muslims;

(b) the reasons for high drop out of students belonging to such communities including muslims; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) While information on students enrolled at different levels in various educational institutions based on their religion is not maintained centrally, according to the National University of Education Planning and Administration's (NUEPA) District Information System for Education (DISE), percentage enrolment of Muslim children in the 6-14 years age group compared to the community's share in the population, shows a national coverage of 9.39% at primary level and 7.62% at upper primary level for the year 2006-07. According to available information, the corresponding figures for Andhra Pradesh are 10.00% and 9.11%, for Uttar Pradesh 9.24% and 7.18% for Bihar 8.95% and 6.60%, for West Bengal 27.9% and 19.63%, and for Kerala 10.13% and 9.59%. Data was collected on Muslim children under DISE system for elementary education, for the first time in September, 2006.

(b) and (c) A Study by the National University for Education Planning and Administration (NUEPA) to identify causal factors for low enrolment of Muslim minority students at secondary level of education is in progress. Meanwhile, in order to encourage school enrolment, Government of India in the Ministry of Minority Affairs has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of pre-matric and post-matric scholarships for students of class I to X belonging to the minority communities.

Tsunami and Earthquake Early Warning System

597. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any achievement in the field of Tsunami and Earthquake Early Warning Systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds allocated/spent on the research during each of the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether any other system exists in the global market;

(e) if so, whether any global tender has been floated for acquisition of such systems; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes Sir. The Government has established a state of the art Tsunami Warning System.

(b) The Indian Tsunami Warning System comprises various real time monitoring networks, seismic monitoring network; bottom pressure recorders; tide gauges etc., to monitor tsunami waves. These real time observing networks are backed up by hierarchical database of pre-run tsunami travel time and inundation scenarios; robust standard operational procedures (SOPs) and communication facilities for generation and dissemination of different categories of warnings. The three critical steps involved in generation of tsunami warnings include (i) detection and estimation of earthquake parameters; (ii) estimation of travel time and run-up height of tsunami; (iii) conformation of tsunami by monitoring sea level.

(c) Details of grants allocated are

(i) 2005-06	Rs. 20.00 crores
(ii) 2006-07	Rs. 55.52 crores
(iii) 2007-08	Rs. 29.66 crores
(iv) 2008-09	Rs. 10.00 crores

(d) No Sir. Such systems are not readily available in global market. However, Pacific Tsunami Warning System, Hawaii and Japan Meteorological Agency provide warnings for Pacific Ocean. Indonesia also has established its tsunami warning system.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Centres for Entrance Examination

598. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the centres in Rajasthan chosen for holding the entrance examinations of IIT, CPMT, AIEEE and for higher education during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details in regard to scrapping or increasing the number of said examination centres;

(c) the reasons therefore and the rules under which they have been removed;

(d) the persons found responsible therefor;

(e) whether there is any policy/guidelines in force for scrapping of the examination centres; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) As per information given by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the centres for the All India Pre-Medical/Pre-dental Entrance Examination (AIPMT) and the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) examination in Rajasthan during last three years and the current year are as follows:

	2006	2007	2008	2009
AIPMT	Jaipur	Jaipur	Jaipur	Jaipur
AIEEE	Ajmer	Ajmer	Ajmer	Ajmer
	Jaipur	Jaipur	Jaipur	Jaipur
	Jodhpur	Jodhpur	Jodhpur	Jodhpur
	Udaipur	Udaipur	Udaipur	Udaipur
	Kota	Kota		

In AIPMT examination, centres are fixed in the Capital cities only. Accordingly, in Rajasthan, centres are fixed only at Jaipur.

In AIEEE Examination, centres are fixed or scrapped after thorough discussion in the Implementation Committee regarding suitability for the examination centres, safe storage of confidential material etc.

The information regarding the examination for entrance in IITs is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Mechanism to Handle Biopiracy

599. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with the European Patent Office to establish a mechanism to stop biopiracy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) database;

(d) if so, the details and the salient features thereof alongwith the mechanism in which it will protect India's patents and traditional knowledge; and

(e) the expenditure incurred on TKDL project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHAWNI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Access Agreement on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) has been signed with European Patent Office (EPO) in February, 2009. The conditions for access by EPO are as under:

- (i) Access to TKDL, by the examiners of European Patent Office would only be utilized for the purpose of European patent grant procedure in all its phases including inspection of files and for no other purpose, and
- (ii) International Patent Offices and their examiners would not make any third party disclosure other than what is necessary and essential for purpose of European Patent grant procedure. To this end the user may, whenever required, deliver information from TKDL contents in whatever form to the patent applicant for the purpose of citations. Except as mentioned, EPO shall preserve the secrecy and/or confidentiality of the information. Utilization of the TKDL, under the Access Agreement will facilitate in establishing prior art on patent applications filed at EPO based on Indian systems of medicine. EPO examiners can access TKDL in addition to English, in languages such as German, French, Spanish, etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. TKDL has been created on over 2.02 lakh medicinal formulations in 30 million A4 pages from Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha texts in five international languages, which are English, French, German, Spanish and Japanese. TKDL has been created with an objective of preventing the grant of wrong patents at the international patent offices. Since the Traditional knowledge exists in local languages such as Sanskrit, Urdu, Persian, Arabic, Tamil etc. these are neither available and even if available not understood by patent examiners at the international patent offices. This lack of access and understanding results in grant of wrong patents at international level. TKDL thus breaks the languages and format barriers and establishes prior art for the traditional medicinal knowledge existing in the country at international level.

(e) The expenditure incurred on the TKDL project up to December 2008 is Rs. 721.23 lakh.

Products under Small Scale Industries

600. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the role that small and medium scale industry sector has played in building the Indian economy;

(b) the share of tiny cottage, small and medium scale industries in the total industrial production of the country during each of the last three years and current year, industry-wise;

(c) the contribution of these industries in the total exports of the country during the said period, industry-wise;

(d) whether the Government has provided any financial assistance to these industries and initiated any employment generation programme under these industries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) sector has continued to contribute significantly in the gross domestic product, industrial production, employment generation and exports and has acquired a prominent place in the economy of the country.

(b) and (c) The share of the micro and small enterprise (MSE) sector in the total manufacturing output and exports of the country during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (latest available) is given in the Table below. The industry-wise shares in the total manufacturing output and exports are not maintained centrally.

Year	Share of MSEs (% age)	
	Manufacturing Output	Exports
2005-06	38.56	32.92
2006-07	38.56	33.00
2007-08*	45.00	40.00

*This includes medium enterprises in the sector after the enactment of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) act, 2006.

(d) and (e) The Government provides financial assistance to the MSE sector under the following schemes:

1. Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) for Technology Upgradation;
2. Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP);
3. Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI);
4. ISO-900/ISO-14001 Certification Reimbursement Scheme;
5. Performance and Credit Rating Scheme; and
6. Scheme for Reimbursement of Bar Code Certification.

The State/UT-wise financial assistance provided during the last 3 years under these schemes (wherever available) is given in statements I to V.

For employment generation the Government has recently launched a new credit linked subsidy programme called Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), which provides employment opportunities through establishment of micro enterprises in rural as well as urban areas.

Statement I*Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for
Technology Up gradation*

- For modernization of micro and small enterprises (MSEs), a subsidy of 15% is provided for loans up to Rs. 1 crore through the banks under the scheme.
- The State/UT-wise subsidy provided under the scheme during the last three years is as under:

(In Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Subsidy Provided Under the Scheme		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1.	Andhra Pradesh	123.81	978.12	1046.29
2.	Assam	0.00	0.00	17.01
3.	Chandigarh	17.67	12.19	15.06
4.	Chhattisgarh	61.21	126.86	125.98
5.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	14.68	14.68
6.	Daman and Diu	0.00	15.00	15.00
7.	Goa	5.97	16.01	19.02
8.	Gujarat	83.59	278.29	330.96
9.	Haryana	57.07	386.10	402.44
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.96	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	16.78	39.19	46.61
12.	Karnataka	295.17	967.13	961.28
13.	Kerala	11.24	20.22	20.22
14.	Madhya Pradesh	31.27	56.94	61.60
15.	Maharashtra	158.24	841.26	894.75
16.	New Delhi	37.46	108.05	115.57
17.	Orissa	14.40	157.97	157.57
18.	Pondicherry	0.00	8.10	8.10
19.	Punjab	71.58	276.57	270.07
20.	Rajasthan	206.78	336.43	340.89
21.	Tamil Nadu	505.74	1990.30	2658.86
22.	Uttar Pradesh	79.82	53.67	87.27
23.	West Bengal	22.17	49.96	30.18
Total		1800.93	6733.04	7638.94

Statement II*Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP):*

- For development of micro and small enterprises in the clusters, assistance up to 80% of the total project cost (subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10 crore per project) is provided under the scheme.
- The State/UT-wise financial assistance provided under the scheme during the last three years is as under:

(In Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Details of Financial Assistance Released		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.29	162.70	4.50
2.	Assam	3.93	16.15	10.70
3.	Bihar	13.90	47.80	11.30
4.	Chhattisgarh	5.19	6.10	15.16
5.	Delhi	6.11	20.32	0.00
6.	Goa	4.36	14.20	1.00
7.	Gujarat	8.20	264.49	0.45
8.	Haryana	4.45	21.86	24.15
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2.53	6.15	7.85
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	218.00	48.95	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	3.43	8.41	0.00
12.	Karnataka	10.40	29.31	24.73
13.	Kerala	6.21	757.74	196.80
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5.27	19.85	18.99
15.	Maharashtra	1.27	8.90	5.92
16.	Mizoram	0.00	1.50	5.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	4.05
18.	Manipur	0.00	0.50	5.00
19.	Nagaland	13.82	17.00	10.38
20.	Orissa	15.97	26.52	67.57
21.	Punjab	63.70	65.80	31.70

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Rajasthan	24.00	26.30	41.83
23.	Tamil Nadu	1.35	17.60	73.85
24.	Tripura	0.00	1.00	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	11.21	56.29	93.44
26.	Uttarakhand	62.08	38.10	13.68
27.	West Bengal	7.81	256.85	96.56
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	5.00
Total		523.48	1940.39	769.61

Statement III*Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI):*

- To develop clusters of traditional industries, assistance is provided for setting up of Common Facilities Centres, market promotion activities, development of new products/designs, etc., under the scheme.
- The State/UT-wise details of funds released under the scheme during 2006-07 (latest available) is as under. Further, scheme has been formulated/guidelines issued in October, 2005, therefore no fund was released by the Nodal agencies in 2005-06.

(In Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Funds released during 2006-07
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	89.50
2.	Assam	13.80
3.	Bihar	47.65
4.	Goa	10.00
5.	Gujarat	17.60
6.	Haryana	38.55

1	2	3
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	78.60
8.	Karnataka	105.70
9.	Kerala	78.55
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3.80
11.	Maharashtra	7.60
12.	Nagaland	30.95
13.	Orissa	23.80
14.	Rajasthan	61.91
15.	Tamil Nadu	186.25
16.	Uttar Pradesh	12.25
17.	Uttarakhand	34.75
18.	West Bengal	44.75
19.	Chandigarh	38.55
20.	Mizoram	3.80
21.	Andaman and Nicobar	10.00
22.	Lakshadweep	10.00
23.	Puducherry	10.00
Total		958.36

Statement IV*ISO-9000/ISO-14001 Certification Reimbursement Scheme:*

- For acquiring of ISO-9000/ISO-14001 certification by the micro and small enterprises, reimbursement to the extent of 75% (subject to a maximum of Rs. 75,000/-) of the expenditure incurred in provided under the scheme.
- The State/UT-wise financial assistance provided under the scheme during the last three years is as under:

(In Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	GOI Assistance Released		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65.81	35.93	35.43
2.	Assam	1.97	0.38	0.00
3.	Bihar	5.62	4.63	2.93
4.	Chandigarh	14.24	7.33	3.64
5.	Chhattisgarh	8.01	5	3.64
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7.64	2.81	0.69
7.	Daman and Diu	10.36	3.01	1.94
8.	Delhi	43.23	21.25	67.71
9.	Goa	0.96	0.58	0
10.	Gujarat	42.69	22.86	31.00
11.	Haryana	186.28	91.09	43.79
12.	Himachal Pradesh	11.54	7.54	3.83
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.26	3.49	2.52
14.	Jharkhand	9.64	2.91	1.15
15.	Karnataka	125.07	75.77	40.19
16.	Kerala	33.82	13.7	22.31
17.	Madhya Pradesh	22.53	7.42	6.09
18.	Maharashtra	447.08	397.53	279.76
19.	Meghalaya	0	0.63	0
20.	Orissa	8.21	5.64	9.25
21.	Pondicherry	5.2	7.07	3.38

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Punjab	122.71	81.82	53.52
23.	Rajasthan	84.23	59.59	34.38
24.	Tamil Nadu	415.76	302.86	204.50
25.	Tripura	0	0.68	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	180.9	78.78	32.43
27.	Uttarakhand	10.1	9.02	13.19
28.	West Bengal	73.84	37.14	46.27
Total		1944.69	1286.45	943.54

Statement V

Performance and Credit Rating Scheme:

- For encouraging micro and small enterprises to get credit rating done by reputed credit rating agencies, assistance up to 75% of the fee (subject to a maximum of Rs. 40,000/-) is provided under the scheme.
- The year-wise funds released under the scheme during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 is as under (State/UT-wise break-up is not available):

Sl.No.	Year	Funds released (Rs. Lakh)
1.	2005-06	450.00
2.	2006-07	831.00
3.	2007-08	950.00

Note: The scheme was launched in April, 2005

Scheme for Reimbursement of Bar Code Certification:

- To encouraging adoption of bar coding by the micro and small enterprises, reimbursement up to Rs. 18,750/- and Rs. 3,750/- for annual recurring fee for the next three years is provided under the scheme.

- The year-wise funds released under the scheme during the last three years is as under (State/UT-wise break-up is not available):

Sl.No.	Year	Funds released (Rs. Lakh)
1.	2005-06	9.90
2.	2006-07	12.90
3.	2007-08	15.32

Target and Achievement of Nalco

601. SHRI SUBHASH MAHRJA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has fixed any target for production and export of Aluminium;

(b) if so, the details of targets fixed and achieved regarding production and export of Aluminium during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the turn over achieved and exports earnings during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):
 (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of targets fixed and achieved for production and export of aluminium by National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) for the last three years are given below:-

(In Metric Tonnes)

Parameter	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Production						
Aluminium cast metal	345,000	358,954	345,000	358,734	348,500	359,213
Sales						
Aluminium export	128,000	95,747	100,000	93,122	100,000	101,722

There is no country wise export target. The actual export figures, country wise, are given below:-

(In Metric Tonnes)

2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
Country name	Quantity Exported	Country name	Quantity Exported	Country name	Quantity Exported
Bangladesh	7687.26	Bahrain	101.93	Bahrain	2547.56
Iran	5091.17	Bangladesh	3746.36	Bangladesh	3467.91
Malayasia	1747.72	Korea	764.07	Korea	1771.82
Singapore	56142.20	Malayasia	764.71	Malayasia	41653.62
Sri Lanka	13695.48	Singapore	68999.52	Singapore	42884.03
Taiwan	407.40	Sri Lanka	4075.89	Taiwan	865.58
Thailand	3841.50	Taiwan	115.93	Venezuela	407.51
Vietnam	7133.94	Vietnam	14203.32	Vietnam	7780.21
		UAE	350.29	UAE	315.47
				UK	28.41
Total	95746.67	Total	93122.02	Total	101722.12

(c) The turnover achieved and exports earnings during the last three years are given below:

(Rs. in Crores)

Parameter	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Sales turnover	5,324	6,515	5,474
Export earnings*	2,306	2,586	2,134

*Includes export earnings out of alumina export.

Promotion of Tea

602. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Tea Park, Centre of Excellence in Tea and a Tea Museum for the promotion of tea in the country;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the locations identified for setting up of the same;

(c) the time by which they are likely to be set up; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to promote production and export of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Center of Excellence and Tea Museum will be established at Kurseong and Darjeeling respectively and the Tea Park is being set up at Siliguri.

Under the Scheme, the existing research institute of Tea Board the Darjeeling Tea Research & Development Centre (DTR & DC), Kurseong will be upgraded, with adequate infrastructure and scientific manpower to undertake research work in the frontier areas of tea science. The Center of Excellence will serve as a stop point for getting information relating to all aspects of tea production, marketing & IPR issues etc.

The Tea Museum will be set up to showcase the development of the tea industry in India over the last two centuries.

The Tea Park will be the central place for meeting all service requirement of the tea industry including warehousing, packaging, blending of teas etc.

(c) The aforementioned three units will be set up during the course of ongoing XI Plan period.

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost production and export of tea are given below:

Production of Tea

- i. New planting by the Small Growers
- ii. Replanting, Rejuvenation pruning, infilling and consolidation of existing tea areas.
- iii. Creation of irrigation and drainage facilities in the tea gardens,
- iv. Organising Self help Groups of small growers.
- v. Setting up of new factories, modernization of existing factories, creation of new facilities for product diversification, ISO/HACCP Certification and Quality Awareness Programme.

vi. R & D support to tea gardens,

vii. Training of Tea Plantation Workers, Managers.

viii. Welfare measures covering health, sanitation, drinking water, medical care, education of wards of workers etc.

ix. It is also proposed to set up three quality testing laboratories in order to facilitate the exporters to ensure the export of tea consignments conforming to the quality standards.

Export of Tea

The Board undertakes promotional activities in the foreign markets and also lends support to Indian tea exporters in their marketing efforts. Such activities are carried by Board through its overseas offices at London, Moscow and Dubai which undertake the following activities:

- (i) Participation in international and/or specialized fairs and exhibitions.
- (ii) Field sampling at specialty stores and/or principal markets.
- (iii) Media publicity.
- (iv) Buyer Seller Meets.
- (v) P.R. activities to establish closer link between importers and exporters.
- (vi) Exchange of tea delegations between India and Tea importing countries.

Transport subsidy is being provided to tea exporters towards meeting the additional transport and handling charges incurred for teas exported through I.C.D., Amingaon in Assam to increase the overall export of tea from India.

Allocation for SSA by Planning Commission

603. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation made for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) by the Planning Commission;

(b) whether the Government had expressed dissatisfaction over the said allocation;

(c) if so, whether the Planning Commission had omitted the programme from the priority agenda;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Union Government to get priority status accorded for SSA from the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, an outlay of Rs. 71,000 crore has been approved by Planning Commission for XIth plan period.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

National Fund for Unorganised Sector

604. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create a National Fund for unorganised sector;

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

(c) the allocation earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS) in one of its reports has

recommended creation of a National Fund for the unorganised sector. While a final view on the creation of this fund is yet to be taken, a token provision in the Budget 2009-10 has been proposed.

[Translation]

Reservation of Plots for Handloom and Powerloom Weavers in SEZs

605. SHRI PUSP JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Handloom Board has requested the Government for reservation of some plots for Handloom and Powerloom weavers in Special Economic Zones (SEZs);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether provisions have been made in SEZs for various States particularly Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Status thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) SEZ Act 2005/SEZ Rules 2006 do not have any provision for reservation of plots for handloom & powerloom weavers in SEZs. No such proposal is currently under consideration.

(c) and (d) 7 Special Economic Zones have been notified in the State of Rajasthan details of which are given in the enclosed statement

Statement

List of Notified SEZs in Rajasthan

Sl.No.	Name of the Developer	Location	Sector	Area	Date of Notification
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Mahindra World City (Jaipur) Ltd.	Kalwara Village, Jaipur, Rajasthan	IT/ITES	76.1	10th April 2007
2.	Somani Worsted Limited	Khushkera Industrial Area, Bhiwadi District, Rajasthan	Electronics hardware and software of ITES	19.9994	26th November 2007

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Mansarover Industrial Development Corporation	Jaipur Highway Village, Kaparda, Jodhpur, Rajasthan	Handicraft	130.689	7th December 2007
4.	Vatika Jaipur SEZ Developers Limited	Jaipur-Ajmer Expressway, Jaipur, Rajasthan	IT/ITES	20.1366	12th December 2007
5.	RNB Infrastructure Private Limited	NH-15, Opp Khara Industrial Area, Bikaner, Rajasthan	Textile	103.39	9th Jne 2008
6.	Mahindar World city (Jaipur) Ltd.	Kalwara and Bhambhoriya villages, Tehsil-Sanganer, Dist-Jaipur, Rajasthan	Light Engineering including automotive /automotive component	103.1775	6th January 2009
7.	Mahindar World city (Jaipur) Ltd.	Kalwara Village, Tehsil Sanganer, Dist-Jaipur, Rajasthan	Handicraft	102.7659	6th January 2009

Challan of Vehicles

606. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vehicles 162 challened for violation of traffic rules in Delhi during each of the last three years and the current year, vehicle-wise;

(b) the action taken against the guilty drivers and Delhi Traffic Police personnel for dereliction of duty during the same period, separately;

(c) whether any special drive against violation of traffic rules had also been initiated during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof and total amount collected by the traffic police through challans during the said period; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to enforce traffic rules on Delhi roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) The requisite details are given below:

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009 (upto 31st January)
Total challan	4325803	4048886	3566415	523296
Driver arrested	39773	46415	94844	7457
Vehicle impounded	66656	64501	54596	4836

The details of action taken against the erring Delhi Traffic Police personnel, including initiation of departmental enquiry, suspension, issuance of displeasure, withholding of future increment temporarily, forfeiture of approved service, censured, warning etc. are given below:

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009 (upto 31st February)
No. of Police Personnel	55	44	13	6

(c) and (d) Delhi Traffic Police had launched special drives against the violators of traffic rules and regulations from time to time. Recently, a traffic drive has commenced on 01.02.2009 for checking all visible violation. The details of amount collected by Delhi Traffic Police is given below:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009 (upto 31st February)
Amount collected	53.65	111.65	86.52	6.99

(e) The emphasis of Delhi Traffic Police is to control and regulate traffic on all roads and intersections. During such efforts, traffic laws are strictly enforced. The priority is accorded to quality enforcement having direct bearing on Road discipline and safety. The strategy is to enforce discipline and safety. The strategy to enforce discipline on the road users is to concentrate on quality prosecution on major traffic violation from among traffic signals, violation of restrictions, triple riding, without helmet, without helmet pillion rider, improper parking, dangerous driving, stopping without bus stop, wrong overtaking etc. noticed on the road. The emphasis is also laid on the prosecution against over speeding, reckless driving, minor driving, drunken driving, red light jumping, violation against Supreme Court Guidelines, no entry restrictions, improper parking, driving without driving licence etc.

[English]

Export of Wheat by STC

607. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) is exporting wheat and wheat products to various countries;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of wheat and wheat products exported to various countries during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise, product-wise;

(c) the amount of loss suffered by the STC due to export of poor quality wheat during the above period;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) STC exported 4934 MT wheat valued at Rs. 2.65 crores to Philippines and 866 MT wheat valued at Rs. 0.62 crores to Bangladesh during 2005-06. During 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, STC did not export wheat. STC also exported 2000 MT wheat flour valued at Rs. 3.52 crores in 2007-08 and 4500 MT valued at Rs. 8.41 crores in 2008-09 (till date) to Maldives. No export of wheat flour has been reported by STC during 2005-06 and 2006-07.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

UNCTAD Report

608. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) report recently noted that the country would find it difficult to fund the \$495 billion infrastructure development programme spread over till 2012; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The UNCTAD in its report titled "World Investment Report 2008" published on 24th September 2008 stated that over the period of 2007-2012, India will need investment averaging \$99 billion per annum in 10 major infrastructure segments namely, energy, roads, telecom, railways, etc., to support a planned annual GDP growth of 9%. One of the sources of this report has been stated as Planning Commission. Planning Commission in its report "Projections of Investment in Infrastructure during the Eleventh Plan" published in August 2008 have stated that the 11th Five Year Plan has set an ambitious target of increasing total investment in infrastructure from around 5% of GDP in 2006-07 to 9% by 2011-12, which would result in total investment of \$ 514 billion for 10 infrastructure sectors over the five year period. Recognizing that this is a substantial increase in infrastructure investment over the previous Plan period,

the Government has decided to encourage the private sector to invest in infrastructure in a big way. Thus, it has been envisaged that while 30% of the infrastructure needs may be met directly from the budget and 40% will be met from internal generation and market borrowings of public sector entities, the remaining 30% will be met through private sector investment. Government has initiated major infrastructure projects as Dedicated Freight Corridors, Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor, Petroleum, Chemical and Petro-Chemical Investment Regions, etc. with the view to attract investment for infrastructure development.

Regulation of Admission and Fees in Private Deemed Universities

609. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Union Government to regulate admissions and fees in all professional courses in private Deemed Universities as reported in *The Hindustan Times* dated 9 February, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) An Expert Committee constituted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) has submitted draft regulations for admission and fee structure in professional programmes of study in self-financing deemed to be universities. The UGC has constituted a Sub-Committee to examine and revise the draft regulations.

Creation of Coastal Command

610. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create 'Coastal Command' for quick response;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) India's coastal waters are guarded by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Indian Navy (IN) in coordination with the State Police and other agencies like Customs. Recently it has been decided that guarding the coastline will now be exclusively entrusted to the Coast Guard with immediate effect. The Indian Navy will provide the necessary backup support to the Coast Guard for this purpose. The Ministry of Shipping would provide all logistical assistance that may be required to the Coast Guard and the Navy. Steps are also being taken to enhance maritime security by strengthening Coast Guard and Indian Navy in terms of manpower, assets etc. This, inter-alia, envisages designating the Director General, Coast Guard, as Commander, Coastal Command with responsibilities of overall coordination between Central and State agencies.

Coffee Consumption

611. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of coffee consumed in the country during each of the last three years and current year, State wise;

(b) the amount proposed to be provided/spent for promotion of coffee to boost its domestic consumption during the above period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The data on coffee consumed State-wise is not maintained. However, based on the surveys conducted from time to time, the estimated volume of consumption in terms of green beans and estimated value of equivalent Coffee powder (80% of green beans) in the traditional Coffee consuming states and rest of the country is as follows:

(Quantity in Metric Tonnes and Value in Rs. Crore)

State	2005*		2006*		2007*		2008^	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Tamil Nadu	21922	295	23640	348	25031	400	26705	487
Karnataka	19322	260	20593	303	21804	350	22996	419
Kerala	10305	138	10470	154	11086	177	11127	203
Andhra Pradesh	12881	173	12837	189	13592	217	13352	244
Rest of India	15770	212	17460	257	18487	296	20220	369
Total	80200	1078	85000	1251	90000	1440	94400	1722

(*Data based on survey; ^Data based on trend.)

(b) The amount spent for promoting coffee consumption in the country during the last three years and proposed to be spent during the current year, are as follows:

(Rs. in Crore)			
2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (Estimate)
1.03	1.94	1.93	4.00

(c) In order to promote domestic coffee consumption, the following activities are being carried out under XI Plan period;

- Promotion of coffee through media Advertisements, publicity literature, Indian coffee magazine, etc.
- Participation in important internal fairs at national, regional, local levels, etc. with wet sampling of coffee.
- Providing intensive training on roasting and brewing of coffee by conducting 'Kaapi Shastra' courses by the Coffee Board.

Peripheral Development by NALCO

612. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) on peripheral development during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the specific areas in the peripheries of NALCO plants developed during the above said period; and

(c) the details of benefits accruing to the people living in such areas?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):
(a) and (b) National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has informed that peripheral development activities are taken up in villages within 10 kilometers radius of plant and also the District head quarters of Koraput and Angul. As desired by the Committee chaired by the concerned Revenue Divisional Commissioner, NALCO also takes up public utility projects at Bhubaneswar and other parts of Orissa depending upon requirements. The details of amount provided by NALCO for peripheral development activities and the actual expenditure during the last three years and the current year are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Provision made	Expenditure
2005-06	1319.79	689
2006-07	1562.20	582
2007-08	2381.38	715
2008-09	1631.52	1311

(upto December, 2008)

(c) The development activities undertaken by NALCO broadly fall under two categories—constructional and non-

constructional activities. Constructional activities involve construction and development of rural roads, culverts, bridges, rural schools, digging of tube wells, open wells, water harvesting schemes, supply of piped drinking water, etc. Non-constructional activities include arranging health camps, mobile health care services, village sanitation programmes, arranging rural games, krishi melas, sports and cultural activities, etc. All these activities have brought positive changes and improved quality of livelihood of local people.

Deployment of CISF

613. SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the criteria for deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel, focussing on critical security related areas rather than routine watch and ward duties in Public Sector Units (PSUs);

(b) if so, whether the CISF proposes to divert extra staff from PSUs to vital installations in the energy sector including petroleum refineries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to provide CISF for security to Indian missions abroad for security and protection of the mission and its staff; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The Government is rationalizing the induction of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), focusing more on innovative ideas and appropriate use of modern technology for optimising available manpower and restricting use of CISF to only essential and vital security duties.

(d) and (e) The CISF is providing security to Embassy of India, Kathmandu and Consulate General of India, Birgunj in Nepal.

[Translation]

Allocation for Education

614. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated for education during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to raise the allocation to the level of international norms in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government for providing admission to students belonging to disadvantaged/economically weaker sections of the society in private institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The details of funds allocated (Plan & Non-Plan) for the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) during last three years are as under:

	(Rs. in crore)		
	2006-07 (B.E)	2007-08 (B.E)	2008-09 (B.E)
Department of School Education & Literacy	18990.09	23142.22	27850.00
Department of Higher Education	5019.70	9212.00	10859.37
Total MHRD	24009.79	32354.22	38709.37

(b) to (d) Government has accorded very high importance to the education sector during the XI Five Year Plan period and accordingly plan allocation of Rs. 2,69,873 crore has been provided to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Rs. 1,84,930 crore for the Department of School Education & Literacy and Rs. 84,943 crore for the Department of Higher Education), as compared to a total expenditure of about Rs. 58,820 crore during the X Five Year Plan, which is about five fold increase over the expenditure during the X Five Year Plan. The main thrust of the XI Five Year Plan is to expand the enrolment capacity in higher education with a view to provide greater access to it while ensuring reduction in regional, social and gender imbalance and improvement in quality.

The Ministry has undertaken various initiatives in the area of School Education & Literacy as well as in the

Higher Education Sector for the benefit of disadvantaged/ economically weaker sections of the society to ensure inclusiveness. One major step in this direction is to provide reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) belonging to non-creamy layer, in admission to all the Central Educational Institutions of higher learning. Other important policy initiatives include expansion of existing and setting up of new, central educational institutions, assistance to states for setting up of 374 new degree colleges in educationally backward districts, setting up of new Polytechnics in unserved and underserved districts wherein preference will be given to the localities which will benefit SCs/STs/OBCs/Minorities with a view to increase access to the disadvantaged sections of the society and reduce regional imbalances; special focus on the construction of hostels for women; new scholarship scheme for university and college students. Twenty new Navodaya Vidyalayas have also been sanctioned in districts having concentration of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population. Apart from these, the Commercial Banks are offering education loans for taking up higher education.

[English]

Aerial Surveys

615. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sent their proposals to the Government for getting permission of aerial survey for mineral exploration;

(b) if so, the names of such States;

(c) whether the Government has given permission to the State Governments for such aerial surveys;

(d) if so, the names of the States where aerial surveys for minerals is likely to be conducted; and

(e) the funds earmarked by the Government for spending on these surveys State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) and (b) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh have sent proposals for seeking prior approval

of the Central Government under section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 for grant of reconnaissance permit, which inter-alia includes preliminary prospecting of a mineral through aerial surveys.

(c) and (d) Details of prior approval granted by Central Government for reconnaissance permit in different States are available on the web-site of the Ministry of Mines (www.mines.nic.in)

(e) No funds are earmarked by the Central Government for undertaking these surveys and the holder of the permit is required to make an expenditure commitment while obtaining a permit.

Research Institute

616. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Research Institute and undertake research for protection/ development of agricultural land in Kerala including Kuttanad in Alappuzha district which is affected by perennial floods because of its location below the sea level; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

New Jan Shikshan Sansthans

617. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned new Jan Shikshan Sansthans (JSSs) in the country;

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

(c) whether many applications were received from Government of Jharkhand for setting up of Jan Shikshan Sansthans;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of JSS sanctioned in Jharkhand; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) In 2008-09, the Government has sanctioned 29 new Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSSs) to different Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in various districts of the country, as per details given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) Proposals for setting up Jan Shikshan Sansthan have been received from NGOs located in different States of the country, including some NGOs from Jharkhand. The Government undertakes preliminary scrutiny of these proposals, and conducts feasibility study in accordance with the extant guidelines, after which decisions are taken to sanction Jan Shikshan Sansthan to the NGO. No Jan Shikshan Sansthan has been sanctioned to any NGO in Jharkhand in the current year.

Statement

Number of New Jan Shikshan Sansthan-State wise:

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of New JSS sanctioned in 2008-09
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
4.	Bihar	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	2
6.	Delhi	1
7.	Gujarat	—
8.	Goa	—
9.	Haryana	—
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	—
11.	Jharkhand	—
12.	Karnataka	1

1	2	3
13.	Kerala	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4
15.	Maharashtra	4
16.	Manipur	—
17.	Mizoram	—
18.	Nagaland	—
19.	Orissa	2
20.	Punjab	—
21.	Rajasthan	1
22.	Tamil Nadu	—
23.	Tripura	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4
25.	Uttarakhand	—
26.	West Bengal	1
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	Himachal Pradesh	1
29.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1
Total		29 (New JSS)

[English]

Marketing of CSIR Technologies

618. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether constituent labs of CSIR have formed pvt. companies and are engaging in equity participation with foreign companies to market their technologies and manage this IPR activities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details regarding the financial performance of the said companies during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether governing council of CSIR has proposed the Government to launch a holding company in collaboration with UK based Imperial Innovation Group for the aforesaid purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the details of the impact on National Research Development Corporation of the proposed move by CSIR?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

Patenting of Indian Molecules by MNC'S

619. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether new molecule stems under drug and research programme funded by the Government are being sold to MNCs at low prices who finally develop these abroad and then patent these molecules in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether selling of new molecule stems in this way is in consonance with our Intellectual Property Right on Medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the country's Intellectual Property Rights?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No Sir. Though 15 product patents on the

molecules developed under Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Research Programme have been filed by the various institutions/industries, non of these molecules have been sold to any of the MNCs for further development abroad.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Under Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Research Programme an agreement is signed among the concerned institutions. The agreement, inter-alia, specifies how the Intellectual Property Right (IPR) generated in the research project would be shared among the parties to the agreement. These conditions are in consonance with the existing guidelines of the Government on IPR sharing. Besides, Department of Science & Technology (DST) under the Patent Facilitating Scheme has been extending full financial and technical support for protection of Intellectual Property emanating from the Indian Public funded R&D institutions/academia. Similarly, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) under Technopreneur Promotion Programme (TePP) supports Indian individual Innovators for realization of innovation by way of developing prototypes of novel products, processes & devices and to protect them through patents.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): On behalf of Shri Kapil Sibal, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10643/09]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10644/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10645/09]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bose Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bose Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10646/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences, Nainital, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences, Nainital, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10647/09]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technology Information

Forecasting and Assessment Council, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10648/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 5 of the Vice-President's Pension Act, 1997:-

(i) The Vice-President's Pension, Housing and Other Facilities (Amendment) Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 59(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 2009.

(ii) The Vice-President's Pension, Housing and Other Facilities (Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 89(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2009.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10649/09]

- (2) A copy of the President's Pension (Amendment) Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 88(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2009 under sub-section (2) of Section 5 of the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10650/09]

- (3) A copy of the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Amendment Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 87(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10651/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (Medical Cadre 'C' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 503(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2008 under sub-section (3) of Section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10652/09]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 289(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd January, 2009 empowering the Director General of National Security Guard or Inspector General of NSG authorized by DG NSG to requisition aircraft from any operator registered in India in the interest of public safety for public service issued under sub-section (3) of Section 137 of the National Security Guard Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10653/09]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASILMUDDIN): Sir, I beg, to lay on the Table a copy of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Second Amendment Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 865(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 2008, under sub-section (4) of Section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10654/09]

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10655/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ujala Society, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Ujala Society, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2005-2006.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10656/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ujala Society, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Ujala Society, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2006-2007.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10657/09]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10658/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Disaster Management (National Disaster Response Force) Amendment Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 857(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 2008 under section 77 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10659/09]

(2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 2581(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 2008 empowering the Deputy Commissioner of Police, to exercise and perform, in relation to the District under his charge, the powers and duties of an Executive Magistrate under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, subject to the general control of the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, under Section 71 of the Delhi Police Act, 1978.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10660/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10661/09]

(3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10662/09]

(5) A copy of the Central Boilers Board (Nomination of Members) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 213 in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2008 under sub-section (2) of Section 28A of the Indian Boilers Act, 1923.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10663/09]

(6) A copy of the Indian Boiler (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 212 in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2008 under sub-section (2) of Section 28 of the Indian Boilers Act, 1923.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10664/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10665/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 2007-2008.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10666/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10667/09]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10668/09]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, for the year 2007-2008.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10669/09]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Hindi (Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal), Agra, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Hindi (Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal), Agra, for the year 2007-2008.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10670/09]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pondicherry University, Puducherry, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Pondicherry University, Puducherry, for the year 2007-2008.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10671/09]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10672/09]

- (17) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Manipur University, Imphal, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10673/09]

- (19) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Manipur University, Imphal, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10674/09]

- (21) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Allahabad, Allahabad, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10675/09]

- (23) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10676/09]

- (25) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10677/09]

- (27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur, for the year 2007-2008.

- (28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10678/09]

- (29) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Warangal, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Warangal, for the year 2007-2008.

- (30) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (29) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10679/09]

- (31) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (32) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (31) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10680/09]
- (33) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, for the year 2005-2006.
- (34) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (33) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10681/09]
- (35) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (36) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (35) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10682/09]
- (37) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, for the year 2007-2008.
(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, for the year 2007-2008.
- (38) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (37) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10683/09]
- (39) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior, for the year 2007-2008.
(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.
(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior, for the year 2007-2008.
- (40) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (39) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10684/09]
- (41) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee, for the year 2007-2008.
(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.
(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee, for the year 2007-2008.
- (42) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (41) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10685/09]

- (43) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10686/09]

- (44) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2007-2008 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (45) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (44) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10687/09]

- (46) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2007-2008.

- (47) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (46) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10688/09]

- (48) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, for the year 2007-2008.

- (49) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (48) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10689/09]

- (50) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 2007-2008.

- (51) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (50) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10690/09]

- (52) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, for the year 2007-2008.

- (53) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (52) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10691/09]

- (54) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, for the year 2007-2008.

- (55) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (54) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10692/09]

- (56) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 2007-2008.
- (57) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (56) above.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10693/09]
- (58) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, for the year 2007-08.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (59) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (58) above.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10694/09]
- (60) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2007-2008 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10695/09]
- (61) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 371(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 2009 making special provisions for reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes/ Other Backward Classes in admissions to central educational institutions under Section 7 of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10696/09]
- (62) A copy of the Notification No. C-187/A-3/VC-08 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 2008 making certain amendments to the Statutes of the University of Allahabad under sub-section (2) of Section 44 of the University of Allahabad Act, 2005.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10697/09]
- (63) A copy of the Statement* (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, for the year 2007-2008.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10698/09]
- (64) A copy of the Statement* (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Surathkal, for the year 2007-2008.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10699/09]
- (65) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 2007-2008.
- (66) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (65) above.
- [Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10700/09]
- (67) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2007-2008.

*The Annual Reports and Audited Accounts were laid on the Table on 17.02.2009.

- (68) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (67) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10701/09]

- (69) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2007-2008.

- (70) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (69) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10702/09]

- (71) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, for the year 2007-2008.

- (72) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (71) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10703/09]

- (73) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (74) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (73) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10704/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10705/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 2007-2008.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10706/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Project Exports Promotion Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Project Exports Promotion Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10707/09]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10708/09]

- (9) A copy of the Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 72(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 55 of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, together with an explanatory notes.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—10709/09]

12.01 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following three messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2009, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th February, 2009 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2009, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th February, 2009 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 2009 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th February, 2009 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON TABLE

21st Report and Minutes

[*English*]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Utuberia): I beg to present the Twenty-first Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table and Minutes relating thereto.

12.02 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

24th and 25th Reports

[*English*]

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): I beg to present the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Reports (English and Hindi versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.02½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

34th to 36th Reports

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence (2008-09):

- (1) Thirty-fourth Report on 'Human Resource Planning, Shortage of Manpower, Infusion of Hi-Tech Training and Infrastructure for the Armed Forces'.
- (2) Thirty-fifth Report on 'Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations of the Committee contained in their Twenty-ninth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Defence'.
- (3) Thirty-sixth Report on 'Status of implementation of Unified Command for Armed Forces'.

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

25th Report

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar): Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas (2008-09) on 'Marketing, Supply, Distribution, Dealerships and Pricing of Kerosene and other Petroleum Products'.

12.03½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND CULTURE

149th Report

[English]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the One Hundred

Forty-ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Development of tourism infrastructure and amenities for the Commonwealth Games 2010.

12.04 hrs

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

Business transacted during last week

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House at its five sittings during the last week.

During the Question Hour, out of the 80 Starred Questions which were listed, only 16 could be answered orally. The replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 449 Unstarred Questions for the same period were laid on the Table.

The Minister of Finance presented the Interim Budget (General) for 2009-10 on 16th February, 2009 and introduced the Finance Bill, 2009.

The House discussed the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address for eight hours and thirty six minutes. The discussion was concluded with the reply of the Leader of the House and thereafter the Motion of Thanks was adopted.

A combined discussion on the Interim Budget (Railways) for 2009-10; Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) – 2009-10; Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) – 2008-09; Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) – 2006-07 took five hours and thirty minutes and concluded with the reply of the Minister of Railways. All the Demands for Grants on Account (Railways), Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) and Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills were passed.

The Interim Budget for the State of Jharkhand for 2009-10 was presented on 17th February, 2009 along with the Supplementary Demands for Grant (Jharkhand) for 2008-09. The combined discussion on the Interim

Budget for the State of Jharkhand 2009-10; Demands for Grants on Account for the State of Jharkhand – 2009-10 and the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the State of Jharkhand – 2008-09 was taken up on 19th February, 2009 and the Demands were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills were passed.

A Statutory Resolution approving the Proclamation of President's Rule on 19th January, 2009 under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Jharkhand was also adopted. As regards Legislative Business, ten Bills were introduced and nine were passed. One Bill was withdrawn. The important Bills passed were the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2008; the Statutory Resolution disapproving the Ordinance on the above Bill was also negated. The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill, 2009 was also passed. The Central Universities Bill, 2009 was passed by the House and the Statutory Resolution on the Central Universities Ordinance, 2009 was withdrawn. The Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Bill, 2008 was also passed by the House.

A combined discussion on the Interim Budget (General) for 2009-10; Demands for Grants on Account (General) – 2009-10; Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) – 2008-09 took four hours and forty two minutes. Further discussion on the Interim Budget (General) will resume today.

One Calling Attention regarding situation arising out of large scale retrenchment, lay-offs, wage cuts and withdrawal of statutory benefits of workers in organised and unorganised sectors in the country and steps taken by the Government in this regard was raised by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. The Minister of Labour and Employment made a Statement and replied to the clarifications.

In all 16 Statements were made by the Ministers on important subjects in the House.

During the week, Members raised as many as 37 matters of urgent public importance. Also, 48 matters were raised under Rule 377.

The Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 13 Reports during the week.

I am happy to inform you that the House sat late for over nine hours and 21 minutes to dispose of the important legislative and financial business and for raising of matters of urgent public importance. I take this

opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to the hon. Members for the cooperation and support extended to the Chair in smooth conduct of the proceedings during the last week of this Lok Sabha.

I wish all weeks were similar.

12.08 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 206th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (2008-09) (Demand No.57), pertaining to the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 206th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (2008-09) (Demand No. 57), pertaining to the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Sir, I lay it on the Table and deem it as read.

12.08¹/₄ hrs.

- (ii) **Status of Implementation of the recommendations contained in the 22nd Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development on Rural Housing Scheme, pertaining to the Ministry of Rural Development****

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): Sir, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 10710/09.

**Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 10711/09.

recommendations contained in the Twenty Second Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (Department of Rural Development) (2006-07), 14th Lok Sabha in pursuance of the Direction 73 of the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha *vide* Lok Sabha bulletin-Part II dated 01st September, 2004.

The Twenty Second Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 3rd August, 2008. The report relates to the Rural Housing scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development for the year 2006-2007. First Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee was sent to the Standing Committee on Rural Development on 25.07.2007. A statement giving the status of these recommendations was laid by Minister of Rural Development in Lok Sabha in August 2007 and in Rajya Sabha in September 2007. Subsequently, revised Action Taken Report was sent to Standing Committee on Rural Development on 18/11/2008 and statement was laid in Lok Sabha on 12.12.08 and in Rajya Sabha on 17.12.08. The revised Action Taken Report intimating the status in respect of recommendations has been sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat on 13.1.09, 17.2.09 and 23.2.09.

There are 56 recommendations made by the Committee in the said report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to the requirement and funding of rural housing, appropriate technology for rural housing, design and implementation of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) etc.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House.

Sir, I would request that this may be considered as read.

12.08¹/₂ hrs.

- (iii) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 85th Report of the Standing Committee on Commerce on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10712/09.

INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I would like to lay a statement on the Table of the House giving the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 85th Report of the Standing Committee on Commerce on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

MR. SPEAKER: I wish I had your memory!

12.09 hrs

GOVERNMENT BILLS—INTRODUCED

- (i) **State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks Laws) Amendment Bill-2009***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: All are very important Bills.

12.09¹/₂ hrs.

- (ii) **Indian Trusts (Amendment) Bill-2009***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Trusts Act, 1882.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2 dated 24.02.09.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Trusts Act, 1882."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I introduce the Bill.

12.10 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 are treated to be laid on the Table of the House. There will be no Luncheon recess today. The reply will be at 2 of the Clock by the hon. Finance Minister.

- (i) **Need to review the method of exploration of gas and petroleum by ONGC in Mehsana Parliamentary Constituency in Gujarat causing contamination and depletion of water table in the region**

[Translation]

SHRI JIVA BHAI A. PATEL (Mehsana): Sir, there are huge reserves of gas and petroleum products in my parliamentary constituency, Mehsana. Presently, ONGC is engaged in exploration of gas and petroleum in this area. Around 33 per cent demand of gas and petroleum products is met from Mehsana. Due to exploration activities of ONGC, water table has receded from 15 meters to 500 meters and water has also been contaminated mining of fluoride, due to which on the one hand people are not getting sufficient water for farming activities while, on the other hand they are falling prey to various diseases due to consumption of contaminated water. The Government agencies have admitted that water table has depleted and they have declared the quality of water as severely contaminated.

The Government is requested to impress upon the ONGC to conduct exploration activities in such a manner so that table of underground water may not get depleted and hazardous elements do not get mixed up with water

*Treated as laid on the Table.

Besides ONGC may also be asked to earmark funds to maintain availability and quality of water in Mehsana.

- (ii) **Need to appoint a Vice-Chancellor of Gandhigram Rural University in Dindigul, Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Gandhigram Rural University is located in the most backward region of my Dindigul Parliamentary constituency in Tamil Nadu. This institute was started during the year 1957 for the rural development of the area. The institute was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. In recognition of the services rendered by the institute it was given the status of rural university. In the year 1976 the university was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi. This university is fully funded by the University Grants Commission.

Since its inception, the Vice-President of India is the Chancellor of the University. After the retirement of the last Vice Chancellor of the University in July 2007, no new Vice Chancellor has been appointed, though the Search Committee has recommended a panel of three names to be considered for the post. As there is no Vice Chancellor of the University even today, convocation could not be arranged and no degrees were conferred to the successful students. As a result the successful students are not able to go abroad for further studies and also for other opportunities.

I urge upon Hon. Minister for Human Resource Development to take urgent steps to appoint the Vice Chancellor of this Rural University.

- (iii) **Need to restart local rail service between Banaskantha and Palanpur; extend Gujarat Mail upto Palanpur and introduce additional DEMU service on Mount Abu-Ahmedabad-Palanpur route**

[Translation]

SHRI HARI SINGH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Sir, several local trains used to operated between Palanpur to Gandhidham in my Parliament constituency, Banaskantha before conversion of this rail line from meter gauge into broad gauge. But after conversion of rail line into broad gauge no train is plying on this route at

present, due to which people of nearby villages are facing lot of inconvenience. Presently, a train namely Gujarat Mail runs between Mumbai to Ahmedabad and it halts at Ahmedabad railway station for about fifteen hours. If route of this train is extended upto Palanpur, in addition to generating additional revenue for railways it will also facilitate the passengers traveling from North Gujarat to Mumbai. It is also submitted through this House that there is a DEMU rail service between Mount Abu and Ahmedabad. As per the demand of people two 'DEMU' rail services may be introduced between Ahmedabad and Palanpur.

The Government is requested through the House to restore the local train service between Palanpur to Gandhidham. The route of train running from Mumbai to Ahmedabad may be extended upto Palanpur and an additional 'DEMU' train may be introduced between Mount Abu and Ahmedabad.

- (iv) **Need to give basic rights to West Pakistani/ POK refugees and people of Chhamb Jorian residing in Jammu & Kashmir**

[English]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Government, of India and Government, of Jammu and Kashmir have not settled the issue of west Pakistani/POK refugees of Chhamb Jorian. West Pakistani refugee people have no right to get service/employment and have no right to vote in Assembly and get ration/ houses under IAY. They have no permanent House since they cannot purchase land. They have no basic rights in Jammu and Kashmir State. POK refugees & Chhamb Jorian people are deprived of their all dues and other rights.

- (v) **Need to permit the tapping of Coconut-Palm milk from Coconut and Palmyra trees for its use as a herbal drink in the country**

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Sir, Toddy-Palm Milk is one of the traditional, social and local herbal drink extracted from Coconut and Palmyra trees. It is famous in Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Nigeria, Central and Western Africa and other parts of Southeast Asia. There is a widespread belief that Coconut Herbal Drink is a rich source of the B-Complex Vitamins. The scientists of U.K., K.C. Browning & C.Y. Symons had submitted a report during 1916 that Toddy contains Vitamin B1. Shri P.C. Leong, a scientist in the University of Malaysia conducted a research about the nutritive value of coconut

herbal drink and submitted a report. As per his report, the coconut drink is having yeast cells that are mostly alive, it follows that its nutritive value as a source of Thiamine (B1) and Riboflavin (B2) is found mainly in the fluid. The above herbal drink is having only 3.8% alcohol. Some of the States like Tamil Nadu had banned its tapping for the past 20 years, but are selling Indian Made Foreign Liquor. As the above herbal drink is of medicinal value and it cures TB, Asthma and other lung related diseases, if tapping of Toddy is allowed, it will certainly fetch very good income for coconut growers, farm labourers and other workers.

Hence, I urge upon the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Union of India to include Coconut- Palm Milk as a herbal drink and direct all the States to allow tapping it from Coconut and Palmyra trees.

- (vi) **Need to protect the livelihood of families facing demolition of their shops due to construction of six lane road and flyover on N.H.- 8 in Behrod, Rajasthan**

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, a bridge is proposed to be constructed at national highway no. 8 near Behror town and work of 6 laning of the road in going to commence. In Behror town, around 800 shops set up on both sides of Highways are proposed to be demolished. This will affect livelihood of thousands of families. It is my request that these shops may not be acquired/dmolished and if unavoidable the shop owners may be compensated at market rates and they may be rehabilitated somewhere else. The proposed bus stand may be constructed at least one kilometer away from the main crossing to save important commercial complexes and avoid congestion at main crossing. I make this demand from the hon. Minister of Road Transport.

- (vii) **Need to set-up iron ore and other minerals based factories in Sagar and Chhattarpur districts in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Sir, Bundelkhand region in Madhya Pradesh particularly the areas from Shahgarh in Sagar District to Badda Malhara Bijavar area of Chhattarpur district is rich in mineral resources. There are huge reserves of rock sulphate, dolomite and iron ore in the area. Diamonds are also being mined from Chhattarpur. Rock sulphate and dolomite is supplied in huge quantity to other states for industrial purposes.

Hence, I request the Government that the industries based on these minerals may be set up in Sagar and Chhattarpur districts and initiatives may be taken, especially to set up an iron based industry here so that in addition to industrial development of Bundelkhand, the youth of this area may get sufficient employment opportunities.

(viii) Need to declare the Sardar Sarovar Project as a National Project

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Government of Gujarat is implementing the Sardar Sarovar (Narmada) Project, the largest water resource development project of its type in the country and reportedly one of the three largest projects in the World. The Sardar Sarovar Project is a multi-dimensional project and yields benefits to vast areas of the Western region, covering four states viz. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The project on completion will facilitate irrigation to over 18 lakh hectares of land covering around 4000 villages, spread over 12 districts of Gujarat, mostly located in drought-prone areas. About 2,25,000 hectares of land in the arid regions of Barmer & Jalore districts in Rajasthan will also get water. The project is also producing 1370 MW (with ultimate capacity of 1450 MW) of hydro electricity, a cheap and environment friendly power, providing stability to the Western Grid and peaking energy benefit is shared among Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra & Gujarat. It also supplies domestic and drinking water to a large number of villages and urban areas in Gujarat as well as in Rajasthan. The Project will provide a tremendous boost to the National economy by way of increased agriculture production and eco-friendly power. The Government of India on 07.02.2008 has taken a positive step to declare 14 River Projects as National Assets for which it would provide as much as 90% funding. However, Sardar Sarovar Project does not figure amongst these 14 River Projects declared as National Assets. This has resulted in great injustice to Gujarat.

I urge upon the Government of India to declare the Sardar Sarovar Project as a National Project immediately.

(ix) Need to expedite the construction of Ramganj-Mandi-Bhopal railway line

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (Jhalawar): The Ministry of Railways should consider the building of the Ramganj-

Mandi-Bhopal train line which is pending for long time. It is 700 crore worth project. The land has been demarcated and the Ministry of Railways need to expedite the issue as this route links Mumbai to Delhi and also provides the common man way to Bhopal and helps the movement of agricultural goods.

I urge the Government to immediately start work on the project and help the common man.

(x) Need to approve the proposals submitted by Government of Gujarat for construction of Ghaduli-Hajpur-Khavda-Santalpur and Khavda-Dholavira roads in Gujarat

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): The State Government has made a proposal for construction/improvement of border road from Ghaduli-Hajpur-Khavda-Santalpur (8 stretches totaling 151.7 Kms) joining Kutch & Banaskantha districts. The stretch of 151 Kms is needed to connect the missing links in the area facing Greater Rann of Kutch so that the mobility and accessibility of our security forces improves further to maintain vigil on the border in an effective way.

The ancient historic site of Dholavira has been declared as a heritage site of the Harappan age which is of tourist importance. Construction of Khavda-Dholavira stretch will boost tourism activities as tourists will find it easily accessible from Bhuj which is the District HQ of Kutch District. At present to reach this site from Bhuj town via Bhachau and Rapar it takes about half a day. After completion of the above mentioned stretch (Khavda-Dholavira), it would be possible to reach Dholavira from Bhuj in 2.5 hrs via Khavda-Kunaria-Dholavira route. This will help tourists to visit Dholavira and come back to Bhuj the same day. Construction of the road will make the mobility much easier. This will solve BSF's problems of getting fresh drinking water on daily basis instead of water stored for months. Once the roads are constructed, water pipeline can also be laid along the roadsides. This will help cutting the daily recurring expenditure of providing water through Tankers.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to approve the proposal as submitted by Government of Gujarat as early as possible.

(xi) Need to set up a Coast Guard Station at Alappuzha in Kerala

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Kerala has a coastline of 590 Kms. more than 1/6 of this is in Alappuzha district.

There are 2 fishing harbours in operation and two more are coming up. There is a proposal for Marina-cum-Cargo terminal at erstwhile Alappuzha port. There is increase in marine fishing activities. The nearest coast guard stations are at Kochi and Kollam. These two are around 150 kms. apart. There were incidents of unidentified vessels appearing in the seacoast. When informed by the fishermen usually it takes hours for a surveillance team to search the spot. In incidents of fishing boat capsizing due to heavy storm it is very difficult to get the services of coast guard. In view of the increased maritime threat, it is desirable to establish a coast guard station at Alappuzha. So, I urge upon the Government to establish a coast guard station at Alappuzha.

(xii) Need to resume train services between Haldibari and Sealdah via Chilahati and Parbatipur in Bangladesh

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): On behalf of millions of citizens from North Bengal and from Jalpaiguri district in particular, I am once again drawing the kind attention of Government of India for resumption of train services between Haldibari to Sealdah via Chilahati and Parbatipur in Bangladesh. The resumption of the train service will be in consonance with Article VIII of the Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement 1980 which states that "The two governments agree to make mutually beneficial arrangement for the use of their waterways, railways and roadways for commerce between two countries and for passing of goods between two places in one country through the territory of the other." However, years have passed and in the mean time new Government under the leadership of Sheikh Hasina has taken over the charge of the Government of Bangladesh. It is the high time to take up the matter of resumption of rail service through Bangladesh which will benefit India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan since it will take only few hours to reach Sealdah from Haldibari and only 5-6 kilometres of track will have to be laid.

(xiii) Need to bring a Bill in Parliament giving legal status to Electro-Homeopathy

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Sir, several doctors have been practising Electro Homeopathy system of medicine in urban and rural areas of India for more than hundred years. The medicines of Electro Homeopathy system are prepared from poisonless plants, which do

not have any adverse effects on the body. Electro Homeopathy medicines have been found efficacious in all incurable diseases and are completely harmless.

Due to absence of any law, practitioners of Electro Homeopathy system are not able to offer their services freely for the welfare of society and they and their families are confronting the crisis of livelihood.

Hence, the Government is requested to introduce and pass an Electro Homeopathy Bill in Parliament to enable the practitioners of Electro Homeopathy medicine system to offer their services without any inhibition.

(xiv) Need to undertake widening and repair of Kanpur-Sagar and Jhansi-Mirzapur sections of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh as per specified norms and standards

SHRI RAJANARYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, U.P.): Sir, the roads from Hamirpur to Kaimoha in district Mahoba on Kanpur-Sagar National Highways and from Dewari Bandh to Mataundha on Jhansi-Mirzapur National Highways under my Parliamentary Constituency Hamirpur-Mahoba are in a very dilapidated condition. I, through this House, have been raising the demand for the last several years to convert those roads into four lane roads, keeping in view the heavy traffic. Recently, 6 people died on 16-17 February when vehicles fell off the bridge built on Yamuna and Betwa rivers in Hamirpur headquarters because the bridge is narrow. So far dozens of accidents have taken place claiming hundreds of lives. Road between Dewari Bandh to Panwari has been left dug out for almost the last three months despite the sanction of the Government for construction work. Both the Highways face heavy traffic jam throughout the day in absence of roads built not in conformity with specified norms. Everyday, both the roads cater to buses of roadways, private vehicles, stones carrying trucks from Kavrai and sand laden trucks from Hamirpur.

I, therefore, through this House, request to the Union Government to complete the ongoing sanctioned works of widening and repair of Kanpur-Sagar and Jhansi-Mirzapur section of National Highways as per specified norms keeping heavy traffic and accidents in view and compensation should be given to dependents of persons died on this stretch and necessary directions should be issued for the four laning of both the highways.

(xv) Need to open a Cancer Research and Treatment Centre at Anugraha Narayan Magadh Medical College and Hospital in Gaya, Bihar under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR MANJHI (Gaya): Sir, a proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Health by Medical college regarding setting up of state-of-the-art Cancer Research and Treatment Centre at Anugraha Narayan Magadh Medical College and Hospital under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana in my Parliamentary constituency Gaya (Bihar). But no action has been taken so far by the Ministry of Health thereon. This Medical college is functioning without oncology department and there is no specialist of oncology in this Medical college. First, a post of specialist Professor in the Department of Oncology has to be created and filled then this Cancer Research and Treatment Centre can be opened.

I, through this House, urge upon the Government to immediately initiate action for opening of the said centre in Medical College Gaya because Gaya is a prominent commissioner of Bihar where people of adjacent districts like Nawada, Aurangabad, Kodarma, Jahanabad, Nalanda, Chatra, Sasaram etc. come for treatment at this Medical College.

(xvi) Need to release incentive component grants to the Government of Orissa under Accelerated Power Development Reform Programme

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): As per the incentive component of Accelerated Power Development Reform Programme (APDRP) guidelines the state Government of Orissa is to be incentivized upto 50 percent of the actual loss reduction achieved as a grant. Orissa Government has submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Power, Government of India since 2005 in the prescribed format claiming incentive to the tune of Rs 264.94 crore for the year 2003-04. This is 50 percent of the actual loss reduction achieved by the utilities with 2000-01 as the base year. Initially, Ministry of Finance, Government of India had declined to sanction the grant on the ground that the Distcoms are private company and not state-owned. Subsequently the task force constituted by Government of India suggested that APDRP assistance

both assistance and incentive component may be extended to the private distribution utility. The incentive for loss reduction by the private utilities may be given to the state instead of the utility.

I would urge upon the Government to implement the decision in this regard for immediate release of incentive to the Government of Orissa under APDRP scheme. This release will not only be utilized for the benefit of the sector but also will encourage and motivate utilities to reduce cash losses.

(xvii) Need to treat Puducherry as a State and bring it within the fold of Central Finance Commission

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): The Union Territory of Puducherry, which is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs is facing acute financial crisis. Among other things, the financial arrangement under the UT Act is responsible for the present financial situation. Since the Union Territories are not covered under the recommendations of the Finance Commission, UT of Puducherry is not entitled to receive revenue from Central Revenue Pool. In lieu of it, the UT is receiving only the non plan gap grant which for the last four years has remained constant at Rs. 438 cores. Although the non plan expenditure is growing leaps and bounds, the gap grant is not increasing even in proportion to the increase in price level. Earlier the Planning Commission used to give 70% grant and 30% as loan. But now the grant portion is reduced to 30% and UT is asked to raise loan from the open market forcing the UT to borrow at higher rate of interest. This is widening the debt burden of the UT. Further, the UT is not entitled to receive local bodies grant recommended by the Finance Commission or by the Finance Commission constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Consequently the local bodies which have been revived after 38 years are languishing without adequate funds even to discharge normal, basic functions to the local communities. All these exert greater pressure on the UT Administration. Consequently, the UT is not able to undertake infrastructure development project or plan development programmes. The development process is substantially affected. Therefore, it is urged that since UT of Puducherry has a legislature, it should be treated as a State and should be covered by the recommendations of XIII Finance Commission. The debt of the UT of Puducherry should be waived off as a matter of development gesture. The Government of India should restore the old pattern of providing 70% plan grant and

30% loan to the UT of Puducherry. The Ministry of Home Affairs should release substantial amount to be devolved to local bodies of the UT of Puducherry. It should help to smoothen the financial position of UT of Puducherry.

- (xviii) **Need to withdraw the decision to extend the area of Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi): In my Pollachi Parliamentary Constituency, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu there is a wild life sanctuary called Indira Gandhi wild life sanctuary.

Apart from tigers, other animals including elephant are living in the sanctuary which is attracting a large number of tourists.

Along the borders and below in the plain areas Pollachi is known for coconut trees, paddy, ground nut and other cereals.

The farmers are also very comfortable with four water reservoirs i.e., Solayar Dam, Walayar Dam, Amaravathi Dam and Thirumoorthy Dam.

Recently, the Government has ordered an extension of another ten KM range for the wild life sanctuary which will affect two lakhs people living there and about fifty thousand acres of green fertile land will go waste.

I request the Government to withdraw the extension of the area of the wild life sanctuary with a view to protect the farmers and common people residing in the thickly populated areas near the sanctuary.

Further, proper fencing and protection along the area should be done along the area of wild life sanctuary.

- (xix) **Need to confer the status of Deemed University to Central Institute of Buddhist Studies in Leh district of Ladakh region In Jammu and Kashmir**

[English]

SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN (Ladakh): The Central Institute of Buddhist Studies located at Choglamsar in Leh district of Ladakh region was established nearly fifty years ago on the initiative of late Kushok Bakula, the spiritual and temporal leader of Ladakh with the active support of Late Prime Minister Pandit Jawahar Lai Nehru.

This Institute has done tremendous service and has played a very important role in protecting and promoting the unique identity of people of Ladakh and has promoted integration of Ladakh in the National mainstream. This Institute is presently affiliated to Varanasi Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya but has grown in its stature and activities to be fit to be declared and conferred the status of a Deemed University. The Institute meets all requirements which make it to qualify for the grant of the status of a Deemed to be University. I request Government of India to confer the status of Deemed University to this important Institution.

12.11 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

- (i) **RE : Problems likely to arise in Malkangiri District of Orissa due to Reported Implementation of Polavaram Project**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy. This is not a Calling Attention. Please try to be brief.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Speaker, Sir, this is a most important item.... *(Interruptions)* I want to draw the attention of this Government to this important item.

During the past few days, it has been reported in some Print Media that the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India is actively considering the declaration of Polavaram Project as a National Project in response to the request made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Once this project fructifies, it will displace approximately 814 families of the villages of about 10 Gram Panchayats in Malkangiri district of Orissa, which will be a disaster for the sensitive tribal areas having the primitive tribes and which is already devastated by Naxal Menace. In case this project is implemented in its present form, it will violate the spirit of the Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal Award (GWDT) of 1980 and the Order of the National Environmental Appellate Authority (NEAA).

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has cleared the project without taking into consideration the effect of submergence in the homeland of the primitive tribes of Orissa and without taking the opinion of the State of Orissa into consideration.

The socio-economic situation of Malkangiri district of Orissa has undergone a sea change since 1980. In the present scenario, any submergence in the tribal district of Malkangiri is not acceptable to the people of Orissa.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has already prepared the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposed Polavaram Project and has not mentioned anything about the submergence of the villages and the agricultural land of the other two affected States of Orissa and Chhattisgarh. The Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal in its final Order has also restricted MWL/FRL at 150 ft. for the Dam, advising the CWC to take up the design and operation of the project subject to the acceptance of the co-basin States – both Orissa and Chhattisgarh. While all these issues are pending for resolution, it is learnt that the Government of Andhra Pradesh is unilaterally going ahead with the execution of this Project. So, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to this matter. Now, the situation is very much alarming in the sensitive area of Orissa. It is now needed that Government of India should not proceed with the project and allow the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to execute the Project without consulting both the States of Orissa and Chhattisgarh. So, I would request the hon. Minister of State, who is present here, to respond to this.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have arranged for his presence. Please be brief. Let him reply.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : I thank you, Sir, for this. We are obliged to you. This is a very sensitive matter. The Chief Minister of Orissa has also brought it to the notice of the Government of India and the hon. Prime Minister. All the Members of Orissa time and again requested the hon. Ministers – the present Minister and the former Minister also – to consider this. We have brought it to their notice. We have discussed with them. We have been assured that without consulting both the States, the Government would not allow the Andhra Pradesh Government to proceed with the project.... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, we are not against any irrigation project in the country. We are very much in favour of it. But the other submerging co-basin State is to be consulted. That is the difficulty which we experience.

MR. SPEAKER: It is about consultation. Now, the hon. Minister to reply.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCE (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the venue of polavaram project is Godavari basin. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa are part of this project. Orissa had objected to the project as it falls in the tribal region, as the Hon'ble Member has mentioned. Villagers of this region had moved to the Hon'ble High Court on the plea that the villages of the region were under the danger of being submerged and consequently given stay by the Court. Later on the court vacated the stay order and Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources gave its approval to the project. Hon'ble Member has raised a question that this project would adversely affect agriculture in 440 villages of Orissa and Chhattisgarh, keeping this in view the Ministry of Water Resources has made a separate provision of Rs. 628 crore for the works to be undertaken under this project so that the villages could be saved from being submerged by constructing a dam. Besides, a letter has been sent to the Planning Commission seeking their approval for the investment. Planning Commission had sought comments on certain points which have been sent. The Technical Economic Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources has analyzed and discussed the likelihood of submergence in any of the region after fruition of this project before according its approval and found that this project is in conformity with technical norms. Construction of embankments in Andhra Pradesh will be ensured and all the concerns shown by the hon'ble Member has been taken care of so that villagers of Orissa and Chhattisgarh do not face any threat. Construction of embankments has been ensured by Andhra Pradesh to preempt the possibility of submergence of villages and to ensure the compliance of the directions issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the rulings of the court. The Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources has also cleared the Project. The apprehensions expressed by the hon'ble Member Shri Tripathyji has been taken care of so that situation of submergence does not arise and villages and agriculture could be saved. Works have been initiated after taking these things into account.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Are you declaring it a National Project, do tell us.

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: As far as the question of declaring any project as a national project

is concerned, it has to pass through many stages like seeking approval of the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Finance and finally the approval of the Cabinet is obtained. When this process is over then the project comes to our department which eventually takes its decision.

[Translation]

*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (CHAMRAJANAGAR): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue pertaining to denial of issuance of Scheduled Tribe certificate to members of the Nayaka Parivara community in Kamataka.

Nayaka community has various synonyms and sub castes, they are Thoti, Talavara, Nayaka, Parivara, Nayakar, etc. In the year 1983 the Government of India granted the status of Scheduled Tribe to these groups except Parivara group. Since they have not been included in the Scheduled Tribe list members of this community are deprived of education, employment and other opportunities. Now as a mark of protest, members of the Nayaka community have been staging demonstrations, dharnas for the last one week in Mysore and Chamarajanagar districts. Many persons suffered injuries after police lathi charged them and burst tear gas at a rally.

Therefore I urge upon the Union Government to take immediate necessary steps to set the things right before any untoward incident takes place. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised it very well. Thank you very much.

SHRI SANTOSH SANGHVI (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that many requests have been received by the Central Government from many Backward Castes for their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A week ago dharna and demonstration was held by the people of Prajapati caste, Kumhar Samaj of the country. They say that before independence, in the year 1931, the then rulers had decided to include five castes in the list of Scheduled Castes. Before independence and after getting independence four out of these five castes were included in the list of Scheduled Castes gradually, but the Government are not paying any attention towards the demands of Prajapati Samaj for their inclusion in the list

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

of Scheduled Castes, which is known as Kumhar caste all over the country and these people make earthenware. This is a work of art and they are famous for it.

Besides, the people of Kashyap Caste, kashyap Nishad Kewat Caste of Uttar Pradesh are facing a more ridiculous situation. The then Government of Uttar Pradesh had announced that these people have been included in the list of Scheduled Castes, but when I enquired about it in Delhi I came to know that there is no proposal. I urge upon the Government to pay attention towards it and take an appropriate action on priority basis for the inclusion of the people of Prajapati, Kumhar Samaj and Kashyap Nishad Samaj in the list of Scheduled Castes.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the Presidential Order of 1950, 1964 and 1970 and Article 341 of the Constitution, Dhargar Caste is listed at 27th place in the list of Scheduled Castes. It has been noticed that the Government of Uttar Pradesh are not issuing Caste Certificate to the persons belonging to this Caste. Hon'ble Allahabad High Court passed an order on 20th October, 2008 in Petition No. 16458, Mahendra Singh V/s State Government that they should be issued Caste certificates. It is not the duty of the State Government to revise the list or add or delete the castes in the list. Allahabad High Court had given the judgement and instructed the State Government Besides the Chairman of the Commission for Scheduled Castes had issued instructions to the State Government to issue caste certificates to the persons belonging to the Dhargar Caste.

Mr. Speaker, Sir the Leader of the House is sitting here. The people of Uttar Pradesh are facing difficulties and agitations are taking place at various places. On first January, there was lathi charge in Mathura. Through you, I would like to request the Government of India to take cognizance of it and issue Scheduled Caste Certificates to the persons of Dhargar Caste.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Each party will get one chance.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation in Manipur is dangerously turning for the worse and I call the attention of the Government of India urging upon them to take immediate action.

The so-called National Socialist Council of Nagaland (IM) has been indulging in rampant violence over decades

and the Government of India, after a long time, had entered into a ceasefire agreement with the so-called National Socialist Council of Nagaland which came into force on 1st July, 1997 when Comrade Indrajit Gupta was the Home Minister of India. Now the ceasefire is blatantly violated by the Naga insurgent group, even they have entered into Manipur, set up armed camps and captured a vast area of the land belonging to the State. Not only that, recently they have killed an SDO and two of his subordinate staff.

Earlier they were extorting money, collecting goods tax, vehicle tax and other forms of taxation. Nearly 24 per cent of the total emoluments of the Government servants residing in the hill area had to be given to the Naga insurgents. Now, they have extended their operation right into the heart of Manipur, occupied a large track of land and they seek to break-up the State of Manipur demanding a part of Manipur for so-called Greater Nagaland. It has created serious turmoil in the State so much so that there has been 48 hour strike recently in entire Manipur.

There are a few points that I would like to make. Firstly, the Government of India had made the ceasefire, therefore, it is the Government of India that has the responsibility, politically and militarily, to enforce it and ensure that the ceasefire is not violated and Naga insurgents are not allowed to indulge in violence in Manipur. Secondly, if it is left to Manipur, they are incapable of combating the violence. Thirdly, the situation calls for immediate intervention. If it is not done, the territorial integrity of the State will be seriously jeopardised leading to serious political problem in a remote part of India.

Sir, there is likelihood of the situation having a terrible impact on the psyche of the people of the small State. I express my deep concern and I request you that the Government must be called upon to act immediately before the situation turns too bad affecting the entire State of Manipur.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, I associate with what has been said.

MR. SPEAKER: If you associate then you cannot raise any other matter!

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: All right Sir. I am come to my point.

12.27 hrs.

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS-*Contd.*

- (ii) **Re : Non payment of dues to employees of Dunlop India Limited and alleged violation of agreement by the employer.**

(English)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, earlier the Union Labour Minister had intervened in the case of Dunlop India Limited and urged the Government to help restoration of the production of Dunlop India Limited and he had thanked the Union Government at that time.

Now, what is happening is that the new promoter of Dunlop India Limited is more interested in selling out the valuable properties of this prestigious tyre related rubber industry than running the industry or even making payments of the just dues to its workers in gross violation of the agreement.

Sir, I can give you one example. The Kolkata Head Office of Dunlop India Limited was sold out at Rs.11 crore and now the whole amount, worth Rs. 14 crore, is lying with a public sector bank. The workers are starving and they have been demanding that, at least, from that money the payment should be made for the just dues of the workers who have opted....

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the responsibility of the Central Government?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Yes, the Central Government had intervened and the former Labour Minister of the Union Government had helped in the matter and intervened. So, I am drawing the attention of the hon. Labour Minister to intervene in such situation also and help the workers so that the starving workers can have their dues and the promoters can be told to run the industry, to lift the suspension of work and make payment of just dues to the workers from that amount which is lying in the State Bank of India.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I support this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, the hon. Minister is ready to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Have you made arrangements earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): Sir, if you permit, I would say that I take a note of it and whatever we can do, we will do.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the UPA Government that a slew of measures have been taken by this Government for the upliftment of the poor and vulnerable people of our country.

Sir, the expectation of the common people has been rising in proportion to the measures announced by this Government. We have already passed an Act under the nomenclature of the Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Act. One component of this Act refers to the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Scheme, which is supposed to provide pension to the people under BPL and the age limit fixed for that was 65 years.

MR. SPEAKER: It was intended to.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Our Finance Minister, I know, does neither believe in frugality nor in profligacy. Only he believes in rationality.

My contention is when the life expectancy of our country is merely 62 to 63 years, I think, it looks an anomaly of providing Pension Scheme to the people whose age limit has been fixed to 65 years. So, I would propose the Government to reduce the age limit to 60 years and, if possibly fund permits, it must be universalized. I think it is a peanut for our Finance Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: You want the 60 year old to be treated as old people!

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Yes, Sir ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All other urgent Matters of public importance will be at the end of it.

... *(Interruptions)*

ADV. SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, I have given notice for an important matter.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Every matter is important. Therefore, I am not disallowing them; I am saying, after the Budget Discussion.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Sir, my matter is very important.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I gave one opportunity to every party, one Member.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You will be allowed today around five o'clock; four o'clock even.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If I break my schedule, then to every Member time has to be given. Please excuse me, but your matter will be allowed to be raised around four or five o'clock.

12.31 hrs.

INTERIM BUDGET—(GENERAL) 2009-10
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT—
(GENERAL)-2009-10
AND
DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS—(GENERAL)—2008-09- *Contd.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we come to Items 23, 24 and 25 to be taken together.

Shri Mohan Rawale. You have got eight minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Sir, a scandal of such a magnitude has not happened in India before* I would like to expose it before you. UPA Government had signed an agreement with USA and Comptroller and Auditor General of India, in its report, has submitted that

[English]

as on September, 2007, the estimated uranium reserves were about 1,07,268 tonnes.

[Translation]

It can last for 40 years. The Government have stated that they had uranium reserves only for six months. They had to sign the agreement.....*

*Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't get agitated.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, Rs. 9 crore are sufficient for production of one Mega Watt, whereas Rs. 12 crore are being spent on it. India will generate one crore twenty thousand Mega watt of electricity by the year 2020. Now, it's production cost is Rs. 12 crore per Mega Watt, thus it will cost Rs. 2,40,000 crores. How can you give it so cheap? Common man gets electricity at the rate is Rs. Five per unit.....* you had uranium. C&AG has submitted its report.....* so far the Congress Government alone used to plunder India, now UPA Government along with its partners are plundering India. Why have you done so? Pranab Mukherjee, you please tell us...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He will do it while answering. How can he do it now?

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Earlier also I had stated in Parliament that we need two lakh MWs of electricity by the year 2013 and it will double by the year 2020, it will increase to four lakh from two lakh. Please tell us how 20,000 MWs electricity will be made good?.....*

Sir, an international conference was once held at Istanbul. Scientists from India participated in the said conference and they said that nuclear fuel can be produced with the assistance of Fast Breeder Reactor. Thorium can be converted into Nuclear Fuel What was the urgency to sign the agreement? Why have they given so much money to other countries? Why have they given rupees two lakh forty thousand crores? They have done what had never happened before in the history of India. C&AG has given his remarks in this regard and I would like to inform you about it. Amartya Sen has said. Democracy is the reward by itself.

More than 25 crore people in India do not earn even rupees twenty per day. 94 percent in our country are engaged in unorganized sector. They are losing their jobs and the Government is not paying them even unemployment allowance. I would like to say that UPA is the reward by itself. They have patted their back saying that they have done so many things. I would like to know what they have done? So many farmers committed suicide in this country. Farmers were committing suicides every other day in Maharashtra but what they have done. Hon'ble Uddhav Thackeray Jee organized many demonstrations in this regard. He met farmers, raised his

voice for them and said that their loans should be waived. But they didn't pay any attention and many more farmers died even after the announcement of the package for them.

Sir, I would like to request him that Mumbai city should get rupees 25 thousand crores. The Central Government is earning a revenue of rupees one lakh crores from Mumbai city. I am making this demand because five thousand people come to Mumbai City everyday and they live in Jhuggi-Jhopris. It creates pressure on electricity, water, education and the whole infrastructure. So Mumbai city should get at least rupees 25 thousand crores. People living in Jhuggi-Jhopris and Chals should be given homes free of cost.

Sir, Mumbai City was attacked recently. In this connection, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister that 32 per cent duty is imposed a snorkel.

MR. SPEAKER: Duty is imposed on what?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: The Government levies 32 per cent duty on Fire Tenders the Snorkel. At present, we need five Snorkels, for Mumbai, which can be of 68 mm. to 100 mm. If the Government reduces duty, then we will be able to obtain more number of such vehicles. You must also have witnessed the attack on Hotel Taj and Oberoi, and in such circumstances these could be required in large numbers at any time.

Besides these, we have demanded rifles for Mumbai city. But we are facing difficulties in obtaining these rifles as these rifles come from abroad. 9 mm. rifles, speed boats and mine protected vehicles are required. But the Union Government has not provided all these things so far. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to provide these items immediately to Mumbai.

Sir, I am the son of a mill worker and all the NTC mills fall in my constituency. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi nationalized these mills so that mill workers could get employment. But, now these mills are going to be closed and the Government is also planning to sell them down off. A mill worker has got the first right on any mill. If the Government is selling these mills, then workers working there should get free houses and private mill workers should also be provided free houses. I request the Government to do the needful. Besides this, NTC is going

*Not recorded.

[Shri Mohan Rawale]

come under a joint venture. If these mills came under joint venture then the sons of workers of these mills should be given priority.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to get everything from here? Then, why do you keep chanting our Mumbai?

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, the Union Government is getting Rs. One Lakh crore from Mumbai.

MR. SPEAKER: Mumbai is ours as well.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, you are most welcome. You have given me a number of opportunities and I am grateful to you for the same. But as far as nuclear deal is concerned, though I am neither a science graduate nor a scientist yet I know a bit since I had been a science student. But I am not going into its technicalities. The fact remains that our scientists had spoken their mind at that time. Scientists of Bhabha had said that we have got so much Thorium that there will be no shortage of it even for two thousand years and we can produce Uranium from it. Our scientists are so much capable. A statement was given in Istanbul. The government had stated that we are having a shortage of it for six months. I would like to know why the Government made this statement? ...*(Interruptions)** that's why the government has done this deal.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please delete that.

[Translation]

You have taken everything for Mumbai.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, rupees ten thousand crore are given for secret fund, but it is not monitored. It is requested that it should be monitored. The attack in Mumbai, secret...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerranna, you will speak only for five minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please conclude. You are exploiting my affection for you.

*Not recorded.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: No, Sir.

[Translation]

Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am proud of you because I feel that you have given a lot of opportunity to opposition Members to speak, whether it is for asking questions or for debate...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have tried.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I will miss your affection since I do not know who will take over from you? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: A good person will take over.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: But I will miss you as you will not be there.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I will definitely meet you wherever I put up.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to participate in the debate relating to the Interim Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister.

This Interim Budget is a great disappointment for us. It is a great deficit Budget. Never ever in the past, in the Budget, there has been a deficit of Rs. 3,30,000 crore.

Now, the country is facing agrarian crisis, economic crisis, price rise, unemployment problem and unprecedented inflation. There is no solution mentioned in this Interim Budget about all these problems.

Regarding the price rise, let me inform this august House that in the year 2004, the people were getting rice in the open market at Rs. 12 a kilo whereas the present price of rice is Rs. 30 a kilo. Same is the case of all the other essential commodities. I am citing two-three more examples. Take the case of tamarind. In the year 2003, tamarind was being sold at Rs. 22 a kilo whereas the present price of tamarind is Rs. 60 a kilo. Similarly, the cement in the year 2003, was being sold at Rs. 100 per bag whereas now, it is being sold at Rs. 225 per bag. Similarly, the sunflower oil/ groundnut oil, in the year 2000, were being sold at Rs. 45 per litre and now, its price is about Rs. 100 per litre. This is the

present situation about the price rise in the country. But the Government of India has not taken any step for reduction of the prices of these essential commodities. Even though the inflation rate has reduced to about 4.3 per cent yet the prices of essential commodities are not coming down. Therefore, it is not *Aam Admi's* Budget. The common man is suffering very badly in this country.

Regarding the agrarian crisis, let me tell this august House that in the last 12 years, 1,90,000 farmers have already committed suicide. In Andhra Pradesh alone, in the last five years, 4,805 farmers have committed suicide. In spite of the Prime Minister's Relief Package, the Debt Relief Package of about Rs. 70,000 crore why are these suicides by farmers still continuing? Lakhs of farmers have taken loans from the private moneylenders at a high rate of interest. But there is no solution provided in this Interim Budget about their problems relating to debt. This Debt Relief Package will not apply to the farmers, who have taken money from the private moneylenders, that too, at a high rate of interest. Therefore, the Government of India should also think about solving the problems of the farmers who have taken loans from the private moneylenders. The situation is very alarming.

Same is the case with weavers. In Andhra Pradesh alone, 500 weavers have committed suicide because of lack of food and lack of work. So many thousands of weavers have committed suicides in the whole of the country. Even the Minister of Textile has submitted a big package to the Government of India about waiver of Rs. 2,200 crore... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (Vijayawada): The Government of Andhra Pradesh is doing many things.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : I am requesting the Government of India... (*Interruptions*)

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has waived everything. Tomorrow, you are losing power, and that is why, you are giving concessions and everything... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, this is the state of affairs in this country. That is why I would urge upon the Union Government to also announce a package for the waivers in the country.

Similar is the situation about SEZs. In the name of SEZs, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is forcibly taking lands from the farmers even with two crops, three

crops land. At the time of passing of the SEZ Bill, Mr. Speaker, you were in the Chair, and while replying, the hon. Minister of Commerce had assured the House: "We will take up 150 SEZs in the first phase. Only after seeing the working conditions of the SEZs, we will increase the number of SEZs." But till December, the Government of India has already given the formal approval of 552 SEZs. Among those 552 SEZs, 100 SEZs are approved in Andhra Pradesh alone. Even the Government of India is forcibly taking two crops/three crops land and forcibly giving SEZs. ..."

In the name of SEZ, they are giving the lands to the real estate people. In turn, the real estate people are selling those lands.

MR. SPEAKER: That comes under the State Government. That is a State Government matter.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of 552, there are 52 in Andhra Pradesh alone.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot raise the State Government matter. The reference to the State Government will be deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : There is another issue. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have anyhow obliged to discuss the Satyam scam tomorrow. So, I do not want to go into the details. Satyam scam is a big corporate scam.

MR. SPEAKER: It is coming up

[*Translation*]

You leave it.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record it.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Prof. Chander Kumar.

Please conclude.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. No, there is nothing more.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Prof. Chander Kumar.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your time was one minute. I have given you five minutes.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, do not record anything.

(Interruptions) ... *

MR. SPEAKER: No, nothing will be recorded. Yerrannaidu ji, I am sorry.

Prof. Chander Kumar.

(Interruptions) ... *

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record his speech.

(Interruptions) ... *

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not Andhra Pradesh Budget.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry. Mr. Yerrannaidu, you are not cooperating. I gave you time. Your time was one minute but I have given you five minutes.

[Translation]

*DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Sir, the interim Budget which the Congress led coalition government at the Centre has presented appears to be an election budget since some announcements have been made through it but it has not been visualized how these will be materialized. This budget is not a budget of the common man. The problems of the common man still persist and will continue to persist. The gap between the rich and the poor will further increase. Just to show minimal fiscal deficit, lesser allocations for various plans have been made in the budget for the year 2008-09 and

*Not recorded.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

it has been said that if needed additional allocations will be made to meet the demand but if you make an estimate then through additional allocations this deficit will go up to 15 percent. For example an increase of 126 per cent has been announced in the allocation for the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, while it has been said in CAG report that only 40 per cent people have been able to get its benefit. There has been a lot of talk about the agriculture sector but farmers are not getting chemical fertilizers at cheaper rates despite the fact that the Government is providing thousands of crore of rupees to the fertilizer manufacturing companies. Farmers are not getting the remunerative price of their produce. In this context the recommendations contained in the reports of various experts including the Swaminathan Committee report have also not been implemented.

Annual growth rate, of the economy which was 8.5 per cent during the NDA regime is now around 6 per cent only. That is why we are not being able to control the price-rise Economic backwardness is as it is. Prosperity is limited only to some cities. Social disparities are responsible for increasing crimes and insecurity. Even women are not safe in areas like Delhi, the National Capital region. Children do not have the facility of good education and the private schools have been allowed to increase the fees arbitrarily depriving the poor children from getting education even in these schools. Rural people are migrating to cities in search of employment and the Government is claiming that employment is being made available in the villages. This trend proves the hollowness of this claim. This Government has neither a clear education policy nor an employment policy. It is lacking in medical policy as well. Rural Health Mission has been much publicized. But when common man in cities do not have proper medical facilities, then it is very difficult provide such facilities in the villages.

Migration of rural population to cities has aggravated the urban problems. Today, there has been a question mark on our security arrangements. Though there is a proposal to increase defence budget, but it needs to be further increased keeping in view the present requirement of the Army. There is a feeling of dissatisfaction in the Army and therefore they are being compelled to return the honours bestowed upon them like Shourya Chakra etc. for their sacrifices. There is a dire need for the modernization of the Army. There has been Persistent discussions over it for several years but it has never been implemented. Our borders are under threat. Infiltration from Bangladesh is a matter of concern. A

number of schemes like Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Swajaldhara Yojana, Golden Quadrilateral Scheme etc. which commenced during the regime of the NDA Government and which should have been taken care of with allocation of funds, have not been given proper attention by the Government and that is why these schemes are moving at a snail's pace. Today, our country badly needs electricity. The necessary allocation to speed up the power generation has not been made. As a result, the whole country is facing a power crisis. There is plenty of scope in the field of both conventional power generation and non-conventional power generation. The Government should make an effort to meet the shortage of electricity by paying special attention and increasing allocation of funds. The Government has also not considered certain other demands in the budgetary allocation. Particularly, the backward States like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh needed special allocation of funds for industrialization in view of their large industrial potential. There is need for a clear-cut industrial policy. The currently running industries are getting closed down. Unemployment is rising.

Regarding agriculture, I have already mentioned that farmers have not received the full benefits of loan waiver and the rate of interest need to be brought down at 3 per cent. There has also been discrimination in the allocation of funds and in provision of various types of assistance to the States as per their demand for several areas of development.

There is a need to increase allocation for natural disaster management. The NDA Government had started the project for inter linking the rivers keeping in view the same but there has been no fund allocation in this budget for that project. As I said the Government has no policy framework for several areas. In this era of globalization, when we are affected from the global recession, the problem of unemployment is getting bad to worse. Youth are the most affected lots. Women are almost deprived of employment be they from villages or urban areas.

There is also a need to further increase the allocation in respect of the Law Ministry. Today, thousands of cases are pending for years in various courts. Therefore, it is imperative to increase the number of courts along with an increase in the number of judges so that speedy and accessible justice could be available to the people. Promise of setting up rural courts should be made a reality. The Government has made repeated announcements in this regard but the same has not been fulfilled.

National Drinking Water Mission was launched in the towns and rural areas for providing facility to the citizens and budget was also allocated for this purpose but progress in this regard has been also very slow. The citizens are deprived of even drinking water like facility while the housing facility is already non-existent. Budgetary allocation should be increased for the Ministry of Culture so that our cultural heritages could be kept intact.

Today, certain states particularly Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra are affected by Naxalist and terrorist activities. Governments of these States have repeatedly asked the Centre for assistance but as a result of ignoring the same Naxalist activities have risen in these States and the life of the people over there have become unsafe.

Our receipts are less whereas the expenditure is more. More amendments are required in our income tax system. We observe that the manner in which there is an abundance of black money, it is affecting not only the common man but the Government also. Interest rates, declining loan availability, ups and downs in share market and devaluation of money are directly affecting the economic growth. The people were expecting a dynamic budget, which could take into account their difficulties and provide them relief. But, there is no mention of all these things in the budget.

I have also talked about the medical facilities earlier. There was an announcement that six AIIMS like institutes on the lines of Delhi will be set up all over the country, but the same has not been implemented till date.

Our gross domestic product come down. The export rate has declined to 17.1 during the last 9 months. However, the import has increased in this prespective. In short, the common man, youth, women, farmers, organized and unorganized labourers, employees all have been disappointed with this budget. There is a need to kickstart the economy. There is a need for such an economic environment which could instil self-confidence among the people and thus lead the country to progress.

[English]

*SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam) : Sir, the House has now taken the interim Budget (General) for the ensuing financial year. I thank the Chair for the opportunity given to me to speak as a Member of our

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri A.K.S. Vijayan]

party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, I welcome and support this Budget brought before this House by our External Affairs Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, who holds additional charge of Finance portfolio. On behalf of our Leader Kalaignar Karunanidhi who is the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu for the 5th time and also on behalf of our party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, let me extend my support to the financial statement made by our UPA Government. Our in-charge Finance Minister has stated that taxation measures will be taken up by the new Government at the Centre that will take over in three months time from now. Overcoming the Constitutional constraints for a pre-election budget and also overcoming the challenges in the wake of economic melt-down, a balancing act has been performed by the Finance Minister in this Budget. This is what Dr. Manmohan Singh our Prime Minister heading the UPA Government has got to say about the Budget. When there is a recession looming large over the global economy enough care has been taken to protect the most vulnerable poorer sections of our Indian population. About 35 per cent of our masses who are living below poverty line are getting a better deal in this Budget. The flagship programmes of this UPA Government have all been allocated with Rs.1,37,317 crores. This much will be spent on various programmes and schemes like :- National Rural Employment Guarantee Programmes under NREG Act, schemes under Bharat Nirman, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Integrated Child Development Schemes, National Rural Health Mission, Rajiv Gandhi Rural Drinking Water Scheme, Total Rural Sanitation Programme among others. I welcome the concern expressed by the Government to help the ordinary people. Even at a time when there is challenge facing our economy social sector spending has been enhanced. In order to rejuvenate rural reconstruction certain schemes and additional Rs. 14,000 crores has been earmarked. About 3.6 crores of Indian farmers have got the benefits of loan waiver scheme as the Union Government has extended so far Rs. 65,300 crores. It is heartening to note that an amount to the tune of Rs. 2,50,000 crores of agricultural loan has been extended in the last year. Foreign Direct Investment has poured in to the tune of US\$ 3200 crores. Through our effective reform measures, regulatory mechanism has been strengthened in the stock market.

Though this is an interim Budget, an all time high allocation of Rs.1,31,317 crores has been allocated for our Defence Expenditure. We may not hesitate to welcome this unprecedented increase as it is expected to

strengthen our security mechanism to protect our people from the Cross Border Terrorism. There cannot be two opinions in appreciating this move. But at the same time, we are not able to relish the news like our army is extending certain weapons and equipment apart from some training facilities to the Srilankan Armed Forces that apparently resort to genocidal attack on their own people. Our armed forces must not help an army that let loose violent attack on its own unarmed innocent citizens. There cannot be two opinions that we cannot be a party to such barbaric attack on the masses in a war torn zone. When the Srilankan Government is making a tall claim that they have restricted the rebels against the Government to a very small area and destroyed them, how is it that cease fire has not been announced by that Government. Why the innocent people are made a fodder to the artillery fire and shelling by the Srilankan Army and continued bombings including dropping of cluster bombs through aerial attacks. Our Indian Army, which has been raised as a very big force with huge allocation of funds, must be able to ensure peace and normalcy in this region with its very presence. But it is not happening. We feel that our Defence machinery can still restore peace in that island nation even without attacking them. Our strong presence is enough. But still Indian Government is not attending to the far-cry of innocent Tamils in Srilanka. We urge upon you that the welfare and the rights of Srilankan Tamils must be protected. Effective steps in this regard must be taken by the Government of India.

The Tamil race which had ruled the island nation when it was taken over by the colonial rulers is being systematically eliminated now. Hundreds of innocent Tamils are killed everyday. Deprived of even the basic medical care and facilities, without adequate food supply, Srilankan Tamils are internally displaced and live as refugees in their own homeland. As envisaged in the Indo-Srilankan Accord signed by our former Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, a Tamil homeland within Srilanka must be carved out merging both the Northern and the Eastern provinces within the framework of their Constitution. Srilankan Tamils must be given protection. Peace and normalcy must return there. As a first step, Srilankan Army must declare cessation of hostilities. I urge upon the Union Government to take effective steps to ensure peace both in Srilanka and in this region.

Our Armed Forces that cannot help save the hapless Srilankan Tamil victims must at least come forward to save our Indian people especially our fishermen from

Tamil Nadu. It is a pity that a very big army with a very big allocation of funds allocated through this Parliament is not able to give safety and security to its own poor fishermen who are carrying on with their traditional livelihood in the coastal regions of Tamilnadu. I beseech the Government of India and the Defence Ministry to leave aside their indifferent posture. They must readily act to protect our Indian fishermen from the barbaric attacks by the Srilankan Naval Force. The innocent Srilankan Tamils must also be saved by our mere mighty presence. In the last three years alone about 700 Tamil fishermen have been killed by the Srilankan Armed Forces. I plead for the safety and security of our fishermen folk and urge upon the Government of India to give protection to their properties and livelihood. Suitable effective measures must be taken by our Defence Forces and the Government of India. Fishermen from my Nagapattinam Constituency are the worst hit. They are afraid of venturing into the seas to carry on with their traditional occupation. Fishermen of Tamilnadu must be helped to come out of this fear psychosis. Peace and security in this region can be established only when peace and normalcy is restored in Srilanka. Unless and otherwise a ceasefire is declared, peace cannot prevail there. There cannot be scope for a negotiated political settlement. Hence, Srilankan Government must be made to see reason and must effectively impress upon to behave in a responsible fashion as a civilised Government. Hence, there is an urgent need for the Government of India to act responsibly at this juncture. With this I conclude.

[Translation]

*SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Sir, the interim Budget for the year 2009-10 which the Hon'ble Finance Minister has presented, has created disappointment among almost all the sections across the country. The Finance Minister in the beginning of his Budget speech has stated that the National Common Minimum Programme of the United Progressive alliance (UPA) was chalked out keeping in view the common man. Before the presentation of the Interim budget, the common man and the other sectors were expecting that some measures would be taken to provide them relief in view of the Lok Sabha elections but with no announcement of providing relief to industry, business community and common man in the Budget, there is an atmosphere of disappointment everywhere. The seven cleare cut economic objectives which the ex-finance Minister had

mentioned in his first budget speech delivered in July, 2004 have been repeated in the present budget also. But this fact has been concealed as to what extent these objectives have been achieved during the last five budgets. In the Budget speech, the increase in economic growth rate during the last five years have been highlighted but there has been no mention of the crisis in which the current growth rate has got stuck. Similarly, it has been stated that the fiscal deficit has come down during this period. This was 4.5 percent during the year 2003-04, which declined to 2.7 per cent in the year 2007-08. The claims made in respect of the consolidation of the Indian economy and the jugglery of figures are not going to benefit the country. The bitter reality is that the fiscal deficit has now exceeded 10%. It will have a direct impact on the economy of the country in the years to come and the lower and middle class will be the worst sufferers.

Sir, the hon'ble Minister of Finance in his budget speech has lavishly praised the achievements of his Government while elaborating on global economic recession but he has overlooked the domestic economic scenario. The Government may claim that India is not in the grip of global recession but the growth rate has slowed down and employment opportunities in a number of areas are depleting gradually. It is but natural to be worried over the fact that lakhs of people have so far been sacked. The people had expected the announcement of an economic package in the interim budget but no measures have been taken to get rid of the economic recession. It is true that many sectors have achieved expected growth during the last four years but it is also true that no concrete steps have been taken despite desirability of reforms in these sectors—for example reduction of Government expenditure, reforms in labour laws, disinvestments in loss making public sector undertakings or laying of infrastructure. The poor of the country are in as miserable condition as they were before but no announcement has been made in the interim budget for their welfare and they have been left in the lurch to rely on the budget provisions of the previous five years. I have no doubt over the Government's intentions regarding uplifting the poor but I do have complaints on the chaotic state of affairs prevalent in their implementations. A number of schemes for upliftment of the poor have been launched by the Central Government but their real benefit does not percolate to the poor. Despite numerous efforts, the chasm between the rich and the poor is widening. Even after making so many efforts, the poor could not be made self-reliant

*Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Harikewal Prasad]

whereas allocation of funds for the schemes meant for their upliftment is increased every year. The matter of fact is that corruption in implementation of these schemes is so rampant that a large chunk of the funds released from Delhi is pocketed by bureaucrats and middlemen. No concrete measures have been announced in this interim budget as well to curb this evil. Public Distribution System has turned into one of the most corrupt schemes of the Government. This fact has already been revealed in various surveys and studies conducted by the Government. Due to corruption most of the poor people remain deprived of the benefits of this scheme. The erstwhile Minister of Finance had publicly admitted that 58% share of the ration is pilfered by the corrupt officials and the Government have to spend four rupees for sending one rupee to the people for rural development schemes. Owing to this very corruption and irregularities, real benefits of ambitious and public welfare schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Indira Awas Yojana and National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme are not reaching the villages, the villagers and other people and hence stringent provisions and rules are required in order to improve the situation.

Sir, in the interim budget mention has been made of the special incentives provided in the earlier four budgets to the agricultural sector. It has been stated that the annual agricultural growth rate has increased to 3.7% during the last four years and the target is to bring it to the level of 4%. However, the reality is that the existing growth rate of agriculture is stagnating at only 2.6%. We shall have to accept this reality that if India has been less affected by the global economic recession, its real cause is its being a predominantly agricultural country. Among the worst affected countries by this recession are those which were dependent only on industries. The Minister of Finance has stated in his interim budget speech that the Agricultural Loan Waiver or Loan Relief Scheme announced in the previous budget speech has helped in restoration of institutional loans to the farmers under which a loan waiver/loan relief to the tune of Rs. 65,300 crore has so far been provided to 3.6 crore farmers. The Minister of Finance will have to admit this reality that even after the announcement of loan waiver scheme, incidents of suicides by farmers have happened. The reasons for it is that a very small fraction of farmers have access to institutional loans because the rules and regulations of the banks are so complicated that small and marginal farmers do not fulfil their conditions. The report of the Committee on Consolidation of Finance headed by former Governor of Reserve Bank of India,

Dr. C. Rangrajan which was released last year, states that only 27 per cent farmers of the country have access to institutional financial institutions. Its obvious implication is that the rest of the farmers have to borrow at the interest rates ranging between 36% to 48% from the money-lenders. It is one of the major reasons for suicides by farmers under compulsion due to the debt burden and no concrete measures have been suggested in the budget proposals to address this problem. The farmers cannot be saved from the debt trap for long without bringing about large scale reforms in the agricultural sector. In the budget proposals, 7% rate of interest on crop loans up to Rs. three lakhs has been retained. The recommendation of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Chairman, National Commission on Farmers constituted by the Government which suggested lowering of rate of interest on crop loans to a level of 4% has been ignored. I would like to urge upon the hon'ble Minister of Finance to give a serious consideration to the implementation of this important suggestion. Besides this the range of crop-loans to farmers should be increased to Rs. Five lakhs from the existing three lakhs as costs of heavy agricultural machines like the tractor costs more than Rs. 3 lakhs. Apart from it, the amount of grants on seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and agricultural implements should be enhanced. The farmer and the agricultural sector will get a boost only when the cost of agricultural produce is on lower side and the farmer gets remunerative prices of his produce. The budget proposals do have a mention regarding enhancement of the minimum support price for paddy and wheat but no systematic procedure has been discussed as to how the real benefits of it will reach the farmer. What happens in practice is that maximum benefits of the support price are cornered by the middlemen and big businessmen in collusion with the procurement agencies and the same do not reach the farmers. In the interim budget, there is no mention regarding sugarcane, the crop of which is going through a phase of crisis and the area under its cultivation is constantly on decline. The things have come to such a head that the import of sugar is being contemplated. I would like to urge upon the Minister of Finance to provide a special economic package for the revival of closed and sick units of public sector sugar mills. The budget cited construction of 60.12 lakh houses for weaker sections till last year under the Indira Awas Yojana in the rural areas but no target for the current financial year has been mentioned. Therefore, I demand that the number of housing units under the Indira Awas Yojana should be increased and the flood affected districts should be given priority and irregularities and anomalies in their allotment should be removed.

With these words, I support the budget proposals.

[Translation]

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR (Kangra): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Interim Budget 2009-10 presented by hon'ble Sh. Pranab Mukherjee in this august House. Sir, the Budget presented by Sh. Pranab Mukherjee is an interim one and some of the constitutional provisions have been made therein. No tall promises have been made in the budget for the nation. Achievements of the UPA Government have also been showcase in it. Various social sector programmes in the country have also been, prominently mentioned in it. The interim budget, which has been given for our ensuring general elections, determines future programmes and policies of our country. Sir, this budget is meant for common man. The last programmes of the Government especially NREGA i.e. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has been implemented throughout the India. Once again UPA Chairperson, Smt. Sonia Gandhiji. Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singhji and our Finance Minister Sh. Pranab Mukherjee have made a provision of Rs. Thirty thousand crore for this very programme.

Sir, in the past a large number of women and poor were not having bank accounts but today even the poorest among the poor has his own bank account. The 100 day's employment which has been provided has brought about transformation in villages. Even the poorest among the poor is utilizing that money for his daily expenses. People from various states particularly from BIMARU states used to migrate for livelihood. A large number of people from Orissa Bihar, UP, Madhya Pradesh used to migrated to Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh in search of their livelihood. This NREGA programme i.e. National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has put a check on such migration to a large extent. Today poor persons is earning his bread and butter from by staying his own home. I would like to request to Hon'ble Pranab Mukherjee to increase the number of days of employment from 100 days to 200 days so that it could bring about transformation in the villages economy.

Simultaneously, our Government has made a provision of Rs. 13,100 crore under the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan. Under this scheme, primary schools have been opened within the radius of one two kilometer of the village. It has become convenient for the people living in the far-flung areas. The Government of India and the State

Governments have expanded the scheme. A new direction has been given to the education. A provision of Rs. 8000 crore has been made for mid-day-meal in schools. There were a large number of drop-outs in schools, many children did not go to schools and poor people busy in searching for their livelihood were unwilling to send their girls to school, but due to this very mid-day-meal programmes, the poorest among the poor are going to school. I would urge upon the Government that this Sarva Siksha Abhiyan programme, which is a state subject, a Bill is to be introduced in the House for making education a fundamental right under which education should be made compulsory and access to education should be birthright of each and every child of the country. At present, it has been placed under directive principles of the states. It should be monitored periodically. Apart from it, there should be some penal clause for those parents who do not send their children to schools. Sending children to school should be compulsory. Children must have right to education. That is why the Bill that is to be introduce in the Parliament will certainly being maximum possible improvement in our education system Simulataneously, quality education is the need of the hour.

Our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh has made an announcement for setting up a Central University in each state. This will bring quality in education and will create knowledgeable society. Our youth will carry out research work in these institutions of excellence. Quality education will be imparted in these institutions. Our village economy will get a boost from the quality education and our allied departments have to work more whether they are agriculture departments or research units; We will have to transfer the existing technology to the villages and this will remove our economic backwardness. Well educated youths will come to the fore in our knowledge-society through these universities and will give a new shape to our country. In addition, our government is going to set up institutes of information technology in every states which will instil scientific temper in our youths and encourage new research work. We have set up many records in the field of IT. I can well recall the words of Rajiv Gandhi in this very House that he wanted to lead India in to 20th and 21st century. The MPs belonging to BJP sitting in opposition used to make mockery of him by commenting that a computer boy has reached to the Parliament. But today, we are proud of the fact that India has acquired second and third place among the major countries of the world by competing with them in IT sector. The scientific temper which has passed on to our villages is really commendable. Today, we have connected

[Prof. Chander Kumar]

ourselves with the space. We are getting maps from space and with the help of interpretation of these maps our people engaged in agricultural and science and technology section are going to undertake a programme of transforming every village. The whole credit of it goes to the present UPA Government.

Similarly, our Government has undertaken Bharat Nirman Programme under public-private partnership for which Rs. 40 thousand 900 crore have been earmarked in interim budget for infrastructure development to bridge the gap between the cities and the villages. Similarly, the Government has made a provision of Rs. 14 thousand crore for RIDF for interlinking villages. Villages have been provided with clean potable water. We have raised the slogan of cent percent electrification. The Government is providing three phase electricity to the villages so that it will facilitate our youth to make their career in science and technology. The economy of our country depends on agriculture. Therefore, diversification of our agriculture is a must. Irrigation is being accorded priority through Bharat Nirman Programme. This will ensure availability of electricity and water for every field resulting in vast change in the economy of our country.

Sir, our Government has enhanced many facilities through the budget. Earlier, centre and the state Governments used to give Rs. two hundred separately as old age pension. The Government has increased said amount through the budget. In addition to this, provision of pension for handicapped person and widows has been made. At present, the Government provides widow pension to the ladies between the age group of 40-62 years, and the Government imparts training to widows between the age group of 14 to 40 years through IITs and they have been provided Rs. five hundred as expenses. But many women become widows at the age of 21-22. I would like to suggest to the government that the rule should be changed and they should also be provided widow pension so that poor widows living in the villages could be able to get such facility.

Sir, I am very grateful to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi for giving suggestions to the UPA Government regarding the arrangements in the villages, which have been implemented as welfare measure by our Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. Today picture of villages has changed...*(Interruptions)* I request that the countrymen should be provided employment so as to enable them to eradicate their poverty. With these words, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

*DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar) : The Interim Budget documents confirm that the UPA Government has grossly failed to live up to the promises it had made in the Common Minimum Programme; that its claims in successive budgets have been, as we have been warning all along, wholly fabricated; and that it is guilty of grossly mismanaging both the economy and governmental finances. Mr. Pranab Mukherji has listed the seven objectives that Mr. P. Chidambaram had spelled out in his first budget, and claimed that the Government has fulfilled.

In fact, far from placing the economy on a path of sustained growth of 7% to 8%, it is leaving the economy with a significant slowdown—a slowdown that started as soon as the momentum created by the NDA ran out; a slowdown that has been caused by its mismanagement, a mismanagement it is trying to cover up by invoking the international economic crisis;

As far as "education and health" is concerned, the UPA had promised to spend at least 6% of GDP on education and 3% of the GDP on health. It even imposed a cess of 2% on all taxes to collect revenue for education. In fact, the outlays are nowhere near the promised levels. Moreover, the manner in which this money has been spent has remained opaque and apart from continuing with the Sarva Shikshan Abiyan initiated by the NDA Government, this Government has done nothing further in this field.

Far from "generating gainful employment and promoting investment", it is leaving behind an economy in which at least a crore of persons who till recently had jobs are now without work; and investment is collapsing all across the country.

While the Government had promised to assure "hundred days of employment to the breadwinner in each family at the minimum wage", its own report and those of the CAG show that in fact it is only in 14% of the cases that the promised days of employment have been provided; moreover, there have been widespread corruption and defalcation.

As for "focusing on agriculture, rural development and infrastructure" agricultural growth remained respectable only in the years in which there were good monsoons—

*Speech was laid on the Table.

far from ensuring the interests of the farmers, its policies have driven the farmers to suicide; in the 47 days of 2009 alone, there have been in Vidarbha alone 112 suicides by farmers—these are the very farmers whom the Finance Minister has described as “the real heroes of India’s success story”. Similarly, far from ensuring a focus on infrastructure, in fact the pace of infrastructure has been brought to a grinding slowdown—a fact which is exemplified by the pathetic condition to which the National Highway Programme has been reduced: the project completion rate of this programme has fallen from 81% in 2004-05 to just around 50% now.

The claim about “accelerating fiscal consolidation and reform”, is by now known by all to be farcical: in the Common Minimum Programme the UPA had pledged to eliminating the revenue deficit of the centre by 2009, so as to release more resources for investments in social and physical infrastructure”, in fact, even the Finance Minister is admitting that the revenue deficit this year will be 4.4% of the GDP and fiscal deficit will be 6% of GDP. The Finance Minister however is not telling the truth even in the interim budget. The Prime Minister’s Economic Advisory Council, in a report published in January 2009, has estimated that the fiscal deficit will be at least 8% of the GDP. According to us, even this is an underestimation. Given the massive shortfall in revenues, Government of India’s fiscal deficit will exceed 10% of GDP. Once the deficits of the states are added, the UPA period would have plunged the country into unprecedented fiscal crisis.

As for “ensuring higher and more efficient fiscal devolution”, the extent of devolution is determined by the Finance Commission; as for making the devolution more efficient, the UPA Government has done absolutely nothing at all. The UPA Government claims to have ruled the country for the last five years in the name of the “Aam Admi” and yet it is the Aam Admi who has suffered the most during this regime because of its sheer mismanagement of the economy. The Aam Admi has suffered like never before on account of unbridled price rise of essential commodities which even today continue to rise in double digit, loss of livelihood, economic insecurity and insecurity of life and limb.

The interim budget has proved what we have been claiming all along namely that the budget presented by Shri P. Chidambaram on February 28, 2008 was a sham. That budget is in tatters today both on the expenditure as well as the revenue side. By under-funding various

items of expenditure and not funding at all various others, he claimed the virtue of being within the FRBM targets. He and his Government stand totally exposed today. As the country has already been pushed into a deep economic crisis, the elementary duty of the Government was to take strong and effective counter-measures. The statement of the Finance Minister shows that the UPA Government has completely abandoned its responsibilities.

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Mr. Speaker Sir, I think that whole country is disappointed with the interim budget presented by the hon’ble Minister of Finance; People of corporate India are particularly of the opinion that the situation is going deteriorate in the coming days. It is being said that inflation rate is coming down but its impact is nowhere to be seen. Prices have continued to rise. The hon’ble Minister has not taken any step in this regard.

13.00 hrs.

I would say that the Government has allowed a good chance to go waste. The Government has lost the opportunity, because any scheme will be announced in the budget after three-four months and after the elections only, but in these four months condition of the industry will deteriorate a lot. There is nothing inspirational and encouraging for the industry in the interim budget. Today, the Government says that employment opportunities are shrinking day by day, retrenchment is going on. Hon’ble Minister of Finance has made an appeal to the corporates not to resort to cutting jobs but to cutting salary instead so that unit may remain operational. From my experience, after seeing the condition of Textile and diamond industry I would say that the Government is deliberately working towards creating unemployment, and I am very pained about this thing.

13.01 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN in the Chair]

Mr. Chairman sir, today diamond industry’s situation is such that 60 percent diamond units are closed. Our diamond craftsmen are migrating. They don’t have money to pay their children’s school fee. In such a situation, they are unable to send their children to school. The Government has increased budgetary allocation for social sector schemes by billions of rupees but the Government has not done anything regarding the tuition fee, education of children, who are unable to study due to lack of money.

[Shri Kashiram Rana]

The Government earns around one lakh crore rupees from the export of diamonds but at present situation is such that the entire business of the exporters and factory owners has come to a standstill. The Government has completely ignored the industry, which was a major export revenue earner for the country. The Government has not done anything for them. We demand that the Government should take immediate steps to save diamond industry. The rough coming out from our Hindustan Diamond company should be given to factories for polishing so that they could continue their work and if the Government decides to purchase the polished diamond to maintain a stock with it for some time. It will help in providing employment to around 7 lakh people rendered unemployed. I think that these steps namely disbursal of the rough from Hindustan Diamond among the diamond factories and purchasing the polished diamond from them could give them a lifeline in the next some time.

Mr. Chairman Sir, as we are running employment guarantee scheme in the villages, the Government is thinking to implement it in cities also. We should give unemployment allowance to the workers of the diamond industry, so that they could get some support. The Government has taken a decision to provide 50 percent allowance to the workers of lay off factories for their everyday needs. They have not been provided even the unemployment allowance. Any such provision should have been there in the interim budget. Hon'ble Minister of Finance is full aware that industrial growth has come down to four percent, which was 8–8.25 percent last year. Production Growth has come down to half, how it will affect our workers. They have become unemployed, they are committing suicide, throwing their children into the wells, what will be the fate of their wives. Today, they are living in dire straits. As I said the Government is deliberately working towards creating unemployment, its latest example is textile industry.

Mr. Chairman Sir, textile process house helps in running weaving and ancillary industries. The processing industry should get gas according to its requirement. But GAIL has cut the supply by 70 percent.

Sir, I would like to give some figures in the regard. We are getting 3.50 MM S.C.D. of gas supply till 1 April, 2008 but after 1 April, 2008 we are getting 2.70 M.M. S.C.D. of gas, and it has also been further reduced. How we are facing shortage of 0.98 M.M. S.C.D. of gas, it means supply has further been cut by 30 percent. At present, we are getting 1.4 M.M. S.C.D of gas, whereas

our requirement is of 3.50 M.M. S.C.D. Therefore, there is a shortfall of 65-70 percent.

We have been requesting to the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas officials of GAIL but nobody is ready to listen anything. GAIL officials suggest that we better talk to Gujarat Gas Company, as they will supply gas to the said company only. Our problem is that neither the Government nor the officials are listening to us. As a result tripping we are not even getting the gas from Tapti field, which was earlier available to us. Whole Industry is facing such problems.

Due to wrong policy of cut in gas supply being pursued by the Processing Officers of GAIL, the condition of entire processing and textile industry is gradually deteriorating. The condition of the textile industry is also gradually deteriorating as the same way of the diamond industry. The work that was needed to be done to bail out in the period of three-four months was also not done...*(Interruptions)* Madhusudanji, you know all this, then why are you saying so. You know that lakhs of people are losing their jobs, they are dying, why your Government is not providing assistance to them...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Madhusudan Mistry, you speak when your turn comes Please do not disturb. He is speaking only on the general discussion on the Interim Budget.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Hon'ble Sir, the RBI has recently constituted a task force to save diamond industry. They also held a meeting at Ahmedabad.

When I talked to Revenue Secretary, Bhideji, he said that one more meeting will be held in Mumbai. And any decision could be taken only after receiving the report. Most respectfully I would like to submit to the Hon'ble Minister of Finance that he will get report of the task force in a day or two and he will also get report of Mumbai meeting and then he should immediately take all the steps required to save the diamond industry. As I said, processing industry is in very bad shape today, it will not be able to stage a come back in the coming

days due to it. To save it, supply of gas should be resumed immediately of the same level as was being supplied as on 1st April, 2008. Unless it is done, this industry will not survive. The Government doesn't provide the amount of subsidy required to be paid under Technology Mission Fund. Now a provision of Rs. 1400 crore has been made for subsidy instead of Rs. 2000 crore required. Due to it, no industry gives application to bank for modernization and banks also do not accept the application. The whole process of modernization has come to a halt.

Sir, in such a situation people expect something from the Budget, but there is no ray of hope in this Budget. So, I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister of Finance to take steps at once to save diamond and textile industry...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a package should be announced by the Central Government to save the diamond industry...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

*SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME (Nominated): Thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Interim Budget 2009-10 presented to parliament on 16 Feb. 2009 Sir, while supporting the provisions of the Interim Budget and the Supplementary Demands for Grants, I oppose the cut motions moved by some members on the Grants on Accounts.

The interim budget and vote on accounts are temporary authorizations to incur expenditure during the next four months. As the term of the 14th Lok Sabha is about to close, the Finance Minister has resisted from giving sops and left fiscal and economic measures to the government in the 15th Lok Sabha. The markets, normally boyed by election eve budget proposals were in for a masterful exhibition of fiscal prudence. Consequently they exhibited a drop in enthusiasm scaling about 300 points, but the confidence in the UPA government rose amongst the common people who understand that difficult times require pragmatism and steadfast belief in the wisdom of the people.

While the UPA government under Dr. Manmohan Singh and the stewardship of Mrs. Sonia Gandhi can

take justified credit for having steered the economy through one of the most dreary phases of economic downturn in world history, in which the most of the developed economies are facing recession and economic meltdown, loss of prosperity leading to unemployment and reduced compensations, we in the country while facing consequent turbulence have been relatively more resilient, though economic growth has slowed down from a robust over 9% during the past three years to about 7%.

Despite the rhetoric of some people, the nation's growth curve is still positive even after adjusting for about 3.6% inflation, making the country one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Sir, while the interim budget has disappointed the urban based industrial economy to a certain extent, for lack of fiscal sops to weather the impact of the global downturn, the concerns of the "aam admi" have been given the highest attention with increased allocation of One lakh thirtyone thousand crores for flagship programmes e.g. Bharat Nirman, which includes the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Integrated Child Development Scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, National Rural Health Mission and the Rural Sanitation Programme.

In addition One lakh fortyone thousand crores has been provided for Defence and to fight terrorism.

These allocations exhibit the UPA government's priority to address the concerns of the rural economy and to bring the benefits of economic growth to the poorest in the country. A priority focused by the UPA leadership. This is commendable in the context of the impending elections and the restraints operating on mobilization of resources.

There was mention in the House that the present Government has failed to address employment attrition due to reduction in industrial production. Sir, the direction of industrial growth needs to keep pace with emerging market trends and new technologies there is therefore need to generate skills that will address the new market requirements and not those that continue to hold down the pace of economic growth. The UPA government has addressed these trends with mapping and setting up agencies that will address the skill sets required for the future.

Several members have mentioned concerns related to the security of the country. This needs to be addressed

*Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Francis Fanthome]

at various levels with greater professionalism and attention to modernizing the equipments made available to those engaged in security of the country. The police, the para military forces and the armed forces need to be provided:

- modern training facilities in IT and Communication technology
- alert surveillance
- best arms and ammunition
- protective gear
- credit intelligence information
- bullet proof vehicles
- and capacity building to keep ahead of emerging trends in the professional space.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that there is need to enhance the level of alertness and commitment with which the average security personnel addresses his/her responsibility. There is need to keep the forces alert so that they appreciate the enormity of their responsibility in the context of the challenges before the nation.

Sir, despite the attention given to the education of the girl child and the dignity with which she is to be addressed, the enabling provisions need to be substantially enhanced. The minorities need for greater enabling provisions to unshackle the chains of restraint, denial, fear, oppression, conditioning towards marginalization from the mainstream. It is satisfying to find the journey started by the UPA government reach its logical destination in the course of the 15th Lok Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Kuppusami.

*(Interruptions) ...**

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North): Sir, I rise to participate on behalf of my Party, DMK, in the General Discussion in the Interim General Budget presented by the hon. Leader of the House and Ministry of External Affairs and the Minister of Finance, Thiru Pranab Mukherjee *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Kuppusami, you continue your speech. They will continue to make noises.

... (Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI: As the name goes, Vote on Account, this is an Interim Budget to cover the first three to four months of the next financial year 2009-2010, as the tenure of this 14th Lok Sabha will be coming to an end in May and the nation is going for the General Elections for a new Lok Sabha very soon. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not make noise. Shri Kuppusami alone can speak.

Shri Kuppusami, you may continue.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI: In the face of global meltdown, our Government headed by Dr. Manmohan Singh under the able guidance of Madam Sonia Gandhi has taken effective steps to meet the situation. ... *(Interruptions)* The Government has put in more money in poor people's hand which will give a stimulus to the economy, apart from bail out packages given to various sectors of industry. However, the employers are not passing the benefits of stimulus packages to the workers. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except Shri Kuppusami's speech.

*(Interruptions) ...**

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : The Government should make it clear to all the industries that there should not be any retrenchment and all workers should be protected. According to the latest Labour Ministry's estimates, five lakh people lost their jobs between October and December 2008 and this number could be just the tip of the iceberg.

While addressing the 42nd Session of the Indian Labour Conference, our hon. Minister Thiru Pranab Mukherjee said that jobs must be protected even if it means some reduction in compensation at various levels.

Sir, please permit me to lay the remaining part of my speech on the Table of the House.

*According to ILO report, the rate of unemployment is rising at 6.1% globally. Therefore, the situation is very grim and the Central Government should take pro-active actions to deal with the situation.

*Not recorded.

*.....*This part of the Speech was laid on the Table.

Interest rate on PF to be increased – I understand that the Trust has recommended for increase of interest rate on PF to 8.5%. Senior citizens are getting higher rate of interest from the banks. On the same pattern, the workers, who are also, in the vulnerable sector, who get hit the most by the price rise, should also be given a higher rate of interest. I would urge upon the Government that it is a meager increase and the interest rate should be increased to at least 11%, in view of erosion of rupee value. Similarly pension being given to workers on EPF pension should also be enhanced as the Government has got a good corpus amount.

Handloom Weavers' Scheme – Weavers are worst hit after farmers. The Government has recently introduced some insurance scheme for the weavers. But much more needs to be done to ameliorate the lost of the handloom weavers. The Government should come out with a specific policy for the handloom sector.

They should come out with more subsidy for handloom products. There should be Handloom Weavers' Welfare Fund to take care of handloom weavers in distress.

Chennai Metro Rail Project – Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNURM) was launched to give focused attention to integrated development for urban infrastructure and service. I welcome the allocation of Rs. 11, 842 crore for the year 2009-10. In the first phase, Chennai Metro Rail Project, it has been approved from Washermanpet to Chennai Airport. On representation to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, it has been advised to examine the feasibility of extending the metro project from Thiruvottiyur to Chennai Airport. I would urge upon the Central Government to examine the proposal and expedite clearance of First Corridor of Chennai Metro Rail Project which is proposed from Thiruvottiyur to Chennai Airport.

To boost housing sector – To combat recession in the housing sector, I request the Government to consider further reduction in interest rates on home loan to boost demand for new homes. The income-tax rebate on home loan should also be increased from 1.5 lac to Rs. 3 lac. Similarly, excise duty on steel and cement should be reduced to encourage the construction sector where the workers engaged are mostly unorganized. I further request to allocate more funds for urban housing scheme to the BPL in urban areas. Similarly for poor people and weaker sections in the urban areas, adequate funds should be

allotted for construction of houses under various schemes, especially to the metropolitan city of Chennai.

The honourable Minister may recall that in the earlier Budget, there was a scheme brought out for providing drinking water from saline water (sea water). I would request the Government to expedite this scheme so that the people in Chennai get clean drinking water from the scheme without further delay.

Inter-linking of rivers – Our Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaingar has recently inaugurated State level inter-linking of rivers like Tamirabaruni and other State rivers, which would enhance the availability of water in the water bodies for irrigation purposes. The Central Government should extend finance to his project, as part of the interlinking of rivers, which would solve the shortage of water over a period of time.

Pongal Gift – Dr. Kalaingar has also given Pongal Gift to the people in Tamil Nadu on the occasion of Tamil Festival and Tamil New Year which is being celebrated on the 14th of January. As a part of the Pongal Gift, Rice, Dal, jaggery, Cashewnut, dry Grapes were distributed to the common people through PDS system. I would suggest that the Central Government can also launch a similar scheme for important festivals like Holi, Onam, Durga Puja in various parts of the country. This scheme in Tamil Nadu was appreciated by all people and it became very popular.

LPG price to be reduced – The prices of LPG cylinders which are meant for domestic household need to be reviewed by the Government. I would request the Government to reduce the price further so that the poor people can get some relief and the Government can see the god in the smile of Poor, as Peraringar Anna said this.

Golden Quadrilateral projects – we congratulate our dynamic Minister for Road Transport and Shipping, Thiru Baalu who with the blessings of our leader Dr. Kalaingar has made remarkable achievements in Golden Quadrilateral projects, completing more than 85% of the target up to now. All nation highway roads are developed and widened which would go a long way in making a strong India.

With these words, I support the Budget.

[Translation]

*SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat): Sir, the Interim Budget presented by the hon'ble Minister of Finance on 16.2.09 in the Parliament is very disappointing. The Minister of Finance has enumerated his achievements during the last four years in his budget speech. There is nothing new in it. Out of 18 pages, 14 pages contain the details of the policies and achievements of the UPA Government. Only four pages give details of the next financial year 2009-10. The Minister of Finance has only advised the Government what should be done in the next four years, but he has not announced any measures. He has given advice for review of fiscal deficit in view of changing economic scenario. While concluding his budget speech he again elaborated the achievements of the Government during the four years.

So far as farmers and agriculture is concerned, it has been said that only subsidy will be continued for the farmers. No special package has been announced for the farmers. There is no improvement in the condition of the farmers. Incidents of suicide by farmers are increasing. Farmer are reeling under the burden of debt. They are neither getting electricity nor water and neither they get remunerative prices for their products nor they get fertilizers and seeds on time. The ordinary farmers, who are practical, has not benefited at all from the debt waiver scheme of approximately 65000 crore rupees announced by the Government. This debt waiver has either helped banks to recover their bad debts or it has benefited habitual defaulters. The Government has insulted farmers by increasing the price of wheat by 80 rupees per quintal. While the prices of all the inputs used in farming are sky-rocketing. The Government is making purchase of wheat at the rate of Rupees One thousand five hundred per quintal from other countries. Even cattle do not eat it. But we are not paying our farmers remunerative price. This Government has not formulated any agriculture policy for the farmers during the entire 5 years period, it is only getting false credit by providing more debts to the farmers for retiring their debts. The Government has not made it clear during the entire 5 years that what percentage of budget has been allocated for agriculture. No mention has been made about the growth rate of agriculture which has been achieved, only the target of 4% growth rate has been mentioned which this Government has failed to achieve.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Sir, the hon'ble Minister of Finance has ignored the industry while trying to create balance between the challenge of budget and constitutional propriety of interim budget. As far as market, stock market is concerned, the Government has not announced anything, that is why the sensx has started crashing again. The economy is passing through extraordinary phase. There was enough scope for the Government to take extraordinary measures. Despite the current situation, the Government has expressed hope to achieve growth rate of 7.1 percent. Government figures are not presenting the correct picture. Each and every sector of the economy is slowing down. Every businessman was in the hope that the Government will help them to tide over this difficult phase. It will take steps to increase investment. But nothing of that sort has happened, Hon'ble Minister of Finance has followed a politically safe route and not a single new announcement has been made.

Sir, hon'ble Minister of Finance has made announcements regarding flagship schemes like NREGA and Bharat Nirman but allocation has not been increased for the same.

Though, in this budget, some attention has been paid towards defence budget, but ex-servicemen perhaps may not get any benefit. These ex-servicemen have been struggling for One Rank One Pension for long and recently they collectively returned their medals, awarded to them for their excellent services to the nation and which they used to keep close to their hearts, to the Hon'ble President. What could be more shameful for us than this.

Sir, 3 lakhs Grameen Dak Sevak serving the common man in the Department of Posts like helping villagers with Postal Saving Bank, Postal letters, small saving schemes, old age pension, employment guarantee etc. have totally been ignored in this budget. They do not have any pay-scale, any leave, retirement benefits and the Sixth Pay Commission has also not covered their services. These employees are on the path of agitation today. In this budget, no provision has been made for them.

Sir, I demand to include Jat Community in the list of backward classes in the state of Haryana and at Central level on the following strong social, educational and financial reasons.

After Independence, reservation to socially deprived Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was provided with the permission of its review after ten years. Thereafter, the Government of India constituted Kelkar Committee on 20 January, 1953 under the article 340 of the Constitution to identify Other Backward Castes, the report of which could not be presented before the House and later on Backward Commission was constituted on 1 January, 1979 headed by Shri B.P. Mandal which gave its report on 30 December, 1980 and it was implemented on 13 August, 1990. The Commission in its report on page 40 has considered Ahir, Kurmi, Kohari and Jat etc. as other Backward Castes on the basis of social and educational backwardness and social status of Jats has been considered equal to that of Ahir, Gujar, Saini, Lohar, Kumhar, Sunar, Khaati and Kamboj castes belonging to Other Backward Castes.

Sir, the Commission has declared rural labourers and farming communities as educationally backward in its report on page 44. More than 90% of Jats in Haryana do cultivation in villages. At page no. 28 of this report as an instance a farmer having 4 acres of land has been cited a backward. There are more than 70% such Jat farmers in Haryana who have 4 acres or less than 4 acres of land.

Sir, through you, I want to bring it to the notice of the Government that Gurnam Singh Commission was constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Gurnam Singh for identification of Other Backward Castes in Haryana which presented its report on 30 December, 1990. In its report this Commission on the lines of Mandal Commissions had fixed 60 marks on the basis of a survey for a caste on social and educational basis. Castes fetching 1 to 29 marks were termed forward castes whereas castes acquiring 30 or more than 30 marks were termed as Other Backward Castes. At the page no 28 of the report, at serial no. 7 Jat Caste has got 36 marks, at serial no 15 Saini caste has got 33 and Ahir/Yadav caste has got 31 marks. So, in this report Jats have been found to be more backward than Ahir and Saini castes. The then Chief Minister Master Hukam Singh ji had announced ten castes including Jats, namely Ahir, Gurjar, Mev, Sikh, Bishnoi, Saini, Rode, Tyagi and Rajput as a backward castes through Government of Haryana order letter no. 299(1) 91 dated 5 February, 1991 but successor Government owing to political motivations without citing any reason excluded Jats and other five castes from the list and included Lodha caste in the list of OBC through Government of Haryana order letter no. 1170(1) dated 07.06.1995.

Sir, Ahir, Saini, Gurja etc. backward castes already figure in the reservation list of State and at central level. Jats have been included in reservation list as other backward classes only in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. Whereas in all the States of the country social, educational and economic level of jats is equal to that of the Other Backward Classes, such as Ahir, Yadav, Saini, Gurjar, etc. But in other states like Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir etc, the Jats have not been included in the list of Other Backward Classes. Therefore, I would like to request you that the Jat caste should be given reservation in jobs and admission in Educational Institutions by including them in the list of Other Backward Classes at the State and Central level and the Jats in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh should also be given reservation in jobs and admission in Educational Institutions by including them in the list of Other Backward Classes at both the State and Central level.

With these words, I conclude my speech. I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving me time to speak.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (Saharsa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to mention 5-7 points. Before that, I support the General Budget. Today, I would like to thank you for increasing the Government Revenue and preparing a good budget and at the same time, I would like to draw your attention towards certain points.

With regard to education, you have stated that we have to promote the quality of basic education but I would like to mention that in basic education, particularly the planning of education that was started there the teachers were recruited on the basis of degrees. We have ourselves gone there and observed that where the teachers are teaching and taking sixth and seventh class exams, the children are unable to answer the questions because the teachers appointed there are illiterate. Therefore, I would like to say that if on the one hand Government talks about providing quality education on the other there has to be a strict monitoring state-wise at the level of the Government of India because allowing the state to run any project as they like will not serve the purpose and as this is the matter of basic education for the children of whole of India. I would particularly like to have the monitoring of basic education programme. Simultaneously, I had informed the Hon'ble

[Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan]

P. Chidambaram last time during the debate on General Budget that the Kasturba Gandhi School which has promoted the girls education has provided facilities up to eight standard and for girls in the interior villages, but at many places these girls can't continue studies by going to far flung schools after passing eighth standard. Therefore, I urge the Government to upgrade the Kasturba Gandhi School up to 10+2 level.

Similarly, the ASHA women in the health sector are given Rs. 200 per child for bringing the pregnant women to Government hospitals and helping in the birth of child. I urge upon the Government that the ASHA women should be given some minimum salary per month based on salary structure so that they are also encouraged. The women belonging to ASHA are asking for payment on monthly basis to them.

Anganwadi Kendras are meant to check the malnutrition of children. In a way, you can say that these are Pre-primary little play school. I would like to request to increase the salary of helper (Sevika) and attendant (Sahayika) in the General budget. Similarly, I would like to say that the Priyadarshini Project that has been taken up by the Government which seems to be a Pilot Project so far about the empowerment and the source of livelihood of the women has included only 2-3 districts of Bihar. I would like to urge upon the Government to start the Priyadarshini Project for the livelihood and empowerment of all the women of the entire Kosi region in view of the floods in the Kosi region of Bihar this year and the area which is flooded every year.

Sir regarding medical facilities in rural areas, I would like to say that Doctors are unwilling to serve in the interior areas and villages of our country. On the other hand, there are Gramin Chikitsaka Mitra, who have the experience of 10,15, to 20 years. They get so much of experience while working with the doctors that they treat from first aid level up to middle level and they are doing so even today. They are also called quacks, but there are so many doctors among them who really treat well and the people approach them only. I would like to give an example that in Rajasthan and Kerala, these Gramin Chikitsakas have been registered as a Gramin Chikitsaka Mitra. I urge upon the Government that even if no information from Bihar has been received, there are three lakh Gramin Chikitsakas all over India, who are registered and who have formed their union and like to urge that not only these people from Bihar but from other states also should come under it. Government of India says

that given the profession of a doctor, they are not available in the villages, therefore, I would like to request that Gramin Chikitsaka Mitra should be connected with the health services.

Sir, with regard to the flood in river Kosi, I am surprised that he has made no announcement in the budget about the same. The catastrophe which the river Kosi has brought this time is of similar proportion to tsunami. 40 lakhs people have been affected by it but not a single announcement has been made in this regard. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the compensation for house is very meagre and Rs. four thousand per hectare of land is being given while it costs Rs. 15 to 20 thousand in harvesting.

The second thing, I would like to say about the compensation for house. It is being said that the Central Agency which is conducting a survey there is counting merely 10 houses out of the 100 houses damaged there. They are saying that they have to pay compensation for merely 10 percent houses on the basis of survey from the funds available as per the guidelines given to them. This is no justice. Each and every person affected, the houses damaged is entitled for compensation. He should be given compensation. They said that those who had their huts, whose houses were damaged, they went back. Those who managed a little shelter, were not included. I would like to urge that all the people and all the villages affected should be included. Similarly has the dam on river Kosi been constructed? He has given the funds, got it constructed and there is no seepage of water now, but is this the permanent solution? We wanted this and I was hopeful. I also met hon'ble Prime Minister twice in this regard that concrete steps should be taken for permanent solution.

Nepal and India discussed the matter regarding construction of high-dam there, and Rs. 34 to 54 crore were provided but only survey was conducted. 5 years have passed since then but high dam is yet to be constructed. A dam has been constructed there but floods will continue to hit the area as earlier and each year 17 districts will continue to be affected by flood. We wanted the Government to take concrete steps for the permanent solution of this problem. We witnessed unprecedented devastating floods in the river Kosi this year. We were hopeful that this time concrete steps would be taken but it was not done. I request the hon. Minister to cover this matter in his reply.

I will conclude after raising just one more point. I would like to say that the scheme formulated for 'young widow' to make them self-reliant to provide them industrial training and empower them is commendable. But, I would like to add one point that minimum amount should be provided for widow re-marriage through the DM as there are a lot of hurdles in the marriage of these young women and prevalent dowry system is one of them. I urge upon the Government to provide certain minimum amount for young widows. For example Rs. 500 per month has been earmarked for them in the Budget, similarly a fixed amount should be provided by the Government for widow remarriage. With these words, I support the Budget, but I request the hon. Minister to kindly include the matters regarding extension of 'Kasturba Gandhi Scheme' upto intermediate, deployment of "Chikitsa Mitra" in rural areas and measure to prevent floods in Kosi in his reply.

With these words, I extend my thanks to you for giving me this opportunity and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would dwell upon only one point.

[Translation]

At the outset I would like to congratulate hon'ble Minister of Finance that he has tried to minimize the losses during these tough times of recession. He made an appeal to the industrialists in his speech some 3-4 days ago to stop retrenchment and if possible go for reduction in the salaries of the employees. You might remember that when Prime Minister addressed the FICCI a year ago he also made an appeal to the industrialists to consider perks, privileges etc. which they were offering to their employees and he said that it was not right to raise the salaries to such an extent. There was much hue and cry in the industry over this remark and the industrialists opposed that remark and said that the Prime Minister was interfering in their work. Now the Government is being asked to bail out the industry in the time of recession. A bail out package has been given for industries especially for housing i.e. construction industry and auto industry. Some industries like media, film and other industries are also demanding bail out packages. I would like to submit that there is a need to provide bail out packages because lay-offs have become an every day occurrence, shifts are being reduced and industries

are being shut down. Where will the workers go? Workers will go back to their home town. They will return to their home town from Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. All those people who have migrated to metro cities will return to their home towns. There is need to provide bail out package for them. I request the Government to announce bail out package with conditions and maximum ceiling on salaries should be fixed. Privileges and perks need to be reduced and the salaries of top executives in crores need to be reduced. Only those industries which accept the conditions of the Government should be provided the bail out package. Bail out package should not include doubling their bonus and increasing their salaries. There is a need to reduce the gap in the salaries of workers and top executives. We are comparatively in a better position due to our stable economy but unemployment is increasing. Therefore, it is necessary to impose some conditions while giving the bail out package because it is the money of tax payers. It is already being done in America. The entire world is being affected by the economic slow down and this period of recession might take a more serious turn. We are being very cautious, therefore, I would like to congratulate hon. Prime Minister and especially the Minister of Finance that he has initiated timely action in this regard.

Some provision has been rightly made in the budget for infrastructure. We have introduced a Housing Scheme for weaker section and people living below poverty line, a similar Housing Scheme may be introduced in rural areas where funds may be provided so that people may construct their own houses. There is a need to construct Houses in cities but such policy regarding infrastructures is required for rural areas to create employment opportunities and improve the living standard of the rural populace.

The hon. Minister has mentioned about infrastructure in his budget speech. I would say that there is a need to repair, maintain and extend roads in rural areas and districts. Sufficient funds should be provided for this purpose. Golden Quadrilateral Corridor and National Highway are important but there are still some places in rural areas where there are no roads. If the roads are there, there are no bridges when I visit hilly or remote area people come to me with the request of getting the roads constructed. There are several villages and districts where there are no metalled roads. Therefore, these works should be initiated in villages so that people do not migrate towards cities during the period of recession. These initiatives will generate employment and become a source of income for the local people.

[Shri Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil]

I would like to talk about incomplete projects; Adequate funds should be released for ongoing irrigation projects. Please do not put any condition of 19-20 percent on them. More funds should be allocated to the areas where irrigation facilities are insufficient and below national average. Because when irrigation projects are completed within two-three years, that will result in solving their drinking water problem.

It will increase agricultural production and industries would also get water. As a result, industries would function smoothly and as I stated in the beginning employment opportunities will also increase in villages. As a result people would have more money to purchase consumer items like clothes, utensils and items related to their life style etc. Industries will also prosper. We will have to expand domestic market for that. Unless we expand domestic market employment opportunities cannot increase and industries cannot be benefited. And to expand domestic market we will have to provide sufficient funds for infrastructure. But rural housing, roads, national highways, state highways and irrigation projects, incomplete and ongoing projects, all these things should be included in the infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to say much but we should encourage industries like SEZ. We have provided various facilities to SEZ like tax concession, Custom Duty concession for export-import and concession for export Zone also. But, they retrench labourers. When they take benefits of all these facilities, it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure that they do not retrench any labourer without the permission of the Government. If they want to close any industry then Government's permission should be necessary and it should be brought to the knowledge of the Government. Because, if unemployment increases, then violence will automatically increase.

So, through you, I would like to request that recession had struck America in 1930 due to infrastructure.
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

All these infrastructural projects in the country should be through public funding.

[Translation]

This is my only submission to the Government. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, due to paucity of time I will only touch upon the main points.

Sir, my first point is that there should be an immediate package for those agricultural producers and plantation crop producers who are facing serious problems due to fall in prices of Paddy, Coconut, Rubber, Arecanut, Vanilla and vegetables etc. An immediate action needs to be taken to help them tide over their problems.

Employees in different categories including the Staff Nurses in Government hospitals are facing a serious problem due to non-implementation of the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission. Also, some of the recommendations which have been given in favour of employees in different other Sectors of the Government are also not being implemented. So, I would like to request the Government to take immediate action to redress the grievances of these employees. I may also mention in this regard that the Nurses are on a strike from the 16th onwards in Delhi.

Sir, the retirees, especially the senior citizens of different categories, including the Provident Fund beneficiaries are also clamouring for their pensions to be revised for a long time. But that has not been done. Other facilities due to them are also being denied to them. I would like to request the Government to initiate immediate action to redress their grievances.

Sir, in regard to the ED Postal employees I would like to mention that in spite of assurances on several occasions from the Government about enhancement of their emoluments and improvement of their working conditions, nothing has been done so far. They need to be given justice and their case needs to be considered immediately.

Sir, Kerala's share of PDS rice has been drastically cut. Electricity supply from other pool has also been cut. The supply of these things should be restored immediately. The Government should allot money for agricultural debts of banks. The money earmarked for this purpose should be given to the banks. When banks are approached, they say that relief cannot be given because money has not come. This aspect has to be dealt with immediately. The debts of *dalits* and tribals should either be waived or given relief. I would like to make a point about the *dalits* belonging to Christian faith in Delhi.

I would submit that in a secular country, this should not be done. They should not be discriminated against. Just because they have less faith in a particular religion, may be in Christianity or Islam, they may not be denied the rights of dalits, if they are really entitled as per the Constitution. So, as regards reservation, there should be an amendment to the Constitution which has been assured but has not been done so far. About 2000 people from different parts of the country have come to Delhi and they are holding a strike today that is going on outside the Parliament House.

My penultimate point is, the Government should also help more of exports that have been declared in the speech of the President as well as in the Budget. When I asked the question today in Parliament, the Government says that as regards export of natural rubber which is facing a real problem, the price of natural rubber has come down from Rs. 143 per kilogram to Rs. 65 per kilogram. It is more than half the price. But still the Government is not supporting exports. The exports have come down and the Government says that there is no glut in the market. That is not the point. There is glut in the market and imports are taking place. About 50,000 tonnes of natural rubber have already been imported. And those who have to buy natural rubber from the farmers or big tyre manufacturers refrain from coming to the market and they have imported stuff. So, export subsidy or whatever support can be given should be given immediately.

My last point is that import duty on natural rubber should be increased from 20 per cent to at least 60 per cent because of the conditions of the farmers. But the Government says that there is a ban because of the WTO agreement. If that is so, then Government says that for five per cent there is no problem. Then why not they increase it by five per cent like from 20 per cent to 25 per cent? That must be done immediately.

There was a Bill passed here which was about Maritime University. That is a very good step. The Government has taken a very good step to start the Maritime University in Chennai. We appreciate it but the Standing Committee of Shipping of the Parliament has also recommended other places for starting the Maritime University including Cochin. Some of those places which were so recommended have been at least given a little share by way of a university centre like in Kolkata, Mumbai, etc. We welcome that. But why not Cochin be given such a thing? Cochin has also been benefited by

a lot of things. There is the proximity of the maritime area there. It is benefited by the international sea route and also shipyard, the ports, etc. are coming up. If not a university, at least a centre of Maritime University should be started in Cochin.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Sir, if you see the Finance Minister's speech, when it comes to minorities, he has said that adequate allocations are being made but in the last year's Budget of 2008-09, Rs. 1000 crores have been allocated for the Ministry of Welfare of Minorities. I am surprised that it has been cut down to Rs. 650 crores and out of that Rs. 650 crores which we see, the Maulana Azad Education Found is still disbursing the funds not out of the budget of 2008-09 but of 2005-06. This shows that either the allocations are not being made at the right time to the Ministry or the Ministry itself is not working properly.

Another issue is regarding multi sector development programme and 90 MCDs were launched with much fanfare. But as of now, not a single work has been grounded. Leave aside 90 districts but even in 20 or 30 districts, plans are still being made.

What we see over here is that even for that the allocation has come down from Rs. 485 crore to Rs. 251.89 crore. How do you expect such a huge programme to be grounded when the Government keeps on decreasing the amount?

The third issue is about the Merit-cum-Means Scholarship. You have given last year Rs. 1,000 crore. I know this is only a Vote on Account and it is only a stop gap arrangement for four months. But basing on Rs. 1,000 crore, you should have at least allocated Rs. 75 crore. That has also not been done.

We do not know what will be the fate of the Mungerkar Committee's recommendations. The Mungerkar Committee talks about 251 urban towns wherein you have a large number of minorities and the basic amenities and socio-economic parameters are very low. We do not know whether the Ministry concerned, whether it is the Ministry of Urban Development or whether it is the Ministry of Women and Child Development, is taking any steps which the Mungerkar Committee identified.

I welcome the two new schemes that the Government has started. The National Fellowship for Students of Minority Communities and the new schemes which have

[Shri Asaduddin Owaisi]

been given for the Central Wakf Council. I would also welcome the Government steps, the steps which you have taken, which have led to increase in employment, especially in the Ministry of Urban Development, in the Ministry of Railways, etc.

The main thrust of the issue over here is that we have received 45 billion dollars worth of foreign exchange. Now, according to the Ministry of External Affairs and the World Bank, we are going to touch round about fifty billion dollars. Due to global economic meltdown, thousands of people are coming back from the Middle-East. The main source of foreign exchange for the Government of India is the Middle-East. Thousands of people are coming back from the Middle-East. They are leaving their jobs because of global economic meltdown.

I would like to know from the Government whether any arrangement is being made for them. These are poor people. They are not asking for any subsidy or any charity. The most unfortunate part is that these people who are working in the Middle-East do not get any protection from the Government over there. If I work in the U.S.A or U.K., I have some sort of comfort arrangement over there. Now, when they are coming back in thousands, what is the plan the Government has?

My suggestion to the Government, through you, is that please make a plan through the NRI Ministry and give directions to the banks so that these people can start small businesses. Due to this global meltdown, in urban areas there is a huge unemployment. In the form of taxi drivers or auto drivers, there is a huge unemployment. So, I would hope that some sort of arrangement could have been made or at least now create a evaluation mechanism to help them.

Another issue is very important in relation what had happened in Satyam Computers. This whole fiasco had happened a month ago. I was expecting that this Government would take some certain steps. I mean, 26/11 forced you to bring the UAPA Act. You acted immediately. After introduction it was passed very quickly. Why does not this Government bring a Bill on the lines of Sarbanes Oxley law, which was brought in the U.S.A.? Unless and until the Government brings this Sarbanes Oxley law, more Satyams would happen. ... *(Interruptions)* The Sarbanes Oxley law says that any Independent Director is also criminally liable along with the auditors. That should have been brought in this Session itself. The poor investor invests because he sees the

Independent Director and he sees that reputed firms are there as auditors. Basing on these two things, he invests. More Satyams will happen unless and until the Government brings an Act on the lines of Sarbanes Oxley law.

Lastly, I agree that inflation has come down from 13 per cent to 3.2 per cent, but what about the rate of interest? Unless you bring down the rate of interest to the levels what it was four years ago, how can you benefit the common man? This Government stands for the common man, the *Aam admi*. But your rate of interest is very high. It has to be brought at least to the levels where it was four years ago.

Lastly, a sum of Rs. 1,000 crore was allotted last year and you have brought it down to Rs. 650 crore. The Ministry is not spending; I think the Ministry of Finance is not caring to allot the amount to the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Also, the National Minorities Commission Bill, which was supposed to give constitutional status to the National Minorities Commission, is still pending. That should have been brought in this Session itself. But, unfortunately, that has not happened. So, I would request that these steps should have been taken by this Government which would have given a lot of hope.

Sir, with these few points, I would like to conclude.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): Sir, as the hon. Minister himself has admitted that the economic growth rate is slowing down and with the best of times, it will come down to about seven per cent.

Sir, I think, China is worried about the fact that every time their growth rate falls by one per cent point, they feel that they will lose at least something like ten million jobs, which otherwise would have been added. I would request the hon. Minister to come out with some sort of matrix between the falling rate of growth and how much of the employment we are going to lose.

Sir, the hon. Minister has presented, as a full-fledged hon. Minister of Finance, the Budget and he was one of the last Ministers which produced the revenue surplus in the Budget. So, over a period of time we are seeing a declining fiscal situation. I am surprised by the words used by the hon. Minister of Finance that there is a fiscal consolidation. So, it is the highest fiscal deficit in the last few years. The highest current account deficit is

almost touching to 2.5 per cent. There is a revenue deficit which is rising very rapidly, there is a trade deficit which is also adding to the woes, and to top it all; it is one of the highest public debt to GDP ratio among the developing countries. Now, I am just wondering in this scenario when the growth rate is falling and we would like to put more public investment to actually kick start the economy, where is the money going to come from? It will be at the expense of further deteriorating our fiscal situation. So, my request to the hon. Minister is that the new agenda he has spelt out for the new Government should be implemented. I was just wondering can he also spell it out a little more and say that there is the money we are going to find in the economy where we can actually kick-start the economy? Where is it going to come from?

Secondly, I come to infrastructure which is a very important issue. In fact, we want nine per cent of GDP now to be invested into infrastructure which is now at four per cent. Now, again, this is linked to that. Can the infrastructure investment take place from the private sector alone and if he is going to do that, then who is going to pay the user charges which the private sector will expect to make the project bankable. Therefore, if it is going to come from the private investment, then wait for the user charges issues that have to be addressed. If it is going to come from the public investment, I just talked about the fiscal situation how it is going to happen. But in any case, in infrastructure my request to the hon. Minister is that debt is something which comes a little later. First, you have to find equity to finance infrastructure. Where are you going to find equity for infrastructure, which is a major challenge for the whole world and also for India? I would request the hon. Minister to talk about it a little more.

Now, I come to delivery of service particularly the quality aspect of it. It has been a major challenge for us for a long time. In fact, I would request the hon. Minister, who has also been the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, as to how he is going to address the issue now. It is because we have time to increase the coverage of education, but is the quality issue addressed? The same is the case in the health sector. So, this is something which the hon. Minister needs to look at.

I come to external situation. We already have almost \$ 65 million going out of our foreign exchange reserves because FIB withdrew the money. It is putting tremendous pressure on our current account situation. So, at a time, when our remittances from non-residents had reached

the highest level ahead of China, Philippines and even Mexico that means despite all these, our current account situation is showing a sign of stress. Now, how are you going to handle the external situation which is also going to put a lot of pressure on rupee and that again will have some adverse impact on the economy in the years to come? So, I would request the hon. Minister to make a statement about how does he see rupee performing in the next few years' time in the light of this tremendous pressure on our external account.

Sir, employment as I started by saying is a very important issue. We do not really calculate the loss of employment in unorganized sector particularly for constructions where the DLF and Unitech shares are falling because of the big news. But because of that, millions of workers are losing jobs in that sector who do not have any protection whatsoever in social safety net. They have gone to the villages and they have no voice and they cannot talk about it. So, can we actually think about some scheme for such workers?

They are people who are really in need of it.

Mr. Minister, you started a Scheme for the widows to be given pension. I welcome the Scheme. But, Sir, widowhood is not something which is going to haunt us as much as the sum of Rs.200 as pension per month that a widow is going to get. Does the hon. Minister really believe that a widow can survive on Rs.200 per month? It is something like a cruel joke on widowhood of the women of India. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to at least raise it by ten times if not substantially. It can at least be something reasonable, it can be a respectable figure. So, Rs.2,000 would really be good.

The Constitution of India provides for taking care of some of the backward areas of India in terms of giving a Development Board for them. In Maharashtra, we created one such Board for the rest of Maharashtra. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this demand. This is a demand which has been pending before the Government for a long time. This demand was as well made by me for a long time. It was also a demand made by the State Government as well. I have been a Member of Parliament representing the Konkan Region. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this. Can he create a new framework, a new regime in which the region like the Konkan Region - it is one of the most backward ones, which has a potential to grow - can really be taken care of?

[Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu]

The Government has taken credit for a laudable programme which has been endorsed by almost all the Parties in Parliament. The Government said that we must write off loan of farmers. But there are many segments of farmers who have not yet been covered by this Loan Waiver Scheme. For example, the fishermen are there who cannot be treated differently. Fishermen also depend on farmers. They do fishing in the sea. The farmers do it on land. The farmers get the benefit of loan waiver programme. Can we not think of having a loan waiver programme for the fishermen as well on the same lines of the farmers?

I am just winding it up with this. So, something needs to be done in this respect. My request to the hon. Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee is this. He is a very knowledgeable person. I do not see anyone as knowledgeable and as experienced as he is. I would request him to spell out an agenda for the future. Can he actually now give a prescription for the future? Actually, it is not just an agenda. What needs to be done is known to us. But how it needs to be done is something important. How do you manage the fiscal situation of India while going in for development of the country? How do you make sure that when economic growth takes place, it also takes care of the employment potential of the economy?

Next, I come to agriculture which is the root cause of the problem. Only 18 per cent of the GDP is coming from agriculture. As per the Government's own admission, more than 62 per cent of the people depend on it. So, how do you address the root cause of poverty? Therefore, Sir, my request to the hon. Minister is to spell out an agenda. It is not just an agenda for the next Government, because probably, he also knows that the next Government will be from this side which will be going there. So, they will have to do something. So, my request is that with the political wisdom, while spelling out an agenda, I am sure, he will give us a piece of advice on such important issues as to how to address the challenges.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

*DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY (Jadavpur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am glad that you have allowed me to speak on Interim Budget. I'll be very brief. Sir, in the last four five years, there was no threadbare discussion on

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.

Budget I personally feel that the opposition should have played the role of scanning the Budget but it did not do so. And that has harmed the interest of the country. This is the Vote-on-Account. It is true that there are certain limitations. Even then, it could be made more effective. There was a scope for that. 61 years have passed since independence. What we perceive today is that the gap between two classes in the society is increasing day by day. True, India is shining but is also true that 'Bharat' is suffering. This divide within the same country is leading us towards a dangerous peril. Rightly there are 55 billionaires in our country who can be compared with these of other countries. In the last year only 23,000 millionaires have been added to the list. This is one side of the story. On the other hand, according to Arjun Sengupta Committee Report, 77% of the population thrive on a meagre daily income of less than Rs.20. What will happen to them?

What will be their future? Sir the Unorganized Sector Bill has been adopted. But we are yet to see what effective measure it takes. Farmers are still committing suicide. There have been so many debt relief measure, special packages but where is the solution? 18% of the country's GDP depends on agriculture, 62% of the population survives on agriculture. This is an extremely important sector but is plagued by a number of problems and strikingly enough, there is a lack of political will. Sir, prices are shooting through the roof. Inflation rate though has come down a bit. But due to price rise, the rate of inflation in food grains is rather high. Thus the essential commodities are going out of reach of the common people. They are suffering like anything. This has to be remembered.

The status of BPL is not very clear even today. We cannot say that we are following the BPL parameters entirely. In some cases, APL people are turning into BPL and they in turn are being deprived of their privileges and rights. As a result, there is an emergence of a kind of social unrest. I think we should address the real issue. Sir, the 2006 report of the Swiss Bank Association reveals that India is the highest investor among the five countries which deposit money in their bank.

It has infact invested 15 times more than the fifth country. It amounts to 1456 billion dollar that is approximately 12-13 times higher than our foreign debt. Where from is this huge amount pouring in? Who all are running these accounts? Why is the amount being related to the country's resources? We cannot turn a blind eye to the problem.

Similar is the issue of black money. Every time we discuss about black money and the parallel economy which runs in the country. We are very much concerned about that. The entire Parliament rues about the problem but we have do away with this, otherwise the entire economy right me destroyed. Country denotes the people, its citizens who should be taken care of.

Today we are having a jobless growth. Growth rate is undoubtedly high but it jobless. In the last 3 months, 5 lakh employees have lost their jobs. Definitely, this is an incomplete report. It is must be much higher. Previous speakers have also mentioned this. But how to check this jobless? What needs to be done? There is certainly come weaknesses on our part.

Sir, agriculture, small industries etc. are the main sectors. In the small industries, bank loans are not easily available, though it is in the priority sector. Even if credit is available, the rate of interest is very high.

The bigger industries are given easy credit. The interest rate should be lower in case of smaller entrepreneurs but that is not happening. I think we should look into this aspect.

In the same manner, Swaminathan Committee has recommended that interest rate for the farmers should be brought down from 7% to 4%. Therefore, the priority sector has to be nurtured through proper planning and budgetary allocation. Are we doing that? Perhaps not.

Sir, at least four or five major sectors are there :- like R&D. Nothing can be more important than this. Education is another such sector with immense potential. When will be the Budget expenditure on education touch 6% mark? What are we going to do for our unorganized sector? When are we going to act? When are we going to have 5% expenditure on health sector?

We are not functioning in a proper manner. There is definite lack of political will. While concluding, I may say that once Lal Bahadur Shastri had said – Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan. We were all very happy at that time. So many years have passed since then. But the farmers have not succeeded, the young people have not succeeded. Unemployment has risen; the basic problems of the cultivators have not been addressed. We can only find a cover of India shining but that does not present the real picture.

These are the major lacunae in the Budget speech according to me. I hope Hon'ble Minister will address all these issues in his reply.

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND (Sriganganagar): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the General Budget. This budget has no mention about funding of basic infrastructural schemes. It is disheartening to note that it is unable to provide any tax concession to industries in this recession period. I do not speak in volume. I am elected from border area of Rajasthan. The Union Government had announced to open an I.I.M. in Rajasthan but later on Minister stated that it is misprinted in the budget because I.I.M. will be opened in other state not in Rajasthan. Nothing could be more disheartening than this when a Minister gives such a statement. Sir, through you, I request the Government that I.I.M. should be opened in Rajasthan...*(Interruptions)* Jodhpur is in Rajasthan, not in Haryana...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going in the records. You can continue.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Sir, the amount earmarked by the Union Government in this budget, for Heavy Water Plant scheme in Kota, Neyvalli Lignite in Rajasthan Nuclear Power, Jodhpur SEZ, Bhartiya Vaniki Anusandhan Sansthan and Rajasthan Electronics, is like a drop in the ocean. I would like to request that this amount should be increased. Sensex has come down after this budget. I also want to state that it is a matter of concern that fiscal deficit is 6 percent of domestic production. If Government do not take any action in this regard, it will prove fatal for the common man. Honourable Minister of Finance could have provided funds for common man directly or indirectly in this budget but he has disappointed the people. Nothing has been done in this budget to encourage retail trade to save industries and labour based industries from recession. 80 percent people of this country are dependent upon agriculture. Farmers get the same price for their crops which they used to get in

*Not recorded.

[Shri Nihal Chand]

1990. Farmers are not getting remunerative prices for their cotton and wheat crops even today. There has been steep rise in the prices of petrol and diesel from 1990 onwards whereas farmers have not got remunerative prices for their crops in this interim budget also. I would like to request the Government to give remunerative prices of crops to the farmers.

Sir, Rajasthan is dependent on irrigation and agriculture. Punjab supplies water to Rajasthan, BBMB Board has three members states i.e. Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. But, it has no member from Rajasthan whereas it has members from Haryana and Punjab. Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that it should appoint a Member from Rajasthan in B.B.M.B. Rajasthan should be given special category status with regard to education. For education there is no proper facility in Rajasthan. I would like to request that special category status should be given to Rajasthan to promote education there.

I would only like to submit that this budget has disappointed the common man. The Minister should give priority to the common man. Tax concession should be given to them. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

*Sir, common man has been deeply disappointed with the Interim Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. This Budget says nothing about the funding of infrastructure related schemes for the industrial world. People have expressed disappointment for not being given relaxation in taxes in the time of recession. Tax rebate is not enhanced on the interest of home loans which has disappointed the common man. I represent Shri Ganga Nagar Lok Sabha Constituency of Rajasthan. Rajasthan is deeply disappointed with the Interim Budget. People of Rajasthan have been deceived. Central Government made a statement that an IIM would be set up in Rajasthan. When no decision was taken in this regard, an hon. Minister of the Government shirked the responsibility by stating in the House that name of Rajasthan was printed in the Budget by mistake. Rajasthan is a backward State. It is very necessary to set up an IIM there. The Central Government is requested to make an announcement for setting up an IIM in Rajasthan. The amount allocated earlier for development schemes in Rajasthan, was not sufficient and none of these schemes has been completed. The same schemes have been enumerated again in the Budget. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has again given step motherly treatment to Rajasthan.

*.....*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

The amount allocated by Central Government for Heavy Water Plant in Kota, Rajasthan, Nuclear Power Centre, Nayvelli Lignite, Jodhpur SEZ, Indian Institute of Forest Research, Rajasthan electronics, is like a drop in the ocean. This Interim Budget has dashed the hopes of the investors to the ground. Investors have been deeply disappointed. This led to large scale selling in the share market. BSE Sensex which was 963.74 fell down by 329 points on Friday. Sensex of Mumbai share market came down by 329.

Sir, it is a matter of concern that fiscal deficit on gross domestic product has reached for the year 2008-09 up to six per cent. The people of this country will have to suffer, if the Central Government does not take right steps to check fiscal deficit. The hon. Minister of Finance could have come to the rescue of the common man by giving rebate in taxes, directly or indirectly which would have promoted the retail business. Not doing this has disappointed the retailers. Similarly, no steps have been taken to protect the textile and labour oriented industries from recession. This is a failure of the Central Government.

Sir, eighty per cent citizens of this country depend upon agriculture. Farmers cannot progress in life, unless they get remunerative prices for their crops. The prices of diesel, kerosene, fertilizers, seeds and insecticides have gone up whereas the farmer is still selling his crops at the same rates which were prevalent twenty years ago. Farmers should be given remunerative prices for their produce, so that they can prosper in life. This point should have been included in the Interim Budget but it was not done.

Sir, my constituency, Sriganganagar, is dependent on irrigation and agriculture. Rajasthan gets most of the water from Punjab and it is my request that Government of Punjab should continue to release Rajasthan's share of water and members of BBMB regarding distribution of water have so far been from Punjab and Haryana. A member from Rajasthan should also be nominated. So far there has been no member from Rajasthan.

Sir, Rajasthan should be given special status in order to promote education in the State. There is shortage of teachers in primary schools of Rajasthan and there are no school buildings as well. After according special status to the State, teachers should be appointed and school buildings should also be constructed in the State.

The Central Government should realize its responsibility and make things available at reasonable rates to the people of the country. Be it the scheme of inter linking of rivers or Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana or other development schemes, the Government should complete them in time to make the country move ahead on the path of progress.

14.00 hrs.

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA (Barh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance has presented a very good Interim Budget. Our fellow BJP Members were concerned that popular Interim Budget would be presented keeping in view the elections. But the Interim Budget has left no scope for such criticism. It is a very balanced Budget supplementing the earlier Budget and is based on facts.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has to reply. You finish it.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: There are various important points in this Interim Budget. Provision of Rs. 40,900 crore has been made for the scheme-Bharat Nirman. I would like to add one more thing that there should be better coordination between States and the centre and proper arrangement for monitoring should be put in place. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the amount allocated by him is reaching the poor or not. Dr. Lohia had raised the matter of mere three ans reading the beneficiary in this House only and late. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had initiated a country wide discussion about the end user getting 15 paise only. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether proper monitoring is being done to ensure that the allocated amount is spent for the purpose for which it has been earmarked. Registrations is not being done properly under NREGA.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. The hon. Minister has to reply. Please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have started just now. I will sit if you ask me to. Sarva Shiksha

Abhiyan is a historic step. In the villages...(Interruptions) funds are being provided under this programme and keeping in view the drop out rate of students, has the Government conducted any survey to find out how many children have started going to school after the campaign has been launched? I think we should pay attention towards this. I am only raising points.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is Shrimati Jhansi Lakshmi Botcha's time now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: We do discuss the Non-performing Assets. The NPA has grown to one lakh thousand crores of rupees till now. Big industrialists are defaulting on huge amounts of loans and you are waiving them off whereas property of defaulting small farmers or common people who have taken petty loans are being attached. I want to know about the provisions made by the Government or the mechanism adopted to recover the money from those big industrialists.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the present Government have fixed rupees nine hundred crore as the minimum support price of Paddy. It is a nice step and we welcome it. But the World Trade Organisation is monitoring our activities closely. You participate in its meetings but it should be kept in mind in such meetings not to succumb to the pressure tactics and we hope that this Government would not succumb to pressure tactics and interest of the farmers would be protected and also expect that you will also keep on doing the works that you have been doing. The biggest achievement of farmers is their contribution in enhanced production of foodgrains. This is a big achievement. If we fail to strengthen the farmers, then we would be forced to import foodgrains and the situation would become grim. Therefore, we should strongly present our position in the meetings of WTO. The subsidy given on foodgrains, petroleum and fertilizers is assessed at 95 thousand crores of rupees. You have taken a good step by providing subsidy.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Minister will reply. Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KIRSHNA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, an unprecedented step has been taken in waiving off the loans of farmers. But, there are still many areas where such waiving off of loans should not only be continued but its base also broadened. Farmers form the backbone of our country and if you do not listen to them, talk about them, protect them and strengthen them a gloomy situation could emerge and we may be forced to import foodgrains. The present Government has worked in keeping with its image and it has showed its character. It may be a matter of concern for people like Shri Harin Pathak ji.

They feel uncomfortable because of the increase made in the amount of subsidy for Haj pilgrims. They do not speak anything about the work that has been done by this Government for the welfare of labourers etc. The points raised by the hon. Member, Shri Owaisji are important and the Government should pay attention to it...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a big 'Diara' area in Bihar. I want to give one example of it. The 'Tal' area is spread over many kilometers. Every year there is loss of lakhs of rupees as the people are affected due to the floods in Tal and Diara area. There should be a mega scheme to counter it. Discussions about this scheme have taken place many times. The Government should allocated money out of the Calamity Management Fund and initial allocation should be increased. I therefore, request to the Government to allocate money out of the Calamity Management Fund because flood plays a havoc there....*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the hon. Minister will reply to the debate.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a limit for everything. Please sit down. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

MR. CHAIRMAN: As a special case, I will allow Shri Harin Pathak to speak for only one minute.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not have much to say because it is an interim budget. The country is passing through economic slowdown and many industries are affected due to this. In Gujarat the diamond industry is affected due to this. Last year, exports from this industry were valued at one lakh crore rupees and the central Government earned 50 thousand crore rupees as profit. The workers engaged in this industry are committing suicide. The same situation had prevailed during 1985 for textile workers and the Center had created rehabilitation fund to save them. A similar scheme should be created to protect the workers engaged in diamond industry in the wake of the economic slowdown. They should be given an economic package. The Hindustan Diamond should be directed to provide unpolished diamonds to the Diamond industry so that it could be given back to the Government for export. This would save the diamond industry and I would remain grateful to the Government if it could give economic package to the labourers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Members who would like to lay their written speech on the Table of the House, they can do so.

*SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in the General Discussion in the Interim General Budget presented by the hon. Leader of the House and Ministry of External Affairs and the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. The UPA Government has stabilised the economy. There cannot be two opinions about this.

India is successfully coming out of the global economic crisis. This is certainly due to our UPA Chairperson, Madam Sonia Gandhi and our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. The UPA Government has taken very effective steps to meet the situation.

On every front, the UPA Government has made great strides. It is therefore everyone to see. The Government has come out with bail out packages and has given fillip to the economy to ensure that no sector of the country is affected.

Before I conclude my speech, I would like to lay stress on the Technology Upgradation Fund which is

*Speech was laid on the table.

meant for the textile industry. The Government is allowing to use this Fund to be utilised only by profit making companies. I would strongly urge the Government to allow the sick units to avail the funds from the Technology Upgradation Fund so that they can modify their units and prosper. I hope the Government would consider my request for the benefits of the textile industry in my home state, Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikkara) : I regret to say that the Interim Budget which was presented by Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee has been prepared with an eye on the coming elections. When claims are made that many policies are being implemented for the common man, it would be pertinent to remember what eminent economist and Congress MP Shri Arjun Sen Gupta has mentioned in his report. He mentions about the seventy seven percentage of our population whose daily wages are rupees twenty. This Budget makes no provisions for crores of such impoverished families. Some policies are being implemented, but their results are not reaching the common man.

Due to recession, the traditional industries are facing a crisis. Lakhs of labourers are loosing their jobs. Sir, the traditional industrial sectors in Kerala like coir, cashew nut, fisheries handicrafts and plantations are all facing a crisis. Government of Kerala has declared a package of 10,000 crores to boost up these sectors.

The Government of Kerala has asked the Centre to enhance the credit limit. But our request has not been favourably considered. I request that the Centre should give a helping hand to Kerala.

Lakhs of Keralites are employed abroad. Their share of contribution towards our foreign exchange reserve, comes to crores of rupees. Sir, the Centre should come out with a package for the rehabilitation of those Indians who are compelled to return jobless from foreign countries.

The Centre has come out with a package for Kuttanad area, but nothing has been spelt-out in detail. Due to its geographical features, Kuttanad is a unique area. It deserves special consideration from the Central Government. The State Government has formed a prosperity council, with the Chief Minister as its Chairman, for the welfare of Kuttanad. The Centre, should contribute financially to the success of this scheme.

*English translation of the speech originally laid on the Table in Malayalam.

The inordinate delay in passing the Women's Reservation Bill, is a betrayal of faith reposed on this Government. Sir, the Women's Reservation Bill was part of the UPA's common minimum programme. The Congress party, has been waxing eloquently on this issue. But Women's Reservation Bill has not yet been passed. History will not forgive this Government for their lack of will.

[English]

*SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): The Interim Budget presented by the Hon'ble Finance Minister has disappointed the country, as the people expected at least some steps through the Budget to address the problems-financial and others faced by the country during these days.

This hope was eroded due to the announcement of an Interim Budget instead of an vote-on-account to be presented by the Government and that too at the last phase of this Government.

Sir, the Hon'ble Finance Member chose to be silent on the most important and vital issue of farmers, debts still remaining, probably more than what has been waived through the loan/debt waived scheme announced in the last budget. The Government is of the opinion that it has solved the debt crises in the agricultural sector, through the write off of loans over due to the time of about 65000 crores, it is eluding itself.

Sir, a large number of small and medium farmers are still under the debt trap even though they had renewed their loans by submitting interest portion to avoid legal action by the Banks. To avoid them by saying that the waiver scheme is not a repayment scheme, will be tantamount to sweeping the problem under the carpet.

Sir, in Kerala, more than those who got benefits are the eligible ones who got excluded from this scheme. I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister not to penalise honesty in the name of norms, which should be amended to address and solve the issue, as otherwise there will be more cases of suicides by farmers. When we expect a growth of 4% plus in the Agri-sector for boosting the overall economic growth, we should ensure that the farming community feels secure and confident about their future.

Sir, the Government should also address the problem of the steep fall in prices of agricultural products like

*Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri K. Francis George]

Rubbers, Pepper, Cardamom, Tea and Coffee. The Hon'ble Finance Minister should have formed a Price Stabilisation Fund to help the farmers from the financial loss they have to face off and due to the steep fall in prices and price fluctuation which these products are subjected to due to the unrealistic export-import policy of the Central Government. Sir, I would request the Government to consult States before entering into bilateral treaties to grant duty concessions and MFN Status to countries on import and export of agricultural products, which are vital to the livelihood, security of farmers of a particular State.

Sir, the Government should also take an urgent decision to limit the interest of farm loans at 4%.

Sir, in the case of Centre State economic relations, it is high time that we make a fresh look. More devolution of Central funds and grants are required for States to tide over their financial difficulties. The issue is being deliberated by the 13th Finance Commission and it awards for the next five years are yet to come. Meanwhile the Government should enter into a discussion with the States to meet the challenges of the financial crisis that has affected our country also. Sir, the Union Government should raise the borrowal limits of States to allow them more public spending. The Government should also come out with a rehabilitation package for the NRI's who are coming back from abroad, from the Gulf, America and European countries due to loss of jobs consequent to the financial crisis. The States would not be able to cope up with this problem on their own and so liberal assistance from the Central Government must come.

Sir, in the education sector, Government should start more centres of higher learning, specially in the technical side. The long standing demand of Kerala State for an IIT, has been subjected even in this budget. Kerala's just demand, considering the studies the State made in the education sector and the educational manpower it produces and 'export' and provide for the countries development, for an IIT to further upgrade and to rectify its deficiencies in technical institutes of excellence, the denial of which has been a matter of great disappointment for the people of Kerala.

Sir, the States like Kerala should be helped by the Centre to consolidate and sustain its achievements in the field of education and health care.

[Translation]

*SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Sir, I rise to support the interim budget. The UPA Government has done a good job for the development of the country and the people as well. Therefore, the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Finance Minister and the chairperson of the UPA, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi deserve appreciation.

Sir, provision for more money was needed for the poor people, the farmers and the youths of the country. Even after so many years of Independence the poor people of our country live in the slums and jhuggi jhonpdis. They do not have houses to live in. They are unemployed and find it difficult to earn their two square meal. There is no facility to educate their children. The farmers are dissatisfied. Young men and women are unemployed. I would request the Finance Minister to look into these aspects.

Sir, my district, Banaskantha is a very backward district. I have repeatedly demanded grant of a special package for the development of Banaskantha district. But, nothing has been done as yet. It is important to have an all round development of the country. The entire country cannot develop unless all its parts are developed.

Sir, I request that Banaskantha should be developed by providing a special package. I support the budget.

[English]

*SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (Bobbili): Sir, I rise to support the Interim General Budget, 2009-10 presented by the hon. Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. It is a pro-aam aadmi budget. As the Finance Minister said, all this has been made possible with guidance of UPA Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and inspiring leadership of the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh.

The UPA Government has been able to fulfill its commitments made in its National Common Minimum Programme. For the first time, the Indian economy showed a sustained growth of over 9 percent for three consecutive years. During this period, the fiscal deficit came down. The Indian economy showed resilience in the wake of the world financial crisis and the Great Depression.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Due to shortage of time, I want to confine myself to some social issues pertaining to women.

I thank the Finance Minister for the two schemes Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme which are being launched in the current year. This will provide Rs. 200 to widows between the age group of 40-64.

I thank the Finance Minister for his gesture to empower the young widows of the age group of 18-40 by equipping and standing on their own feet. They will get priority in the admission to the ITIs, women ITIs, national/regional it is. I congratulate the Government for providing Rs. 500; and bearing the cost of the training.

In the last five years, the Government has given priority to expand the reach of the higher education in every nook and corner of the country. The outlay for the higher education has been increased by 900 per cent. I welcome the move of the Government to start new IITs, IIMs and Central Universities. I request the Government to open an AIIMS type institution at Vizianagaram and IIM at Visakhapatnam. This will benefit the backward people as well as the tribal people of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal.

With these few words I support the Interim General Budget 2009-10.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister will reply to the debate.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the reply of the hon. Minister.

I am very firm on this. My dear friends, everybody has been given a chance to speak. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to reply to the debate. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of the hon. Minister. Everybody has been given time. Shri Harin Pathak was the last person who spoke. Sufficient time has been given. It is very unfortunate.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, the debate was initiated by the spokesperson of the principal Opposition Party, Shri Ananth Kumar ji. ... (*Interruptions*) When the reply comes, the spokesperson of the principal Opposition Party remains present in the House, and maybe because of some reasons he is not here now but I shall try to address the points which he has raised in the course of the discussion.

14.09 hrs

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, it is natural that the Members who belong to the Opposition will oppose the steps of the Government and the Budget, whether it is a regular Budget or an Interim Budget, is no exception.

The other participants, including the participants from our erstwhile supporters and now in the Opposition, pointed out certain lacunae in the areas of presentation in the Interim Budget. What are those lacunae? They have pointed out on several counts. They have found the failure of the Government on overall economic performance, performance of the public sector, performance on employment generation, Government's measures to handle the inflation, on fiscal deficit, plight of farmers, FDI and inadequacies of our regulatory framework. These are some of the issues, which the hon. Members in their observations have highlighted while making their comments on the Interim Budget.

Sir, I found one striking commonality that what I stated in my Budget observations and the Budget Speech, the hon. Members have also indicated the same in other languages. What I stated in my Budget Speech. Yes, I expressed satisfaction on the overall performance of the Government for the full period of five years because this is the end of the mandate, which we received five years ago, and it is quite obviously in conformity with the

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parliamentary etiquette and responsibility to give an account. Yes, I express my satisfaction over the performance. What are the reasons for the satisfaction? The satisfaction is very simple. Never before in the history of this country, we could find a period of three consecutive years where the economy has registered a sustainable growth of nine per cent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, most humbly I would like to submit that I had the privilege in the last two decades of being in the Finance Ministry occasionally and with a little command, which I have on the subject, I can say that never before, the country has registered, over a period of five years, 8.6 per cent GDP growth in our economy. From, 1951 to 1979, which is a long period, our GDP growth rate was 3.5 per cent. In the whole decade of Eighties, the GDP growth hovered around 5.6 per cent to 5.7 per cent. In the Nineties, we had the Economic Reforms introduced by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the incumbent Prime Minister. All of us are missing him because he is recovering, and I do hope that before the end of the Session, at least, he will come for a short while.

MR. SPEAKER: We share your hope.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: In the whole Nineties, during the 8th Plan and 9th Plan, we found some fluctuations.

But this is a compact period of five years, where we achieved an average growth rate – including the slowdown of this fiscal year — of 8.6 per cent. If I express a little satisfaction, I think, my distinguished colleagues need not mind it.

Ananth Kumar ji, while making his observations, stated that we inherited an excellent economy from the NDA and we have spoilt it by total mismanagement. The sum total of his observation was that there is total mismanagement of the economy and that an excellent economy which we had inherited from NDA. It is true NDA was in office for uninterrupted six years. Of course, there was a break during the Lok Sabha elections. But the Executive continued to stay from 1998 till 2004. In these six years, what was the average GDP growth rate? The average GDP growth rate was 5.8 per cent. What was the annual average fiscal deficit? It was 5.5 per cent. What was the revenue deficit? It was 4.4 per cent.

Now just to compare the period where the allegation is that we have spoiled, we have destroyed during the

five years period of UPA, including the year of unprecedented financial crisis and melt-down, where the growth has slowed down, where the fiscal deficit has increased, where the revenue deficit has increased, where in my own Budget speech I have admitted this, what is the total average performance of five years? The GDP growth rate is 8.6 per cent compared to 5.8 per cent. Fiscal deficit is 4.1 per cent compared to 5.5 per cent. Revenue deficit is 2.5 per cent compared to 4.0 per cent. We are told we have destroyed the economy. I leave the question to the hon. Members to find an answer.

Let us take into account certain other indicators. The tax GDP ratio during the six years' period of NDA was 8.8 per cent. During the five-year period of UPA, it is 11.1 per cent. It was a dismal performance. Here, I can tell one point to them that this is for the first time that there has been little less but thanks to Dr. Manmohan Singh, when he was Finance Minister from 1991 to 1998 and thanks to Mr. Chidambaram, who presided over this Ministry till the other day. Every year the first document I used to consult, after the presentation of the Budget, is the comparable figure of the Revenue Receipts, between BE and RE. We were used to, we were accustomed to see that more than often, RE used to be less than BE. But during this period, we found a pleasant exception that RE was always more than BE. The Revised Estimate was always more than BE. That is the strength of the economy, tax GDP ratio, savings rate and your capacity to invest. What was the investment? During the NDA regime, the investment in terms of GDP was 25.2 per cent and during the UPA regime, it is 35.9 per cent.

Now I come to rate of savings. During the NDA regime, it was 25.6 per cent. During the UPA regime, it is 34.8 per cent. Still, we are told that we have mismanaged the economy as a whole.

I would just like to draw your attention, Mr. Speaker Sir, and through you, of the hon. Members of the House – because to my mind, it is one great advantage which the NDA had – to the prices of the crude oil. During the period of the NDA regime, the average price of crude oil was little more than \$ 27 per barrel. I am talking of the average for the period of six years. When we assumed office, it started enhancing almost uninterruptedly. The curve was moving upward and it reached in August 2008 to \$ 147 per barrel. With the industrial growth, with the growth of economy, your consumption of imported crude will increase. You can imagine how much pressure it puts on the overall economy, overall resources. But

because of the management, we did not feel the BoP crisis. Earlier, we had this problem at one point of time, for which we were maligned. I was the Finance Minister in the early 1980s. To overcome the BoP crisis, when we entered into the extended funding facility with IMF of about 5 billion SDR, we were told that we had mortgaged the economic sovereignty of this country. Nothing happened. We came out with our heads high from the building of IMF. We had not withdrawn even the last instalment of about 1.2 billion SDR. Now, there were many self-styled Cassandras who prophesied the grimness of the economy.

Most respectfully, I would like to submit let us have some confidence, self-confidence of ourselves. We have managed the Indian economy. Please also look at what I have stated in my Budget Speech. In my Budget Speech I myself had expressed deep concern about the impact of the financial crisis and the global meltdown. It is quite obvious. Any responsible Finance Minister will have to express his concern. At the same time, I expressed that I had confidence on the resilience of the Indian economy and we would overcome the crisis. I am repeating that we are confident that Indian economy will overcome the crisis. We will overcome the crisis. We will not allow the country to deviate from the path of cherished goal. Yes, it may take some more time, it may take some more policy changes. It is a continuing process. Nobody can say, either on the floor of this House or outside, that all the problems in the developed world have been solved, whether in North America or in Europe.

Please remember that their — North America, Europe and Japan — economy is sliding down despite the heavy industrialisation and resources at their command, and we are not brought down to zero. Yes, it has dwindled from 9 per cent to 7.1 per cent. We have taken corrective steps, and it is not correct to say that we have not taken the corrective steps.

What would happen within these four months? The Government has a sovereign responsibility, and the Government will exercise that sovereign responsibility — as per the Constitutional mandate — till the day the successor Government resumes responsibility. But at the same time, please remember that there are certain Constitutional norms and Parliamentary propriety. How do you expect that I will burden the exchequer or any Finance Minister presenting the Interim Budget will burden the exchequer with series of taxation proposals when our mandate for the next fiscal year is extended for a period

of less than two months? What would be the credibility if I announce a series of expenditure proposals without locating the resources? Who is going to believe me? What type of confidence can we create in the system? But we have done whatever is possible, and I will come to it a little later.

We did not wait. Two stimulus packages were announced by the Prime Minister in December and January. The Reserve Bank changed the REPO interest rate and the reverse REPO interest rate. The REPO interest rate was brought down from 9 per cent to 5.5 per cent; the reverse REPO interest rate was brought down from 6 per cent to 4 per cent; and the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) was reduced from 9 per cent to 5 per cent. The banks are provided adequate liquidity, and the banks have actually started doing it. The banks can adjust interest rates to meet the demand of the economy.

People say that there is no impact of the stimulus packages, which we have provided. I have myself stated in the Budget speech that : "Yes, it takes some time." Two stimulus packages have been announced, one in December and another in January. Three months have not yet passed or four months have not yet passed. It takes some time for it to have its impact, but look at the state of health in the steel industry, cement industry, etc. Productions have started picking up, and demand is being generated.

In my Budget speech, I have myself stated that the enhanced expenditure contained a component of more than Rs. 39,000 crore of Plan expenditure. I have also stated about the elements of the Plan expenditure. Everything directly related to the development of the rural sector, rural infrastructure, agriculture including accelerated irrigation facilities. Not only these Rs.39,000 crore. About Rs.24,000 crore would be roughly the Central Plan, and Rs.15,000 would be the assistance to States and Union Territories by the Centre. The State Governments also will have to come forward. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I appeal to them. We have also provided adequate leverage to them.

If we look at the ways and means position of the States today, I have the figures as on 20-2-2009, of 14 days' Treasury bills the States are having Rs.78,360.28 crore; auctioned Treasury Bills Rs.12,808.88 crore; total cash surplus of all the States taken together is Rs.91,169.16 crore. They are also to spend. Some of them have the mandate for the whole five years. Some

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of the States' mandates are coming to an end. All the major development in the rural infrastructure, in the rural development will be undertaken by the States. Even the Centrally-sponsored schemes are being implemented by the States. So, when you look at the States, you shall have to look at it taking into account the entire package and not in piecemeal.

If you look at some of the high surplus States, Maharashtra has Rs.12,279 crore. Some hon. Members from Maharashtra were asking as to why we are not giving them adequate assistance! Tamil Nadu has RS.12,135 crore; Bihar Rs.6,903 crore; and Orissa Rs.7.705 crore. Of course, there are some States with negative balance like Jammu and Kashmir where the problem is different; and there are some other States for which we shall have to take appropriate steps.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we mentioned, not only the Reserve bank announced its monetary policy, we also took a series of fiscal measures. Mr. Chidambaram when he was the Finance Minister, took a number of tax and other fiscal measures to address these issues. I would not like to burden the Members with too many statistics but I would like to state a few of them here. They are: across the board cut of Cenvat by four percentage points benefiting all sectors; reduction of rate of duty on cotton textiles and textile articles from four per cent to zero; provision of additional funds of Rs.1,100 crore to ensure full reform of terminal excise duty and CST; specific measures on customs duties on sectors such as steel and cement through restoration of levels of protection; service tax concessions and enhancement of drawback rates for exports; interest subvention to help the export sector on pre and post shipment trading for labour-intensive exports for textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, carpets, and handicrafts; extension of a line of credit by Rs.5,000 crore to EXIM Bank from RBI to provide pre-shipment and post-shipment credit in rupees or in dollars to Indian exports for achieving the competitive rate.

- Re-finance facilities respectively of Rs.4000 crore for the National Housing Banks for housing sectors.
- Announcement of a package by public sector banks for borrowers of home loans up to Rs.20 lakh. This sector will be kept under a close watch and additional measures would be taken, as necessary, to promote an accelerated growth trajectory.

- Provision of additional allocation of Rs.1400 crore to clear the entire backlog of Technical Upgradation Fund Scheme in the textile sector.
- Inclusion of all items of handicrafts under *Vishesh Krishi and Gramudyog Yojana*.
- To facilitate the flow of credit to medium, small and micro enterprises, which is very important, Reserve Bank of India has announced a refinance facility of Rs.7,000 crore for SIDBI which will be available to support, incremental lending either directly to MSME or indirectly *via* banks, NBFCs and SFCs. In addition, certain other steps are being taken.
- To boost the collateral free lending, the current guarantee cover under the Credit Guarantee Scheme for micro and small enterprises on loans will be extended from Rs.50 lakh to Rs.1 crore with guarantee over 50 per cent. The lock in period of loans covered under the existing Credit Guarantee Scheme will be reduced from 24 to 18 months to encourage the banks to cover more loans under the guarantee scheme.
- Public sector banks have announced a reduction of the interest rates on existing as well as new loans to MSME sectors.
- Special monthly meeting of the State level bankers committee would be held to oversee the resolution of the credit issues of micro, small and medium enterprises by banks, departments of MSME and department of Financial Services will jointly set up a cell to monitor progress on this front. Matters of MSME remaining unresolved with the Bank's SME helpline for more than a fortnight may be brought to the notice of this Cell.

Hon. Members are aware, we have already taken legislative measures to provide a measure of security to the unorganised workers. We have enacted the Unorganised Sector Workers Social Security Bill 2008. The National Commission of Enterprises in the unorganised sector has been asked to work out a detailed scheme in this regard.

There were certain proposals which the Governors Conference made, particularly in respect of the empowerment of women. We have considered and we

have decided to set up a high-power committee of eminent persons and experts to study the status of women of India to enable the Government to take expeditious action; To set up a National Mission of Empowerment of Women for implementation of women centric programme in a mission mode to achieve the better coordination and synergy amongst the participating stake-holders; To restructure and revitalise the *Rashtriya Mahila Kosh* to scale up their activities including that of backward and forward linkages; to function as a single window facilitator and service provider for women self-help groups, the authorised and paid up capital of *Rashtriya Mahila Kosh* will be enhanced in a phased manner.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, while making his observations my good friend Shri Salim talked about the performance of the public sector and the Central Government's apathy towards the public sector.

Now let us look at some of the figures to indicate the performance of the central public sector enterprises. In 2003-04, the total turn over of all the Central public sector enterprises was Rs.5,87,000 crore. In 2007-08, the total turn over of the Central public sector enterprises has increased by 84 per cent from Rs.5,87,000 crore to Rs.10,81,000 crore. Let us look at the profitability. In 2003-04, the profitability of the Central public sector enterprises taken together was Rs.53,000 crore. In 2007-08, it is Rs.91,000 crore. There is an increase of 72 per cent.

As regards the number of loss making Central public sector enterprises, it was 73 in 2003-04 and we have brought it down to 58 in 2007-08. Similarly, the number of the profit making public sector enterprises has increased from 143 to 158. The number of profit making public sector enterprises is increasing and the number of loss making public sector enterprises is decreasing. The turn over is increasing, profit is increasing and if somebody comes out and says that you are neglecting the public sector enterprises, I am afraid I cannot ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, Md. Salim did not participate in the discussion.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have listened to the hon. Members very carefully and patiently and this much courtesy I can expect from my colleagues that when I speak in the House, they would not interrupt me... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt. If you have anything to ask, we shall see later on.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: More than 100 times you have told that as I cannot expect them to speak what I like, similarly, they cannot expect me to speak what they like. This is parliamentary democracy. If I have distorted the facts and if I am incorrect, you have every right to bring a privilege motion against me. But please do not interrupt me... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. It should be substituted by Shri Rupchand Pal,

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I have not spoken about it.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, who has spoken about it? Probably, he might have spoken earlier. He thought that it is a common refrain, that is why, he mentioned it.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: They have told that the Government is bringing disinvestment through backdoor. I am afraid it is totally a baseless contention. What we have done is that the Government's policy on disinvestment does not envisage any outright or strategic sale of a Central public sector enterprise. The focus of the policy is to enable and utilise unlisted and profitable Central public sector enterprises to raise capital through Initial Public Offering (IPO) with the Government offering a minority shareholding for divestiture. The intent is to ensure that the Government equity remains 51 per cent and the Government retains the management control. However, so far this year of 2008-09 is concerned because the market condition is down, that is why, we did not allow to have a single IPO.

Not only that, the UPA Government is making all possible efforts to turn around the loss making Central PSUs, like the Indian Telephone Industries through the infusion of funds and superior technologies which we have entrusted in some of the projects in Railways and in some of the projects and units in IITs and that will be the general policy which we have pursued during the last five years and which we will continue to do in future if we are brought back to power with a massive mandate of the people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I mentioned, the scope is extremely limited. With due respect to the desires of some of the hon. Members I think we should not violate the

[Shri Pranab Mukherjee]

cardinal principal that every constitutional body should operate – whether it is the Executive accountable to the Parliament, whether it is Parliament or whether it is the Judiciary – within the constitutional jurisdiction in the overall constitutional scheme of things through which we are living since 1950. Therefore, it was not possible for me to indulge in financial profligacy by making too many announcements, by giving too many concessions and by taking too many decisions without the backing of adequate financial resources. But keeping in view, whatever we could do, within the constraints and within the constitutional framework after listening to the suggestions of the hon. Members and having reactions from the various stakeholders, I have tried to make certain changes to provide further stimulus to the economy. Even though the signals are encouraging, the full impact of recession in other parts of the world, particularly Asia and Europe, is yet to unfold. Due to strong export linkages with these economies it is likely that the Indian economy may feel further impact in the coming months. To counter any such effects, the UPA Government has taken certain steps and I would like to place these before this House.

Sir, on Central Excise, the general reduction in Excise Duty rates by 4 per cent point was made with effect from 07.12.2008 and it is now being extended beyond 31st March, 2009. In addition, it has now been decided to reduce the general rate of Central Excise Duty from 10 per cent to 8 per cent; retain the rate of Central Excise Duty on goods currently attracting *ad valorem* rates of 8 per cent and 4 per cent respectively; reduce the rates of Central Excise Duty on bulk cement from 10 per cent or Rs. 290 per metric tonnes whichever is higher, to 8 per cent or Rs. 230 per metric tonnes whichever is higher. The Government is keen that the business confidence in the service sector is restored. It is also our objective that the dispersal between CENVAT rate and the service tax rates is reduced with a view to moving towards the stated goal of a uniform goods and service tax. In line with these objectives it has been decided to reduce the rates of service tax on taxable service from 12 per cent to 10 per cent.

To provide relief to the power sector, naphtha imported for generation of electric energy has been fully exempted from basic customs duty. This exemption which was available upto 31st March, 2009 is now being extended beyond that date. Section 10AA of the Income Tax provides for exemption in respect of the export profit of

a unit located in the Special Economic Zone. The export profits are required to be computed with reference to the total turnover of the SSEs. These have resulted in discriminatory treatment of SSEs having units located both in SEZ and the domestic tariff area vis-a-vis SSEs having units located only within the SEZ. It has now been decided to remove this anomaly through necessary changes in the Act when the regular budget is being presented.

Hon. Members may recall that in my budget speech, I have indicated that we have a review of the ceiling of fiscal deficit that the States can incur in 2009-10 in terms of the debt consolidation and relief facility. As a part of the first stimulus package, it was increased by 0.5 per cent to 3.5 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product for 2008-09. To start the development of infrastructure and employment generation, this arrangement is being extended to 2009-10 with the possibility of further review if required in the coming months despite the fact as I stated earlier, that the States together are left free right now with about Rs. 91 crores of surplus.

Sir, our policies are clear. Rapid development of infrastructure both in rural and urban areas and agriculture growth leading to employment generation and distributive justice tops the list. For us, economic growth is an instrument for development and not an end in itself. Economic growth has to be both inclusive and equitable. It must provide social justice and lead to empowerment of *aam aadmi*. In the last five years, the UPA Government has moved steadfastly in that direction but a social revolution which must flow from these methods is a long process and has to be worked out carefully and systematically not only through economic growth and mobilisation of resources but also through institutional changes and mobilisation of the masses. It is my earnest feeling that we will all walk together in the journey to achieve this shared vision. With these words, I conclude.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me an opportunity.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Sir, what about relief to diamond workers? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: In respect of diamonds, benefits which are given are extended to the entire export sector including diamond sector.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while presenting the interim budget, hon'ble Finance

Minister, Shri Pranab Mukerjee stated about IIM that out of six new Indian Institutes of management proposed in the 11th Plan, four institutes are likely to start functioning from academic session 2009-10. This is the position of Haryana, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Tamilnadu. I am sorry to say while replaying to the discussion on Central University Bill on the 20th of February, 2009, Hon'ble Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development Shrimati D. Purandeswari stated in her statement,

[English]

I would like to quote. The hon. Minister of State for Human Resource Development said:

"An IIT is already functioning at Rajasthan during the 11th Five Year Plan, through its temporary campus and it is being mentored by IIT, Kanpur. But due to an inadvertent typographical error which had crept in the inputs provided by our Ministry for the Budget Speech of the hon. Finance Minister while listing the names of the States where the new IIMs are to start from the academic year, 2009-10, the State of Rajasthan has been mentioned instead of Chhattisgarh. So, I humbly submit to the House that this may kindly be taken on record. We sincerely apologise for this typographical error from the Ministry of Human Resource Development."

[Translation]

This has resulted in a lot of resentment in the entire Rajasthan. Here in the center as well in the State, your party is in power. He has announced the establishment of IIM in Rajasthan I would like to know whether or not his institute would be established over there and what is the reality about it?

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : We have great respect for Shri Pranab Mukherjee's memory. He has responded to the issues raised by my colleague, Shri Md. Salim, that he raised when he was speaking on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: During the Budget speech, it has not been washed away.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: There is scope for reduction in the prices of petroleum products. They have given ten

times relief to the ATF. But the common people are not being given relief. We had expected that the Government will come out with some steps for the relief of the common man, the *Aam Admi*. What is the response to that? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: But there is no reduction in the passengers.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Every hon. Member has one question.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not a single word will be recorded.

(Interruptions) ..."

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to that issue of typographical mistake?

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am waiting for the hon. Minister to respond.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has said all that he has to say.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: As it was mentioned in your Budget speech, he is referring to it. What is the correct position? The hon. Minister of State of Human Resource Development has said that.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: As far as the issue raised by the hon. Member, Shri Rasa Singh Rawat, is concerned, apparently there appears to be a defect in what I stated in my Budget speech. Certainly, I shall have to verify the facts and we will correct. Naturally, the procedure is there to follow if there is any incorrect information given in reply to the Questions of Parliament. The Minister always has the liberty, with the indulgence of the House and with the permission of the Chair, to correct that and it will be done. ... (Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[Shri Pranab Mukherjee]

With regard to certain other issues that have been raised by the hon. Members, what I would like to say is that I am not ruling out the possibility. Insofar as the Government's functioning is concerned, it is a continuing one. It will continue to do so. Nothing prevents the Government from taking appropriate steps which will be called for during this period to respond to the emerging situation. It is not necessary to reflect everything in the Budget document. Budget is one instrument through which we are addressing certain issues. But there are other instrumentalities that are available at the command of the Government for addressing the issues, including the exports. When they got the concessions, it was not through any financial proposal.

15.00 hrs.

The Finance Minister has the leverage. Take for instance, the concessions which I have announced. For that I am not making any amendment because it is within the powers, which the Parliament was kind enough to vest in the Finance Minister. So, on some of the general issues, I am trying to point out that we will address the issue as and when the situation arise and we will respond to it.

Sir, in respect of the ITI, yesterday the Cabinet took the decision. They have agreed to provide the support and liquidate the liabilities so that the appropriate mechanism for rehabilitation can be done. I am told that it is possible to rehabilitate it immediately and some proposals are coming. Therefore, there are no two opinions on it. ... *(Interruptions)* It is coming and please do not worry about it. The Cabinet decision is – which was communicated by my colleague, Shri P. Chidambaram through media – that the Government has decided to discharge the total liabilities of more than Rs. 2,820 crore and a decision has already been taken in this regard. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except what the hon. Minister of Finance says.

(Interruptions) ...

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, though this is not related to the budgetary proposals, yet the hon. Members

*Not recorded.

are agitating on certain issues relating particularly to the situation in Sri Lanka. There has been some development. Yesterday, through certain international agencies, a proposal has come from the LTTE to facilitate the evacuation of the civilians. On earlier occasions, I made a statement on the floor of the House and I also reported after my visit to Sri Lanka on 27th of last month, that we are constantly monitoring the situation. The Ministry of External Affairs has expressed its intention and requested the Sri Lankan Government to facilitate the process of evacuation of the civilians in the context of the announcement made by LTTE so that the civilians could be brought to the safe zone, both through the sea route and through the land route; and also with the presence of the international observers so that they can oversee the movement and there should be no firing in the safe zone. The sanctity of the safe zone should be ensured. This we have done and the Ministry of External Affairs has issued the relevant statement.

Thank you.

...(Interruptions)

15.04 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri Mohan Rawale, Shri Anant Kumar and some other hon. Members left the House.)

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall not put the Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2009-10 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2010, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 33, 35, 36, 38 to 62, 64 to 74, 76, 77 and 79 to 105."

Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2009-10 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha

No. & Name of the Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant 'On Account' submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3
Ministry of Agriculture		
1. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	3965,97,00,000	28,17,00,000
2. Department of Agricultural Research and Education	1104,92,00,000	—
3. Department of Animal Husbandry Diarying and Fisheries	456,19,00,000	6,18,00,000
Department of Atomic Energy		
4. Atomic Energy	1307,25,00,000	698,90,00,000
5. Nuclear Power Schemes	787,97,00,000	425,04,00,000
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers		
6. Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	36,63,00,000	18,42,00,000
7. Department of Fertilisers	24144,87,00,000	65,35,00,000
8. Department of Pharmaceuticals	53,42,00,000	10,02,00,000
Ministry of Civil Aviation		
9. Ministry of Civil Aviation	239,26,00,000	55,42,00,000
Ministry of Coal		
10. Ministry of Coal	116,33,00,000	10,00,00,000
Ministry of Commerce and Industry		
11. Department of Commerce	999,61,00,000	220,41,00,000
12. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	374,68,00,000	18,33,00,000
Ministry of Communications and Information Technology		
13. Department of Posts	4018,53,00,000	302,77,00,000
14. Department of Telecommunications	2041,33,00,000	18,00,00,000
15. Department of Information Technology	792,00,00,000	18,67,00,000

	1	2	3
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution			
16. Department of Consumer Affairs		150,25,00,000	10,05,00,000
17. Department of Food and Public Distribution		28814,08,00,000	249,85,00,000
Ministry of Corporate Affairs			
18. Ministry of Corporate Affairs		61,00,00,000	13,33,00,000
Ministry of Culture			
19. Ministry of Culture		396,63,00,000	12,03,00,000
Ministry of Defence			
20. Ministry of Defence		3298,64,00,000	491,28,00,000
21. Defence Pensions		7263,25,00,000	—
22. Defence Services-Army		20084,18,00,000	—
23. Defence Services-Navy		2800,79,00,000	—
24. Defence Services-Air Force		4969,95,00,000	—
25. Defence Ordnance Factories		2495,45,00,000	—
26. Defence Services-Research and Development		1595,68,00,000	—
27. Capital Outlay on Defence Services			18259,87,00,000
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region			
28. Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region		443,99,00,000	47,83,00,000
Ministry of Earth Sciences			
29. Ministry of Earth Sciences		278,80,00,000	75,60,00,000
Ministry of Environment and Forests			
30. Ministry of Environment and Forests		571,83,00,000	11,17,00,000
Ministry of External Affairs			
31. Ministry of External Affairs		1834,53,00,000	182,46,00,000
Ministry of Finance			
32. Department of Economic Affairs		1833,85,00,000	358,04,00,000
33. Department of Financial Services		11198,51,00,000	1089,01,00,000
35. Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments		22444,02,00,000	—
36. Loans to Government Servants, etc.		—	120,00,00,000

	1	2	3
38. Department of Expenditure		19,87,00,000	2,13,00,000
39. Pensions		3744,14,00,000	—
40. Indian Audit and Accounts Department		762,64,00,000	90,00,000
41. Department of Revenue		3081,85,00,000	77,00,000
42. Direct Taxes		961,33,00,000	206,00,00,000
43. Indirect Taxes		1031,27,00,000	96,67,00,000
44. Department of Disinvestment		6,26,00,000	746,67,00,000
Ministry of Food Processing Industries			
45. Ministry of Food Processing Industries		178,49,00,000	35,00,00,000
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
46. Department of Health and Family Welfare		6030,29,00,000	331,75,00,000
47. Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)		239,92,00,000	75,00,000
48. Department of Health Research		202,00,00,000	—
Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises			
49. Department of Heavy Industry		91,85,00,000	178,81,00,000
50. Department of Public Enterprises		5,73,00,000	—
Ministry of Home Affairs			
51. Ministry of Home Affairs		518,18,00,000	37,34,00,000
52. Cabinet		126,02,00,000	26,68,00,000
53. Police		8792,47,00,000	2162,51,00,000
54. Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs		371,66,00,000	4,00,00,000
55. Transfers to Union Territory Governments		1108,85,00,000	24,00,00,000
Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation			
56. Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation		285,99,00,000	—
Ministry of Human Resource Development			
57. Department of School Education and Literacy		13039,30,00,000	250,00,00,000
58. Department of Higher Education		4392,63,00,000	—

	1	2	3
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting			
59. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting		706,51,00,000	116,17,00,000
Ministry of Labour and Employment			
60. Ministry of Labour and Employment		867,52,00,000	3,41,00,000
Ministry of Law and Justice			
61. Election Commission		7,00,00,000	—
62. Law and Justice		739,04,00,000	13,63,00,000
Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises			
64. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises		665,86,00,000	3,48,00,000
Ministry of Mines			
65. Ministry of Mines		183,82,00,000	12,80,00,000
Ministry of Minority Affairs			
66. Ministry of Minority Affairs		311,83,00,000	25,00,00,000
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy			
67. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy		202,73,00,000	6,60,00,000
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs			
68. Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs		19,67,00,000	7,00,00,000
Ministry of Panchayati Raj			
69. Ministry of Panchayati Raj		1593,57,00,000	—
Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs			
70. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs		2,78,00,000	—
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions			
71. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions		162,93,00,000	17,67,00,000
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas			
72. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas		1056,33,00,000	—
Ministry of Planning			
73. Ministry of Planning		132,48,00,000	4,00,00,000
Ministry of Power			
74. Ministry of Power		2205,91,00,000	629,67,00,000

	1	2	3
The President, Parliament, Union Public Service Commission & the Secretariat of the Vice-President.			
76.	Lok Sabha	128,00,00,000	—
77.	Rajya Sabha	51,64,00,000	—
79.	Secretariat of the Vice-President	79,00,000	—
Ministry of Rural Development			
80.	Department of Rural Development	34363,62,00,000	62,00,000
81.	Department of Land Resources	801,88,00,000	—
82.	Department of Drinking Water Supply	2867,61,00,000	—
Ministry of Science and Technology			
83.	Department of Science and Technology	609,41,00,000	22,47,00,000
84.	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	845,50,00,000	1,50,00,000
85.	Department of Biotechnology	304,70,00,000	—
Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways			
86.	Department of Shipping	374,00,00,000	167,70,00,000
87.	Department of Road Transport and Highways	5069,33,00,000	4829,02,00,000
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment			
88.	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	780,33,00,000	46,33,00,000
Department of Space			
89.	Department of Space	955,79,00,000	530,25,00,000
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation			
90.	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	670,09,00,000	1,33,00,000
Ministry of Steel			
91.	Ministry of Steel	38,34,00,000	2,67,00,000
Ministry of Textiles			
92.	Ministry of Textiles	1068,33,00,000	61,33,00,000
Ministry of Tourism			
93.	Ministry of Tourism	351,33,00,000	2,00,00,000
Ministry of Tribal Affairs			
94.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	91,71,00,000	16,67,00,000

	1	2	3
Union Territories (Without Legislature)			
95. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		598,91,00,000	366,50,00,000
96. Chandigarh		548,33,00,000	145,67,00,000
97. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		659,97,00,000	18,91,00,000
98. Daman and Diu		260,60,00,000	27,49,00,000
99. Lakshadweep		181,41,00,000	64,46,00,000
Ministry of Urban Development			
100. Department of Urban Development		362,60,00,000	901,55,00,000
101. Public Works		372,42,00,000	159,43,00,000
102. Stationery and Printing		97,47,00,000	4,00,000
Ministry of Water Resources			
103. Ministry of Water Resources		313,85,00,000	28,00,00,000
Ministry of Women and Child Development			
104. Ministry of Women and Child Development		2426,00,00,000	—
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports			
105. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports		1192,36,00,000	65,66,00,000
Total Revenue/Capital		261209,43,00,000	35219,21,00,000

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2008-09 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account

shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2009, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 3, 6, 8, 10 to 19, 21, 23 to 25, 27 to 33, 35, 38 to 43, 46 to 51, 53 to 55, 57 to 62, 64, 65, 67 to 69, 71, 72, 74, 77, 79, 80, 83 to 88, 90 to 101 and 103 to 105."

List of Supplementary Demands for Grants-Third and Final Batch (General) for 2008-09 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

No. & Title of the Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant to be submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3
1. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	3,00,000	—
2. Department of Agricultural Research and Education	89,21,00,000	—

	1	2	3
3.	Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	3,00,000	—
6.	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	1,00,000	—
8.	Ministry of Civil Aviation	206,99,00,000	—
10.	Department of Commerce	194,42,00,000	—
11.	Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	2,00,000	—
12.	Department of Posts	784,61,00,000	—
13.	Department of Telecommunications	—	507,92,00,000
14.	Department of Information Technology	2,00,000	—
15.	Department of Consumer Affairs	148,43,00,000	—
16.	Department of Food and Public Distribution	3,00,000	160,51,00,000
17.	Ministry of Corporate Affairs	1,00,000	—
18.	Ministry of Culture	11,94,00,000	1,00,000
19.	Ministry of Defence	251,86,00,000	3,00,000
21.	Defence Services-Army	5895,75,00,000	—
23.	Defence Services-Air Force	224,60,00,000	—
24.	Defence-Ordance Factories	1615,76,00,000	—
25.	Defence Services-Research and Development	201,64,00,000	—
27.	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region	1,00,000	60,00,00,000
28.	Ministry of Earth Sciences	26,75,00,000	—
29.	Ministry of Environment and Forests	6,00,000	—
30.	Ministry of External Affairs	342,39,00,000	794,92,00,000
31.	Department of Economic Affairs	149,62,00,000	376,61,00,000
32.	Payments to Financial Institutions	3143,09,00,000	656,90,00,000
33.	Department of Financial Services	8,41,00,000	—
35.	Transfers to State and Union territory Governments	2917,10,00,000	—
38.	Department of Expenditure	9,92,00,000	—
39.	Pensions	585,17,00,000	—
40.	Indian Audit and Accounts Department	265,28,00,000	29,00,000

	1	2	3
41. Department of Revenue		483,48,00,000	—
42. Direct Taxes		251,58,00,000	—
43. Indirect Taxes		506,91,00,000	—
46. Department of Health and Family Welfare		8,79,00,000	1,00,000
47. Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)		2,00,000	—
48. Department of Health research		35,19,00,000	—
49. Department of Heavy Industry		864,07,00,000	56,51,00,000
50. Department of Public Enterprises		1,21,00,000	—
51. Ministry of Home Affairs		2,00,000	—
53. Police		74,10,00,000	—
54. Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs		354,20,00,000	—
55. Transfers to Union territory Governments		1,00,000	—
57. Department of School Education and Literacy		11,58,00,000	—
58. Department of Higher Education		8,00,000	—
59. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting		3,00,000	—
60. Ministry of Labour and Employment		148,62,00,000	2,50,00,000
61. Election Commission		1,96,00,000	—
62. Law and Justice		2,00,000	—
64. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises		2,00,000	—
65. Ministry of Mines		26,61,00,000	—
67. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy		3,00,000	—
68. Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs		2,00,000	—
69. Ministry of Panchayati Raj		1,00,000	—
71. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions		—	1,00,000
72. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas		10000,00,00,000	242,47,00,000
74. Ministry of Power		2,05,00,000	1,00,000
77. Rajya Sabha		7,58,00,000	—

	1	2	3
79.	Secretariat of the Vice-President	6,00,000	—
80.	Department of Rural Development	4,00,000	—
83.	Department of Science and Technology	2,00,000	1,00,000
84.	Department of Scientific Industrial Research	114,91,00,000	—
85.	Department of Biotechnology	1,00,000	—
86.	Department of Shipping	4,00,000	2,00,000
87.	Department of Road Transport and Highways	454,28,00,000	49,50,00,000
88.	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	3,30,00,000	9,00,00,000
90.	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	1,00,000	—
91.	Ministry of Steel	400,20,00,000	252,05,00,000
92.	Ministry of Textiles	955,24,00,000	107,43,00,000
93.	Ministry of Tourism	1,00,000	12,00,00,000
94.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	1,00,000	—
95.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	243,98,00,000	183,95,00,000
96.	Chandigarh	130,42,00,000	165,51,00,000
97.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	361,06,00,000	4,00,00,000
98.	Daman and Diu	141,72,00,000	8,20,00,000
99.	Lakshadweep	103,01,00,000	57,00,000
100.	Department of Urban Development	1,00,000	49,12,00,000
101.	Public Works	8,41,00,000	—
103.	Ministry of Water Resources	1,00,000	—
104.	Ministry of Women and Child Development	2,00,000	—
105.	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	3,00,000	36,50,00,000
	Total	32768,15,00,000	3736,56,00,000

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2008-09 are passed.

15.06 hrs.

**APPROPRIATION (VOTE ON ACCOUNT)
BILL-2009***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2009-10.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2009-10."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I introduce** the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : Now Mr. Minister may please move the motion for consideration of the Bill.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2009-10, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2009-10, be taken into consideration. "

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.**The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 24.02.09.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.08 hrs.

APPROPRIATION BILL, 2009*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09 "

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I introduce** the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : Now Mr. Minister may please move the motion for consideration of the Bill.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I beg to move"

"That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidate Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidate Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2008-09, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 24.02.09.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.10 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 2009

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to move*:

"That the Bill to continue the existing rates of income-tax for the financial year 2009-10, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to continue the existing rates of income-tax for the financial year 2009-10, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh will speak now. Five minutes.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to speak on the Finance Bill, 2009. As we all know, this being an Interim Budget, there is

not much to be discussed on the Finance Bill. We started with the General Budget, then we had the Demands for Grants on Account, the Appropriation Bill and now we have come to the third stage of consideration of the Finance Bill.

There is not very much to say because nothing really has come up on the finance side. Usually, the country looks forward to the Finance Bill to the new proposals of income-tax and other taxation measures. But this being an Interim Budget and elections being round the corner, nothing has really come up for a discussion. So, I will only focus on what the Finance Minister has just now said regarding the stimulus package and the position of the economy today. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please be silent. Otherwise I will adjourn the House.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH : The Finance Minister has rightly said that there is a downturn in the world economy. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you continue to do like this, I will adjourn the House.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Most of the countries of the world are worried about this downturn. We have not had a recession of this kind in the world since the 1930s. People are worried that from the inflation, we may get into deflation which can be even worse. Then, even what we cannot think of, all that is happening and the new President of America Mr. Obama really took it on his shoulders that immediately after taking over, he came out with a package. No American had even thought of that such a bail-out package would come up. But in India, we are glorifying the five years of good times, we are basking in the good 8 per cent or 9 per cent GDP growth that we have had and we are not worried about the future.

Sir, what is the industry going through now? All the sectors of the industry are facing this downturn, the car industry, the cement industry, the steel industry which the Finance Minister talked about just now. He said that there is a demand for steel and some sort of impetus only because of the rural infrastructure development works that are going on. But otherwise, this is only superficial. Everybody is facing this crisis and we are really not worried about it. The Government should have called the captains of the industry, asked them to put their heads

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh]

together and should have told them that we can give a bail-out or a stimulus package to you, even if it is an Interim Budget, to face this crisis. But this UPA Government does not seem to be worried about it. They seem to be worried only about the elections which are round the corner and they seem to be thinking as to how they can get back to power. At this rate, they will never come back. The industry is not with them and the *Aam Aadmi* is also not with them. That is why, I am saying that still there is time, elections are two months away, they can get the industry together, constitute a commission and ask them as to what they can do even in this time. The timing might be wrong.

The elections have come and if the elections were about one year ahead, you would have thought of all this. Since you have not thought of this, please come out with a bail out package. This is what is required what we can do to really give a boost to the industries.

I come from a city which is a textile city and the textile mills are all closing down. They have a financial crunch. They do not know what to do because the exports are down to 60 per cent. The sustenance, if there is any, is only because of the rural demand. How to go about it? Even in the world today, the WTO is facing this problem. They do not know where they are going to go. Even the bilateralism and the regional way of selling, marketing is unknown today. In these days of crisis, we must think about what we can do and I am just focussing on this bail out package that you should think about. Do something so that we can have these industries come up and sustained. At least, come out in this one and-a-half year period. Even America also know how to get past this one and-a-half year period and we seem to be still in a slumber. We seem to be still basking in the glory of 8-9 per cent that the FM is talking about. So, I would say that please give a bail out package.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi): Sir, where is the statement about Sri Lanka?... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You did not hear him.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You did not listen to the hon. Minister.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything without my permission. Only Shri Adsul's speech will be recorded.

*(Interruptions) ... **

MR. SPEAKER: Please. He has already mentioned it. You cannot disturb the House like this.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, sorry, I cannot allow this.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Your demand is noted by the Government, I am sure.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record a single word.

*(Interruptions) ... **

MR. SPEAKER: Will you go out of the House?

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I hope the people of this country are looking at you.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Will you go out of the House? I ask both of you to go out of the House.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not force me to take unpleasant action.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your mark. People have seen you already.

15.19 hrs.

(At this stage, Dr. C. Krishnan and Shri Ravichandran Sippiparai left the House.)

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana): Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill presented by hon. Finance Minister.

*Not recorded.

In the final presentation of this Interim Budget, the hon. Finance Minister has stated that *aam aadmi* was concentrated by Seven Point Programme of UPA Government. I will go one by one. It is not only my observation but the CAG report also states that there is a diversion of funds though there are so many schemes around the *aam aadmi*, in the language of the hon. Finance Minister. It is not a small amount but a sum of about Rs. 20,000 crore is diverted to the cultural programmes, which was specifically provided in the Budget for so many schemes like National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and other schemes for the sake of persons below the poverty line.

First of all, I would like to bring to your notice that in the last Session, while raising the question relating to Rural Development Ministry, I had brought to the notice of the Minister that within a period of two years, in my constituency Buldhana, Maharashtra only 50 accounts were opened. What is the reason? What is the monitoring and accounting system of the Government if only 50 accounts of the beneficiaries were opened? We are talking about *aam aadmi*, we are making provision in the Budget. But, ultimately what is the effect of it? About 36 per cent population of this country is below poverty line. Can our Finance Minister tell that somehow that percentage is coming down? My reply is : 'No'. Maybe, I will listen in the reply.

Secondly, about 26 per cent youths are unemployed. Has that percentage come down? There is provision for infrastructure and also for agriculture. A good amount was provided in the Budget. Ultimately, if the result is that, if everything is done for the *aam aadmi*, where is that *aam aadmi*? He is there only. The unemployed are not getting jobs. Still today suicides are going on in the various parts of Maharashtra, particularly in Vidarbha. Then what is the use of all these things? If I would say it is only for the sake of misguiding, it will not be wrong. It is misguiding. What I told earlier, the C&AG report states that. There are so many items. If I will go one by one, it will take time.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please Speak quickly the important points, otherwise time will be over.

[*English*]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Of course, Sir.

Now I come to the banking industry. For the last three years, I brought to the notice of the former Finance Minister, and I also hope that this Finance Minister will take note of it, as per the Banking Regulation Act there is imposition of the Rules of Regulation to the commercial bank equally to the cooperative bank. Whenever there is relaxation in CLR, CRAR, or otherwise SLR, why that benefit is not given to the cooperative banking industry?

For the last two years, I am trying to see that the income tax is not imposed on the cooperative banking industry. Under Section 80 (P) of the Income Tax Act it was exempted, but from the last two years it is imposed on the cooperative banking industry.

Always, I am trying to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that cooperative banking industry is different one. It is for the common people. In the language of the Government, it is for *aam aadmi*. The shares of the cooperative banking industry are not marketable. That is why the borrower is the member of the bank. Unless he is a member, he could not be a borrower. That is why he is liable for the dividend. If we impose the income tax, then for development in the competition field and also for the sake of dividend, nothing is taken into consideration.

There are so many other things but due to paucity of time, I would like to conclude here. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that very well. We have already spent three more hours than we had decided on the financial business.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Two hon. Members have made their observations on the Finance Bill. As I mentioned – and everybody is aware of that, those who are sitting here – that the scope of the Finance Bill here in this Interim Budget when there is no variation in the taxes, the discussion is extremely limited.

But at the same time, it is a constitutional requirement. As per Article 265 of the Constitution, the taxes in this country are being levied only for 365 days. Therefore, even the rates of taxes are not varied, it is customary to bring the Bill, get the approval of Parliament, and without Parliament's approval nobody can impose or levy any tax and collect it. Therefore, this is the constitutional requirement.

But keeping aside that the bailout package, which the hon. Member has referred to, is required. I have mentioned three things. Firstly, I have narrated in my original Budget speech and thereafter in my reply said about the bailout package which this Government announced. It is true that it has started yielding results. For instance, in three important sectors – steel, cement and commercial vehicle, about which the hon. Member has referred to – there has been some improvement and we are working out this situation because the production has started increasing, and demand is gradually increasing. Textile industry has been hit particularly in the export sector, and there is no denial to this fact but there too we have given certain concessions which were declared earlier, and in today's package also I have extended some of the benefits, which were limited only to 31st March, 2009, beyond one year. At the appropriate time, we will consider it but at the same time I have also mentioned that it is not that if certain eventualities take place and certain action is called for, the Government would not be in a position to do that.

Take for instance, reduction in the bank rates. Just a couple of days back, I had a discussion with the Reserve Bank Governor and told him that the facilities which you have extended to the bank and the liquidity which is being available to the bank have not actually percolated. So, keeping an eye on the requirement of the industries, both the Ministry and RBI will work concertedly to ensure that it gets adequately reflected in the actual lending rate and to meet the requirement.

In certain sectors, we have earmarked it, seven per cent interest subvention also we are providing, and refinancing facilities have been given. I can assure the hon. Member that it will not take unusually long time to see the impact of these measures. But please remember that there is some sort of a psychological fear in the mind of the people, and this is, to some extent, a very serious situation. The hon. Member himself has stated that after 1930, the international community did not witness this type of depression. What had happened after the 1930 depression? What was the consequence? We had terrible results, and the world had to undergo. Everybody is aware of that. Surely we would not like to have that repetition. But keeping in view, whatever that is possible is being done; we will continue to do so. As and when appropriate action to meet the situation is called for, the Government will not fail to do so.

In respect of the benefit which the people have got or not, people will judge that. We have given it. Time has come for the day of their judgment. Let us wait for that, and let us not debate here and waste the time of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to continue the existing rates of income-tax for the financial year 2009-10, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.30 hrs

PAYMENT OF GRATUITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2007

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up the Supplementary Business — Shri Oscar Fernandes.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): Sir, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Radhakrishnan, at the introduction stage, you may oppose it. But you are opposing it even at the time of withdrawal.

Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 "

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am extremely sorry to bring it to the notice of this House that this Government has made it a usual practice of encroaching upon the powers of the Legislature. Here is a specific case regarding amendment to the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. The provisions of the Act are there.

Now, Article 123 of the Constitution envisages a situation wherein unforeseen circumstances warrant that to meet an emergency situation, Ordinance can be passed. But here is a case relating to the amendment of the existing Act. Not only that, for this purpose, the Bill was introduced in this House in December, 2007, and then, it was referred to the Standing Committee on Labour. The Standing Committee on Labour also submitted its Report in due course, but the Government was sleeping all over. They did not take into consideration the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Labour. The matter was placed before this House. The Report was placed on the Table.

The natural course would have been, without resorting to Article 123, they ought to have brought the Bill here and passed it. But without resorting to the normal course, they resorted to the emergency provision of the Constitution, which is a clear case of misuse.

Sir, this is the not first time, it has happened. I think, Mr. Speaker, you would remember that such a thing has happened earlier also. This is the second time that an Ordinance has been brought. First time, it was relating to some other case. Now, here is a second case. There is a Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and the House is seized of the matter. When the House is in possession of the Bill, the law will not permit them to issue an Ordinance. It is an encroachment upon the powers of the Legislature.

MR. SPEAKER: He is introducing the Bill, now. Next item is about introduction of the Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: It has become a casual matter for them. I am very sorry to say that the

Constitution is misused, and it is used for supporting the provisions of the Bill to make law. The law should originate in this House and not in the Ministry. The Ordinance originates in the Ministry and not in the House. The minutes should originate in this House. But here, the normal procedure, the normal course provided in the Constitution is being willfully ignored. At a political convenience, they have resorted to the emergency provision of the Constitution, which is very unfortunate.

The hon. Speaker should take a serious note of it and such a procedure should not go on record as a precedent. It should specifically be brought to the notice of the House that such practice would never be resorted to.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, would you like to say something?

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, we are introducing the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you going to bring in the Ordinance?

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may now, withdraw the Bill.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

15.34 hrs

GOVERNMENT'S BILLS—INTRODUCED— *Contd.*

(iii) Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2009*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section 2, dated 24.2.2009.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972."

The motion was adopted

The Minister may now introduce the Bill.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Item No.31. Shri Jaipal Reddy has given notice.

Shri Ajay Maken—Not present.

Well, I must express my disapproval.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not permitted. I agree with you.

15.35 hrs

PREVENTION OF MONEY-LAUNDERING (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Item No.32—Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 was enforced in the year 2005. Gaining from the experience and also trying to bring the provision in line

with the law prevailing in different countries, the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2008 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee, after deliberating upon the Bill at length, made its observations and on the basis of those observations, we have moved certain amendments in the Rajya Sabha and the Rajya Sabha was pleased to pass this Bill the other day, on 19th February, 2009.

Very briefly, I would like to refer to the substantive amendments that we have moved in the Bill that are before the House today. These include (1) the addition of more offences to the Schedule to the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, such as offences to do with terrorist financing, (2) the inclusion of a new category of offences, namely, offences of cross border implications—this will effectively remove the threshold of Rs.30 lakh for predicate offences of Part B of the Schedule in cases of international activities; (3) to bring money changers, money transfer service providers, and international payment gateways within the reporting regime; and (4) to bring one Designated Non Financial Business, namely, casinos under the reporting regime.

There were certain difficulties also experienced in the enforcement of the Act, which are now sought to be removed by providing that the proceeds of crime—and this is a very important one—can be provisionally attached even when these are in the possession of a person who has not been charged with a predicate offence; and secondly, to provide that such order of provisional attachment of the proceeds of crime can be confirmed by the Adjudicating Authority. The provisional attachment, which was initially permitted for a period of 30 days, can now be continued up to 150 days.

15.38 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Also, we have provided that the power to search and seize can be exercised at the stage of filing of report by the police authorities under Section 157 of the Cr. PC in cases where the police is investigating the predicate offence. Also, there is provision that the power to search or seize can be delegated to officers not below the rank of Deputy Director.

With these words, I would commend the Bill to this hon. House.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the amendment brought to the Money Laundering Prevention Bill by the Hon'ble Minister but at the same time I would like to say that it would have been better, if these amendments had been brought a little earlier. These amendments would enable the Government to prevent terrorist activities successfully by becoming a member of Finance Action Task Force and the money being utilized for such activities could be controlled thereby.

After mid eighties and in the nineties terrorism has been on the rise across the world, particularly in our country. The first initiative which put a check on these activities was taken by United Nations in 1998 in Vienna. Consequently, this Money Laundering Prevention (Amendment) Bill has been introduced.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not blame anybody as we all are responsible for it. The economy of our country amounts to a trillion dollar and the economy of black money is running parallel to it. This parallel economy need to be checked. Unless this is checked, the Government will not succeed in checking these terrorist activities.

Sir, according to a report, most of the money deposited to Swiss Bank belong to the people of our country. Efforts which should have been made to withdraw those money, have not so far been made. German Government have made efforts in this direction. They have sought information regarding the companies holding their account in Swiss Bank and have deposited money therefor the purpose of tax evasion. The Government of Finland have also made efforts in this direction and have succeeded. We should also make efforts to find out the names of those persons who have deposited money in Swiss Bank and where and how this money is being utilized. Is this money being utilised for terrorist activities against our country? I think, such efforts are urgently required to be made.

Sir, while delivering a speech in an international seminar, our Security Advisor stated that the slush money and black money earned through drug trafficking and wildlife trade are being invested in the real estate. This needs to be taken seriously.

Sir, corruption is increasing in our country which needs to be warded off. The Transparency Institution conducted a survey in 146 countries to assess the level of corruption and placed our country at 91st position in this respect. I would like to know as to what provisions are being made by the Government in this bill.

Sir, as per survey conducted by IMF, there are about 40 lakh crore rupees as black money in our country. This black money is being misused, due to which terrorist activities are increasing...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Anything spoken without my permission should not be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): Sir, what I am trying to say is that all this money, slush money, black-money or money earned through illegal means-illegal trafficking, illegal drugs trade, wildlife trade...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Lakshman Singh, do not address any Member. Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Sir, I welcome this Bill however, for making this bill more effective, the Government will have to do more concrete efforts. I would like to know as to what kind of efforts would be made by the Government and what kind of assistance do the Government expect from the state governments? I will request the hon'ble Minister to mention about all the points in his speech.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, we had passed this from the Standing Committee rather in haste as you were very keen to get it passed along with the other anti-terrorist pieces of legislation that were being passed. But it took so much of time — whatever may be the difficulties — and now it has come. I will just add a couple of points.

Firstly, the Standing Committee has deeply gone into different provisions including the new opportunities that are being exploited by the terrorist forces, so that they can be brought within the purview of the criminal justice system. But even today we do find that hawala regime

*Not recorded.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

is very much dominant. Even in the Satyam case we do find that a big reputed company had resorted to the hawala route. One UK research team is commenting that about 500 such companies of India are using the hawala route, and that they are not even using the money that they are having as external commercial borrowings for the same purpose. They are first putting the money sometimes in the share market or sometimes they are using it for the purposes that are not in conformity with the purposes stated for getting that loan, be it the external commercial borrowings or other borrowings.

They have mentioned about the Swiss bank accounts. Even today we do find that the UBS have come clean about the bank accounts of the American fraudsters. The UK Prime Minister has also appealed for it. Now, the reports are that more than \$ 1,400 billion worth of Indian money are stashed. Apart from that, there are many other tax havens where money is there. There was a comment that that money is coming back, and the capital market is also being used by the terrorist groups themselves. This was a comment coming from an important person. This issue came up while we were examining this issue. The issue of fake currency notes also came up. All these issues are there.

I support the Bill, but I think that the Bill has come in the backdrop of the anti-terrorist measures that are being initiated. There are very many grey areas, and the loopholes are to be plugged appropriately. The first such loophole is the participatory note. The Reserve Bank of India had categorically stated that it should be banned, but for very many reasons the Government of India did not give it. The source of money is never known. The money is coming from different sources. Therefore, when the National Security Advisor was commenting that money is coming to the capital market, this was also terrorist money. I think that all these are related issues.

Deregulation has many faces. One face you find in America where Lehman Brothers are really on the streets as it has collapsed. There are very many other icons of the Wall Street who are not only rolling on the streets, but have also vanished. They are becoming vanishing companies, who have their own money.

Now, as regards Satyam, we do find that they have also been using the hawala route. Therefore, my suggestion will be that in addition to the provisions that we have made in order to strengthen it or make the provision more stringent, they should also bring it within

the purview of the criminal justice and criminal law. Hence, the Schedule is being added to the Bill. I would suggest a re-look at the provision like participatory note or a re-look at the reports of the money being stashed abroad, which may also be used by the terrorists in different names or through different NGOs, etc.

I support the Bill, and I appeal to the Government that they should look into the Bill for some more comprehensive measures.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on Prevention of Money Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2009. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this issue. I have heard a lot of interviews after Mumbai terrorist attack but it is still not known who were involved in these attacks. I have seen this terrorist attack with my own eyes. I remained there continuously for three days. Who had brought those terrorists? I also hail from Mumbai, I have myself witnessed it. Before attack, I was not knowing where is Nariman building while the terrorists were very well conversant with the location of Nariman building or Leopard hotel so they had started firing over there. They were aware that foreigners frequent visit those places. It means that there was someone who had provided information to them about Mumbai.

Sir, someone was there who had provided funds to them. I am speaking on Money Laundering Bill as to how this money reaches them through hawala.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not disturb him. Let him conclude his speech.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Sir, it should be found out from where they get money. Alongwith it, I want to talk about security that police personnel need to be given proper training there. I saw that had the police personnel been given proper training to fight against the terrorists, they would have not been killed in such a huge number in this attack. They should have training and knowledge to fight against terrorists. For that they should be given special training. We should know from where the terrorists come, how do they come and from where they get money. Had the Mumbai police been given training to fight terrorists the number of police personnel killed by the terrorists in Mumbai would have not been so high. I have myself witnessed it. The Mumbai police personnel were really brave but they were not knowing how to kill the

terrorists tactfully. I request the Government that the Mumbai police personnel should be given such training. Shashank Shinde, the brave police officer, should be awarded Ashok Chakra.

Apart from the Bill, I would like to raise one more point. When Mumbai was under terrorist attack several persons alongwith Shri Shashank Shinde were killed at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus. It is my request that Shri Shashank Shinde should be awarded Ashoka Chakra. I support this Bill.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support Prevention of Money Lundering (Amendment) Bill, 2009. In this connection, I would like to say that corruption is deeprooted evil and corruption due to money contributes largely to it. Black money begets various kinds of corruption. It affects the nation on all fronts, be it economic, social, religion or educational. This is not local phenomena. This is an age of export and import, so it is a global phenomena and it cannot be controlled at one point.

Sir, I would like to congratulate UPA Government that the country is making rapid progress in economic sector during its regime. Many a effective software have been developed through computerization and automation with the help of which task of discouraging money laundering has been undertaken. But still I feel that there is still pilferage. It is an ongoing process. The Government should take steps to check it in the best possible manner. Recently, reports have been received that money has been flowing from abroad through money laundering to abet terrorism. So, I think that this is the area which needs high pricision and the software which is developed for this purpose should be tested and foolproof. Its betterment and maintenance should be done continuously.

There is pilferage in the name of enterprises and trades and black money is flowing. I feel that over the years the UPA Governments budgetary approach has been to check the root cause i.e. the parallel passages for flow of such money through taxation. The package system is prevalent globally now and it is in vogue in our country also. A big chunk of money of such packages allotted under various scheme remained untaxed, whether it had like maintenance costs or other such things does not come in the periphery of taxes. The Governments approaches to bring such heads gradually in the periphery of the taxes so that illegal flow of money could be stopped.

I expect the Government to give priority to a few important things such as national integrity, checking financial crimes, black money flow or flow of money by external destructive powers.

With these words, I support this bill.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, I stand here to participate in the Bill that has been moved for an amendment amending the Prevention of Money Laundering Act known as Prevention of Money Laundering (Amendment) Bill 2009.

The Minister has very rightly pointed out that this Bill was before the Rajya Sabha and was referred to the Standing Committee of Finance. As Shri Rupchand Pal has stated, the Standing Committee of Finance also went into it in haste, for the interest of the nation, and also made certain suggestions. Though this Parliament had passed this Act in 2002 it came into force in 2005. But subsequently a number of incidents had occurred in the country. Sir, because of the obligation which we have with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution, this amendment has become necessary. The UNGA had adopted the political declaration and global programme of action to prevent money laundering. This Act of 2002 was brought into force in 2005, to prevent money laundering and to provide for confiscation of property derived from or involved in money laundering and for matters connected therewith.

I am reminded of the day when from the railway platform of Delhi large bags of black-money, *Hawala* money, were recovered. A dairy went around and a number of cases were registered in the early nineties. At that time it was in the Media that this money was *Hawala* money which was supposed to be diverted for terrorists' activities in Jammu and Kashmir valley. The whole country knows how money has played a vital role in the terrorists' activities. It is not only poverty which has played a vital role in having terrorists activities in different parts of the world, money also has played a vital role to have terrorists activities throughout the world. Money played a vital role at one point of time to have drug mafias. Later on it went into the terrorists' activities. Now, we have terrorists' activities which have religious undertone or overtone as we may say it.

[Shri B. Mehtab]

16.00 hrs.

Therefore, it is in the fitness of things that certain amendments were required and basically the amendment which has been incorporated here though it was not in the original amendment which was placed before the Rajya Sabha, was relating to counterfeit, currency notes, bank notes or promissory notes as has been said for using as genuine, forged counterfeit, currency notes or bank notes. The State is aware how much black money or counterfeit notes are coming into the country through different channels, not only from Nepal or Bangladesh even from Thailand. A large number of people from African countries are also getting involved in this counterfeit currency getting into our country. It is playing a major role to give impetus to terrorist activities. The amendment that has been also proposed says that the offences under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 and also offences under the Indian Penal Code are genuine. I would say that sufficient safeguards have been made into this Bill.

Recently, I think two-three months back, a report was there in the media and the National Security Adviser came out with a statement and I do not think it has been contradicted yet nor any explanation has been given that *havala* money or terrorist money is getting involved in the stock exchange market. Money is being invested in our stock exchanges. This is very serious but I still doubt. I think the Minister can clarify while replying how far this is true and if this is so whether this Bill is sufficient enough to take cognizance of this fact and take action against it because money is playing a vital role. I would appreciate the amendment that has come specially the amendment or certain presumptions – raids can be conducted and property can be confiscated the moment some action has taken place. These are the two major amendments which are there in this Bill and I appreciate that. I also expect that the money that is being invested in stock exchanges – *havala* money or the terrorist money whichever link one is to go through if this is taken care of, I think we do not have to worry very much because money is playing a vital role in carrying out terrorist activities and is giving impetus to the terrorist. With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhitwara): Sir, I stand to support the Prevention of Money-laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2009. Most of the points have been covered and I actually appreciate the way the Minister has put this. There are two-three points that I want to make and they are very specific ones.

After 9/11, the international agencies very rightly said that we must curb the money flowing into the terrorist attacks and the activities of the terrorism. A lot of things have come about. Today, nobody carries the money. They want to have electronic transfers, credit cards, debit cards, etc. People are saying that one of the reasons for the biggest frauds in America as also the recession is credit cards and debit systems.

They do not know how billions of money has gone into forgery and fraud. They do not really know about it. What I am trying to say is that we must not get into this line. Punishment has been provided for. Everything is in place. But we do not know how they are being implemented. Something must be done in regard to credit card forgery so that the financial system, the economic situation that we are in today is not adversely affected by this.

Sir, my second point is that we have currency notes of various denominations, like a thousand rupee note, a five hundred rupee note. The basic question is, do they have enough safeguards? Do they have the salient security features? I recently had a word with someone who is an expert and also Indian and he said that he wanted to advice the Government on this aspect. He told me that the Swiss Franc currency had 20 such features because of which it cannot be counterfeited. Whereas, in our currency notes we have only two to three security features and safeguards. Why can we not upgrade this system? The Australians have plastic cards which are not plastic notes. They cannot have the features. So, they also are doing away with it. My point here is that we must upgrade the security features of the currency notes so that they could not be counterfeited. There are features like the colours of the currency notes and there are little things like "RBI" written on it and those can be upgraded. We can have more number of security features so that the counterfeit money that comes to India can be stopped.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, I would like to make a brief submission on this Bill ...
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Shri Mehtab has already spoken from your party...
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : What is the hurry? I am requesting the hon. Chairman to allow me two minutes. Why are you obstructing? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Member from your party has already spoken. So, you may speak for only two minutes.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Sir, the Bill seeks to amend the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002. At the moment, on rough calculation, it is said that about one trillion dollar of money is laundered and also comes to India every year. India's parallel economy is so deeply entrenched that possession of black money is not even considered and it is of common knowledge that how this black money is being used in terrorist activities. This is one of the greatest factors in combating terrorism and we are unable to locate the money. This legislation was made in 2002 and the provisions of this Act were enforced only in 2005. The Government has also been sitting over it for the last two to three years and only now it has come to make it more effective. This Act needs more teeth. Whatever are therein the provisions of this present Act, those are not sufficient to control money laundering and its consequent effect on terrorism.

Many hon. Members have already spoken on this Bill. Prevention of money laundering does not attack crime but it attacks only the proceeds of crime. The proceeds can be attacked but only if they are involved in a schedule offence making the law ineffective.

Whatever provision is there only leads to crime. Nobody will be penalized for this thing. So, more teeth are required to combat it. Otherwise, this law will be ineffective. Practically, black money is running as a parallel economy and hence terrorist activities will go on.

There is a recent media report to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister. It indicates that money laundering racket could be to the tune of lakhs of crores. The Stud Farm owner, one Mr. Hassan Ali Khan, is the man at the centre of an alleged Rs. 35,000 crore money laundering racket. It is also alleged that this Rs. 35,000 crores are illegally transferred abroad. The Central Board of Direct Taxes, CBDT, is investigating the case. The Enforcement Directorate should also do the needful. Who else are involved in this case? What is the result of this investigation? I am just quoting the case as it has come out in the media reports. This has been investigated by the Central Board of Direct Taxes. The House and I are interested to know the result of that investigation. This law is there in your hands and a case is also under investigation. I want to know whether you are able to locate the real owner of this amount.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, I am grateful to Shri Laxman Singh, Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri Mohan Rawale, Shri Alok Mehta, Shri B. Mahtab, Shri V.P. Singh and Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy for giving broad support to this Bill. I am also grateful to them for many valuable suggestions that they have made.

At the very outset, I would like to assure them that we would value their suggestions and would certainly take their help from time to time. Law making is always an evolving process and we learn from experience. Whenever we feel that there is a need for making any further amendment, we would always like to bring them in. Let me also say that there has been no delay whatever on the part of the Government to react to a particular situation and it was this Government which enforced it. The main Act was in 2005 and thereafter we have come out with these amendments to this House.

I entirely agree with the hon. Members about the pernicious role that the ill-gotten money or the money which is related to crime plays in destabilizing the economy and financial system of any country for that matter. Monetary gains, we can all feel, can both be the cause and effect or for that matter the product of crime. And it is precisely to meet situations like that, we have brought this Bill. For instance, take the case of terrorism. The terrorist groups need money to organize their activities and people whom they are able to attract are attracted because of money. Therefore, that nexus has to be broken because this affects the stability of this country. There are also places which are called as heavens for the criminals and we know what their fate is when it comes to financial parameters of the economy. Therefore, this Government has always been concerned about it and this Bill is to avoid and to ensure not to allow any environment which enables the criminals to enjoy the profits of crime with impunity and finesse, the illicit activity with virtually no fear of facing punishment is available to them. That environment would inherently be a destabilizing factor for the economy.

I would not like to take much time of the House but I would certainly like to refer to some very pertinent points raised by the hon. Members during the course of this brief debate.

A point has been made by two hon. Members about a statement attributed to the National Security Advisor

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

about the role of *havala* money in the real estate and the stock market. So, let me, at the very outset, say here – I remember and I am sure the hon. Members would also recall that – after that statement was reported in the media, there was an official denial to that saying that there was nothing like that. We all have that experience that from time to time what we really say at a particular occasion is misunderstood and, therefore, leads to some sort of mis-interpretation and mis-reporting. It was specially said that the National Security Advisor had not said that. The words used by Shri Mahtab was "is being used in the stock exchange". He did not say so.

This is precisely the reason why we want to bring about stringent laws for checking money laundering. That is precisely the reason that such money should not find its route into our financial systems and to the vitals of our society. That is absolutely important because we always see, as I said a little while earlier, that it gives the motivation and it is also the fruit of terrorist activities or any kind that this money at times plays that role.

Therefore, it is imperative to see that the tainted money is never projected as the untainted money because that money will find use elsewhere. That is precisely what we have to choke. It is for this purpose that these amendments are incorporated here.

As the hon. Members would have seen, there was a host of offences given in this Schedule, which we call the "base offences" or the "predicate offences." I agree with what was said that this law is precisely aimed at checking the use of money which may be proceeding from or may be the proceeds of crime. We have, in our country, a large number of laws which purport to deal with different situations. Provisions of good many of them, like the Indian Penal Code, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances law and the Unlawful Activities Act, have been detailed in this Schedule also.

Now, the point is that in many of those cases the money as such may not be the case property. Therefore, the courts which take cognizance of that offence may not really be able to deal with the money which is the proceeds of this offence. If the Director or any of the authorities, under the Act, has a reasonable belief that here is a case or here is a person who is having this money which is actually emanating from or is the result of crime or there is money stacked somewhere which has actually a relation with crime, action can be taken.

The property can be searched, the individual person can be searched, the property can be attached even provisionally.

The important amendment that we have made here is that even if it is seen that a person may not be really associated with the crime, but if there is reasonable belief of the authority concerned that the money which he holds is crime related money, action under this can be initiated. I would like to ask, what can be more strong approach to a problem like this. Ever since the laws were enforced, the various authorities are in place and from time to time they have been initiating action.

There has been a feeling expressed about the promissory notes by Shri Rupchand Pal and by some other hon. Members. Their fear is that the participatory notes – I would utmost like to differ with them on that – that passing a sweeping judgement on a well-accepted norm, well-accepted financial derivative would not, in fact, do us good. The participatory notes are nothing peculiar to India. Shri Suresh Prabhu would bear me out.

Sir, almost all the countries accept the participatory notes or the offshore derivative instruments. But to ensure that the investment *via* the route of participatory notes is not able to destabilise our system, the SEBI regulations stipulate that the persons, the FIIs who issue these participatory notes must report at the end of every month in a prescribed format. All information relating to the participatory notes is issued by them including the names of the subscribers to the said participatory notes. Now, it is for us, as a country, to decide whether we want that foreign investment or not, whether we want to have altogether a different system which may be to our detriment and whether we want to move with the world. I do not know a point was sought to be made by Shri Braja Kishore Tripathi about the volumes of foreign money coming to India. We welcome that. We had asked for it - whether it is the FDI or whether it is the FII investment, we had been asking for it. That provides you the necessary input to move forward for the growth of the country. You need investments, but the only thing which you have to see is that the forces which are inimical to you are not able to use that route to destabilise your country or to destabilise your sovereignty or to hit at your sovereignty. That is our cause of concern. It is precisely for that reason – for the sake of adding an emphasis to it that I am repeating it — that a large number of offences have been included in the list. It is true that those laws take care of the substantive offences

there. This law takes care of the proceeds of crime. Therefore, we cannot expect that this law by itself would attack. As it was said, why does it not attack the main offence? It is not intended to. But we want to create a climate where the source or the points from where a person is encouraged to resort to crime should be taken care of. Therefore, that ill-gotten money and that tainted money is really the subject matter of this law. That care has been taken here.

Sir, a point has been made about the fake Indian currency notes. We are all concerned about that. But before I proceed further on this, I would also like to assure our hon. Members that though there are instances from time to time where fake currency notes are detected and there was a case even when in a bank branch it was detected that a bank official in collusion with some people was responsible for that. But I want to assure the hon. Members that this situation has not assumed any alarming situation in our country. We need not really be alarmed over this and the security features which we have — I would like to assure Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh — are adequate for us. It is through global tenders that we buy the security features and those security features we keep changing from time to time. So far nothing substantial has ever been proved that our security features have been breached anywhere by anyone.

The machines through which the notes pass, they can read out any counterfeit currency note and they can immediately detect it. Even when you see the visual, when you tilt the notes, you would have experienced the colour varies. There are different schemes. From one colour to another colour it varies. When you just shift the note and you look at the thread, you will find that the colour varies. That is peculiar to every, different currency note for which we chose that particular security feature. Therefore, it is our view in the Government that the security features that we incorporate in our currency notes are chosen after a detailed tendering process, after the Expert Committee discussed that matter and after the strong and stringent competition amongst the vendors in the world who are all not just ordinary people but who have the real experience in the field. They are the people who supplied that. There is really no reason to worry on that score.

A point was also made about the latest report about the Swiss Bank. Well, Sir, the report was in the newspapers only a few days back. All that I want to say is that the Ministry of Finance, the Central Board of Direct

Taxes and the Central Board of Excise and Customs have an elaborate mechanism, a system in place to pursue any suspicious transaction anywhere, to initiate action where required and that they are prompt in taking action.

There was a report, sometimes back, about a German Bank where the Central Board of Excise and Customs was prompt in approaching that Bank to seek information. We are also in touch. Our Ambassador is also in touch with them to seek information as to what we can get. But here, again, I would like to only assure our hon. Members that no effort is ever left wanting in taking the appropriate action where this Government considers it necessary. We are aware that because of the magnitude of the tragedies, the activities, whether they are the terrorist activities or other activities intended to destabilise our economy, they can unleash major tragedies. Therefore, every effort is always made to trace the source of that crime — whether it is the monetary or, for that matter, any other measure.

The last point that was, in fact, made was about the credit cards. There was a point made that because of the cashless transactions now carried out, credit cards pose a potential threat to the financial system. It is precisely to cover the situation like that that the money changers and all these payment systems, etc. have been brought within the reporting regime. The Act already provides for that. Whether it is the banking sector as such, whether it is the Non-Banking Financial Company or other intermediaries who are supposed to be reporting to the authorities about any suspicious transaction which they come across, now that list has been enlarged. I have referred to the casino which has been included there. Similarly, all these systems of payments and settlements have been incorporated therein. They become part of the reporting regime. Whenever they feel they have to keep reporting periodically, according to that, wherever they feel that they have come across a suspicious transaction, they are supposed to be reporting that. We do feel that while you have to move along with the world, you have to move forward.... *(Interruptions)* But, at the same time, where we feel that some precautionary measures have to be taken or corrective measures have to be taken, we would do that.

There was a point made about the use of the Information Technology. For that also I would only like to say that the bank officials have been trained. There is a human resource development aspect and that has been

[Shri Pawar Kumar Bansal]

taken care of and being conscience of the fact that the geniuses amongst the devil can take advantage of any situation, we do see to it from time to time that all the counter measures are put in place. These were some of the points, perhaps which were referred to here.

There was one point which Shri Tripathy referred to about the Stud Farm owners. I would say that I would like to collect that information and I will get that passed on to the hon. Member as to what specific measures have been taken in that direction.

With these words, I once again express my gratitude to all the hon. Members and would assure them once again that as and when on a continuing process we get any feedback from the hon. Members or from the civil society as such about needs to strengthen the anti-money laundering measures in the country, the Government would always like to do it.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): The hon. Minister was just responding to the point that was raised by some of the hon. Members about the possibility of a huge amount of money being stashed in Swiss Banks from the Indian nationals. One estimate, as per the report, is that the money could be 1.5 trillion dollars which is more than India's economy. I would just like to know is it true or is it possible that it could be more than India's total economy that the money could be stashed there.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, Shri Prabhu has been in the Government and I think he would not subscribe to that view. We have a strong economy, but you cannot make laws to enforce honesty everywhere. There can be deviations from time to time and it is precisely to cover those situations that we have plethora of laws here to deal with different situations. But I, for one, would never subscribe to a view that it could be that much or anything. But I would still say that wherever any information comes to our notice, whatever information ever comes to hon. Members, if they pass it on to us even on the basis of suspicion, I can assure them that the Government would be prompt in taking action against them, approaching any concerned authority and doing whatever is considered necessary to see that nobody is ever able to play with our economy the way it is feared by them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Today such software is available which can stop money laundering and inform about it. Have you installed or propose to install such software?

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, just now the hon. Minister was clarifying about the allegation with regard to Swiss Banks accounts. We all, the Members of Parliament, got a certain letter which alleges that huge amount of Indian money has been deposited in Swiss Banks. We can pass on that letter to the hon. Minister if he has not got it. The allegation is serious. The Government says that any such thing will be enquired into. But in this case since the allegation is serious, it has been raised in Parliament, whether the Government will assure that it will be enquired into.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the very outset, I would like to give you that information which was earlier not available with me. Hasan Ali case was mentioned here in which stud farm was also mentioned. In this regard, I would like to inform the hon. Members that a notice has been issued in that case under Foreign Exchange Management Act, FEMA and further action would be taken. Shri Lakshman Singh ji has raised a question. Such questions should be raised continuously as long as science and technology make progress. If people can come up with various ways to do certain things, then are we capable of finding ways to tackle them. He has asked whether there is any software which can give information about money laundering immediately. This seems to me a little far fetched. What is money laundering? I do not want to go into details. Money laundering means laundering to the tainted money i.e. converting the black money into white.

I would like to say something about black money. People who have obtained money through crimes or through dubious ways want to circulate it in market to show that they have earned it. There are income tax laws to keep an account of the income of people. They show their income and assess the return to check whether the income exceeds the source. They have power to take action in such cases. As regard software which can report if someone is indulging in money laundering, I do

not know much about information technology, yet I can say as far as my understanding goes, only this would not be enough. There is a system in the banks that if you have a transaction of more than Rs. 1 crore, you have to report about it. Similarly, there are various other systems at various banks regarding reporting about your cash transactions and types and number of your accounts and the source from which money is being deposited in your account. Who has given how much in a casino has to be reported. In other words, this is a way to say, may be that money has put to use there.

I would like to add one more thing which has not been mentioned today. Earlier, it was discussed that such money could be invested in gems and jewellery. This aspect has been considered time and again but this sector was not regulated that way, therefore, it was considered difficult.

I would like to assure you that this is not the end, this exercise will continue. We will continue this exercise and if there is need to take precautionary measures, we will take such measures. This is the duty of the Government and the Government will continue to comply with it.

Sir, Chandrappan ji has mentioned about Swiss Bank. He was not present here when I had given reply on that matter and I was asked that the amount could be Rs. 1.3 trillion but I do not think so. Sometimes it happens that we have lack of information about a subject but we assure a lot and get enriched about the information. But I would like to say one thing that.....

[English]

Government will not gloss over this situation. The Government will view it seriously and all possible steps will be taken. Whatever is warranted, the Government would certainly do it.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a clarification on a very important issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Member from your party has already asked a clarification.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : Sir, this is a very important point.

The depositing of money in Swiss Banks is being raised again and again and it has appeared in the Press now. So, I would like to know what steps the Government is taking in this regard. The hon. Minister has replied very generally. The allegation is that 1456 billion US dollars is supposed to have been deposited by Indians in Swiss Banks. According to the known rules, only if the Government asks, they will give details of the individuals who have deposited money there. This is a very serious matter. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to reply to this question.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I have the example of the German Bank where the Government has taken action. This report has appeared only two days back. I hope the hon. Members would certainly give time to the Government to proceed in the matter. Just acting on one report, you cannot end up taking the matter through diplomatic channels immediately. But I would say that the Government would never be found wanting. The Government would be second to none in pursuing these matters and whatever appropriate action is required, the Government would take it.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : Sir, this is a very serious issue. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now. Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions) ...**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 13 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 13 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.41 hrs.

METRO RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take Item 31. Again that has been repeated; Shri Ajay Maken was authorized but he was not here.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, he has a Bill which he is to discuss in the other House. Please forgive us for that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. The hon. Minister.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important issue. So far as discussion on this subject is concerned I think it was essential to amend the words 'National Capital Territory

of Delhi' and make it 'National Capital State Territory' and that is why the Government have moved this Bill. But I would like to congratulate Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji, who conceptualized and initiated the project for all the praise being raised by Metro.

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER (Delhi Sadar): I challenge you on this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Tytler, you will be given time to speak on this Bill. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: When Tytler ji will rise to speak on the matter, then I will not challenge him since he is one of my friends. But Metro project was conceptualized during the regime of Bhartiya Janta Party under the leadership of Shri Madan Lal Khurana and it feels good when dreams come true. I said in one of my speeches regarding Railways and now I repeat those lines that it is not necessary that major projects initiated by the Government will be completed during the regime of the same Government. For example the development works of Bangalore and Hyderabad airports were started during the term of Mr. Reddy but that was inaugurated by the UPA Chairperson. It was his right also and the Minister accompanied him but these projects were initiated by me during my term as Minister of Civil Aviation. Shri Krishnaji was the Chief Minister of Karnataka and Shri Chandra Babu Naidu was the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh at that time. I was not invited for the inauguration and this is not the practice, but, I was in Hyderabad for some party work and I got an opportunity to visit Hyderabad airport on the same day. I felt good when the dream replicated in practice and I witnessed this inauguration. Therefore, when the Metro was started, there is no reason to get annoyed because first ever team went to Japan for survey when Bhartiya Janata Party was in power in Delhi. Mr. Khurana sent one team at that time and they looked into the operations and initiated the Metro project. Then this Government came to power and extended the project further. Metro project is progressing excellently. This Bill was a hurdle in expansion of Metro project and now I think that hurdle will be removed. I congratulate the Minister for introducing the Bill. DMRC has been accorded enormous rights for smooth execution Metro Project is being executed excellently and last year Shri Shridharan Chairman, DMRC was given Indian of the year Award by a channel and he deserves the same.

He should have got the award because he is doing good work. Government have accorded all the rights to Metro Corporation and it is functioning excellently. If the same sort of rights are accorded to Ministry of Railways, then the projects of railways will be completed before due date similar to the Metro project. Then political and social workers think that since Metro project is completed before time, if other projects are completed similarly, it will be beneficial for the country. But, it is unfortunate for the country. When we travel in Metro, we feel that it has been extended. Metro line has been laid upto Noida, Faridabad and Gurgaon upto Ghaziabad and it is likely to be expanded further. When we travel in Metro, we feel that the dream of "Shining India" has come true. We consider India as a developed country...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): We are completing the projects initiated by you.

SHRI SYED SHANAWAZ HUSSAIN: Therefore, I said that they are completing the projects initiated by our Government. We are thankful to them that they are not only following our path but also accelerating the pace of it. Therefore, I congratulate them. This is the duty of the Government. We will complete the projects initiated by them. Then we will remember them. I would say this thing also that they are completing the project upto Ghaziabad, for which said Amendment Bill has been presented and therefore, we will remember the Minister and the Government. This is the prevailing practice in democracy. Sometime they come to power sometime not, but...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA (Trichur): Are you sure of coming back to power? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not disturb him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHANAWAZ HUSSAIN: By the grace of the God, we are confident. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, problem is that Jaiswal ji has forgotten those words, which he was use to utter from this side. Members switch over to one or the other party.

So, we should prepare ourselves as it is in the hands of public. It is supreme. It will not blindly believe what

we say. It will decide according to its own discretion so there is nothing to worry about.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: You will be in the opposition again.

SHRI SYED SHANAWAZ HUSSAIN: I accept it as his good wishes for my reelection. He is saying that I would be in opposition again but this is something which the public would decide.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Metro gives us a confidence. It is a feel good factor. We feel that we have done a great job. Our people are capable of doing any work however big it may be. Therefore, I asked the hon. Minister that he should give suggestion to the Minister of Railways to complete all the railway projects before time on the lines of Metro. People of NCT Delhi and Ghaziabad are enjoying the benefit of the Metro whereas other states are deprived of it and they want Metro to be introduced in their states also. Whether this Government serves the common man or not but it always talks about him and it keeps raising the slogans that this party stands with the common man. The fares of Metro are four to five times higher than Blue line and D.T.C. Buses. The fares of Metro should be made reasonable so that the poor may also travel in it. It should also be considered that in the name of profit making, its fare should not be beyond the reach of common man.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have studied in Delhi and when I was student I used to travel to any place in Delhi in DTC buses by getting a rupees 12 bus pass issued.

Such facility is not being provided to the students with regard to Metro. Sir, through you, I would like to request that this facility should be provided to them in Metro also and the Government should have some monitoring over the fares of Metro. They can give all the rights to it but the right of fixing fares should vest with the Government. The Government should have some kind of say in this matter. The example of airlines should not be followed. The Government gave them subsidy and the Minister of Petroleum state that the Government would provide this much amount later on as this is the time of recession. There has been much increase in ATF rates. Rate of Air turbine fuel was increased so the airfares were also increased. Now the rate of air turbine fuel has gone down by 70 percent but airlines have constituted a cartel and declared that airfares would not be reduced. It means that when they were to take benefit from the

Government, they sought its help saying that if Government doesn't protect them then who else would protect them. Now when the Government has bailed them out and oil prices have come down, 3-4 airlines have constituted a cartel and their CMDs and owners are stating that they will not decrease airfares and Air India is also one of them. The Government should put a check on this right Today Railways states that it has reduced its fares by two percent Airlines and Metro do not reduce their fares like the railways. Sir, through you, I would like to request that the Government should have some control over metro fares.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are still eight to ten Members to speak and I have allotted one hour for them.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, my party is a big party. It is an important issue. Sir, there is no use of speaking on any subject without all the facts. I am not merely completing a formality, When I rise to speak in Parliament, the hon. Minister's attention should be drawn towards all the facts. It is the duty of the opposition party to attract the attention of the ruling party towards all the issues. I know that honourable Minister is very efficient and I have full faith in him. I respect him a lot. We are not raising these issues only for the sake of opposing the Government. We want to give suggestions. I used to listen to Shri Jaipalji very carefully when I was Minister.

Sir, I would also like to raise the issue of security alongwith the fares and then I would conclude. Several people have lost their lives at construction sites of Metro. It is good that today Metro work is going on all over Delhi but pillars have fallen down several times killing several people. In one case an iron rod pierced through the stomach of a person but the doctors of AIIMS saved him. They operated upon him without giving him anaesthesia. The Government should pay attention towards this issue. I would only like to request that the persons who have lost their lives in accidents at metro sites should be given adequate compensation. I was informed that the compensation given to the victims is not even equal to what the railways give. This matter should be taken care of. The work of Metro will be completed before Commonwealth Games and people from all over the world will visit India. Metro will help in creating good image of India. I would like to state that there is a time limit after which metro services are stopped. People in Delhi work round the clock so its operating hours should be increased. The Government has spent more than Rs. 50 thousand crore for constructing metro line. They could

have built a new city with this amount. It is good that they have started Metro but people should be able to avail its services round the clock. Metro trains should have more bogies, its frequency should be increased and its fare should be rationalized. The Government should pay attention towards its safety and security and its fare should be reduced so that common man could travel in it. It is good that it is air-conditioned. I would support the bill feeling that the Government is doing a good job if they enable common man to travel by it. They are completing the work, which was started by us. I congratulate them for it.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Thank you.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER (Delhi Sadar): Sir, first of all, I support Delhi Metro Rail Amendment Act, 2002 and Metro Rail Construction Act, 1978. Before I start my speech, I would like to thank Reddy Saheb for supporting the cause of Delhi as an MP from Delhi.

Firstly, the matter of unauthorized colonies and later on the Master Plan which caused huge damages to the State, I would like to convey my thanks to him for providing relief in this regard. Shri Shah Nawaz ji is my good friend. I would like to go into the background of this matter. This project was commenced during the tenure of Indiraji's Government. Russian experts had visited Delhi and checked the water level of Delhi for nine months and, thereafter, the proposal of introducing underground Metro Rail in Delhi was considered. But, due to disintegration of Russia, the Ascro Account from which the Metro Rail was supposed to be constructed could not be started and the project remained suspended for several years. When I became Minister of Transport, there was neither Government of NCT of Delhi nor any Metropolitan Council. As per the rules prevailing at that time, Union Transport Minister used to look after transport system of Delhi. At that point of time, I had conceived the Plan of introducing underground Metro Rail in Delhi. I would like to apprise you that the initial model of Metro Rail is still lying at my residence and I had visited South Korea to negotiate a loan from ADB. I myself went to Railway docks to approve the first design of Metro Rail. I was very interested in that matter and they presented me the said model which is still lying with me. I would also like to raise the matter of Madan Lal Khurana. Government of Madan Lal Khurana was formed in Delhi after the commencement of work of Delhi Metro. I visited Shri Madan Lal Khurana and told him that I am Minister

in Central Government and he is Chief Minister of Delhi and people of Delhi should not suffer due to our political rivalry, so whatever cooperation he needs. I am willing to offer him as a Minister. He convened a meeting, which I attended with all my officers. Governor Sahib also took part in the said meeting. I stated that my Ministry will release whatever funds he needs since it is my desire that Metro Rail should be introduced in Delhi. Madan Lal Khuranaji acknowledged that point. He said that he wanted to go abroad to see its functioning. I obtained the permission of Central Government for his visit to Paris and Singapore. Yes, it is a fact that the projects are started by one Government and are completed by some other Government. It cannot be denied that the Government of Vajpayee continued that project. Though, I felt very disappointed that while inaugurating the work in my Constituency, trans Yamuna area, the man who conceptualized the Metro Rail service in Delhi, was not even invited by Shri Advani Ji. I had also written a letter to him in this regard. Anyway, never mind. But, I would like to apprise, Shri Reddy that at that point of time we had approved the Metro Rail services for 23 States of India. But, when the point of introducing Metro Rail Service in Delhi was raised the people might have never thought of that point I raised then. I presumed that there will be at least 238 stations of Metro Rail in Delhi. You kindly convert those stations into commercial centers. Construct three level underground parking lots. This system already exists in Tokyo and Chicago. I had advised to construct Sales-Tax, excise, water and electricity bills collection offices, hotels and commercial centers there. They raised the matter of fare and in this regard. I stated that income could be generated through advertisements, dispensaries and rest houses. Shift all Government accommodations there. Even a housewife board Metro Rail and deposit the bills at these stations and could return home easily. Presently, people have to travel 30 kilometers to visit DC Office and there they have to spend whole day in long queues there. All the offices of Delhi can be shifted there, all Corporation offices could be shifted at different Metro Stations. It will be very convenient for the people. I agree with you that there should be special fares for students. I had stated this that time also. Commercial centers have been constructed but they are very unplanned. The Commercial Centres must be of eight-nine storeys.

17.00 hrs.

You only think about constructing few malls and the income that will be generated from them. We should be

able to generate income from advertisements, malls, hotels and restaurants to such an extent that the need to increase Rail fare do not arise for the next twenty years. Facilities could be provided to the people of Delhi from the income generated through these sources. This is a very big responsibility of the Government. The Government have appropriately fulfilled their responsibility towards the people of Delhi. Just because of developmental works of the Government we were able to rout BJP in Delhi. I want assurance from the Government that commercial centers will be constructed there and the income generated from them will be utilized to fill the deficit of fare and due to this no extra burden will be put on the people of Delhi. Government may grant concession in fare to the students, sports persons and Padma Vibhushan awardees. We should not think that our duty is over just by organizing functions and garlanding the awardees. Plots are allotted to these people but they have to wait for even ten years to get their possession. Government should provide them concession directly so that they could be benefited.

Sir, I am happy that the project which was started by me is being replicated all over the country. I convey my thanks to Vajpayee ji for continuing the project.

Sir, I would like to raise one more point that Delhi Government has a property worth at least Rs. 25-30 thousand crore in form of DTC depots. Government should exploit this property. If this unutilized property is exploited property then it will ease the burden of DTC bus fares for the next 25 years. Government can earn three fold income from these projects itself.

Sir, models of all the projects were got prepared by us. In addition, models of depots were also prepared. I had shown these projects to Narsimha Ji, but why were those projects closed? I have no idea whether the projects were stalled by bureaucrats or someone else. I want to thank you for legalizing those projects. Keeping in view the Commonwealth Games, this project is very important since the people from all over the world will visit Delhi. Delhi has been beautified by the Government of Delhi as well as the people of Delhi and the people of Delhi will remember you for long for this.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I support the Metro Railways (Amendment) Bill. This amendment is brought to meet the requirements of the Commonwealth Games to be held in October 2010.

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

Originally, the Metro had jurisdiction over the National Capital only. Now it is given an extension to Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. That extension is not enough. Now, I would request the Government of India to give an extension to it to cover Kochi so that Kochi may also have Metro. Just as we have Indian Railways having jurisdiction throughout India, we should also have Metro Corporations throughout India, including Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and Kochi.

Even under the Act, the Railway Safety Commissioner is having supervision over this Metro also. So, that is inter-connected. Therefore, it would be only just and proper that a Metro Corporation should be having jurisdiction over all the metro cities of India - it is a possibility - just like we are having the Indian Railways all over India. So, we can have such a system covering all the metro cities and having Metro Railways there. This is only just and proper.

Further, I would like to inform the House that the Kerala Government had taken the initiative of constructing the Metro Railway in Kochi, and they have decided to invest money also for this purpose. The Central Government need not come in the picture. Though they were repeatedly requested to cooperate with the State Government in forming the Kochi Rail Metro Corporation, the Central Government gave a deaf ear to it. They were more or less deaf and silent about the request.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): It is not true. It is being processed.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : But so far as I know, the Central Government has not come out in support of the Kochi Metro.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : No, we did.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : If you had come, then it is all right, but you must cooperate not by mere words.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : No, it is by giving money.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Radhakrishnan, please address the Chair.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : But I am told by the Finance Minister of Kerala that they have not been provided with sufficient money, which was expected

from the Central Government. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to cooperate with the Kochi Metro system just like the Central Government had taken the initiative in Delhi Metro system, in the National Capital Region (NCR), by extending it to two other States.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government once again to take up the just and fair cause of Kochi for having a Metro rail system. I am also very glad with the attitude taken by my learned friend Shri Jaipal Reddy, which is very favourable. I thank him for the same, but mere words are not sufficient. He will have to take the initiative to see that Kochi Metro system becomes a reality in the nearest future.

With these words, I support the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, only one hour has been allotted to us for this Bill. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Members to give only their suggestions on this issue in a couple of minutes each.

Now, I would request Shri Alok Kumar Mehta to start his speech. Mr. Mehta, please try and conclude your speech within three minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on Metro Amendment Bill. Today, Metro has become most accessible time saving and convenient mode of transportation for the common man and workers of Delhi. All those who are behind its success, especially UPA Government, CPWD Department, Ministry of Urban Development and Delhi Government, deserve appreciation. It is matter of happiness that Delhi Metro is being extended and within a short span of time people living in nearby cities of other States would have easy access to Delhi. Pressure is being mounted on the roads, people use various bus routes for commutation, but because of pressure, the number of accidents are increasing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently introduction of Metro Rail has reduced pressure on roads and condition of environment has also been improved. I would like to thank and demand that Metro should be extended to Patna city also. Patna is a very ancient capital. It has huge population and its importance is second to none when we talk about other metropolitan cities. The means of

transportation are limited. Roads are insufficient in order to accommodate huge population and increasing number of vehicles. Therefore, I would like to say that Patna city should also be covered under Metro Rail Project. The work of Railway Department has been appreciable. I would like to say that these two units should have coordination between them.

Sir, there should be line of clarity in the matter of authority and responsibility. I feel that this system could be developed further with mutual cooperation. With these words, I support the Bill. Thank You.

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): Sir, the Bill, of course, is a most welcome measure. The Bill seeks to provide legal cover for extension of metro rail network to Noida.

17.11 hrs

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN in the Chair]

Sir, the Commonwealth Games are due in October, 2010. I hope the metro rail network will be ready before that. This Bill is brought to Parliament in the month of February 2009. This could have been brought to Parliament earlier when the work on this stretch actually started. Why does the Government actually think of such amendments only when the network is sought to be extended beyond the city limits? A single comprehensive law could be brought forward which could apply to the metro rail network everywhere in the country. Whenever the network needs to be extended, it can be done just by notification.

Now, the Government has come forward with this Bill just because the network has to be extended to areas outside Delhi. This purpose can very easily be achieved by having one comprehensive law for this purpose. If you want to set up networks in other States, you could have separate subsidiaries for that purpose. I, therefore, would request the hon. Minister to think of a single and comprehensive legislation which can avoid this necessity of having to come to Parliament with amendments every now and then.

The need for metro network cannot be overemphasized. This is needed especially in these days of climate change and global warming. It is the public

transport that has to be encouraged and not private transport. Unfortunately, the policy of the Government for a long time has been that more private cars have been allowed to come on to the roads. Metro is the right answer to that problem.

Maximum of land utilization takes place under metro network. Metro rail works below the surface. That is very important for India because we have only 2.2 per cent of land with 17 per cent population of the world. Moreover, the urban land is too limited when compared to the people depending on it. Therefore, the pressure on land is too high. Unless we actually make sure that metros operate below the surface, it is not going to work. In many stretches in Delhi, metro rail is going over the surface. That does not really result in optimum land utilization. That is something which, I am sure, the Minister will look into.

We should follow the good example of Tokyo where the metro rail corporation does not work in isolation of the other development work that takes place in the city. Each and every inch of land in Tokyo has been very effectively utilized keeping in view that the total population of extended Tokyo is more than 45 million. So, optimum land utilization can actually help. Metro Corporation has to work in tandem with other civic agencies in the city and ensure that proper utilization of land takes place.

Urban transportation is an extremely important issue now for us. Here I would like to support the point made by my friend that unfortunately that, as I said earlier, we are trying to encourage private transport as against public transport. We are doing nothing to encourage the healthy form of transport of bicycle. There are no exclusive lanes for use of bicycles anywhere in India. What is the message that we are trying to give to the people? Is it, "Do not use bicycles; use cars"? Is that what we want to tell them? Or do we want bicycles to be used? I think in urban planning we must ensure that more and more lanes are reserved for bicycle-users as well as pedestrians. Even if you have public transport, there are at least 90 per cent of the people who would actually be walking rather than commuting. Therefore, you must try and ensure that that balance is also properly maintained.

Sir, I support the Bill. Knowing Dr. Jaipal Reddy, I am sure he does a good job of whatever he does. So, I am sure he will do a good job of this also. Hopefully, this work will be completed well before the Commonwealth Games. Otherwise, Commonwealth Games will be ready

and then we would be actually talking about infrastructure which will follow later on. I hope that does not happen.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Chairman, Sir, we are discussing the Metro Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2009 which intends to amend the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978.

I was listening hon. Member from Delhi Shri Jagdish Tytler who was opposing my good friend Shri Hussain saying that this project was not initiated during NDA tenure. Sir, we are amending two laws, the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978. Accidentally, neither in 1978 nor in 2002 Congress was in power. So, this is the brain child of the NDA Government. There is no doubt that the Congress Government has started and proceeded with the work. We thank the present hon. Minister and the Government for this.

Sir, the need for this amendment was felt as without a legal framework the extension of Metro to Gurgaon and Noida would have been legally challenged and stalled at any time. Since there was no legislation available for operation and maintenance of the Metro Railways in Delhi, Parliament enacted the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002. So, this Act was needed. Hon. Minister is very efficient and the work on metro is also going speedily. I extend my all thanks as the work is progressing on time and some time before time also. The entire world is worried because of the climate change. Naturally, this metro project will help us in this regard. We are happy that we are proceeding with this project on time.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the speed of the work has been accelerated by the DMRC but the monitoring of safety measures adopted at its various construction sites has not kept pace with it. The question about the hasty planning of BRT corridors came true when one of its traffic marshals was mowed down by a chartered bus on the corridor a week later. Sir, the recent collapse of the fly over at Laxmi Nagar may have raised genuine questions about the safety standards being pursued by the DMRC. I am drawing the attention of the hon. Minister as to how many accidents have occurred because of this Delhi Metro. It had occurred on 28th August, 2007, November 2007, 21st January, 2008, 15th February, 2008,

19th May, 2008, May 23rd 2008, 18th July, 2008, August 2008, 4th September, 2008, 30th September, 2008, 8th October 2008, and 19th October, 2008. These are the dates on which major accidents had occurred. So, seeing this we can say that the safety aspect is not taken care of by the DMRC. The Minister should direct the DMRC to be more careful in this regard.

Recently, the Planning Commission has stated that the Metro Project is not a Central project. I do not understand this. It is a Central project and we have been amending all through this law. No doubt, transportation is a State subject under the Urban Development Ministry.

So far as Metro Rail is concerned, it is completely a central project. I am not criticising anybody but he should clarify how the Planning Commission is telling that it is not a central project.

I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to two-three important items and one of them is terrorist threat. After this long drawn incident, a lot of terrorist threats have occurred in London Metro. So, we should also be very much careful in our country. What security measures is the DMRC taking for the Metro safety? It is important because life and property of people are involved.

As regards ticket fare, it seems quite high because this Metro is meant for the common people, the poor people, the labourers and the daily earners. If the fare is more in comparison to Railways, naturally it will be very hard for a daily earner to buy tickets. So, he should also consider this.

Lastly, I would like to know why the Ministry of Urban Development is taking up the Metro Rail Project. We have a separate Ministry of Railways. The House wants to know when we have such a big organisation like Railways, why is it not taking care of the Metro Rail also? They have the technical know-how which is difficult for the Ministry of Urban Development to know. So after they complete the construction work, the Metro Rail should be handed over to the Railways for better maintenance and operations. The hon. Minister should consider this thing.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, I stand to support the amendment regarding the Metro Rail. I think the words 'National Capital Region' should be substituted with 'Delhi' which is more meaningful and necessary legal cover will also be provided for it.

Here I would like to bring a few things to the notice of the hon. Minister. It is the responsibility of the Government to provide better transport facilities and as far as possible to provide pollution-free transport in the urban areas. According to estimates, by 2050 more people will be coming to urban areas and less people will be living in rural India. It is necessary for us to plan for the next 40 to 50 years to provide the necessary transport facilities.

The Delhi Metro is doing exemplary service. We cannot imagine what would have been the chaos if Metro was not there already. In spite of Metro, we do find a lot of congestion in Delhi in most of the places. As the hon. Member, Shri Suresh Prabhu was suggesting, at least, in some areas in every urban area, the Ministry of Urban Development should encourage cycling and special service roads for cyclists should be provided. That will be giving more help and pollution-free atmosphere.

Secondly, along with this, there is also the necessity to provide the metro arrangement to various other cities. It is already being sanctioned to Bengaluru and I am happy to know as the hon. Minister was telling that for Cochin also, they are positive. According to the Press, the Government has not given the necessary permission. Kerala is a place where land availability is very difficult. If the roads are to be expanded, maybe tens and thousands of houses will have to be removed. So, even in a city like Cochin which is not a very big but which is expanding very fast, there is a necessity for Metro. The necessary money also should be provided for this.

At this juncture, I would like to refer to Hyderabad Metro Rail Project. There was a lot of discussion about the Hyderabad Metro Rail. The Government of India has given the necessary permission.

The Metro Corporation was constituted at Hyderabad. There was some controversy when Shri Sreedharan, who was the consultant of Hyderabad Metro and at the same time the person behind the construction of Delhi Metro, made some comments regarding the BOT system and all that. But today unfortunately whatever comments had been made by him is becoming a truth. M/s Maytas Infrastructure Organisation which is the baby of Satyam Computers and is now very much in discussion has been given the responsibility and they are said to have taken a global tender. But here I would like to remind the hon. Minister that nowhere in the world the BOT system has been successful in regard to metro railways. Why should

this be allowed? The Union Government has several advantages. The permission has to be granted from here only. Why does the Government allow BOT system? The road and the rail transport systems are all meant for public services. We should not look at it from a commercial angle. We have seen the consequences and because of international recession Hyderabad metro is not coming. Under these circumstances I would once again like to request the Union Government to take initiative and see to it that the present arrangement that has been made is abandoned and cancelled. The Government should take the responsibility of constructing the Hyderabad metro.

Sir, I would like to make another point here though it is not directly related to metro railways, yet it is a matter related with the Ministry of Urban Development. Two days back I came across a news item in the newspaper that a sum of Rs. 1400 crore has been provided from the JNNURM for providing buses in sixteen corporate cities. It looks from outside that it is a very wonderful thing but I have a very serious objection to this. This is supposed to be a step that is taken to tide the recession. But this is directly helping the corporate houses. There are several other priorities to be taken note of like drinking water, drainage systems etc. ... (*Interruptions*) Those aspects should be taken into consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister that Metro Rail is getting appreciation in the name of Rail but I want that hon. Minister of Railways should also do similar kind of work to earn praise and appreciation. I am aware of the capability of hon. Minister of Railways. What I mean to say that now Metro Rail has become an alternative means of transport in the country and we also give information of Metro to the people of other countries and ask them to visit India and see how we commute in 21st century. I would like to draw attention towards some points. I pray to God that He may bless more than hundred years of age of Shri Shreedharan. But whether the employees of Metro Rail being operated in entire country, will also work with full autonomy? If anything happens otherwise with Shri Shreedharan in future, whether the infrastructure being developed, will not be hampered. It seems that Mr. Shreedharan is synonymous to Metro Rail and people believe that operation of Delhi Metro would suffer in some or the other ways on the

[Shri Santosh Gangwar]

day he will be relieved of his duties. I would like that you should separate the matter and work should be done in such a manner as the countries are governed in a democracy. Prime Ministers are changed but work continues. Such people should be associated with him, who can carry forward this work smoothly.

I would like to tell you one more thing that real estate is providing more income, however, 40 per cent income is being generated by passenger fare. The people are complaining of fares, so the fare should be brought down within the range of common man and if you will work accordingly, you will earn lot of revenues. Just now Shri Tripathy was giving information regarding accidents.

These possibilities will remain with the increasing extension. If we do not keep security in mind and if serious incident takes place then it will be difficult to fix someone's responsibility. These points came into my mind, while I was sitting here. I would like to say only one thing that Government of India has defined National Capital Territory of Delhi and it has been decided to include some cities under National Capital Territory in order to develop them as counter magnet city. It has taken a long time. This matter is related to your Ministry. I request you that whenever you formulate any plan for future, will you consider to link counter magnet cities with Metro Rail link under 25 years ambitious plan? I have vested interest in it, because my constituency Bareilly is considered as counter magnet city and there could be a possibility to develop it accordingly.

I would like to know from you that you must respond to the question as to what was the sense and objective behind the formulation of scheme of the Government to develop counter magnet cities? The districts proposed to be developed as counter magnet cities or metropolitan cities are likely to be connected by you with such facilities, as Bareilly is within a range of 200-250 kilometers but it takes 8 hours to reach there by road, so it creates problem. Our aim is that the journey should be fast, convenient and accident free.

I want that all the works should be completed at the earliest within the prescribed limit in view of the Commonwealth game. I pray that this plan should not end with the Commonwealth games rather this ambitious plan should be extended further. If you will display the vision of next 25 years as hon. Mr. Atal Ji's Government had done during NDA Government, then it would be excellent. I am very thankful to you.

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support Metro Rail (Amendment) Bill, 2009 introduced by hon. Minister. I am grateful to hon. Minister that since the time he has taken charge of Ministry, he has taken revolutionary steps. As Gangwar Saheb and Tripathyji were saying that the Bill was introduced in 2002, but it remained so since then. In the year 2004, that Bill was taken into exercise. I would like to congratulate for that alongwith request that during the tenure of Late. Rajiv Gandhiji the concept of NCR was envisaged but still it has not become meaningful. The concept NCR was to reduce pressure on Delhi and to develop the regions within 100 km periphery, so that poplation of Delhi may be reduced. It is only possible when the nearby areas will also be developed like Delhi.

Sir, I come from Ghaziabad. There is no major difference between Ghaziabad and Delhi. Commonwealth is a big project which is being discussed in the whole world. Ghaziabad region is located at the distance of five-six km. from the place where stadium are being constructed for commonwealth games. Metro Rail work was started in our Vaishali region, but due to some reasons it came into disputes. I would like to mention that the work to erect the pillars for metro rail at Vaishali-Delhi border where Anand Vihar Bus stand is located has been stopped. I also met Chief Minister of Delhi in this regard so that she can take some decision in this regard as soon as possible and the work could be started there. An MoU for it has been signed by both Ghaziabad Development Authority and the Delhi Government, but there are some hindrances from the Government of Delhi. My request is that please remove that hindrance. Alongwith that Commonwealth Games Authority may extend it to Vasundhara so that Sahibabad industrial area, Parasnath and nearby areas like Ajantapur, Maharajpur may be benefited. Metro has been extended upto Delhi-UP border, Ghaziabad, it should be extended to new Ghaziabad bus stand, so that people may get simple and smooth mode of transport and rush of vehicles may be reduced. Urban traffic has also been discussed in Division Development Committee.

It will be possible only when Metro will be extended from Delhi border to new bus stand Ghaziabad by which all people of residential colonies of Rajendra Nagar, Lajpat Nagar, Mohan Nagar, Arthala, Sanjay Nagar, Patel, Nagar and nearby areas of Meerut road are benefited. On the other hand metro is going upto Sector 62 of Noida. My request is that metro should be extended from Noida to Mehrauli by which Kazipura, Pratap Vihar, Vijay Nagar,

Lal quarter, Lal Kuan, Barnheta etc. regions may be benefited. Industrial areas are also there and many educational institutions have been opened there. I request the hon. Minister to take action on it. With heartiest congratulations, I support this bill.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I thank all the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on the Bill and extended their unqualified, whole-hearted support. It is one of those occasions of which Parliament can legitimately be proud of that not only we vigorously dispute with each other on matters of principle, on matters of ideology, we are also capable of rising to the occasion in one voice as we have done today.

As all hon. Members have rightly pointed out, Delhi Metro Rail project has turned out to be a spectacular success. In fact, it is our country's pride. I am glad to say that Shri Shahnawaz Hussain who initiated the debate made this point in a very commendable way. To make this project a success, almost all the parties in this House, almost all the Governments in Delhi and at the national level have cooperated.

Shri Shahnawaz Hussain did try to make a partisan point that this project was initiated by the NDA Government. It was naturally rebutted by Shri Jagdish Tytler who put the whole issue in historical perspective. But I do not like to enter into a debate on such petty issues.

This is a project of which all of us can be and should be legitimately proud of. To make this project a success, the Government of India, irrespective of who ruled it, has spared everything possible; money, the influence of the Government of India and land at the disposal of the Government of India. We have provided so much land to Delhi Metro Rail Corporation that Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has been able to use it not only for building the project but also for using it as a source of revenue. At least twenty per cent of the revenue comes from commercial exploitation of the land given by the Government of India. We continue to give this land at a fairly low cost so that Delhi Metro can exploit it legitimately and reduce the burden.

Sir, while the Government of India and the Government of Delhi have spared money and the Government of India availed of general assistance from Japan, we have also tried to see that the fares do not rise beyond a point.

Sir, even when in urban local bodies, we give such an essential thing as water; we try to tell the urban bodies to recover at least expenses to cover operation maintenance. The fares today are not unreasonably high and on the contrary they are not high enough to yield any income to us. They are only high enough to not even to adequately cover operation maintenance expenses. I do not think that we should use this august forum to make unsustainable populist demands.

Sir, a reference has been made to the inadequate compensation. I think this conception or perception, if I may say so, is not well-founded because the compensation we are giving is as high as the Railways do. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : They are not getting the market price. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We will naturally see to it that people who suffer on account of this get adequate compensation. But a reference was made in terms of comparison to the practice of Railways. I am merely making a statement that the compensation we pay is not less than what the Railways do.

Shri Jagdish Tytler, who is, of course a very senior Member, has said that the land around the DTC bus depots must also be used commercially. He is a very senior and knowledgeable Member and I do not have to tell him that we have amended the Master Plan of Delhi recently to enable the Delhi Transport Corporation to use it as a source of revenue. It is, however, for the Delhi Government and the Delhi Transport Corporation to do the needful. We can only put an enabling regime in place.

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan has referred to the Cochin metro. The impression that he has that the Government of India is not favouring it is not correct. Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy has also referred to that. This matter is under the consideration of the Planning Commission. After the viability of the project is appraised, we will certainly apply the same formula of assistance as we have done in the case of Bangalore, Mumbai or Chennai. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : The Planning Commission has raised an objection that Cochin is not a big city. So, it may not be possible. But, you as a Minister know about the Kerala's topography. The Cochin Airport is just between Trichur and Cochin. So, if you connect those two big cities, it is big enough.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The questions can be put later on. Mr. Minister, as we do not have time, you reply afterwards.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I want to allay the anxiety of the hon. Members from Kerala.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Including our Chairman!

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I know.

MR. CHAIRMAN : About Kochi, I have told you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am referring to you only, Sir. While the Planning Commission has not taken a favourable view, the process of consideration is not over. The Government of India is prepared to take a second look if it is needed. We would like to make it possible. However, you will all appreciate that the economic viability is one of those fundamental criteria by which all our economic decisions should be guided.

In India, we have a Railway Safety Commissioner. That institution has been located in the Ministry of Civil Aviation. ... (*Interruptions*) It has no connection to the Railways because the Safety Commissioner's institution should be independent of the Railways. Therefore, the Cabinet has also taken a decision that wherever new metros are located, that institution of Railway Safety Commissioner will take care of those metros; that institution needs to be beefed up and strengthened. We are taking all steps in the direction.

Shri Alok Mehta has referred to the proposal from Patna. I would like to clarify one thing that these are all initiatives to be taken by the State Government. If a State Government proposes, as the Government of Kerala has proposed, we will certainly take a favourable view of Patna as well. However, we were prepared to sanction the project of a Bus Rapid Transit System for Patna. It is still under consideration.

Shri Suresh Prabhu is a very experienced Member with a very positive approach. He suggested the need

for a comprehensive piece of law. That is being looked at. There are constitutional aspects to this problem. Therefore, we are dealing with it installment by installment. He suggested that all the metros be built below the surface. While such a proposal is welcome, we must look at it from the angle of economic viability. Typically, underground metro is three times costlier. Unless the geological conditions or the local conditions compel us, we will not be able to afford underground metros. Therefore, in Delhi also, we have seen that wherever it was possible, we tried to avoid underground metro. So, the real reason for avoiding this is economic. As an accomplished and a reputed auditor, he will certainly agree with me that this is a valid criterion for us to go by.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you finished it?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No, Sir, I am talking.

Sir, he wanted the metros to operate in cooperation with the other civic agencies. That is what is really happening. No metro can operate without the active, positive cooperation from all the civic agencies including the Police.

You have rightly pleaded for attention being paid to the problems faced by cyclists and the pedestrians. In 2006, we have adopted the National Urban Transport Policy in which we stressed the need for providing exclusive space both for the cyclists and the pedestrians. We have not made much headway. But, before we make any headway, we need to alter the mindset of the people, the mindset of our rulers in the States. In that direction, we have made some progress.

We are, however, to make a lot of progress on the ground.

Sir, he referred to the need to expedite the process of construction of Metro having regard to the Commonwealth Games to be held in October, 2010. That is exactly the point. That is the reason why I brought the Bill urgently because this extension to NOIDA is to be opened for testing in June, 2009 itself. Therefore, although this Session was short and there was paucity of time, I could persuade everybody concerned so that this Bill is given top importance. I can only tell you through the House and through you, Sir, that these extensions to Gurgaon and NOIDA would be completed well on time for the Commonwealth Games in 2010.

Tripathyji has referred to the number of accidents. He seems to have documented them quite well. I do not deny his facts. When such a gigantic project is being executed, tragically some accidents happen and these are avoidable. But I can tell you that when you compare the record of the Delhi Metro with that of other comparable Metros in the world, our record is no inferior. As there is no other Metro in the country to be compared with, I am comparing our record with that of the Metros in the Western world and our record is in no way inferior to them.

Tripathyji has also raised a point as to why Metro should be treated as a State Subject. As of now, under Definition III, Metro is treated as tramway and you need a Constitution Amendment to change that. Therefore, we are amending the law from time to time. I am aware of this need because we are thinking of Metro in a big way in Kolkata, in Chennai, in Hyderabad, in Bengaluru, in Mumbai and in other cities. Some cities like Ahmedabad prefer BRTS to MRTS on the legitimate ground that it is many times cheaper. Typically, Bus Rapid Transport System (BRTS) is 20 times cheaper than MRTS. It is also less time consuming. But be that as it may, we are not trying to sit in judgement. Governments are boats of passages, Ministers are even more so. Why I am saying this is, these are decisions to be taken by State Governments. When they come up with proposals, we respond appropriately and all their proposals are appraised technically and economically at the Planning Commission's level.

Some concerns have been raised by Shri Tripathy about security. Let me tell him, through you, Sir, that security measures were not neglected. Security has been entrusted to the Central Industrial Security Force and CCTV has been installed. So far, it has been our good luck that the record of Delhi Metro, from the view point of security, has been unrivalled.

Sir, Shri Sudhakar Reddy has referred to the problem of Hyderabad Metro. I do not want to sit in judgement over what happened in Hyderabad Metro. But I would like to clarify – I had clarified earlier too – that this was an initiative of the State Government. The Government of India would have had a say if we needed to provide financial assistance.

Since the Government of Andhra Pradesh did not seek financial assistance, we had no say in the matter. As far as his demand that we implement the same system

in Hyderabad as we have done in Delhi is concerned, I can only say that it is for the State Government to make the proposal. I, on my own, will not be able to say anything as a Minister of the Central Government.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : The State Government has given the project to Maytas and Maytas company has collapsed, so the whole project has collapsed. We want the Government of India to take initiative to start it again... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Not at this moment please.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I agree, but I would not like to leave any questions unanswered. Basically, such matters are to be decided by the State Government. I am saying this not only in respect of Andhra Pradesh but I am saying this in respect of all the State Governments.

Now, he asked, 'why are you buying buses?' We are buying buses outside the fund given to us under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission. It is part of the larger stimulus package provided by the Government of India in the context of current meltdown. So, so many buses are made available to so many cities in the country. In due course we will be able to provide low floor modern luxury buses, not all of them air-conditioned, to as many as 65 cities.

In Hyderabad, this morning, I flagged off a programme in which I said that 700 buses will be made available. The buses are being made available because we want to encourage public transport as against privatized transport.

Shri Santosh Gangwar referred to the great service rendered by Sreedharan Ji. Sreedharan Ji is, in fact, a legendary figure who has made great contribution, unique contribution to the building of Delhi Metro and he is also being providing consultancy to all the Metros. But we are aware of the mortality of all individuals, we are putting in place dependable, durable structures and Sreedharan Ji as blaze a trail and it is for others to follow. For example, in Bengaluru, in Chennai, the State Governments are naming their local officers and we are lending our expertise and experience in the matter. He said that Bareilly should be considered a counter-magnate city. That is a suggestion for consideration.

Shri Surendra Goyal wanted this facility to be extended right up to Ghaziabad and other cities. I

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

appreciate the suggestion. This amendment will enable us to take it to Ghaziabad because Ghaziabad is part of National Capital Region. Therefore, I am sure his request will be conceded in due course. At the moment, we are focusing on NOIDA and Gurgaon and we have a long way to go. I am sure, Parliament will stand by Delhi Metro in the years to come.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: What efforts are being made to start the work where it has been stopped in our area... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, if you permit, I would like to say that the UP Government has to take initiative because we need the cooperation of the State Governments. I will initiate the proposal. I think, it is under discussion, no doubt, but it is early days.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

18.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 17 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 17 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is six o'clock. We have three more Bills for consideration and passing. If the House agrees, the time of the House may be extended by two hours.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, at least take up one Bill out of the remaining Bills today and let us pass that Bill.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then we will take one Bill today. Now the time of the House is extended by one hour, up to seven o'clock.

... (Interruptions)

18.03 hrs.

**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITY
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up Item 33. The Minister may move the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this is a very simple and short Bill which proposes to carry out some amendments in the parent Act of 2004.

The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions was established through the promulgation of an Ordinance dated 11th November 2004. The Ordinance was replaced by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act 2004 (2 of 2005) which was notified on 6th January 2005. The Act provided for

constitution of the Commission and the key objective was to ensure that the true amplitude of the educational rights enshrined in Article 30 (1) of the Constitution is made available to the members of the notified minority communities. This entails, *inter-alia*, addressing all issues that pertain to the denial, deprivation or violation of the constitutional right of the minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice, including all issues related to grant of NOC, minority status certificates and affiliation to universities, wherever applicable.

The Commission, which has been in existence for three years, has faced certain practical difficulties in implementing some of the provisions of the Act. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has also, from time to time received several suggestions in regard to the Act (No.2 of 2005) from various cross-sections of the minorities, which were referred to the Commission. The Commission has considered the views and suggestions expressed by various stakeholders, and has recommended certain amendments to the NCMEI Act. It is accordingly proposed to carry out some of the amendments through the present legislation.

In Section 2 of the Bill, two amendments are proposed in clause (g). First is to do away with the exclusion of Universities in the definition of "Minority Educational Institutions". The second proposal is to substitute the words "or maintained by" with the words "and administered by". The existing exclusion of a University from the definition of a minority educational institution runs counter to the law laid down by the Supreme Court of India *vide* Azeez Basha V. Union of India (A.I.R. 1968) substitution of words "or maintained by" with the words "and administered by" Several complaints were received to the effect that non-minorities were advertising the institutes as established by the minorities. Through this amendment this defect is sought to be removed by providing that the institutions should be both established and administered by a person or group of persons belonging to the same minorities. This will also conform to the language used in Article 30 of the Constitution.

The NCMEI Act, as at present, has amplified the functions of the Commission manifold, as compared to the original Act, under which the strength of the Commission was fixed at two Members besides the Chairman. The number of cases registered with the NCMEI has been showing an upward trend. Apart from

the increasing number of matters, the complex nature of issues brought before it, also calls for strengthening of the Commission. To meet the expectations of the minority communities who look upon the Commission as the forum for redressal of their grievances, it is proposed that Section 3(2) of the Act be amended to increase the existing number of Members of the Commission, other than the Chairperson, from the existing two to three.

Article 30 (1) of the Constitution gives the Minorities unrestricted power to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. In TMA Pai Foundation vs. State of Karnataka (2002) (8 S.C.C. 481), the Supreme Court was of view that the right enshrined under Article 30(1) of the Constitution is a regulatory right and the regulations must satisfy a dual test namely, the test of reasonableness and the test that it is regulative of the educational character of the institution and is conducive to making the institution an effective vehicle of education for the minority community. That being so we are amending Section 10(1) of the Act so that it does not circumscribe the width and ambit of Article 30(1) of the Constitution. The proposed amendment will ensure that issuing of NOC, wherever required, is made subject to law in force and not left to the executive discretion in each State.

Finally, clause 12(B) of the aforesaid Act confers power upon the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions to decide on the minority status of an educational institution. sub-clause (4) of said clause 12(B), as it stands, provides that the Commission may, after giving the parties to the appeal an opportunity of being heard, and in consultation with the State Government, decide on the minority status of the educational institution and shall proceed to give such directions as it may deem fit, and all such directions shall be binding on the parties. It is proposed to do away with the requirement of consultations with the State Governments before deciding on the status of the Minority Educational Institution because in most of the cases the State Governments are already parties in the petitions coming to the Commission on appeal, and hence the State Governments should not, it is felt, be given a second chance as this will vitiate the principle of natural justice.

With these words, I move for the consideration and adoption of the Bill by the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Minister has just introduced the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2009 and enumerated the reasons to introduce it. The Bill was prepared in 2004 which is going to be amended. This seems to be a minor amendment but like the couplet of the poet Bihari—"Dekhan me chhote lagen, ghav kare gambhir" it seems minor but it may have adverse affect in future. It is because of the powers of States have been curtailed. The way in which the Government is going to amend that there is need to take NOC whether the institution has minority status or not. For it there is mention about competent authority but the word 'consultation with the State Governments' is being eliminated, it means there will be no need to consult with the State Governments, they will not be the part of it. Education is the subject of State list. If the minority status will be given directly by the Commission without any consultation with the State Governments then grants will have to be released for State Governments or different kinds of scholarships will have to be distributed by them. If it has overriding powers over the State Governments then how they will intervene? So I have objection. The powers of the State Governments should not be curtailed. There was provision in the Bill till now that the Commission in the consultation with the Central Government, State Government will provide minority institution status but it can be misused. Some States are affected of terrorism, for example Kashmir. It is a dangerous region from security point of view of the nation. If Minority institution status provided these without consulting with the State Government or in some border areas, if Madarasa or such institution has been opened there then how will it be tackled? As we read in the newspapers, on that basis provision for supervision, advice and consultation with State Government must be made therein. I oppose the section of the Bill regarding there is no need to consult with the State Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, education is the subject of state list. So the State must be consulted. On the NOC by State Government, the institute should be established otherwise who will be responsible for the security of the nation? Similarly Punjab and Nagaland are there. There is majority of a particular religion in Kashmir, the people

of other religions are in minority, will Hindu Minority enjoy these rights there? Punjab is Sikh dominated state. Hindus are in minority there while they have majority in the country then what will be position in Punjab? Christians have majority in Nagaland. If Hindus are willing to establish Rama and Krishna institution there whether they will enjoy these rights. Hence, clarification on all these things is necessary. I think, State Government should be consulted compulsorily and the provision of consultation with State Government should not be done away with.

Sir, myself and my party also are in favour of this. The constitution under article 30 guarantees the right to establish and manage minorities education institutions. The Government should introduce this comprehensive Bill. First it was introduced in the year 2004 and thereafter in the year 2006. During the year 2006, it was provided that if any objection or NOC etc. is not received within 90 days then it may be presumed. Now, in the Bill introduced in 2009, while omitting the provision of 90 days the State Governments are being excluded completely. The Bill is being amended thrice. The Government should introduce a comprehensive Bill after proper consideration. We are not against the minorities and we want to bring the minority communities of the country in the mainstream. We want to inculcate this feeling that right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and Gujarat to Nagaland, India is one and we all are Indians. The UPA Government is indulging in vote bank politics. Report of Sacchar Commission has been submitted which reflects the true picture of Islam... (Interruptions) Jews, Zoroastrians, Jains, Budhists and Hindus are also in minority at some places of the country, then why is nobody is concerned about them. Sikhs are also in minority. Is there no need to spare them a thought? The term minority is always used for Muslims only.

Sir, Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians, all of us are brothers. Is the Government trying to avoid giving reservation to OBC, in the garb of according minority status. It is a strategy to accomplish this. Through you, I would like to ask Hon'ble Minister whether the Government have incorporated such provision to avoid giving reservation to OBCs by excluding the role of States in granting minority status and giving this power directly to the Commission. Is it a strategy particularly to bypass those provisions of reservations which are in favour of OBCs. As I have stated we also want to bring the Minorities in the mainstream of the country for their educational and social upliftment so that they could get equal status in the country. As all of us know that AR

Rahaman has received Oscar award for his composition 'Jai ho'. During the NDA Government, Rahman Composed music for 'Vande Matram' on the inspiration of Shri Atal ji. That song gained popularity all over the country. We want to follow a uniform policy for all. But we are against the policy of discrimination being followed by UPA GOvt. which is creating rift between minority and majority by giving reservation in jobs at several places, scholarships in educational institutions and allowing admission in universities on grounds other than merit in the name of minorities. I would like to request that consultations with State Governments should be made compulsory. These provisions should not be misused, otherwise terrorists and anti national elements will flourish and we might have to face similar situation as Taliban has created. Taliban has become the biggest threat today. They have spread their activities close to our borders. Pakistan and America both are considering Taliban a big threat. Sir, we need to observe caution with regards to these educational institutions. Centre as well as State Governments should remain equally vigilant. Without their consultation no institute should be granted minority status.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time. Please conclude.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: It is very good that in place of two semesters there is a provision of three semesters. What is the definition of institute established and sponsored by a minority community? Whether any institution which is set up by any other community for a minority community shall not enjoy the status of minority institute? The definition given by the Government somehow smacks of separatism. Sir, I have drawn your attention towards certain points. We oppose this policy. It is a good gesture that a Commission has been set up. The Commission may look into the matter and cooperate with them.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You place it on the Table.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, I am raising this last point and want your support.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is very difficult to control it.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: The Commission received 40, 1744 and 818 applications in the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively. Total 2622 applications have been received out of which 825 have been disposed of. I think an enquiry should be conducted. It may pose a threat before the country if any institute is granted the status of a minority institution without conducting any enquiry. Hence, there is a need to observe caution. Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam) : Sir, I wish to speak in Tamil while participating in this discussion on National Commission for Minorities Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill 2009. In our Indian body polity, minorities must have their rightful place. The rights of the minorities under Article 30(i) are specified in our constitution. Under the guidance of Madame Sonia Gandhi, the Chairperson of UPA, Minister of Human Resources Development in the Union council of Ministers headed by our Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, has brought about several welfare measures meant for the minorities. Much has been done to bring about change in the lives of minorities in these four to five years during the tenure of UPA Government. I would like to point out that in certain states especially in the BJP ruled states, getting approval to run Minority Educational Institutions is in itself a problem and it is just not available. Section 10(i) is being amended just because the minorities are denied of their rights in the opposition ruled states. This amendment seeks to protect their rights.

I have a humble request to make. Minority Commission has got just three members as of now. It is said that about Rs.13 lacs is being spent on each member of the commission. This Bill seeks to protect the rights of minorities especially the Islamic community as it remains to be the socially most backward community. There must be provision for three members from Muslim Community. Along with a Sikh member and a Chistran member there can be five more members in this commission. The money spent on them could be about Rs. 65 lakhs. This amount is just a drop in the massive Budget of ours as the

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid]

Centre deals with about Rs. 6,00,000 crore and more. In these four years 4279 complaints have been received and 3932 have been disposed off after being considered properly. This commission has been given the judicial powers of a Civil court. Still some more powers have to be given. Those who want to establish Minority Education Institutions are made to run from pillar to post when they seek No Objection Certificate from the State Governments. Hon'ble Shri Arjun Singh has provided for in this Bill conferment of certain rights. A Minority Institution can be started if there is no response within 60 days to the application filed for obtaining No Objection Certificate for approval from the State Government. I would like to point out that this UPA Government headed by Dr. Manmohan Singh and led by Smt. Sonia Gandhi have great concern for the minorities. I would like to point out that minorities have not forgotten the injustice meted out to them during the previous NDA regime. Minorities have been put to many sufferings in many riots. There are thousands of men in the civil services as IAS and IPS Officers. How many of them are from the Minority Community? How many of the IPS Officers belong to Islamic Community? They are very limited in number and easily countable. This Bill shows the concern this Government has for the minorities. Not only this Government has got concern for the minorities and the under privileged sections of the society even our other leaders have shown it. Especially our young leader Rahul Gandhi makes it a point to visit the Scheduled Tribe people and try to learn from them their problems. I would like to ask of you whether the rulers in the previous regime have done anything like that. The rights of the Minority Community must be protected. I would like to request this Government to see that the National Commission for Minority Education Institutions gets some more powers and gain an enhanced status.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can place your speech on the Table of the House.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Section 12 should also be modified.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can place your speech on the Table of the House.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : It should definitely be investigated by the Government whether the institutions that are run in the name of minorities are run by the minorities. You have to probe it in the larger interest of the minorities of this country.

We are deprived, and the minorities are not given importance. The UPA Government is giving utmost importance to it because the minority community is educationally backward.

We have 545 districts. I would request and urge upon the Government that the UPA Government in the Centre should start minority educational institutions like Kendriya Vidyalaya or Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalaya in every district. You have to start one minority educational institution in every district. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Karunakaran, you can start speaking. He would not stop.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : In addition, you have to provide education to the minorities. The Central Government should give training to the minority students for IAS and IPS also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can place your speech on the Table of the House.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Section 12(B) in this Acts needs to be amended. In the same way as you seek to amend section 10 a(i) you may amend also section 12(B). There must be a study to collect details as to how many of the beneficiaries from the Minority Educational Institutions are really minorities. There are some people who run such institutions under the guise of minorities. How many students are benefitted? How many from the Minority Communities get job opportunities must be studied.

As regards reservation of seats, minorities should be given reservation in education. The minorities should be given reservation in all the States by this Government. The Tamil Nadu Government has given it; the Andhra Pradesh Government has given it; and even the BJP Government in Karnataka has given it. Why are you not giving it? The Central Government should also give reservation to the minorities.

I would like to say that this Government alone can give it, and this Government alone can take care of them.

We should not be deprived and neglected. The minorities should not be neglected at any cost.

Article 30 (1) of the Constitution should be protected.
... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Karunakaran, you can speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, how can I speak? The House is not in order. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He would not stop.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Sir, I am concluding. More percentage of seats for minorities should be given in the colleges that are run in the name of minorities. With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a limit. You are on the ruling side. How can the Business of the House be concluded if you take so much of time of the House?

Mr. Karunakaran, you must at least be liberal and accommodative.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : We are discussing the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2009. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a subject on which anybody can speak for any length of time. Minority issue is the basic issue, and anybody can speak on it at any time.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: The hon. Minister has stated that there are issues with regard to the functioning of the Commission. I would like to recollect that there was a really heated discussion in this House when we first discussed the Bill in 2004. After that discussion, we have given shape to the Bill. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sure that the Minister will be here. If all others leave, he will be here.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Sir, we are here.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, we all are here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the only consolation.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : It is true that even now there are a large number of problems being faced by the minority community. The minority community has a Constitutional right under Article 30 (1A). Still, we are discussing this issue in this House even after 61 years of our Independence.

As stated by other hon. Members, we have to give due importance to minorities. It is on this basis that Sachar Commission Report was been tabled in Parliament. It came to the fore in the Sachar Commission Report that in many Districts and towns of the country the status of minorities is below that of SC and ST communities. Some Governments have taken steps to rectify their mistakes. I am proud of saying that on the basis of Sachar Commission Report the Government of Kerala has constituted a Committee, the Paloli Mohammad Kutty Committee to go into this issue. The Committee has submitted its report and the recommendations have already been implemented to give scholarships to minority students and provide reservation to minorities in educational institutions and employment opportunities.

I understand that there are some practical difficulties experienced by the Commission in the past four years of its existence. Hon. Minister has made it clear that the number of Members of the Commission has to be raised and some other issues have to be attended to. I fully agree with many of the suggestions made by the Minister. At the same time one must realise that the status of education in the country differs from State to State. In Kerala there is cent per cent education and that is not the case with many other States. While majority of the educational institutions are Government-owned in some States, they are privately managed in many other States. We have a federal set up in our country. Every issue is complex in our country including education. We have to give due importance to States in all sectors whether it is education or any other sector.

The Minister has made a suggestion that problems crop up with regard to the State Governments in the matter of according the status of minorities. He said that

[Shri P. Karunakaran]

some States may have differing views from the other States in this regard. But I think it is the State Governments which can judge these things better. There may be problems and I do not deny that. But how can the State Governments be kept out of the process of deciding the status of minorities and other issues? If two State Governments take opposing views, the Central Government can intervene and give a direction.

I remember that in the draft Bill that was introduced in the House in 2004 there was no mention about the role of the State Governments. After taking into consideration the views of all political parties, it was included that there should be consultation with the State Government in this matter. Even after consulting the State Governments, the Minorities Commission can take its own view. In this Bill, even that consultation role given to the States earlier has been done away with. I think that has to be reintroduced. Otherwise, it would set a bad precedent with regard to relations between the States and the Centre.

Both the Central and State Governments will have to give due importance to minorities. We cannot say that it is only the Central Government that gives due importance to minorities and State Governments are all against them. We cannot take that view in our federal set up. It is only when the States are strong that the Centre can become strong. Otherwise, there may be problems. The Union Government has to consider this aspect and introduce the concept of consultation with the States once again.

With these words, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to convey my gratitude towards you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on such an important Bill. The House is discussing National Minority Educational Institutions Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2009. I support the Bill. This Bill conforms with the spirit of the constitution. Article 30(1) (a) of the constitution clearly provides that any linguistic or religious minority has the right to establish a minority educational institution and keep the administration of such an institution under its own control.

Sir, recently the Sacchar Commission has submitted its report regarding minority communities which revealed that their condition is worse than the Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes. Not only this, they are lagging far behind economically and socially.

I think that even after 60 years of Independence of India, if a large community of the country remains neglected, it remains economically deprived and also educationally backward, then certainly it is a matter of concern for all of us and a subject of consideration. We have got the right to make a national law in this regard. Our Constitution has provided us powers to make such national laws and we have made it. The Parliament has given us the right and under that right we have brought this Bill in the Parliament. Nowhere this law encroaches upon the rights of State Governments right to make laws. There are already existing, not one but many laws and national laws under which citizens and public of the country is being provided security.

Sir, I fail to understand why our friend from BJP, Prof. Raza Singh Rawat, was expressing anguish. Sir, it is the beauty of this country that the people of all religions and languages live here. This speciality of our country is a glaring example of unity in diversity. Because of this, our country has a separate identity throughout the world but the people are spoiling this beauty of our country. They do not have right thinking. They are fundamentalists. Each person living in the country has a right to prosper and develop.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I have said to bring them in the mainstream of the nation, we all are one.

[English]

We are all one. We, are Indians first and then anything else.

[Translation]

Sir, I have only opposed the move for, not consulting with State Governments

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I am saying that even after 60 years of freedom, a large section of our country is still very backward. So, this Bill has been brought to bring it in the national mainstream and to enhance its educational capability. This state of affairs come in the country because State Governments did not

corporate in improving the educational status of minorities all these years. If the State Governments have not worked to encroach on the right of minorities all these years, there would not have been any need to bring this Bill. Some States are there, especially of this mentality that minorities do not prosper.

Sir, I understand that in this country, there are many backward States and sections. The biggest reason for this is that we are uneducated in large number. So long as education is not provided, no State or section would develop. We are today a developing country. In order to bring minorities to national mainstream, we will have to educate them. They have got the basic right in this regard. For all these years, we deprived them of these rights. This is a big offence. Therefore, educational institutions opened in the past for minorities, faced a lot of difficulties in obtaining 'no objection'. Therefore, UPA Government felt that it would not deprive them of their rights. Therefore, we want to express gratitude to the UPA Government that for the betterment of educational status of minorities, it started many important schemes. For their uplift and for the improvement of their educational status, about 7,500 crore rupees were allocated. This was a big step taken and alongwith it by bringing this Bill, a revolutionary step has been taken.

The Union Government never intended to cut the rights of States but if the Union Governments finds that State Governments are not fulfilling their duties, then it can take steps to bring the backward people of the country into national mainstream. Now, Union Government have taken this step. I certainly welcome the Bill which come in 2004, 2006, there is a minor amendment in it...(*Interruptions*). Have I exhausted my time limit? I am speaking for the first time.

I would like to request you that this Bill is very progressive and has been brought before the country under constitutional provisions Do you know that our country is progressing, if you want to prove your country as a developed one, you will have to show the face of the country to the world. If such a large community and section of the country remain backward, uneducated, poverty stricken, we cannot certainly be under the category of developed countries. If we want to get ahead of America and other developed countries, then certainly we will have to protect the rights of every section and bring them in national mainstream. To bring these minority communities in national mainstream living in backward region, to know their economic status, you go to villages.

You come from Kerala State, many other States are there, you go to Bihar, they do not have food to eat. Their economic condition and educational status is so miserable that it cannot be compared to the most poor people. Their status is such, therefore, I understand...(*Interruptions*) I am going to conclude...(*Interruptions*) when I end my speech, you may call on other hon. Member, but I have not concluded till now.

I humbly submit that our hon. Friend Raza Singh Rawat was speaking that if he is provided relaxations, educational institutions will come up like anything and they will adversely affect our society. They will get involved in other activities. In fact, this is your negative thinking. These are your narrow thought on the basis of which you are speaking. As long as you hold political clout country cannot prosper.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: At the end, I would submit, you please give me permission for a minute so that I could conclude by supporting this Bill again.

I urge you and I would express my gratitude towards Hon'ble Minister, A Fatmi, Committee has been constituted after Sachar Committee. This is the report of that Committee. They have gone through it. Therefore, you should implement the report of this Committee as well and you should strive for bringing educationally backward Muslims back into national mainstream.

I conclude my speech by supporting this Bill.

18.44 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Sir, we support this Bill and I must make it very clear that the Left Parties

*Not recorded.

[Shri C.K. Chandrappan]

take a position of supporting the minority's cause. It is not that we are treating them as a vote bank or anything. It is out of conviction that in a secular and democratic country, the minority communities should enjoy the rights that are bestowed upon them by the Constitution.

While we are discussing this Bill, let me just mention that the Government agreed for appointing the Sachar Committee and the Committee brought out a very good Report, but the Report has never been discussed in Parliament. Now, if the recommendations of the Report were to be implemented properly and the spirit of the Report is to guide the Government at the Centre as well as at the States, then it should have been necessary that the Government should have taken interest to see that it was discussed in Parliament. It was listed for discussion but the House could not discuss it. Since tomorrow or the day after, this Fourteenth Lok Sabha comes to an end, we are sure that we are not going to get an opportunity to discuss that Report.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (SABARKANTHA): We all are going to be there in the 15th Lok Sabha...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, I take it in the right spirit. But it was a failure on the part of the Government.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time of the House has been extended upto 7'0 clock and I want to conclude it by 7'0 clock.

[English]

That will be good. The hon. Members are requested to give their suggestions only.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : It was a serious mistake on the part of the Government that the Report was not discussed in Parliament. That would have done some good.

Sir, now coming to the provisions of the Bill I would like to submit that all the amendments are good except that aspect that amendment which stipulates doing away with consultations. I can understand the difficulty of the

Government. Probably, many States are putting a hindrance and the Government wants to get out of that kind of a situation. This is another aspect that in the name of minority, using the name of minority education is being successfully made into a big industry by certain people. Since we are discussing an issue relating to minority education, how can the Government ignore this? This fact cannot be ignored. If I remember correctly, in the original Bill neither consultation nor consent was there. After a long discussion the Government agreed to the idea that consultation could be introduced. That does not mean that if consultation and consent are there, that is a different thing. We are not asking for inclusion of consent, but consultation is a democratic process. Though we are living in a democratic society, yet we have serious differences with certain Parties in power who might take an obstructionist attitude. Consultation should be done and finally the decision is with the Commission. I would request the Government to consider this issue. Let there be consultation. It is in the spirit of federalism. I am not going to speak about the federal character of the State and its parameters but it would be understood that in a federal State, an Act should not be such that it would dispense with consultation.

Sir, since you are in the Chair, I am sure you would agree with me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I try to accommodate everybody to the best of my ability. But sometimes I have my own limitations.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, it is not a question of accommodating. It is already there in the Concurrent List. This aspect should be seriously thought about before the hon. Minister finally asks for the consent of the House to pass this Bill.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Why are you not opposing the Bill?

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : We will not oppose it. We are requesting the Government to re-consider this particular aspect.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on my leg on behalf of the Shiv Sena to speak on the National Educational Institution Commission (Amendment)

Bill...(Interruptions). At the outset, I want to raise an objection. We had gone to a Conference of Minority Council where hon. Minister, Shri A.R. Antuley was also present. We told him about what can be done for the Minority Community, he asked us to come next day to see what can be done. The next day we went to him. Since in Maharashtra my Sambhajinagar, Aurangabad district is a Minority district, therefore, we told him that help is required for the development of local settlements. Help was also sought for their educational society as well then he said that nothing is in his hand.

I would like to state that what for the UPA Government has created that department. When we ask about education society then it falls under the Ministry of HRD whose Minister is Shri Taslimuddin. The stand of the Government on welfare of Minorities is not clear. I want to say that we have many Muslim activities, Shiv Sena has many activists belonging to Minority Community. We have a Maulana Azad Vikas Mandal, but no work is done there despite several applications. Once I called an officer from there and enquired about it then he replied that there is no money, neither the Union Government, nor the State Government sends money. It is not good to woo Minorities by making false promises only to secure their votes. Shiv Sena has strong views against the report of Sachar Commission. You want to discriminate despite being a secular, this is not good because poor people are there in every community be it Hindu, Muslim or Sikh Community. Now Jain Community is also being accorded status of a Minority Community. I want to say that it will be a marginal society but a minority one. They have many educational societies. I want to say that they may approach the HRD Department for five years but will get help.

I would like to thank the Government for including the Jain Community in the list of Minority Community. Sikh Community was already in it. You tell us how far it is helpful in solving their problems. I would like to say that these are of no help to Minority Communities. This is all being done to woo the voters, that is why Sachar Committee report is being implemented, this is all politics. Education is not imparted in Madaras, they should be inspected upon. Nothing comes out from their four walls. It creates a divide. I would like to say that Sachar Commission and its report may create a Hindu Muslim divide. Such reports hurt and stir the emotions of other people. Government has done all this only to woo the voters and Shiv Sena opposes this. Shiv Sena Supremo hon. Bala Saheb Thackeray had given a long

memorandum to the hon. Prime Minister. On that day, Shri Uddhav Thackeray and other MPs of my party were there. We had said that if the report of Sachar Commission is implemented then it will definitely create a big divide in the country, Just like the way every small group is demanding reservation for themselves. How far and how this reservation can be stretched. We have Maratha Society, they have also asked and their agitation is also going on. Day before yesterday on the occasion of official Shiv Jayanti where the Chief Minister and other Ministers were present, stones were pelted on them demanding reservation.

I would say such incidents are result of greed...(Interruptions) If really some good has to be done under the National Minority Educational Institution...(Interruptions)

Through you, I would like to tell to hon. Minister that if you want to do some good to them then do it in authentic way. You should allocate some fixed amount to States because it takes them four to five years to approach your department. They do not get any benefit from it. Today, several children belonging to the minority community come to us. We tell them that it all has been done for greed, so you should forget about it. I would like to say that it is a very large conspiracy to create a divide. UPA Government has done this with an eye on votes. They, on the one hand, claim to be secular and on the other they do such things. I therefore, strongly oppose this Bill.

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are discussing the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2009. It intends to just amend Section 2. In the Bill it is said:

"In section 2 of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for clause (g), the following clause shall be substituted."

So, only (g) is being substituted. It says:

"(g) "Minority Educational Institutions" means a college or an educational institution established and administered by a minority or minorities."

The amendment of section 12 B is:

"In section 12B of the principal Act, in sub-section (4), the words "and in consultation with the State Government" shall be omitted."

So, it is not for minority students. It is also not in accordance with the recommendations of the Sachar Committee. I do not know whether the hon. Members supporting the Bill are reading it or not. This is meant for the business in the name of the minorities. This is to start colleges. ... *(Interruptions)* This is just to allow the minorities to start colleges in higher education. This is nothing else. This is not for the welfare of the minorities. Can the hon. Minister assure that in these institutions either fifty per cent or sixty per cent or seventy per cent of the minority students will be admitted? Is there any such provision in this? There is no such provision in this. This amendment is only to allow them to do some business. There is nothing in this for the welfare of the minorities.

It is universally acknowledged that key to progress of any group, whether it be any caste, community or gender, is education. Education is necessary for minorities and others. The rights of minorities are guaranteed under the provisions of article 30 of the Constitution. The objectives of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions are contained in section 3 and section 11 of the NCMEI Act, 2004. Everything is mentioned. So, we are not discussing that thing.

Insofar as the education of the Muslims are concerned, who are one of the major minorities of our country, according to Sachar Committee Report, the dropout rate is 25 per cent; seventeen per cent are matriculates and only six per cent are graduates. So, what to talk about IIMs and other higher technical education? For example, only 63 Muslim out of 4,4743 students had taken admission in IIMs. The recruitment of minorities is also only 8.65 per cent. We are concerned with these things. The Government should consider all these things.

19.00 hrs.

The Government should consider for the upliftment and better education of the minorities. But your amendment is not meant for this thing. Your amendment is just to facilitate the high and rich people of the minorities to go for business and nothing else. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time of the House has been extended up to Seven O'clock. Now it is Seven o'Clock.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): The discussions on this Bill can be completed today and the Minister can reply tomorrow.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are only two Members left to Speak. Let us listen to them for two minutes each. Reply will be tomorrow.

[English]

The Minister will reply tomorrow. The House is extended for two more Members to speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : All are not right about Madrassas to call them institutions of social services and humanism is perhaps too much. So, Government must take care of the students who are enrolled in *Madrassas*. They must be taught other modern subjects; otherwise how can they be qualified in this present world?

Sir, they have issued certificates after the enactment of Act of 2004. The total number of minority status certificates issued by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions during 2005-07 is 825. Hon. Minister can apprise us the number of other certificates issued by this Commission during the year 2008. They have issued No Objection Certificates to about 825 institutions. How many students of minority communities are admitted in these institutions? I hope the hon. Minister can apprise us so that we will be able to know whether there is some reservation. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are only repeating your points.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Sir, I am just concluding within one minute.

There is some result with this amendment. Can education be considered complete without the students

having at least the working knowledge of Mathematics and Science or in an increasingly globalized world, even English? I would like to know whether these institutions will teach Mathematics, Science and even the English subject to the students. Can the hon. Minister assure us?

Sir, lowering the education standard will be retrograde move for the students and it surely would not help these children for whom the National Educational Policy promises equality and social justice. So, this will not even help the students.

Sir, I will conclude within one minute. Even the present West Bengal Government – my Left Friends are very much arguing – is bringing an amendment to the State Education Act to curtail the powers of the Minority Educational institutions to appoint the teachers. There is a clash between the Commission and the Government of West Bengal. So, by this amendment it is curtailing the powers of the States. I cannot say that the West Bengal Government is not favouring the minorities. But I do not know as to why they are opposing. Because it is curtailing the powers of the States. Education is a State subject. This amendment will just create a pandamonion and States will oppose all these things and the entire interest will not be solved. So, I hope that the hon. Minister will see that the minority students will get better scope in this institution where you are giving No Objection Certificate and in this way their educational standards will also increase. The standards of the *Madrasas* educational institutions will increase as they should be equipped to cope with other sections of the society.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, you can speak for two or three minutes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: (Hyderabad): Kindly Oblige by giving me Five Minutes of time.

[*English*]

Sir, I rise to support this Bill. During the last 60 years of our Independence, this is the only piece of legislation that was made subsequent to Article 30 which is a Fundamental Right.

Sir, the hon. Minister in his introductory remarks talked about Article 30. He quoted about the T. M.A. Pai judgement also. .

I would like to point out here that Article 30, which is a fundamental right, has been diluted by the hon. Supreme Court in its various judgements – whether it is in the TMA Pai judgement or the Namdar judgement. It is very unfortunate that the Commission has never bothered to go to the Supreme Court or even this Government has never bothered to ensure that Article 30 remains a fundamental right. It remains a fundamental right only on paper. But if you read the subsequent Supreme Court judgements for the last six years, you can find that they have diluted the fundamental rights. In fact, they have gone on record and said that Article 30 is not a fundamental right. This in itself was the duty of the Commission because if you read the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it clearly says

“to make recommendations to the appropriate Government for effective implementation of programmes.”

Another function is to specify the measures to promote and preserve the minority status and character. This has not been done. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, one thing. The Annual Reports which have been given by this Commission are only for two years. What about the other two years? Those Reports have never been laid on the floor of the august House. I do not subscribe to the view that the State Government should be consulted. I subscribe to the view that it is because of the State Government's indifferent attitude towards the minorities, especially the Muslims, that the problems remain, which is the reason. That is why, the status of higher education of Muslims is very bad. The Sachchar Committee is to be seen. I do not feel there is need to amend that. Let this Bill be passed *in toto* because it is high time that we required a law which opens the avenues for minorities to open educational institutions.

Another important point which I would like to bring to your kind notice is the figures that have been quoted during the last three years. Only 825 institutions have got the NOC. Why such a low number is there? The Commission is not doing its work properly. When you have received 2622 and odd applications, why is it that you have given NOC to only 825? Why not all the 2000? What stopped you from doing that?

The basic lacuna in the National Minorities Commission is that it only pertains to the HRD Ministry. What about Health, Medical and Dental Colleges? When

[Shri Asaduddin Owaisi]

this Bill was brought forward nearly four years ago, I did not move the amendment but I requested one thing. You are only giving NOC to the colleges which work under the AICTE. What about the Health Department? Why do they also not do it? Why do you want to limit this Commission's work only to your Department? This should have been brought forward. That has not been done. Moreover, I would like to know from the hon. Minister one thing. Appreciating and accepting all the amendments, I would like him to enlighten us as far as Section 10 of the Principal Act is concerned. I can understand Section 2 or 3 of the Principal Act. But why was he ready to bring Section 10? I fail to understand it. I really fail to understand why he was ready to bring forward this Section.

Lastly, when it comes to the issue of minorities, what is the definition of "minority?" Why has the UPA Government not brought forward a Bill to say what is the definition of minority? As a Government, why are you relying on the Supreme Court's judgment? Why do you want the Supreme Court to lead you? You are the Government. You should lead the nation. Whatever the Supreme Court is following, this Government is blindly following it. It is not the job of the Executive to blame somebody. When you commit a wrong, you should correct it. This definition of minority has been laid down by the Supreme Court. The Punjab Government does not agree to that. It is high time the definition of minorities is defined so that tomorrow we do not find all these lacunae and problems. The Supreme Court said it so and the Punjab Government has disagreed to that. We could have codified the definition of minority. Keeping all these points in front of you, I hope that tomorrow when the hon. Minister rises to answer, I would request him once again through you, Sir, that for God's sake not to drop that thing. Let this Bill be passed *in toto* because it is high time the minorities get this thing.

Moreover, the Commission is slack. The Commission is not doing its work properly. It is very slow. So many applications are pending with them. That has to be expedited. I hope that the hon. Minister would pressurize the Commission to go to the Supreme Court. If not the Supreme Court, you can bring forward a legislation. How can the Supreme Court dilute Article 30 in the TMA Pai's case or the Namdar's case? The Supreme Court has diluted Article 30. It is my college. I am opening my college for my students. I cannot give them admission. I have to rely on the State Government. Who is the State

Government? Not even a single pie has been given by the State Government. Through my sweat and blood, I have formed these colleges. The Supreme Court said: "You cannot do it." What is my job? Am I a door keeper there?

That is the real issue. That is why I brought it to the notice of the Government. I hope the Government will take it in the right spirit and take corrective measures. Still there is some time for them to take these measures.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I too rise to support this Bill. This is a Bill to amend the earlier Bill which was passed in 2004 and it was discussed threadbare in this House.

Sir, from the discussion that has just taken place here, it is very clear that almost everybody agrees that all the amendments except the last one regarding whether to consult State Governments or not.

Before going into that, I was rather pained to listen to my good friend Tripathyji who said that this Bill is entirely for facilitating the business interests of the minorities. I do not understand that. In the educational field, it is an established fact that minority communities of this country have done yeoman's service. In fact, if we go through the list of educational institutions of this country, those institutions which are considered as real centres of excellence are being run by minority communities in this country mostly, not that Government institutions are not of that high standard. So, such statements that this is just to facilitate the business interests of minority communities are not correct.

19.12 hrs

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

I do not understand this. Those people who criticize, people like Tripathyji, should also explain to us as to why they stand in queue to get admissions for their children and their grandchildren in these very institutions which they dub as business institutions. It is very unfortunate to make that kind of sweeping remarks. There may be black sheeps both among the minorities and the majority communities which run educational institutions or healthcare institutions, but it is very unfortunate that those kinds of comments are being made.

As far as the consultation process is concerned, ours is a federal democracy. In a federal set up, it is only

proper and fit that States are consulted. But at the same time, as far as the minorities are concerned, in every democracy, minorities have special rights provided in the Constitution. Our Constitution has also made special provisions for the protection and well being of the minorities and that is regarding the establishment and administration of educational institutions to protect the special character of the minorities in this country. Within the ambit of that constitutional provision States should be consulted. There has to be a time limit to get the opinion of the States and then the Commission has to take a decision within the ambit of the constitutional provision regarding the minority status of a particular institution. That kind of a set up has to prevail so that the interests of the minorities of this country will be protected fully.

That is all I want to say.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it seems from the Bill that only two-three words are being changed but the Hon'ble Minister and the alliance partners of UPA are declaring with much pomp and show that it is really going to be highly beneficial for the minorities. Now, what is the interpretation of Minorities in UN charter, we are here not to discuss the same. We want to say that whatever things you will do for the vote and for appeasement, the consequences arising out of it are quite understandable. This is not merely a two-line substitution. If you go into its interpretation, you will find that it amounts to transforming the character of our constitution. In a way, you want to stop consulting the states completely and allow them to do whatever they like. Just now, our Hon'ble Tripathy Ji was saying that the process of creating means to make money is on. I want to bring to your cognisance only one thing that the amendment at number 4 reads

[*English*]

"The amendment proposes to delete the word 'other than universities'".

[*Translation*]

You want to add minority educational institutions in its place. I would like to urge that this is really a matter having wide far-reaching consequences. The Hon'ble judges of Supreme Court have given judgement twice in

this regard. One case was of Mr. Basha Vs Union of India, AIR, 1968 Supreme Court 662, Para 21 and recently in a case of Prof. Yashpal Vs the State of Chhattisgarh, 2005 5 SC the Supreme Court in its judgement stated that

[*English*]

"The University can be established only by a law made by Parliament or by a State Legislature and that cannot be a Private university"

[*Translation*]

Here, the Private university is being talked about. Here, it is being discussed to transform our Constitution and its character. I would like to urge that when we are at the fag end of our Fourteenth Lok Sabha, but this Lok Sabha can not take any decision which is going to have harmful consequences in future and does not turn out to be beneficial for the country. In the sixty years of independence, the NDA Government has come to power only for six years and these people have been in power for rest of the 54 years, even then they have not been able to serve the society. If poverty rose, it was in this society. If the education level came down, it was the education of society, which got affected. Today, at the closure of the last session of this Lok Sabha, you are going to carry out this thing. I would request the hon'ble Ram Kripal Yadav to look into this. This is not a thing about the progress of minorities. It is about how to divide the country. This is a thing against the character of the constitution. My submission is that it is not going to fetch them votes. It should be deferred and there is a need to have a long discussion in this regard. When you brought it in the year 2004, then we had a complete discussion on it. Whatever you did after the discussion, we have no objection to it. I have seen several minority institutions and after observing them, it appears that the Government does not have any control over them. Take the money as you desire and give admission to anybody you like and if you want to continue this process, then we have nothing to say in this regard. You know that if the Muslim community makes a progress after educating themselves, it is not going to give you vote. They will come to know that for the full fifty years you have made a fool of them. My submission is that whatever decision you take, it will not be in the interest of this community. You should reconsider it and then take a decision. All the states will disagree to it. Your alliance partners, who have their governments in the states, must be getting that their

[Shri Santosh Gangwar]

control is no more existing now. Everyone will come to know as to how the work is going on. You people do not take my words otherwise. You go through the list and find out as to what is the profile and economic status of those who run such type of minority institutions irrespective of their being minority or majority belonging to any community. How these schools are going to run in Kashmir or the North-Eastern States? All these are matter of serving one's self interest only. I would like to urge you to reconsider it so that our federal structure continues to exist. The state-centre relations continue to exist in the right direction. Whatever we speak about Supreme Court here, but both are complementary to each other. It will be appropriate if we work together. I would urge the Hon'ble Minister to reconsider it and do something, which actually helps in the progress of minority community and provides benefit to it and is able to give something to them for which all of you are so much concerned. I don't think that this Bill will prove to be beneficial or significant in this regard apart from deceiving them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Minister will reply in the House tomorrow.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that almost three lakh Gram Dak Sevaks should be declared civil servants and they should be provided proper salary and allowances.

Sir, as you are aware and all our colleagues are also aware that Dak Sevaks execute all types of work of Money Order, postal articles, letters, postal insurance, old age pension, small savings and payment under NREGA etc. in the remote areas of the country. Earlier they were called extra departmental employees, but they are agitated over their constant neglect and apathy of the Government.

The recommendations of the Talwar Committee have not been implemented so far. Despite repeated assurance by the Government, their demands have not been fulfilled, instead Postal Department is adamant to terminate their services. They are being extremely exploited. There is no pay scale, leave, benefit of retirement or any type of social security for them. Hon'ble Supreme Court has declared these ED employees as government employees in case related with Rajasthan, whereas in another case they have been declared civil servants. I, therefore, urge the Government of India to treat these three lakh Grameen Dak Sevaks as civil servants and provide them pay scale, facilities, benefits and social security and there should not be any curtailment in their services. You have given me opportunity to speak, thank you very much.

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): People of my parliamentary constituency has been demanding for long for gauge conversion between the important area of Ratnagarh to Sardar Shahar. Gauge conversion work of approximately 400 km. has either been completed or is under progress in my parliamentary constituency Churu. Only one stretch of 45 km. between Ratnagarh to Sardar Shahar has been left over, which is a long-standing demand. Sardar Shahar is an important town for business, education. A large number of people from the country and abroad come here. The demand for gauge conversion from Taranagar to Nohar and Churu is a long-standing demand. It was included in the last budget with your grace. I would like to submit that it is an important demand. People of Sardar Shahar are agitated over this issue. They organize Dhama daily and the news get published in the newspapers also. I request that the gauge conversion work from Ratnagarh to Sardar Shahar should be started immediately.

[English]

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the following matter.

The Prasar Bharati Broadcasting Corporation of India had enhanced payment for Casual News Editors, Casual News Presenters, Stringers and Casual Stenos booked from time to time *vide* its order dated 25.8.2006. However, it is astonishing that the Doordarshan Kendra, Bhubaneswar has not implemented the above order resulting that the casual workers are still paid at the old rate. I, therefore, request the Government to direct the concerned authorities to implement the above order immediately and clear the dues at the earliest.

Similarly, there is an anomaly existing in the Regional News Unit of AIR, Cuttack. There the ceiling for the pre-revised fee structure for booking the Casual News Readers was Rs. 30,000 per annum. Later on, while the rate of payment was revised in 2006, the annual ceiling of Rs. 30,000 was not revised. This results in cutting down the monthly booking contracts of the casual news readers. The Regional News Unit, AIR, Cuttack is also finding difficulties in booking them even though the Unit badly needs them.

I, therefore, request the Government to revise the annual ceiling of Casual News Readers, enhance their present rate of payment and clear the arrears at the earliest.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that BSNL has floated a global tender for roll-out of GSM Telecom network for which minimum qualification has been fixed for annual turnover of Rs. 10 crore. On the basis of this qualification any company may be awarded the contract of Rs. 15,000 crore to be completed in the next two years. It is impossible that any company worth Rs 10 crore can complete the contract of Rs. 15,000 crore within two years. It is clear indication that such a move has been made deliberately to bring failure to the Government agency and help the progress of the private sector. In the background of an allegation of a big scam of 2G & 3G allotment in Telecom Department earlier, this is causing serious concern.

I urge upon the Government through you that a high-powered committee may be constituted to examine that issue so that the tender document may be formulated in such a manner that Telecom Network could be established by BSNL and the conspiracy behind it may be unearthed. I also urge upon the Government to enquire into 2G & 3G allotment first so that there will be transparency in the dealings of Telecom Department activities.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasaragod): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Government with regard to some important issue pertaining to the State of Kerala.

Sir, the Marathi community in the northern part of Kerala was included in the ST List in the very early years. In 2003, during the time of the NDA Government, without any proper verification, this poor community was excluded from the ST List.

After that, the UDF Government, the LDF Government, and all the political parties had requested the Central Government to include them in the ST List. Sir, there was no reason for their exclusion. The norms in respect of the Tribe for the inclusion in the ST List are that especially the Tribe must be the primitive nature; the tribal character; the geographical isolation; and educational and financial backwardness. These still exist in respect of this Marathi community in Karnataka.

Sir, the Marathi community people who are living ten kilometres away from the border of Kerala are still in the ST List. So, there is no justification for their exclusion from the ST List. So, this matter has to be taken seriously by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA (Salumber): Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Social

Justice and Empowerment and the Minister of Tribal Affairs that the students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Castes to whom matric scholarship is provided by the Government of India, but the whole year passes in getting the amount from Delhi to the district level due to amount not sanctioned in time, because of inadequate provision for it. As a result of this, students do not get scholarship in time and they face financial difficulties. An amount of approximately Rs. 46 crore 21 lakh is outstanding in the state of Rajasthan for the last year. I request the Government to release it.

[English]

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (BOBBILI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an important issue concerning 70,000 officers and employees of the Regional Rural Banks in the country. They are in New Delhi holding a protest at Jantar Mantar demanding parity with the public sector banks on retiral benefits, pension and PF.

The National Industrial Tribunal Award in the year 1990 had extended them the pay-scales, allowances and all benefits on par with those the sponsor banks. The Apex Court reiterated the Tribunal Award on 31st January, 2001 and 7th March, 2002. But the Government has, so far, not extended the parity of superannuation benefits. The Government is yet to exempt the RRBs from EPF Act, 1952 as recommended by umpteen Committees. These banks have been earning profits for the last seven years, and are extending services to about ten crore poor customers also in the rural areas. Their demand for parity in all aspects is genuine, and I appeal, through you, Sir, to the hon. Finance Minister to end this discrimination immediately.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, New Zealand, Australia and many other countries are dumping their dairy products at cheap rates in India on a large scale due to economic recession in the international market. Domestic producers will have to suffer heavy losses due to import of dry milk, milk powder and dairy products, butter oil, which is directly affecting the poor milk producers in the villages. Farmers in the rural areas of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh are engaged in animal husbandry and milk production alongwith farming. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that organization of dairy producers of the country have announced stopping purchase of milk from tomorrow. Milk producers purchase 60 lakh litres of milk daily across the country. Stopping purchase of milk from cattle rearers will have adverse effect on the rural economy. I would like to submit that Indian companies will find it difficult to survive if import is done on such a

large scale. I demand from the Government to stop import and increase import duty so that domestic industries and dairy farmers can survive.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. C. Krishnan, your matter has already been recorded under Rule 377. Therefore, you do not have to speak it again.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (POLLACHI): Yes, Sir, I agree with you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has already been recorded.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : Okay, Sir. Thank you, I am not raising it again.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI : Sir, please allow me to raise my matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, your matter is totally a State matter.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI : No, Sir. It is not a State matter. It is an urgent matter. It is concerning violation of gender rights. Young women and girls are being attacked... *(Interruptions)*

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, even if it is not a State matter, it should be allowed to be raised here. Many Members have been raising the State matters in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. You cannot make such types of remarks.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, you may speak for only one minute.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI : Sir, it is a matter of urgent public importance, which needs to be looked into.

I would draw the attention of this august House regarding increasing incidents of barbaric violence and violation of gender rights by attacking young women and girls in the name of culture and tradition in various parts of the country including the city of Mangalore.

The attack on girls at a pub in Mangalore city is a clear incident of outraging the modesty of and violence against young girls. The fascist threats from *Shri Ram*

Sene are being issued that the couples found to be going out together would be forced to tie *mangalsutra* by the *poojaris* of the *Shri Ram Sene*. It is really an attack on the human Fundamental Rights. There are some other threats also issued, *viz.*, the women wearing a particular type of clothe would be assaulted and so on.

These acts are all gross violation of the Fundamental Rights and pose a great threat to our democratic polity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Madam. But you should not try to establish a new tradition by raising a State matter in the House.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI : Sir, the rights and lives of our girls and youth are highly threatened in these cities. The founder of the *Shri Ram Sene* Muthalik, however, justified the action saying that it was a spontaneous reaction against the girls, who flouted the traditional levels of democracy... *(Interruptions)* The Central Minister has also issued a Press statement regarding the incident that has happened in Mangalore.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat, Madam. I am not allowing you anymore.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI : Sir, I would urge upon the Government to take immediate and urgent action to curb all these atrocities against women and to protect the Fundamental Rights of young girls.

DR. K.S. MANOJ : Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shrimati P. Satheedeve.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : I also associate myself on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 a.m.

19.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, February 25, 2009/Phalgun 6, 1930 (Saka).

*Not recorded.

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