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(English Version)

Fifteenth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 17, 2009/Magha 28, 1930 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, daity and continuously the investigating agency in respect of Satyam Computers Ltd. is changed and there is every reason to suspect that it is an operation cover up. It began with SFIO...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can mention it very strongly during the discussion on Motion of Thanks.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : That is all right, but it was listed for discussion. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, you have admitted it to be discussed under Rule 193. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not blame me. I allowed it, but there were no takers for it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, I am not blaming the Chair. But it should be discussed. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with you fully that it should be discussed. But the hon. Members decided among themselves not to discuss it.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, people are waiting as to what will happen. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me not expose others. Please sit

down. I agree with you. Once I agree with you. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Hansraj Ahir to put a question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have noted your point.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, I want an assurance as to when it will be taken up in the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot assure you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : When it was on the List, the hon. Members on different sides said they did not want it. What can I do?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, let me see how do you utilize the Motion for Thanks. You can make very strong comments.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, we want your protection. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me see. You know everything, Mr. Naidu.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want the Question Hour or not? Tell me. If you do not want the Question Hour, I will adjourn the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, we do not

want to disturb the Question Hour, but this is also very important. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot be discussed here and now, Mr. Naidu.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We will have a discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I went to your State, very nice State. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Naidu Garu please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, we want an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have agreed with you, Mr. Naidu, that it should be discussed. Let us try to find out. You get the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and all the Leaders agree. I will start immediately, if you all agree. If nobody is agreeing what can I do?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, you initiate the discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I would initiate a discussion, I would love to do.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate. You are such a

responsible and respectable Member of this House. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have listened to what you've said.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : More is yet to come therefore please keep quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, when will it be discussed?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out. I will discuss with all the Leaders, including you and Mr. Rupchand Pal, and we shall fix up a time. The only thing is that the day I fixed, there should be quorum in the House.

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 21, Shri Haneraj G. Ahir.

[Translation]

National Investigation Agency

†

*21. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Investigation Agency has been set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received views of the States in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of responses received along with the objections, if any, from the States; and

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

[English]

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has been constituted and the Director, General, has been appointed and assumed office. Additional posts required to be provided in the first instance have been sanctioned, and the process of filling them is underway, along with action for putting in place the required infrastructure, etc.

(c) to (e) The National Investigation Agency has been constituted under an Act of Parliament which was passed after due debate and discussion, for investigation and prosecution of offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, security of State, friendly relations with foreign States and Acts enacted to implement international treaties, agreements and conventions, falling under the Acts listed in the Schedule to the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008. It would operate in a concurrent jurisdiction framework and take up selected cases. The provisions of the Act were also deliberated upon in the Meeting of Chief Ministers on internal security held on 6.1.2009. Following the meeting, the Home Minister has also written to all Chief Ministers on 13.01.2009 detailing and explaining the scope, extent and application of the provisions of the Act, wherein it had also been indicated that if there are any questions or doubts they would be clarified. A response has been received from only one State

on 13.02.2009, which will be examined and clarifications as required will be given.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the terrorist attack on Mumbai on 26th November, the extant Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha on 17th December and her Excellency, the President of India gave her assent to the Bill on 31st December. Then NIA was created. But there has been delay in creating of its office, the staff and framing rules for its functioning, especially during last one-and-a-half or two months. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what are the reasons for delay in making the said prestigious and most important investigation agency functional, and what steps the Govt. proposes to take to accelerate the pace of work in this regard?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to inform the hon. Member that there has been no delay. As you are aware, the jurisdiction in respect of terrorist offences is a concurrent jurisdiction. Only the grave cases will be taken up by NIA; and it is a matter of considerable satisfaction that no occasion like that has arisen after the NIA Bill was passed. Nevertheless, we are in the process of recruiting officers to NIA. The NIA Chief has been appointed. He has been given a free hand to handpick officers of great merit and ability. He has selected the officers. As I speak today, orders have been issued for one DIG, two Superintendents of Police, two Deputy Superintendents of Police, and two Inspectors. Lower ranks are being recruited by him. There is a team in place should the occasion arise for NIA to take up a case. But, of course, it is our devout desire that no such occasion should arise.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the time of creation of NIA, it was envisaged that this agency would carry out investigation and prosecution of offences

affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, including the security of States. In a recent naxalite attack, 15 police personnel died in Maharashtra and 10 died in Bihar, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the said agency will take cognizance of these incidents, especially in naxalite affected States and carry out investigation. And, whether the Govt. propose to hand over the investigation and prosecution of attack on Mumbai on 11/11 also to it?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : As far as Mumbai attacks are concerned, that case has been investigated by the Mumbai Police. The investigations are almost complete. They are now poised to file a charge-sheet. So, as far as the NIA taking over that investigation is concerned, it does not arise.

As far as naxalite attacks are concerned, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the Schedule to the NIA Act which lists eight Acts. Only offences under these eight Acts can be investigated by the NIA. The Unlawful Activities Prevention Act is one such Act. But, in my assessment, the operations against naxalites and the incidents caused by naxalites may not be cases that are fit to be investigated under this Act, the NIA Act. But, I am not ruling out any specific case involving naxalites to be investigated. But, should it fall under one of these Acts, and the case is grave enough, then certainly NIA will be asked to investigate that case.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the attack on Mumbai revealed that there was lack of proper coordination between our security forces and intelligence agencies and in view of it this Bill has been passed and the agency has been created. But, I would like to know, whether some of the State Govts., especially the Chief Ministers have sought more stringent laws so that such incidents do not recur. The hon. Minister in his statement said that the Govt. is going to create a monitoring group

for north-eastern States. I think it has not yet been created. I would like the hon. Minister to give a clarification in this regard whether the said groups have been created. The Govt. discussed the suggestions. A particular State Govt. has sent a proposal to the Union Govt. on 13 February and the Govt. has said that it will send its comments to that State later. What is the latest position in this regard? Has the agency created started its work properly?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The NIA Act was one of the subjects discussed in the Chief Ministers' Conference on the 6th of January. Following that, I wrote a letter to the Chief Ministers on the 13th of January clarifying the scope, extent, and application of the Act. I have received only one response from a Chief Minister raising certain questions about the NIA Act. That letter is dated 3rd of February. I have received the letter, and I intend to reply to that letter. I have no doubt in my mind that after I clarify the doubts raised in this letter, the Chief Minister of that State will also be satisfied.

The NIA Act was after all passed by this House in response to a felt need of the times.

As far as the monitoring mechanism for the North-East is concerned, I am not quite sure and not able to understand the thrust of the question. If what you are referring to is to monitor the activities of the Indian insurgent groups in the North-East, then 'yes' there is a North-East Division in the Ministry. I have visited Manipur, Nagaland and Assam, and we are closely monitoring the situation in the North-East. I am not able to understand what you mean by a monitoring mechanism.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Sir, after the passing of this National Investigating Agency Bill, we came to know that immediately the President of India had put her signature and this Act came into force, and the National Investigating Agency also came into force. Now, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, as to how many cases of terrorist incidents have been handed over to this

Agency till this date, and also particularly whether the Mumbai terrorist attack case is being investigated by this Agency.

MR. SPEAKER : As regards the Mumbai terrorist attack case, he has answered just now.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I have already answered about the Mumbai terrorist attack case. That is being investigated by the Mumbai Police, and they are about to file a charge-sheet.

No case has, so far, been referred to the NIA because as I said, happily no occasion has arisen after this Act has been passed, and it is my fervent prayer that no occasion will arise.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy that National Investigation Agency has been created. I just want to know as to what is the difference between CBI and NIA. The leaders of various parties have raised fingers on the functioning of CBI on the grounds that it is not acting without any pressure and with honesty. In view of it, does the Govt. propose to create any mechanism for monitoring of working of NIA?

MR. SPEAKER : The main question does not relate to CBI.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I think, it is not related to the main Question. I do not think that a question relating to CBI can be asked as a supplementary on the NIA. The difference is that this House and the Rajya Sabha have passed this law, the NIA Act, which is materially different from the CBI law, that is, the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act in one particular way. In the case of the CBI, a case can be taken up for investigation only with the consent of the State. Under the NIA, we can take up a case for investigation when it is referred by the State and in rare cases even *suo motu*.

[Translation]

Quality of Higher Education

*22. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey/study has been carried out recently to evaluate the quality of higher education in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of higher education in the prevailing global scenario?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Assessment and Accreditation Council, which is an Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC), assesses universities and colleges from time to time on various parameters of quality. Improvement of quality of higher education is a continuous process. A substantial increase in Plan allocation has been made in the XI Plan for the expansion of higher education, through setting up of institutions such as Central Universities in uncovered States, establishment of National Universities aimed at world class standards, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology and Schools for Planning and Architecture etc. Financial

assistance is also proposed to be provided for expansion of the capacity of the existing institutions, for starting of new institutions of higher education, for the establishment of model colleges in low GER districts, and for the establishment of 600 polytechnics in unserved and underserved districts in the country.

Improved pay package for teachers in universities and colleges has been announced by the Central Government in order to attract and retain talented persons in the teaching profession.

Besides, the UGC has been implementing a number of schemes aimed at improvement of quality of higher education and has also taken up various measures for educational reforms, such as introduction of semester system, regular updating of curricula and credit transfer etc.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked whether any survey or study has been conducted recently to evaluate the higher education in the country. Reply to the question is in negative. I just meant that there is need for us to make good progress in the field of higher education. What is the total number of students in the whole country and particularly the students belonging to SC, ST, poor category and other castes getting higher education today and the progress being made by us in the field of education? There are at least, 400 universities under the University Grant Commission.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : My question is what is the total number of students pursuing higher education in the country and the number of SC, ST students out of them?

MR. SPEAKER : You are asking a supplementary question which is totally different from your main question.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my

question is only about the total number of students pursuing higher education in the country and the number of SC and ST students out of them?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please send him the particulars, if you have at all.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, we do not maintain the number of SC, ST students centrally here. However, Sir, the Gross Enrollment Ratio in higher education today as per the Census is 11 per cent. Our effort is to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio in higher education to 15 per cent.

As regards his apprehensions about students belonging to the SC&ST communities, there are numerous programmes and incentives given to these children. Under these programmes and incentives, the most important would be the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Programme for the SC&ST students, the Post-Doctoral Fellowships, the Post-Graduate Fellowships, the Establishment of the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe Cells in the universities, remedial coaching classes, coaching classes for the SC and ST students; and also coaching classes for the weaker sections among educationally backward areas.

MR. SPEAKER : I believe, Mr. Athawale, you are more than satisfied. Do you have any more Supplementary?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Yes, Sir, my second question is that education, as per our constitution, is the responsibility of the Govt. But the Govt. is not discharging its responsibility by promoting the practice of capitation fee or donation by allowing private institutions and private universities.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, put your question, please.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I just want to say that private institutions should not be allowed. If they are allowed then the Govt. should bear the burden of donation/ capitation fee for the poor or SC/ST students. Otherwise, poor students are unable to pursue higher education due to privatization of education today. Merit is talked about but one has to shell out even upto Rs. 50 lakh to get admission in MBBS or engineering courses. My question is whether the Govt. will issue orders to stop privatization of education.

[English]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, we must accept that yes, it is a fact that the private sector has actually supplemented the efforts of the Central Government in proliferating higher education, particularly, in the field of technical education. The capitation fees, however, is against the rules, and it should not be collected. If there are any particular instances, they may be brought to our notice.

But I would like to apprise the hon. Member that the private institutions do not get any support excepting the developmental funds from the UGC through the Universities. So, other than this, I do not think, we have any say in the private institutions.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : Sir, the main question is that of quality education. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to why the Govt. institutions are lagging behind in providing quality education vis-à-vis private institutions? Has the Govt. any plan to enact some legislation to make the children of the MPs, MLAs, MLCs, IAS, IPS, educationists and teachers study in the Govt. schools so that their standard could be raised?

MR. SPEAKER : Merit will not change if the children of the MPs will study in the Govt. Schools.

[English]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, we cannot force anybody to study only in the Government educational institutions. But, however, let me apprise the House. ...
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No running commentary, please.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, the University Grants Commission is mandated to promote standards and quality in higher education. The University Grants Commission, knowing full well that quality and excellence cannot happen overnight, has introduced many programmes and schemes to ensure that quality education is imparted through Government institutions also....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record his comments.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, for example, we have the Academic Staff Colleges, which are 57 in number and which actually impart training to teachers so that the teaching-learning process is upgraded. There is also a Special Assistance Programme in various Government institutions. There is also an assistance given for strengthening the infrastructure for science and technology. Universities with potential for excellence are identified; Centres with potential for excellence are identified; Colleges with potential for excellence are identified; and support is given to all of them.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no special favour given to anyone.

*Not recorded.

PROF BASUDEB BARMAN : Sir, I am putting my question because the query has not been replied to. The hon. Minister has replied just one issue and not all.

I want to know this from the hon. Minister. How many universities as well as IITs have been assessed by the NAAC till date? How many of these institutions are imparting quality education, including high quality research as per the norms of the NAAC?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : It is not mandatory that the institutions subject themselves to NAAC. But, however, we understand fairly well that subjecting themselves to accreditation would actually increase our quality imparted in higher education. But as for the number of institutions that have been assessed by the NAAC, I will have it sent across to the Member.

[Translation]

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH ATWAL : Sir, I want to clarify the point raised by Lal Singh Ji differently. It is very good that Govt. is doing much for higher education so that the children of rich can pursue higher education in even more better way. It is true that the Govt. can not compel the children of IAS, IPS, PCS, MPs or MLAs to study in Govt. Schools but it can, at least, provide teachers specially in the schools where poor children study as there are no teachers and infrastructure in the primary schools. Where there is no teacher, infrastructure, the question of higher education can arise only when a poor father will be able to imagine about education of his child. We do not even have teachers for primary education. Is the Central Govt. considering to provide teachers there so that the children of poor can also receive better higher education?

[English]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, this does not arise out of the main Question. However, in respect of higher education, we are aware of the fact that there is a faculty shortage. The existing faculty shortage is around 20 per cent in higher educational institutions, and various measures have been taken to ensure that we tide over this challenge.

Against this, we have increased the superannuation age of faculty from 62 to 65 years. The new Pay Review Committee has also submitted its recommendation and it is also in the process of being implemented.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know about primary education. It is a State matter.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : About primary education, it is a State matter. The Elementary Education Department is definitely seized of it and has taken necessary action.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has, in her reply, said that *[English]* ".....for starting of new institutions of higher education, for the establishment of model colleges in low GER districts.." *[Translation]* My question is whether the Govt. will open such a college in all the district of the country? Today, all the students from villages go to the cities for education where they do not get admission and accommodation. It will be very good if such a step is taken.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is about quality of higher education.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : I am taking you time because you have said that there is need to appoint talented teachers, professors for higher education. Private colleges appoint professors as per their will because of which talented teachers are not found there. Whether the Govt. has any proposal to appoint teachers in every private college after conducting examination recruitment of teachers just like the Public Service Commission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your supplementaries relating to the main Question.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : We have identified 374 districts with low literacy rate, and we are in dialogue with the State Governments to come forward and avail the support being given by the Central Government to establish colleges in all these areas. But with reference to the faculty in private institutions, every institution needs to get the prior permission or recognition from AICTE, the All India Council of Technical Education, before starting their academic year.

In the process of giving them permission, there is an inspection team which goes across and inspects the infrastructure, which would include faculty also. So, it is only after being ensured that the faculty and infrastructure is in place that the permission is granted to these institutions.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Govt. is spending more than Rs. 13000 crore on the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. I want to know whether the Govt. is taking any initiative to provide higher education at affordable cost to the children of poor or deprived section as part of the steps being taken in the direction of raising the standard of higher education?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not relating to the main Question.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, I had already enlisted the measures taken. There is also a loan scheme which is now being conceived. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This Question is about quality of higher education.

Now, Shri N. Janardhana Reddy will ask the last question. I have already allowed seven supplementaries. So, there will be no more supplementaries.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : Hon. Minister has mentioned in her reply that UGC has been implementing

a number of schemes aimed at improvement of quality of higher education, but the general complaint is that UGC's schemes are not being properly distributed, circulated or made known to the colleges so that they may implement these schemes. What is the method UGC is now adopting to see that their schemes are circulated and sanctioned too? ... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, UGC is in constant touch with the State Governments, the Education Ministers and the universities also. Whatever be the new schemes, they are all informed to the State Governments and the universities. The universities can then send in their proposals to the UGC and the necessary developmental funds are given to the colleges through the universities.

Export Target

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*23. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

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

(a) whether India is likely to miss its export target during 2008-09 as reported in the *Mint* dated 7 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith its impact on the economy, Sector-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :
(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) While announcing the Annual Supplement to Foreign Trade Policy on 11th April, 2008, the Government

fixed an export target of US\$ 200 Billion for the year 2008-09.

On account of subsequent global financial crisis and economic slowdown of developed economies, the target of US\$ 200 Billion is unlikely to be achieved. Effect of global slowdown on India's exports has been more pronounced in sector viz. Gems and Jewellery, Textiles and Garments, Handicrafts, Automobiles, Leather and Leather products, Marine Products and Plastic and Linoleum etc., also affecting employment in these sectors.

(c) The Government and the RBI are closely monitoring both the domestic and international economic developments. RBI has taken a number of steps to reduce the cost of credit and to improve liquidity for trade and industry, by reducing Repo rate. Reverse Repo rate, Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) etc. Some of the steps recently taken by Government to arrest the decline in export growth rate are as given in Annexure.

Annexure

Steps taken recently by the Government

- (1) Interest subvention of 2% has been extended till 30.9.2009, to the following labour intensive sectors for exports:—

Textiles (including Handlooms), Handicrafts, Leather, Gems and Jewellery, Marine Products and SMEs;

- (2) Additional funds of Rs. 350 crore provided for export incentive Schemes;
- (3) Handicraft items included in Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY);
- (4) Rs. 1100 crore provided to ensure full refund of claims of CST/Terminal Excise duty/Duty drawback on deemed exports;
- (5) Continuation of Duty Entitlement Passbook (DEPB) Scheme upto 31st December, 2009

- (6) Restoration of DEPB rates for all items where they were reduced in November, 2008 and increase in Duty Drawback rates on certain items effective from 1st September, 2008.
- (7) Back-up guarantee made available to ECGC to the extent of Rs. 350 crore to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products;
- (8) Additional funds of Rs. 1400 crore provided for textile sector to clear the backlog claims of TUF;
- (9) Export duty on iron ore fines eliminated, and for lumps, reduced to 5%;
- (10) Some pending issues relating to Service Tax refund on exports—resolved;
- (11) For Fast Track Resolution of a number of procedural issues thereby reducing delays for the exporters, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary including Secretaries of Department of Revenue and Commerce;
- (12) Additional plan expenditure of up to Rs. 20,000 crore in the current year mainly for critical rural, infrastructure and social security schemes;
- (13) Excise duty reduced across the board by 4 per cent for all products except petroleum products and those products where current rate was less than 4%.
- (14) IIFCL authorised to raise Rs. 40,000 crore via tax-free bonds for refinancing eligible infrastructure projects;
- (15) Special package for borrowers of home loans by Public Sector Undertaking Banks;
- (16) The guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises on loans doubled to Rs. 1 crore with a guarantee cover of 50%. The guarantee cover extended by Credit Guarantee Fund Trust increased to 85% for credit facility upto

Rs. 5 lakh. The lock in period for such collateral-free loans reduced.

- (17) Import duty on naphtha for power sector eliminated;
- (18) CVD on TMT bars and structurals and on cement removed.
- (19) Exemption from basic customs duty on Zinc and Ferro Alloys withdrawn;
- (20) Accelerated depreciation of 50% provided for commercial vehicles to be purchased from January to March, '09.
- (21) For financing expenditure by State Governments. States will be allowed to raise in the current financial year additional market borrowings of 0.5% of their gross state domestic product (GSDP) amounting to about Rs. 30,000 crores;
- (22) Regular monitoring mechanism:—
- (a) The situation is being regularly monitored at the highest level of Government, so that immediate further corrective measures, can be taken as may be required, In this regard, the Government has constituted two High Level Committees:—
- (i) An Apex Group chaired by Prime Minister with Finance Minister, Commerce Minister, Deputy Chairman (Planning Commission), RBI Governor;
- (ii) Committee of officers chaired by Cabinet Secretary, including Finance Secretary, Commerce Secretary, Secretary (DIPP), Secretary (Planning Commission) — to meet regularly to look into the suggestions made by Trade and Industry and the respective Administrative Ministries in respect of the current global economic and financial crisis and to recommend action to the Apex Group.

(b) Department of MSME and Department of Financial Services to jointly monitor on the progress of the meetings of Monthly meeting of State level Bankers' Committee for resolution of credit issues of MSME.

(c) Fast Track Monitoring Committee to ensure expeditious approval and implementation to Central Projects.

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Sir, hon. Minister in his reply has mentioned some of the sectors which are worst affected due to the worst slow down in 80 years. He has not mentioned the IT sector, which is also worst affected. In the IT sector, more than 80 per cent income is derived from exports and 75 per cent only from the US itself. Sir, through you, I would like to know whether the Government has any data about the number of exports houses which are closed, the number of people unemployed due to it. Hon. Minister may also provide sector-wise data that the Government has in this regard and its review of earlier steps taken to boost the export sector.

MR. SPEAKER : One by one, you have coupled too many supplementaries.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Sir, hon. Member has asked a very pertinent question. We all know that in the first four years of this Government, we had a remarkable growth in exports, averaging an increase of about 23 per cent on an average cumulative basis. In 2004 when we came to power, the value of exports was \$ 63 billion. In 2007-08, it rose to \$ 162 billion. It is true that in April of 2008 when the Annual Supplement of Foreign Trade Policy was announced, we had fixed a target of \$ 200 billion for exports. Unfortunately, in the entire world, there was an economic meltdown which actually impacted negatively on exports from all countries. It is also true that most of our exports are to the developed countries and because of contraction of demand and decline in consumption and spending, there was naturally a negative impact on our exports also.

The reason I have listed certain sectors as being more acutely hit is that these are the sectors which have been the most vulnerable and there have been job losses. IT sector has also been affected but not to the extent that these sectors have been. The Government has a calibrated policy. We have given two stimuli in December and January and we are constantly monitoring what is required to be done.

I have listed and I can give separately to the hon. Member 22 steps that the Government has taken to expand exports and to give a fillip to exports.

These include interest subvention on certain sectors by 2 per cent; restoration of the DEPB rates as on November 2008; increase in duty drawback rates with effect from 1 September 2008; and enhancement of Credit Guarantee Scheme for the Micro and Medium Enterprises that were more severely impacted to name just a few of them.

I would like to mention that the IMF has said that the year 2009 would be a difficult year as far as world economic output is concerned because the total volume of international trade will decline, and the total volume of buying by advanced economies will also decline. The mood is required to be lifted, and we hope that the mood will be lifted by early 2010. We have taken all requisite steps, in the interregnum, to advance our exports and lift the mood of the economy. Basically, the economy is driven by the mood, and there is a global downturn in terms of the mood in spending and consumption. But this Government has done whatever was required, within the means available, to expand our exports.

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Sir, the exporters employ about 150 million people, which is the second-biggest job-provider after agriculture. The Ministry has accepted in a Press statement that since August, 1.5 million jobs have been lost, and if the same slowdown continues then another five lakh people are expected to lose their jobs. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please do not walk in front of another hon. Member who is speaking. Please do not do it. One hon. Member is speaking, and you cannot stand before him. You have to learn these things.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Sir, I would like to know this. What are the steps taken by the Ministry for the people who have lost their job? The steps taken to boost the economy and to help the industry will sustain further loss of jobs. What about the people who have already lost their jobs?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Sir, the reality of the situation is that in an expanding economy we create more jobs and we generate more jobs. There is an inevitable impact on jobs in a slowing economy. But what a Government of the day can do is to mitigate the negative impact of the slowing of the economy, and we have sought to have done exactly that by taking the measures that we have.

The reason that I listed handicrafts, garments, marine products, textiles, leather, etc. is because these are employment intensive areas. Therefore, in the 22 measures that we have taken to boost the exports and boost the economic activity, we have given special focus to those areas that are employment intensive, so that they are viable, competitive and we can ensure that job losses are reduced to the minimum possible extent.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad — not present

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has accepted that the export targets can not be achieved. He has also accepted that the export sector in our country has been substantially affected by the global slump. I would like to ask the Minister to inform us as to how many export companies have been forced

to close-down; the amount of losses in crores of rupees suffered as a result thereof; the number of people rendered unemployed and whether the banks have financed the said companies...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This supplementary does not arise from this.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a related question. Financing of those export companies by banks...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : However, I am not restricting it since the hon. Minister is volunteering to reply to it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministries concerned tabulate the data demanded by the hon. Member. I will collect the data from these Ministries and make it available to you. However, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Member that we accept that a credit squeeze has occurred. The main reason behind it, is that due to the global economic recession the financial position of the bank has got weakened. Many banks had gone liquidated, hence the credit flow from those banks was affected. As a consequence, the interest rates rose, economic activities slowed down, and our industries became non-competitive. These are the major reasons. Various Ministries have conducted a preliminary survey to find out the extent of effect of the recession on the various sectors. This information does not pertain to the question under discussion, even then, I would make the data available to the hon. Member.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, may I know from the Minister whether the Government has sector-wise figures as to the impact of the global downturn and recession on our export sector? There are reports that incidents of suicide are taking place among diamond cutters in Surat and in some other places of the country. What steps are being initiated by the Government for the rehabilitation of the people affected and the people who have lost their jobs as a result of this impact?

MR. SPEAKER : He has answered this already.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Sir, may I inform the hon. Member that as against the export target of 200 billion dollars, depending upon what analyses we accept, even in this situation we expect to achieve a target of 172.
...*(Interruption)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I asked for sector-wise figures of the impact.

MR. SPEAKER : Not possible to answer offhand. It goes much beyond the scope of the Question.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : We expect to cross the figure of about 175 billion dollars. Sir, the silver lining for India is that our economy is essentially domestically-driven. It is driven by domestic demand and consumption. That is the reason why when the entire world is going to be having negative growth India is still likely to grow by about seven per cent on a GDP basis. That I think should be a matter of great satisfaction to all of us.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I asked for sector-wise figures.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : I am coming to that. As far as specific steps for preventing destitution and misery from job losses is concerned, all these steps are intended to boost the economic activity in different sectors which will lead to expansion of jobs again. As far as specific sectors are concerned, for example the diamond-cutting

industry in Surat to which the hon. Member adverted, we have taken steps in consultation with the State Government to make sure that they are rehabilitated to the extent possible. I may again, at the cost of repetition, state that all these steps are actually designed to promote gems and jewellery, and diamond and gold trade which eventually will be to the benefit of people employed in that sector. There is a macro approach. The Government can only take a macro approach. We are not unmindful of their misery. This Government's prime commitment has always been to ensure greater jobs, greater economic empowerment. We shall continue to do our best in that direction.

Restriction on Import of Toys

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*24. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently imposed a ban on the import of toys from China due to the reported toxic contamination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the period for which such restrictions have been imposed; and
- (d) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such imports and also to protect the indigenous industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :
(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Vide Notification No. 82 /(RE-2008)/2004-2009 dated 23.1.2009, the Government has prohibited import of toys

classified under ITC Codes 9501, 9502, 9503 from China for a period of six months. This prohibition on import of toys from China has been imposed in response to concerns of health and safety faced by users of Chinese toys. The prohibition is an interim measure during which the Government intends to examine the issue in detail, for notification of mandatory standards applicable on toys in India.

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has implemented a National Programme for development of Indian toy industry jointly with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The programme sought to promote production of safe toys in India. Further, to promote export of toys, under the Foreign Trade Policy, toys have been included under the Focus Product Scheme.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, endorsing the general concern on imported toys from China containing toxic and poisonous material, their sale has been banned. These toys may be cheap and deceptively attractive but they have been found to be harmful to the health of the children, and may also affect the adults. Earlier, on 29th August, 2007, the Minister had made a statement on the floor of this House wherein he agreed that these toys did not meet the standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards and that a study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research in the year 2006 in Mumbai and Delhi found these toys to be containing high levels of harmful chemicals. Even though studies had been conducted and the harmful affects had been identified much earlier, the Government had not decided to ban the toys imported from China.

MR. SPEAKER : You are giving information. Ask your question.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : The hon. Minister stated in his reply that sale of toys imported from China have been prohibited as per the notification dated 23rd January, 2009. Why has this decision been delayed all

these years? This decision has been notified on 23rd of the last month. However, it is public knowledge that harmful toys which contain hazardous metals such as cadmium and lead are still sold in the market.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you answer the question about the Chinese toys, not other things.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : I ask the Government as to what steps it has taken to control the sale of all these toys available in the market.

MR. SPEAKER : Not all these, only China toys.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : I am talking about the Chinese imported toys.

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : May I inform the hon. Member, as the hon. Member is well aware, that pursuant to a Public Interest Litigation filed in the Mumbai High Court and pursuant to the Orders passed by the High Court, on 4th of December, 2008, we have, until the 3rd of January, banned the import of toys from China, principally for the reason that these were alleged to be containing more lead paint than is permissible, according to certain standards. We have taken those steps out of 71 items, 52 were found to be containing lead paint component and we have taken prompt steps to do so. It is true that earlier also, there have been reports of the various Committees, and those include ICMR, the Ministry of Health, the NGO Report on Toxic by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Industrial Toxicology. We are considering all those reports and I would like assure the House, through you, that very soon we are going to come up with recommendations to put into place specific law and policy relating to standards which will be enforced. So, the problem so far had been that – for good reason or bad, I cannot answer for that – the BIS standards that pertain to lead component have not been made mandatory, they have been directory. Therefore, there is some difficulty in enforcing those standards. A Committee has been constituted soon after

the High Court Order and Committee of Secretaries is going to come up with the recommendations. We will therefore try and ensure whatever standards we finally accept, will be enforced...

MR. SPEAKER : With regard to Chinese toys?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Yes, Sir.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the Government has to protect the domestic toy industry. Even high level smuggling is taking place from China. It is all right that Chinese toys have been banned. But I would like to know as to how to prevent smuggling to protect the domestic industry.....

MR. SPEAKER : You give the names of these smugglers to the Minister!

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Everyday, media is reporting about this. A lot of smuggling is taking place from China to India.

MR. SPEAKER : You know, India's toys are doing very well.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : To protect the Indian toy industry, how to prevent smuggling from China?

MR. SPEAKER : I can inform you – I am the President of Toy Making Training Institute. I know very well about the toy industry.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : As far as smuggling is concerned, it is a matter for enforcement. But I can assure the hon. Member that every step could be taken to protect domestic industry against smuggling.

MR. SPEAKER : Toy industry is doing very well, please help them.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : My question is about the indigenous industry of the same sector. About 50 per cent of the toy manufacturing of the country are in the

unorganized and small scale sector. I would like to know whether the Government has taken any steps to provide more incentives to the Indian domestic industry.

MR. SPEAKER : No, it does not apply. It does not relate to this question.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : I am specifically asking this question - (d) - further steps being taken by the Government to prevent such import and also to protect the indigenous industry.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. I stand corrected.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : About 50 per cent of the toy manufacturing of the country are in the unorganized and small scale sector. I want to know whether the Government has taken any steps to provide more incentives to the Indian toy manufacturers to create awareness on how to make our toys safe and to make Indian toys affordable to all sections of the society.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : That remains a challenge. It is true that most of the toy making activity is in the small and micro sector and that has been one of the reasons why certain standards were not being enforced in the manner they were. I can assure the hon. Member that we will work with the small scale sector, in the toy manufacturing to ensure that the quality of goods in terms of standards prescribed, and the quality is of the international level and that our domestic industry in toy making activity grows by leaps and bounds.

MR. SPEAKER : I can give some information later on.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a ban has been imposed on import of toys from China recently. I would like to say that there are many toy companies in India too, which are manufacturing toys containing harmful chemicals. This is particularly in case of teethingers or toys manufactured for children aged 0-1 year. If we leave aside the two or three branded companies

which manufacture very costly toys, the toys manufactured by local companies are very harmful. Many locally-manufactured toys contain many harmful chemicals. Such toys are easily available everywhere. Secondly, there are certain toys that promote violent tendencies in children. Are any standards being set for manufacturing of the toys?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. member that as far as standards are concerned, uniform norms would be applied on imported toys as well as locally manufactured toys. I want that all the indigenous toys, which could affect the health of children in the country, should conform to e-standards. BIS has recently set e-standards which would be applicable to our domestic toy industry. We will decide how to enforce the said standards in an effective manner and notify further standards if needed. The Committee has been constituted for this purpose. There will be no distinction between imported and local toys in the matter of standards.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Government for initiating a joint programme with America for saving the Indian Toy Industry. However, it is not as if only the toy industry has been affected. The entire small scale industry is facing problems due to Chinese goods. For example, our cycles used to be number one cycles.

MR. SPEAKER : Toy-cycles...

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Not toy-cycles, we are affected by Chinese items in many ways. This is related to the Commerce Ministry and Industry Ministry. Our small-scale industry, toy industry, cycle industry have been closed down, the garment industry has been also closed-down, we had an umbrella industry.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No. This is not relevant. I am sorry; I cannot allow this.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Speaker, Sir,

I would like to ask whether the Government proposes to chalk-out any programme to save the other small-scale industries, such as the cycle-manufacturing industry, garment industry, umbrella industry on lines of the programme being to be implemented to save the toy industry.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : I agree with your question. It is my view that we have to strengthen and streamline our small and medium industries. We are bringing these schemes for other sectors also. You would be glad to know, that our small industry has itself decided, that if it is to stay in the markets it will have to become competitive and improve its quality. In the consumption pattern of present times and the prevalent life style people do not want the goods of low standards, may be it cheaper. They are willing to pay more for quality goods. Keeping in view all the aspects the department of Micro and Small Scale Industry has been formed. Its main objective is to find out the ways how to strengthen our small and medium industries and to make them competitive. It is taking the necessary steps in this direction. If you want any specific information in this regard, I would be happy to provide it to you separately.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, now let us give a chance to the young Member.

Q. No. 25, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Police Forces

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*25. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR :
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the police personnel in various States in the country do not possess adequate and effective

weapons to tackle the increasing terrorist and naxalite activities;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to modernise police forces in the country?

[English]

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

Statement

(a) "Police" is a State subject as per VII Schedule to the Constitution. As such the primary responsibility to adequately equip their police forces with modern weapons, etc. rests with the respective State Governments.

(b) and (c) the Ministry of Home Affairs has, however, been supplementing the resources of the State Governments for upgradation and modernization of their police forces under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme). Under the Scheme, assistance is being provided to the States for procurement of modern weaponry, construction of residential and non-residential buildings, mobility, communication/security/forensic science equipments, strengthening of intelligence branches, training infrastructure and facilities, etc. Under the MPF Scheme the State Governments formulate their requirements, which are considered and approved by Ministry of Home Affairs and funds are released to States.

This central assistance has resulted in a sustained improvement in the procurement of weaponry by the State police forces both in terms of numbers and range of weapons. The number of advanced weapons acquired by the State Police Forces during 2000-2001 to 2006-07 under the MPF Scheme is as under:—

Sl. No.	Weaponry	Numbers acquired during 2000-01 to 2006-07
1.	INSAS rifles	81262
2.	AK-47 rifles	33618
3.	9 mm Carbine	10603
4.	SLRs 7.62	65403

The State Governments include modern weaponry in their MPF action plans as per their own assessed requirements.

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the statement given in reply to my question. There is no denying that as per the constitution 'Police' is a state subject but the Central Government cannot shirk its responsibility. Thousands of innocent lives have been lost in the hundreds of terrorist attacks during the last five years in the country. We have asked the Government to enact strict laws and to modernize the Security Forces in order to check the terrorism from time to time. With the increase in the number of terrorist outfits and their activities, the pressure on the police forces has also increased but the facilities being provided to the police forces are not even one-tenth as against the pressure being faced by them. The ratio of police personnel and population in India is 1:950 which is the lowest in the world. This ratio is 1:82 in Russia and 1:50 in USA. I, through you, would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken and how much funds have been provided to the state Governments by the Central Government for modernization of the police forces.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I draw hon. Member's attention to the answers to parts 'b' and 'c' of the Question. In part 'a' I did say that it is the primary responsibility of

the State. In parts 'b' and 'c' I have set out the modernisation of Police force scheme and the various steps that are being taken. In terms of money that is being released to the State Governments since the scheme commenced in 2001, we have spent in each of the eight years, Rs. 1000 crore in the first year, Rs. 1000 crore in the second year, Rs. 695 crore in the third year and Rs. 703 in the fourth year. Since the UPA Government came into Office from 2004-05 onwards the amount spent was Rs. 957 crore, Rs. 1014 crore and in 2006-07 we have released Rs. 1065 crore. Utilisation Certificates are due. We know from the UCs that Rs. 949 has been spent but perhaps more UCs will be received. In 2007-08 we have released Rs. 1248 crore and in 2009-2010 Rs. 1645 crore is the overall amount and the tentative allocation will be a little over Rs. 800 crore depending upon the utilisation.

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR : Mr. Speaker, Sir how much funds were sought by Himachal Pradesh government for police reforms and how much funds were sanctioned and released during the last five years and the time by which the balance is likely to be released?

I would like to ask whether the government propose to set up any police training school?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I have the State-wise allocation.

MR. SPEAKER : He is asking only for Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : In 2004-05, Himachal Pradesh had spent Rs. 2.57 crore. In 2005-06 the amount spent was Rs. 6.78 crore, in 2006-07 it was Rs. 3.56 crore and in 2007-08 the amount spent was Rs. 7.5 crore. If the hon. Member wishes, I can send it to him in writing.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Sir, the recent Mumbai terrorists attack has made the nation sit and collectively think as to what preventive measures need to be taken in this regard. Some say re-enactment of POTA, setting up of a Federal Investigation Agency, having Commandos in each State and so on. All these suggestions are very valid and need to be considered but more important is strengthening up the police station set up which is the basic unit of the system. Mumbai terror attack was preventable just as all the earlier blasts were if the quality of our intelligence gathering, response time resources, laws, training, coordination and other things were good. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your question.

[English]

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : In 2006, the Supreme Court had given directive to the Home Department on police reforms but there is no word from either the Minister or the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your question. It is not time for making speech.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the status of the directive given by the Supreme Court on Police reforms.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You need not make a reference of Supreme Court in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Police reform is an on-going process. The Supreme Court has indeed issued a direction. Many States did not set up the Police Commission. The Supreme Court has issued notice to them again. I do not know the status of the case as of today. It does not arise out of this Question. The Police reform

is an on-going process. We now have a Police Mission. The Police Mission is divided itself into sub-missions and they are expected to submit their separate sub-missions' reports, I believe by the end of this month or early next month. When the Reports come I will take steps to examine them and implement those Reports. But on the status of the Supreme Court's direction I require a separate Question because I do not have the answer with me now. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you raising your hands every time sitting in a place not allotted to you? You have already put a question and you should know by this time that second opportunity is not given in Question Hour.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL : Sir, a lot needs to be done actually to modernise the Indian Police Force. Primarily, the Indian police forces are well equipped to deal with basically unarmed people and not armed people and terrorists. The list of equipment and weapons that have been supplied in the answer given by the hon. Minister include 9 mm carbine and SLRs. I would just like to say that these 9 mm carbines are World War II vintage weapons and even the pistols that the Indian Armed Forces use are World War II vintage. Therefore, I want to ask the hon. Minister whether there are any plans on improving the quality of arms and ammunition being produced by the Indian ordnance factories.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the hon. Member knows more about guns than I do. To the best of my knowledge, MP-5 and MP-9 carbines are modern and state-of-the-art carbines. I do not know the bore. I am not familiar with the technology but MP-5 and MP-9 carbines are state-of-the-art carbines.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Sir, as stated by the hon. Minister, the police is a State subject but at the same time, the Centre has to give more assistance to the States, especially in the wake of recent developments. In the earlier discussions, it was stated that there are possibilities for the attacks or threats from the sea shore of the coastal

belt. We have 7500 kilometres of coastal belt and Kerala alone has 850 kilometres of sea shore. It is not possible for the State to give protection to all. Considering the seriousness of the issue, will the Government give more assistance for the Coastal Sea Guards and the police stations, especially, in the coastal belt?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, only last week I inaugurated the first coastal Police Station in Kerala at Neendakara and at the request of the State Government, I have also agreed to sanction one more Police Station in Malappuram District. We are giving money. Your Home Minister was very satisfied. I hope you are satisfied too.

MR. SPEAKER : I must give an opportunity to Shri Mohan Singh.

[Translation]

Education in Madrasas

*26. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been found that the curriculum of Madrasas is outdated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide modern education and to teach Arabic, Persian and English languages in Madrasas;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take the responsibility of the payment of salary to the teachers in some Madrasas by giving grants;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has also directed the State Governments to accept Madrasa certificates recognised by the State Madrasa Boards equivalent to that of CBSE certificates; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

[English]

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

Statement

(a) to (e) In order to promote modern subjects like Science, Mathematics, Social Studies and languages, the Government of India has drawn up a modified scheme of madrasa modernization called the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas (SPQEM) w.e.f. November, 2008 to enable children studying in madrasas which opt for this scheme to attain standards of the national education system in formal education subjects and vocational education. Under the SPQEM, honorarium of Rs. 6000/- per month for graduate teachers and Rs. 12,000/- per month for post-graduate teachers with B.Ed. has been notified, upto a maximum of three teachers.

(f) and (g) 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 Board to that of Secondary and Senior Secondary levels in cases where such equivalence is in place in the respective States.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Government for taking certain steps for improving the quality of education in Madrasas including modernization thereof. The Government of India has issued a circular for providing an honorarium of Rs. 6000/- per month for trained graduate teachers and Rs. 12,000/- per month for trained post-graduate teachers in the madrasas in order to promote modern education therein, but such qualification norms as laid down by the Government has created a situation in which certain teachers, who have

been teaching in these madrasas for the last 10-12 years, may have to leave the madrasas. I would like to ask the Government whether it would implement this modernization scheme securing the job of those teachers who have been teaching there for the last 5 to 10 years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let there be time for answers.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the teachers of madrasas are governed by the Madrasa Board of the State Madrasa Boards. The Government of India provides funds for the teachers of Science, English, Mathematics and Social Science under the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas (SPQEM). Now the scheme has been revised and the provision for the training of teachers has also been made. A provision for providing library, laboratory and computers in the madrasas has also been made. The new scheme is comprehensive one and if he wish, we would provide the details of the scheme to him. Our new scheme is a comprehensive scheme. The honorarium for which was Rs. 3000/- earlier was increased to Rs. 6000/-. The honorarium for part graduates was Rs. 6000/- which was increased to Rs. 12000/-. Likewise Rs. 50,000/- have been provided for purchasing text books, Rs. 5000 for modern subject books. Rs. 15,000 as one time grant for science kits and essential equipments and Rs. 1,00,000/- for setting laboratory to each of the Madrasas. Besides, Rs. 5,00,000 per annum have been provided for curriculum and other things required for proper functioning of the Madrasa Board. We are doing our best for the modernization of the madrasas but the question, raised by him regarding the teachers teaching for the last ten years, is yet to be looked into by the management of the Madrasa Board.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Second supplementary may be sent in writing!

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Illegal Immigration of Bangladeshis

*27. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

DR. K. DHANARAJU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the porous borders and the illegal immigration are causing unexpected demographic changes among the native population of the country including Assam and West Bengal as reported in *The Times of India* dated 12 January, 2009;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to speed up fencing of the Indo-Bangladesh border; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) India's long and porous border with Bangladesh, geographical proximity, family ties and ethnic similarity, coupled with better economic opportunities in India have resulted in illegal migration from Bangladesh. While specific data of illegal immigration is not available, given the clandestine nature of the activity, the possibility of demographic changes in some of the border districts can not be ruled out.

In order to check illegal immigration and infiltration from Bangladesh, the Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged approach including the following:—

(i) Construction of border fencing, roads and floodlighting.

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of the borders by the Border Security Force.

- (iii) Setting up of additional 383 Border Out Posts (BOPs) along Indo-Bangladesh Border to reduce the inter BOP distance for effective border domination.
- (iv) Induction of hi-tech surveillance equipment including night vision devices.

In addition, powers have been delegated to the State Governments under Section 3(2)9(c) of the Foreigners' Act, 1946 to detect and deport illegally staying foreign nationals.

(c) and (d) Fencing over a length of 2635 Km. has been completed, out of the sanctioned 3436 Km. The Government is according both priority and greater focus to expedite the completion of fencing along the Indo-Bangladesh Border. The remaining sanctioning fencing works are scheduled to be completed by 31st March, 2010.

Countering Naxal Activities

*28. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether naxal activities have increased recently in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported alongwith the persons killed and injured including civilians, security personnel, loss of property and the naxalities arrested during the last six months, Statewise;

(c) whether the increasing naxal activities in various States including Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal poses grave threat to law and order and security;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard including evolving a comprehensive policy to deal with the naxal problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (e) At the macro level, the number of incidents of naxal violence has remained more or less at the same level during the past few years. There were 1608 incidents of naxal violence in 2005, 1509 in 2006, 1565 in 2007 and 1591 in 2008. However, the level of violence in different States has fluctuated from time to time depending upon the counter measures taken by them. It is in this context that the need for uniformity of approach and coordinated action to deal with the naxalite problem has been emphasized from time to time. In the recent past naxalite violence has been relatively concentrated in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa.

The details of incidents of naxal violence, civilians/security force personnel killed and naxalites arrested/killed State-wise, for the last six months from (August, 2008 to January, 2009) are as below:—

State	Incidents	Civilians killed	Security Forces killed	Naxalites arrested	Naxalites killed
Andhra Pradesh	44	17	—	159	17
Bihar	80	26	13	85	7
Chhattisgarh	353	91	47	137	50
Jharkhand	263	83	28	161	5
Maharashtra	48	12	4	29	1
Madhya Pradesh	3	—	—	3	—
Orissa	44	14	1	36	2
Uttar Pradesh	4	1	—	15	1
West Bengal	12	9	2	34	—
Total	851	253	95	659	83

The naxalites have not only indulged in wanton killings of innocent civilians and guerilla type of attacks on the police/security forces with large scale use of landmine and explosives, etc., but have also been targeting socio-economic infrastructure and indulging in threats and intimidation of gross-roots functionaries and Governance structures. Keeping all this in view it is a fact that the activities of the naxalities pose a serious threat to security.

The Government is following a holistic policy to deal with naxal problem where under efforts are being made simultaneously on both the security and the development front. Towards this end the States have been urged to prepare integrated action plans for the naxal affected areas and to take systematic counter measures. As far as the security aspects are concerned, the States have also been urged to take time-bound steps to fill the vacancies in/ augment the strength of the State Police forces, raise special/commando forces equipped with skills and equipment to counter the tactics of the naxalites, to strengthen and expand the infrastructure at the police station level, and to work in close coordination with neighbouring States, including undertaking joint and coordinated anti-naxal operations in bi-junction and tri-junction areas between neighbouring States. On its part, the Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the States and assisting them through a variety of measures, including deployment of additional Central Para Military Forces to assist the State Police, sanction of India Reserve battalions, assistance for upgradation of the State Police forces under the scheme for modernization of State Police forces, training of State Police personnel, sharing of intelligence on a regular basis, reimbursement of various types of security related expenditure and facilitation in bringing about Inter-State coordination. Focused attention and assistance is also being given to the States on the development front through a range of schemes of various Central Ministries.

The Central Government is also in the process of establishing specialized battalions, equipped with jungle/

guerilla warfare skills and equipment, etc., which will be located in naxal affected areas. It has also been decided to establish 20 Counter Insurgency and Anti Terrorism (CIAT) Schools, mostly in areas affected by naxalite violence and insurgency. A Special Infrastructure Scheme has also been launched with a view to filling critical infrastructure gaps to enable taking up projects and works which cannot be covered under any of the normal schemes and are considered necessary from the security point of view.

Basic facilities in Schools

*29. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN :
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA :

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

(a) whether as per a survey conducted by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration for 2007-08, more than 50 per cent of Government elementary Schools in 11 States and Union Territories do not have toilets for students and 20 per cent of the schools do not have drinking water facility;

(b) if so, the details of the findings; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) As per annual data collected from States/districts under the District Information System of Education, by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration for 2007-08, the number of elementary schools having drinking water facilities is 86.75% and 82.67% have toilets. This has grown from a level of 77% and 41% respectively, in 2003-04.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme has so far sanctioned 1.93 lakh drinking water facilities and 2.64 lakh toilets to elementary schools while the Drinking Water

Mission has provided 8.37 lakh drinking water facilities and the Total Sanitation Campaign 7.40 lakh toilets for schools.

[Translation]

Special Economic Zones

*30. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

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

(a) whether certain Special Economic Zones (SEZs) approved by the Government have not started functioning or are lying closed;

(b) if so, the details thereof location-wise alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government including the time frame fixed for making all the approved SEZs functional?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Special Economic Zones are set up under the provisions of SEZ Act and Rules which came into force in February 2006. Till date 560 Formal Approvals have been granted for setting up of SEZs, out of which 283 have been notified. 87 SEZs have commenced exports.

(b) The State-wise list of Special Economic Zones that have been formally approved but yet to be notified is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Formal approval granted to the developer is valid for a period of three years within which the developer is required to take effective steps for Notification by submission of documents, obtain necessary environmental and other clearances from the concerned authorities and create infrastructure. Further extension is granted up to two years by the Board of Approvals on the application of developer only if it is convinced that serious efforts have been taken by the developer to complete the project.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Formal approvals	Notified SEZs	Formal approvals yet to be notified (A-B)
		(A)	(B)	(A-B)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100	59	41
2.	Chandigarh	2	2	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	1	0	1
4.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	4	0	4
5.	Delhi	2	1	1
6.	Goa	7	3	4
7.	Gujarat	49	25	24
8.	Haryana	45	25	20
9.	Jharkhand	1	1	0
10.	Karnataka	50	25	25
11.	Kerala	20	8	12
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14	4	10
13.	Maharashtra	107	44	63
14.	Nagaland	2	0	2
15.	Orissa	10	4	6
16.	Pondicherry	1	0	1
17.	Punjab	10	2	8
18.	Rajasthan	8	7	1

1	2	3	4	5
19. Tamil Nadu		88	46	22
20. Uttaranchal		3	2	1
21. Uttar Pradesh		32	16	16
22. West Bengal		24	9	15
Total		560	283	277

[English]

Multi-purpose National Identity Card

*31. SHRI UDAY SINGH :
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue Multi-purpose Identity Cards to all the citizens in the country including those in coastal areas;

(b) if so, the time by which such identity cards are likely to be provided to the citizens;

(c) whether the Government has any information on illegal Bangladeshi migrants having acquired ration cards, PAN cards etc.;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has finalised the National Population Register (NPR) project in conjuncture with Census Operations of the year 2011 as reported in *The Times of India* dated 22 January, 2009; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (f) The Government has decided that a National Population

Register (NPR) would be prepared for which details on specified characteristics shall be collected in respect of each individual at the time of next decennial Census in 2011. This information will include the photographs and finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), which is set up under the aegis of Planning Commission, will manage the database as well as its updating.

The Government has decided to create the NPR for the coastal villages ahead of 2011 Census in 2009-10. The first phase of the project would cover the coastal villages of 9 Maritime States and 4 UTs. Identity (smart) cards are proposed to be issued to all those of 18 years of age and above in the coastal areas.

Illegal Bangladeshi migrants are not entitled to receive ration cards, PAN cards, etc. Action is taken for cancellation by the concerned authority as and when such cases are reported or discovered.

Deemed Universities

*32. SHRI K.S. RAO :
SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY :

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

(a) the details of the criteria, terms and conditions to be followed by institutes allowed to operate as deemed universities;

(b) the number of deemed universities functioning in different States and Union Territories;

(c) whether in the absence of proper regulatory mechanism, deemed universities are indulging in exploitation of students;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to review the deemed university system and bring them under the control of respective State Governments;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the present status of the implementation of the Yashpal Committee Report in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) An Institution of Higher Learning, when declared as an institution 'deemed-to-be-university' under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, will come under the purview of the said Act and all the sections thereof will be applicable to such an institution. In addition, such an institution shall have to adhere to all the guidelines/instructions as laid down by the UGC and other Statutory Councils, from time to time, which includes that the management of the 'deemed-to-be-university', its movable and immovable assets shall vest with the trust or society created for managing it; its accounts will be open to examination by the UGC; an irrevocable corpus fund is required to be maintained by such an institution; objectives of the institution 'deemed-to-be-university' shall be confined to educational and related social and charitable activities; no teaching institution can be affiliated by such an institution 'deemed-to-be-university'; only approved academic courses conforming to standards prescribed by the relevant Statutory Councils can be offered by such institutions; and only those degrees that are specified under Section 22 of the UGC Act 1956 can be awarded by such an institution 'deemed-to-be-university'.

(b) As on 12th February, 2009, 125 institutions have been recognized as 'Institutions deemed-to-be-universities' in the country. A State-wise list containing the number of institutions 'deemed-to-be-universities', is enclosed as Statement.

(c) to (e) Entry 66 of the Union List of the Constitution of India pertains to "coordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research in scientific or technical institutions". The Central Government may, on the advice of the UGC, declare an institution of higher education, other than a university, as an institution

"deemed-to-be-a-university" under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956. Section 12 of the UGC Act 1956 reads "It shall be the general duty of the UGC to take, in consultation with the Universities or the other bodies concerned, all such steps that it may think fit for the promotion and coordination of University education and for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in universities and for the purpose of performing its functions under this Act". Section 13 empowers the UGC with the power of inspection of universities. Section 12 A provides for the power to regulate fees. Also, while Section 24 empowers the UGC to levy penalties for contravention of its provisions under Section 22 or 23, Section 26 gives the UGC the power to make regulations that includes maintenance of standards in universities.

(f) The Review Committee which was constituted on 28.02.2008 under the Chairmanship of Professor Yash Pal and which was later renamed as the "Committee to Advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education" had been given one year's time to submit its Report. The Committee has not yet submitted its report to the Central Government.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Institutions "deemed to be universities"
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Bihar	2
4.	Gujarat	2
5.	Haryana	5
6.	Jharkhand	2

1	2	3
7.	Karnataka	15
8.	Kerala	2
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2
10.	Maharashtra	21
11.	Orissa	2
12.	Punjab	3
13.	Rajasthan	7
14.	Tamil Nadu	29
15.	Uttarakhand	4
16.	Uttar Pradesh	10
17.	West Bengal	1
18.	New Delhi	11
19.	Puducherry	1
Total		125

**Promotion of Science and Technology
in the Country**

*33. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is lagging behind developed western countries as well as the newly industrialised economies of Asia in the area of science and technology as reported in *The Hindu* dated 4 January, 2009;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to improve the country's position in the field of science and technology?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir., India is lagging behind developed and newly industrialised economies since R&D investments as percentage of GDP and R&D manpower per million population is comparatively low as given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Government have taken several initiatives to enhance public and private investments in R&D and to ensure availability of adequate R&D manpower. These initiatives include formulation of S&T policies, setting up of autonomous research organisations and facilities in emerging and frontline areas, induction of new and attractive fellowships such as INSPIRE, fiscal incentives and support measures to encourage investment on R&D in industry, national awards for outstanding R&D and encouraging public-private R&D partnerships. In addition, the Government have enhanced XI plan allocation for Scientific Departments to Rs. 75,304.400 crores from Rs. 25,301.35 crores during X Plan.

Statement

*S&T Indicators for Developed and Developing
Countries (2004-06)*

Sl. No.	Country	R&D Expenditure as % GDP	Researchers per Million Population
1	2	3	4
1.	Argentina	0.49	895
2.	Australia	1.78	4053

1	2	3	4
3.	Austria	2.46	3657
4.	Brazil	0.82	461
5.	Canada	1.97	3922
6.	China	1.42	926
7.	Czech Rep.	1.54	2578
8.	Denmark	2.44	5277
9.	Finland	3.43	7681
10.	France	2.12	3353
11.	Germany	2.52	3386
12.	Hungary	1.00	1745
13.	India	0.88	140
14.	Israel	4.53	NA
15.	Italy	1.10	1407
16.	Japan	3.40	5546
17.	Korea, Rep.	3.23	4162
18.	Mexico	0.50	464
19.	Netherlands	1.69	2524
20.	Norway	1.46	4668
21.	Pakistan	0.44	80
22.	Russian Fed.	1.08	3255
23.	Singapore	2.39	5713
24.	Spain	1.21	2639
25.	Sri Lanka	0.19	141

1	2	3	4
26.	Sweden	3.82	6139
27.	United Kingdom	1.80	3033
28.	United States	2.61	4651
29.	Venezuela	0.23	86

Source : UIS, UNESCO (Website accessed on 15th October, 2008) World Development Indicators (various issues), The World Bank Research and Development Statistics at a Glance 2007-08, DST (Gol)

Note : China excludes Hong Kong

Price of Natural Rubber

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

(a) the total production of natural rubber in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the quantity of rubber imported during the said period;

(c) whether price of natural rubber has declined;

(d) if so, whether such decline in price of rubber has affected the domestic growers/farmers; and

(e) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government to help the affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) The details of total production and import of natural rubber in the country during each of the last three years and the current year are as under:—

Year	Production (tonnes)	Import (tonnes)
2005-06	802625	45285
2006-07	852895	89799
2007-08	825345	86394
2008-09 (April, 2008 to January, 2009)	763080 ^p	69326 ^p

p – Provisional.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Though rubber prices declined sharply from mid-September, 2008, the average domestic price of Ribbed Smoked Sheet-4 (RSS-4) grade of Natural Rubber for the period from April, 2008 to January, 2009 was Rs. 106.86 per kg., which is more than the average annual price of natural rubber in the domestic market in 2006-07 (Rs. 92.34/kg) and 2007-08 (Rs. 90.85/kg). Group approach is promoted in processing and marketing of rubber. Temporary suspension of futures trading has been withdrawn with effect from 01.12.2008. The developments in the domestic and world rubber markets are monitored on a regular basis.

Promotion of KVIC Products

*35. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL :
SHRI M. APPADURAI :

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

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has organised exhibitions in different parts of the country to promote the sale of KVIC products;

(b) if so, the total number of exhibitions organised during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the total expenditure incurred in this regard during the said period, State-wise;

(d) whether such exhibitions have helped in increasing the acceptability and sale of Khadi products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State/Union Territory-wise number of exhibitions organised by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during each of the last three years and current year, are given in the Statement-I.

(c) The State/Union Territory-wise information on expenditure incurred by KVIC in organising these exhibitions during each of the last three years and current year, are given in the Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Exhibition organised by KVIC at national and sub-national levels to promote sale of KVI products have helped in increasing the acceptability and sale of KVI products. These exhibitions have proved to be a cost effective medium for publicity as well as opening marketing opportunities to the products. These have also created awareness of KVI products among the people. As a result, sale of KVI products has been showing an upward trend in recent years. The details of estimated value of sale of KVI products during last three-years and current year are as under:—

Year	Value of sales (Rs. crore)
2005-06	15276.02
2006-07	17562.40
2007-08	21543.48
2008-09 (upto December, 2008)	15730.10

Statement-I

State/Union Territory (UT) – wise details of exhibitions organised during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (upto January, 2009)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Number of Exhibitions organised			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto January, 2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Delhi	9	4	4	5
2.	Haryana	11	4	4	6
3.	Himachal Pradesh	2	–	–	1
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	3	4	3
5.	Punjab	12	3	3	4
6.	Rajasthan	20	17	15	10
7.	Bihar	7	6	5	5
8.	Jharkhand	3	2	3	1
9.	Orissa	5	3	6	4
10.	West Bengal	3	3	3	3
11.	Sikkim	2	–	–	–

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	–	1	–
13.	Assam	9	5	4	6
14.	Manipur	–	1	1	1
15.	Meghalaya	–	1	3	2
16.	Mizoram	–	–	1	2
17.	Nagaland	–	1	1	1
18.	Tripura	–	1	1	–
19.	Andhra Pradesh	13	8	8	2
20.	Karnataka	3	4	4	2
21.	Kerala	9	4	4	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	17	5	5	5
23.	Goa	2	1	1	1
24.	Gujarat	7	9	8	4
25.	Maharashtra	12	8	6	7
26.	Chhattisgarh	6	1	3	4
27.	Madhya Pradesh	11	2	3	3
28.	Uttarakhand	1	1	2	2
29.	Uttar Pradesh	29	13	15	13
Total		198	108	118	101

Statement-II

State/Union Territory (UT) – wise details of expenditure incurred by KVIC in organising exhibitions during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (upto January, 2009)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Expenditure incurred in organizing Exhibitions (Rs. lakh)			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto January, 2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Delhi	26.30	17.50	17.50	18.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Haryana	31.50	21.13	17.50	28.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh	5.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	10.00	10.16	10.00	14.00
5.	Punjab	54.10	17.17	30.00	24.00
6.	Rajasthan	95.34	99.41	90.00	74.00
7.	Bihar	20.90	18.50	20.00	18.00
8.	Jharkhand	30.00	5.00	7.50	10.00
9.	Orissa	13.20	5.20	15.00	8.00
10.	West Bengal	5.00	9.37	15.00	14.00
11.	Sikkim	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	0.00	2.50	0.00
13.	Assam	45.90	19.85	40.00	20.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	2.50	2.50	2.00
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	2.50	7.50	4.00
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	2.50	12.00
17.	Nagaland	0.00	2.61	2.50	2.00
18.	Tripura	0.00	2.61	2.50	0.00
19.	Andhra Pradesh	37.50	21.12	27.50	4.00
20.	Karnataka	50.00	93.04	62.50	12.00
21.	Kerala	23.80	14.54	17.50	16.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	52.25	9.77	12.50	26.00
23.	Goa	5.00	2.50	2.50	2.00
24.	Gujarat	20.80	39.81	27.50	24.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Maharashtra	45.00	144.39	22.50	42.00
26.	Chhattisgarh	17.50	2.50	7.50	16.00
27.	Madhya Pradesh	30.00	3.18	7.50	6.00
28.	Uttarakhand	25.00	2.18	5.00	12.00
29.	Uttar Pradesh	80.00	96.70	97.50	110.00
Total		733.89	663.24	572.50	520.00

Status of Non-Working Mines

*36. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of non-working mines in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether some of these mines have not been developed by the Government for the last several years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to cancel the mining lease of the non-working mines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :
(a) As per available information, there are 270 non-reporting mines in the country. State-wise details of total number of non-reporting mines during the year 2008-09 are given below:—

State	No. of Mines (Provisional)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	44

1	2
Chhattisgarh	6
Goa	12
Gujarat	46
Jharkhand	7
Karnataka	20
Kerala	5
Madhya Pradesh	53
Maharashtra	10
Meghalaya	1
Orissa	18
Rajasthan	26
Tamil Nadu	11
Uttar Pradesh	6
Uttaranchal	4
West Bengal	1

(b) Mine development is undertaken by the mining leaseholder and not by the Government.

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

(d) to (f) The State Government are the owners of minerals and grant mineral concession. As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Government may declare a mining lease as lapsed in case the leaseholders is unable to carry out mining operation for a continuous period of two years. The details of such mines lapsed by the orders of the State Government are not centrally maintained.

Dumping of Goods in Indian Market

*37. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases investigated by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has taken any action in such cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the indigenous industries against dumping of goods by foreign units?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (e) The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) in the Department of Commerce has initiated ninety one (91) anti-dumping investigations including reviews during last three years and the current year (i.e. from 1.1.2006 till 11.2.2009). In forty six (46) of these cases, final findings have been issued. In three (3) cases, termination notifications were

issued following withdrawal of the applications by the domestic industry. In eight (8) cases, only preliminary findings have been issued so far. The remaining thirty four (34) cases are still under investigation. The Government is aware of the problems being faced by the domestic industry due to dumping and accordingly remedial measures have been taken wherever injury to the domestic industry from dumped imports has been established.

The DGAD initiates anti-dumping investigation on receiving a fully documented petition from the domestic industry with prima-facie evidence of dumping in the country, injury to domestic industry and causal link between the dumped goods and injury. Such petitions submitted by domestic industry are processed as per the procedures and within the time limits specified under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and the rules made thereunder. After investigation, the DGAD submits its findings to the Government recommending, wherever appropriate, the amount of anti-dumping duty to be levied. The findings issued by the DGAD are published in the official Gazette and are also available on the Department's website.

Expansion of Forecast System

*38. SHRI SURESH ANGADI : Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) is expanding its infrastructure for providing up to date information on predicting storms, optimizing fishing time, earthquakes, tsunamis etc.

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

(c) the details of centers set up in coastal areas of the country to warn the population living in such areas and the fishermen about the impending dangers from the sea, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian National Centre for Ocean

Information Services (INCOIS), an autonomous body of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, provides information on Potential Fishing Zone (PFZ) advisories thrice a week (i.e. Monday, Wednesday, Friday). Ocean State Forecast (OSF) information every day and Tsunami Early Warning during an event. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has been already involved in forecasting on storm intensity and storm track. The IMD also has been providing up to date information on earthquakes. Currently, INCOIS is expanding its services in terms of forecasting and dissemination on a number of ocean parameters viz., currents, temperature and salinity.

(b) and (c) Towards effective dissemination of the above information to the coastal population, INCOIS has established 49 Electronic Display Boards (EDB) in all coastal states and island territory of India. Another 24 EDB's are planned to be installed. The locations of EDB's installed in different coastal states are given in following table.

Sl. No.	Coastal State	Location of the Board
1	2	3
1.	Gujarat	Veraval
2.	Maharashtra	Ratnagiri, Malvan, Harne, Deogad, Verçova
3.	Goa	Panjim, Vasco
4.	Karnataka	Malpe, Karwar
5.	Kerala	Beypore, Munambam, Srayikrad, Neendakara, (Vypeen (Kochi) Mariyanadu, Anchuthengu
6.	Tamil Nadu	Thangachimadam, Naga-pattinam, Thengaithittu, Veerampattinam, Royapuram, Pondicherry, Samiyarpattai,

1	2	3
		Parangipettai, Mudasalodai, Chinangudi, Akkaraipettai, Panith*tu, Puthur, Neerody, Kovalam
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Kakinada, Visakhapatnam, Machillipatnam, INCOIS
8.	Orissa	Gopalpur, New golabanda, Balaramgadi, Astaranga, Paradeep, Sana Arjipalli, Pentakotta, Kharanesi, Talachua, Chudamani, Bahabalpur
9.	West Bengal	Diamond Harbour
10.	Lakshadweep	Agatti

The EDB's are equipped with 2 types of communication channels for redundancy mobile connection as primary channel and the second Satellite Radio as secondary channel. The EDB has a built-in Single Board Computer (SBC) capable of online broadcast of voice messages and playback of recorded messages. The Intelligent Power Management System on board EDB would automatically switch to power economy display to provide uninterrupted service. The size of the EDB is 32" Industrial Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) Panel with a facility for web-based dissemination of information. The Voice and Siren System of EDB has a capacity for audibility up to 1 Km range. Each EDB has one hour power backup facility with solar Panels for charging the battery bank. The health of the Monitoring System is automatically reported to INCOIS. Information to all the EDB can be sent automatically the simultaneously.

Small Scale Sector and Its Challenges

*39. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether challenges like inadequate exposure to international market, low capital base, competition from China etc., are being faced by the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure viability of SSIs to meet the burgeoning need for employment generation, to increase domestic production and export earnings?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The major challenges faced by the micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in their growth mainly relate to lack of adequate credit availability, technology and marketing constraints, infrastructure bottlenecks and enhanced competition due to liberalized trade regime. The major schemes/programmes implemented by the Government for assisting the MSE sector in meeting the challenges are Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. In addition, some of the initiatives taken for the promotion and development of the MSE sector and for enhancing their competitiveness include enactment of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, implementation of the 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to the Small and Medium Enterprises' announced in August, 2005 and the comprehensive 'Package for Promotion of MSEs' announced in February, 2007.

Further, in the wake of recent global economic slowdown, the following measures have been announced by the Government, the Reserve Bank of India and the Public Sector Banks for enhancing the employment generation, domestic production and export earnings in the MSE sector:—

(1) **Stimulus Packages announced dated 7th December, 2008 and 2nd January, 2009**

- Cenvat cut of 4 percentage points on all products for the remainder of the financial year.
- Interest subvention of 2 per cent in pre and post-shipment export credit to SME sector up to 31.03.2009.
- Loan limit under Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises extended from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore with a guarantee cover of 50%. The guarantee cover extended by Credit Guarantee Fund Trust will be increased to 85% for credit facility up to Rs. 5 lakh.
- Lock-in period for loans covered under the existing Credit Guarantee Scheme reduced from 24 months to 18 months.
- Government to issue an advisory to central public sector enterprises and request state public sector enterprises to ensure prompt payment of bills of MSMEs.

(2) **Measures announced by the Reserve Bank of India**

- Refinance limit Rs. 7000 crore to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for incremental on-lending to the MSE sector.
- Banks have been advised to contribute an aggregate amount of Rs. 2000 crore to the MSME Refinance Fund with SIDBI.
- As a one-time measure, the second restructuring done by banks of exposures upto 30th June, 2009 will also be eligible for exceptional regulatory treatment.

- While sanctioning/renewing credit limits to their large corporate borrowers, banks have been advised to fix separate sub-limits, within the overall limits, specifically for meeting payment obligations in respect of purchases from MSEs.

(3) Measures announced by the Public Sector Banks

- Public Sector Banks to grant need-based ad hoc Working Capital Demand Loans upto 20 per cent of the existing funds based limits in respect of units having overall fund based credit facility upto Rs. 10 crore.
- Reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1 per cent and in respect of SMEs by 0.5 per cent.
- Moratorium period will be extended in respect of loans availed by MSMEs where project implementation has been delayed in the current scenario.

Upgradation of Industrial Infrastructure

*40. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) and the Assistance to States for Development Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) schemes for upgrading Industrial infrastructure in the country;

(b) whether the schemes are proposed to be continued in the Eleventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the details of assistance given to various industries during the last three years and the current year State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :

(a) The Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) targets creation of quality infrastructure in existing industrial clusters/locations with high growth potential requiring strategic interventions in providing common facilities for transport, road, power supply, effluent treatment and solid waste disposal, Information, Communication Technology and such other physical infrastructures. Under the Scheme, Central Assistance is provided by way of one time grant-in-aid (not equity) to the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) formed by the cluster association for development of the infrastructure. The Assistance is restricted to 75% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50 crore. The remaining 25% is financed by other stake holders of the respective cluster/location with a minimum industry contribution of 15% of the total project cost Government funding is confined only to creation of assets and activities relating to productivity enhancement and no recurring expenditure is funded by Government under the scheme. Administrative expenses are restricted to 2% of the Central Assistance in the project.

Department of Commerce is implementing "Assistance to States for Developing Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) Scheme with the objective of involving States in the creation of infrastructure critical for the exports. The specific purposes for which the fund is allocated under the Scheme are: creation of new Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP)/Zones (including SEZs/Agri-Business Zones) and augmenting facilities in the existing Zones, setting up of electronic and other related infrastructure, equity participation in infrastructure projects, meeting the requirement of capital outlay of EPIPs/SEZs, development of complimentary infrastructure (such as road between production centre and port, setting up of inland container depots/freight station), stabilizing power supply, development of minor ports and jetties, setting up of common effluent treatment plants, etc. 80% (State Component) of total outlay is allocated amongst the States on the basis

of their export performance and 20% (Central Component) is retained at the Central level to meet the capital expenditure of the Central Agencies. The State component is allocated to the States in two tranches of 50% each. The allocation of the first tranche of 50% to the States is made on the basis of the share of the States in total exports, whereas the remaining 50% is allocated on

the basis of growth in exports over the previous year. A minimum of 10% of the Scheme outlay is reserved for expenditure in the North Eastern States including Sikkim.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS):

Details of grants released under IIUS during last three years and current year

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Year-wise details of releases			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (Till 12.02.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.54	0.00	7.80	16.54
2.	Chhattisgarh	9.96	11.11	0.00	9.74
3.	Gujarat	37.59	26.78	21.79	12.57
4.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.93
5.	Karnataka	0.00	43.11	0.00	0.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	16.65	15.98	0.00
7.	Maharashtra	46.88	39.54	24.21	0.90
8.	Orissa	0.00	15.66	0.00	14.27
9.	Punjab	0.00	4.21	3.89	0.00
10.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	9.20	0.00
11.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	52.96	30.12	20.74

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Uttar Pradesh		1.30	0.00	3.25	0.00
13. West Bengal		12.02	12.32	0.00	0.00
Total		124.29	222.34	116.24	90.69

Statement-II**"Assistance to States for Developing Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) Scheme."***Details of assistance given under ASIDE scheme during last three years and current year*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (as on 10.02.09)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,545.00	1,700.00	2,120.00	1,812.00
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0	0	0
3.	Bihar	0.00	0	0	0
4.	Chandigarh	320.00	175.00	0	250.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	500.00	550.00	435.00	0
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0	0	0
7.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0	0	0
8.	Delhi	265.00	145.00	283.51	0
9.	Goa	609.00	0	670.00	570.00
10.	Gujarat	4,338.00	4,770.00	5,972.50	5,835.50
11.	Haryana	1,405.00	772.50	1,545.00	1,545.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	553.00	600.00	600.00	300.00
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	525.00	580.00	580.00	580.00
14.	Jharkhand	0.00	275.00	275.00	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Karnataka	3,399.00	3,740.00	4,262.00	4,162.00
16.	Kerala	1,069.00	1,175.00	1,175.00	975.00
17.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1,435.00	790.00	1,580.00	1,480.00
19.	Maharashtra	6,552.00	7,210.00	8,200.00	8,000.00
20.	Orissa	693.00	765.00	892.00	792.00
21.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
22.	Punjab	1217.00	670.00	670.00	1,326.00
23.	Rajasthan	1320.00	726.50	1,453.00	1,353.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	3919.00	4,312.00	4,988.00	4,788.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	2100.00	1,155.00	2,310.00	1,105.00
26.	Uttaranchal	527.00	0	0	2,90.00
27.	West Bengal	2009.00	2,210.00	2,206.00	2,010.00
Sub-Total		34300.00	32,321.00	40,217.04	37,173.00
North Eastern Region					
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	251.00	138.00	276.00	0
2.	Assam	1257.00	691.50	1,383.00	691.50
3.	Manipur	206.00	227.00	227.00	227.00
4.	Mizoram	324.00	356.00	356.00	356.00
5.	Meghalaya	834.00	917.00	299.00	0
6.	Nagaland	200.00	220.00	220.00	110.00
7.	Sikkim	200.00	220.00	220.00	220.00
8.	Tripura	728.00	801.00	801.00	400.50
Total		4000.00	3,570.50	3,782.00	2,005.00
Grand Total		38300.00	35,891.50	43,999.01	39,178.00

[Translation]

Allocation for National Literacy Mission

53. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total funds allocated to Maharashtra under National Literacy Mission during each of the last three years;
- (b) the details of the works undertaken with these funds; and
- (c) the steps taken for effective implementation of National Literacy Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) The following grants have been released to Maharashtra under National Literacy Mission during last three years:

1.	2005-06	Rs. 3314.32 lakhs
2.	2006-07	Rs. 1020.62 lakhs
3.	2007-08	Rs. 861.68 lakhs

(b) and (c) Total Literacy Campaign (TLC), Post Literacy Programmes (PLP) and Continuing Education Programmes (CEP) are implemented by Zilla Saksharta Samitis (ZSSs), which are autonomous organisations registered under the Societies Registration Act. There are 35 ZSS in the state of Maharashtra. The Zilla Saksharta Samitis have an Executive Committee headed by the District Magistrate or the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad. As per the National Literacy Mission (NLM) guidelines, the Executive Committee consists of educationists, social activists, persons drawn from voluntary agencies, teachers, women, youth and also identified district level officials. The ZSS plans, implements and monitors the adult education programmes. Presently there are 7 districts in PL stage and 28 in CE stage in the state

of Maharashtra. District level monitoring is undertaken at the ZSS level, and State Directorates of Adult/Mass Education (SDAE) monitor the programme at the State level. Monthly Monitoring Meetings (MMMs) are held on pre-determined dates at the State level in which ZSS representatives participate in order to discuss the monthly progress reports. At the national level, the Directorate of Adult Education (DAE) monitors the literacy programmes. In addition, DAE/NLM organizes Regional Review Meetings of State Education Secretaries/Directors of Adult/Mass Education every year to review the progress of adult education programmes in the States.

Study on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

54. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has studied the working of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in China and the role of the Government therein;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is paying attention to production and marketing of MSME products on the lines of the Chinese system to help the Indian MSMEs Sector to replicate the success of MSMEs in China;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of the schemes being implemented at present for promoting MSMEs in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) With a view to adopt the best practices and policies concerning the promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India, the study of MSME policies in other countries (including China) is an ongoing process. However, in view of the different economic

models adopted by different countries, it may not be always possible to totally replicate the systems practiced elsewhere.

(e) The major schemes/programmes for promotion and development of MSMSs are implemented by the Government across the country. The major schemes, inter alia, include Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. In addition several schemes of Khadi and Village Industries Commission and Coir Board are also being implemented in the States.

Export of Marine Products

55. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the share of marine products export in total exports of the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether producers and exporters of marine products lack proper infrastructure;

(c) if so, the details of such infrastructural constraints and the steps taken to remove them;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to encourage the producers and exporters of marine products to adopt new techniques used in other countries; and

(e) if so, the details of steps taken thereon?

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 marine products export in total exports of the country during each of the last three years are as under:-

(Values in US \$ Million)

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Total exports	103090.5	126361.5 (Revised)	159006.7 (Provisional)
Marine Products	1644.21	1852.93	1899.09
Percentage	1.59%	1.47%	1.19%

(b) and (c) The Government in consultation with the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is taking various steps to remove the infrastructural constraints. During the current Five Year Plan, the Government has introduced a scheme i.e. Technology Upgradation Scheme for Marine Products. Under the scheme, a beneficiary can avail capital or interest subsidy for setting up of a new processing plant or for upgradation of the existing processing plant.

In addition, MPEDA is operating a number of other schemes in the coastal region for developing infrastructure for marine products and has disbursed subsidy of about Rs. 25 crores during the last three years to the processors/exporters.

(d) and (e) With a view to educate the producers/exporters, MPEDA has availed the services of an Australian tuna fishing expert to train the Indian crew in proper operation of monofilament long line technology and handling of catch on board. MPEDA has also signed an MoU with Government of Switzerland for the technical cooperation from the Swiss Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO) for initiating the programme on the organic shrimp farming in India. Effort are being made to popularize organic aquaculture in the states of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

MPEDA has also signed an MoU with Innovation Norway (IN) a Norwegian company for introducing Cage culture farming in Andaman and Nicobar islands. The Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Aquaculture (RGCA), a society under

MPEDA has developed Specific Pathogen Free Broodstock of Tiger Shrimp to G3 generation at its facility in Andamans. MPEDA is also sending delegations abroad and participating in international summit/exhibitions/fairs of marine products to update its knowledge of the latest technologies adopted in other countries.

Setting up of Technical Institutions

56. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA :

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

(a) the number of institutes imparting professional and technical education in the country including Rajasthan

and Gujarat in the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the number of such institutes which are likely to be set up in the current year, State and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) As per the information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the number of institutes imparting professional and technical education, State-wise, including Rajasthan and Gujarat is given in statement-I.

(b) As per information furnished by AICTE, the proposal for establishment of new technical institutions during the academic year 2009-2010 is given in statement-II.

Statement-I

Number of Degree Level Technical Institutions Approved by AICTE as on 31/08/2008

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Engg. and Tech.	MBA	MCA	Pharmacy	HMCT	Applied Art and Crafts	PGDM
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Madhya Pradesh	161	56	47	93	4	0	7
2.	Chhattisgarh	41	7	7	11	0	0	2
3.	Gujarat	55	51	26	75	1	0	11
4.	Mizoram	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
5.	Sikkim	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
6.	Orissa	68	29	37	15	2	0	15
7.	West Bengal	71	27	27	10	4	0	2
8.	Tripura	3	0	1	1	0	0	0
9.	Meghalaya	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Assam	7	5	3	2	0	0	1
13.	Manipur	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Nagaland	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Jharkhand	13	4	2	1	0	0	3
16.	Bihar	15	11	6	4	0	0	1
17.	Uttar Pradesh	241	125	101	91	10	1	88
18.	Uttaranchal	19	23	13	14	7	0	2
19.	Chandigarh	5	0	2	1	0	1	1
20.	Haryana	116	56	29	34	3	0	10
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	7	9	3	1	0	0	0
22.	New Delhi	19	13	18	6	1	1	24
23.	Punjab	70	55	24	38	8	0	4
24.	Rajasthan	81	49	19	54	8	0	15
25.	Himachal Pradesh	9	8	1	11	1	0	0
26.	Andhra Pradesh	527	231	385	258	2	0	24
27.	Pondicherry	9	1	6	1	0	1	0
28.	Tamil Nadu	352	154	208	43	1	0	4
29.	Karnataka	157	109	73	80	20	0	15
30.	Kerala	94	37	38	33	4	0	7
31.	Maharashtra	239	168	58	120	10	6	48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Tripura	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
North	Uttar Pradesh	83	84	130	11	11	4	1	324
	Uttaranchal	13	3	14	3	1	1	0	34
	Bihar	12	2	3	2	0	0	0	19
North West	Chandigarh	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
	Delhi	1	3	2	0	1	0	0	7
	Haryana	38	11	36	9	1	3	0	98
	Himachal Pradesh	11	0	6	4	0	1	0	22
	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Punjab	16	1	30	10	3	1	0	61
	Rajasthan	49	12	65	4	7	6	0	143
South	Tamil Nadu	144	3	38	7	3	0	0	195
	Pondicherry	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Andhra Pradesh	176	31	178	9	49	2	0	445
South West	Karnataka	32	18	26	4	0	0	0	80
	Kerala	29	1	8	1	2	0	0	41
West	Maharashtra	85	37	123	17	22	3	0	287
	Goa	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Grand Total	886	250	834	120	124	22	1	2237

[English]

Demand for Coffee in Other Countries

57. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coffee grown in the tribal areas of Visakhapatnam has tremendous demand abroad since the area has been declared as an organic zone;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of coffee exported from the area during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise, brand-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to expand the cultivable area of coffee to 60,000 acres in the 11th Plan;

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

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to help the tribals growing coffee and to promote its export including help from the Integrated Tribal Development Agency 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) and (b) Around 50 MT of certified organic coffee was exported from Andhra Pradesh by a Non-Governmental Organisation, against a total production of about 4900 MT from that State. In general, though there is increasing demand for certified organic coffee in the global market, not all certified coffees command premiums, and it is the quality of coffee which is the main basis for the premiums commanded by the organic coffees. Thus, the demand for coffee grown in the tribal areas of Visakhapatnam is quality based, rather than it merely being an organic version.

(c) and (d) During the XI Plan period, it is proposed to expand coffee area by 16000 Ha (40000 Acres) in

Andhra Pradesh and 1100 Ha (2750 acres) in Orissa by providing financial support @Rs. 10000 per Ha. Similar support is also being provided for phasing out disease susceptible 'Cauvery' variety, for which a target of 5100'Ha (12750 acres) is fixed for the XI Plan period.

Support is also being extended for expanding coffee cultivation in the North Eastern States (Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura) by 850 Ha (2125 acres) by providing financial support @ Rs. 20,000/- per Ha and consolidation of 1000 Ha (2500 acre) by providing supports @ Rs. 15000 per Ha.

(e) With an objective to maximize export earnings by enhancing the market share of coffee produced in India, a number of activities have been envisaged for the XI Plan, for the coffee export community in the country, including the tribal coffee growers in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and North Eastern Region. Besides extending financial incentives to exporters to export value added coffees as Indian brands, the activities include participation in trade fairs, organising Buyer-Seller meets and visits of delegations, organising export awards, as well as taking up brand promotion activities in key overseas markets.

During the XI Plan, market support for coffee produced in the States, including in Andhra Pradesh (for which a sum of Rs. 75 lakhs has been earmarked during XI Plan period), is being provided. The Coffee Board of India is extending financial support towards operating cost in terms of procurement, transport, processing and warehousing of coffee.

Amendment in IPC

58. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has sent a proposal to amend certain sections of the Indian Penal Code (I.P.C.) regarding removal of the ceiling on the amount of fines under such sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to insert a new section 292 (A); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra has forwarded the Indian Penal Code (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 2008, which has been received in this Ministry on 8.2.2008, for obtaining the approval of the Government of India before its introduction in the State Legislature.

The State Government proposes to amend Section 279, 304A, 354 and 509 in order to enhance punishment provided in these sections; Section 441 to treat unauthorized occupation of Government premises as cognizable offence and sections 323, 336, 337, 338 and 491 to remove the ceiling amount of fine prescribed under these sections.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Government also propose to insert a new Section 292 A to provide for punishment for publishing or printing of indecent or scurrilous matter or matter intended for blackmail. The State Government was requested to provide clarifications on certain issues. Clarifications furnished by the State Government are under examination.

[Translation]

Industrial Corridor

59. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the concept and objectives of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor;

(b) the details of the action plan for the development

of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial corridors;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up more such industrial corridors in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :

(a) Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) is proposed to be developed on both sides along the alignment of 1483-km long Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) as a Model Industrial Corridor of international standards with emphasis on expanding the manufacturing and services base and develop DMIC as the 'Global Manufacturing and Trading Hub'. DMIC aims at creating strong economic base with globally competitive environment and state-of-the-art infrastructure to activate local commerce, enhance foreign investments and attain sustainable development. Its objectives as envisaged in the Concept Paper are doubling the employment potential, tripling the industrial output and quadrupling exports from the region in the first five years.

(b) Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMICDC), the implementing agency for the project, has appointed an International Consultant, M/s Scott Wilson, for preparing a Detailed Perspective Plan for the overall DMIC Region with pre-feasibility studies. Three International Consultants, M/s Halcrow, M/s Lea Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd. and M/s Jurong Consultants India Pvt. Ltd. have also been appointed for preparation of Development Plans for the identified Investment Regions in the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Haryana respectively. Once the Perspective Plan and Development Plans are ready, projects would be prepared and SPVs set up for implementation of the projects.

(c) and (d) Concept Paper for the Chennai-Bengalooru-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project has also been initiated and draft report submitted by the Consultant appointed by the Department.

[English]

National Resource Data Management System

60. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts covered in the Natural Resource Data Management System in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the time by which all the districts of the country are likely to be included in the said system?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) The list of the districts, State-wise, covered under Natural Resources Data Management System (NRDMS) is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) NRDMS Programme is being implemented on pilot basis to develop and demonstrate the methodologies for building natural resource databases on the concept of GIS at district level to support local level planning. The state of Karnataka has been covered in entirety by DST with the active support of the State Government. Government of West Bengal has upscaled the coverage from four districts set up initially under the collaborative support of DST and the State Government to the entire State. Upscaling of NRDMS and replication of the model from the pilot stage to cover all the districts in a State rest with the acceptability of the concept and methodologies by the concerned State Government. No time frame has as such been fixed for coverage of all the districts in NRDMS.

Statement

The following districts have been covered under NRDMS

I. Karnataka State

1. Bangalore Urban

2. Bangalore Rural
3. Belgaum
4. Bijapur
5. Dakshina Kannada
6. Dharwad
7. Gulbarga
8. Hassan
9. Kolar
10. Mysore
11. Shimoga
12. Raichur
13. Tumkur
14. Uttara Kannada
15. Bellary
16. Kodagu
17. Mandya
18. Bagalkot
19. Chamaranagar
20. Davanagere
21. Gadag
22. Haveri
23. Bidar
24. Koppal
25. Chikmagalur

26. Udipi
27. Chitradurga
28. Ramnagar
29. Chickballapur
- II. Tamil Nadu**
1. Puddukottoi
2. Vellore
3. Theni
4. Nagapatnam
5. Cuddalore
- III. Andhra Pradesh**
1. Kurnool
2. Mahaboob Nagar
3. Kadapha
4. Prakasham
5. Nellore
6. Visakhapatnam
- IV. Uttar Pradesh**
1. Lucknow
2. Allahabad
3. Varanasi
4. Sultanpur
5. Devaria
6. Gorakhpur
7. Pratapgarh
- V. Uttarakhand**
1. Pauri
2. Tehri
3. Almora
4. Bageswar
5. Champawat
6. Nainital
- VI. Haryana**
1. Gurgaon
2. Rohtak
3. Jind
4. Ambala
5. Yamuna Nagar
6. Panchkula
- VII. Rajasthan**
1. Chittorgarh
2. Dungarpur
3. Alwar
- VIII. Punjab**
1. Mansa
- IX. Orissa**
1. Koraput (undivided)
- X. West Bengal**
1. North 24 Paraganas
2. Burdwan

3. Jalpaiguri
4. South 24 Paraganas
5. Bankura
6. Coochbihar
7. Howrah
8. Purulia
9. Darjeeling
10. Nadia
11. Hooghly
12. Malda
13. Murshidabad
14. Purba Medinipur
15. Uttar Dinaipur
16. Paschim Medinipur
17. Dakshin Dinaipur
18. Birbhum

[Translation]

Custodial Crimes Against Children

61. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of custodial deaths and rape of children below 14 years of age including SC and ST children are on the rise;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases registered during each of the last three years and in the current year, State-wise, genderwise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government against the accused officials during the said period;

(d) whether the directions of the National Human Rights Commission and State Right Panels have been ignored by the State Governments regarding detention of minors; and

(e) if so, the details of steps being taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) As per information received from National Crime Records Bureau, the State/UT wise details of cases registered, policemen chargesheeted and policemen convicted under custodial deaths and rapes for the period 2005 to 2007 are given in statement-I and statement-II respectively. Information in this regard is not maintained gender-wise and for SCs/STs separately.

(d) and (e) Law and Order is a state subject. It is for State Government to take appropriate action in every crime. However, the report of the NHRC has been circulated to all State Governments and Union Territories for taking action on the recommendations made by NHRC in its Report. However, Ministry of Women and Child Development is considering a comprehensive legislation to cover the offences against children to check such incidents in future.

XI. Jammu and Kashmir

1. Jammu

XII. Bihar

1. Mungher

XIII. Nagaland

1. Kohima
2. Dimapur

XIV. Manipur

1. Imphal

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR), Policemen Chargesheeted (PCS) and Policemen Convicted (PCV)
under custodial death during 2005-2007*

Sl. No.	State	2005			2006			2007		
		CR	PCS	PCV	CR	PCS	PCV	CR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53	0	0	28	0	0	23	2	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	4	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	0	0	5	4	7	6	0
15.	Maharashtra	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19. Nagaland		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
20. Orissa		2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21. Punjab		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22. Rajasthan		1	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
23. Sikkim		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24. Tamil Nadu		3	0	0	6	0	0	2	0	0
25. Tripura		2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Uttar Pradesh		8	1	3	6	2	7	9	19	0
27. Uttarakhand		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. West Bengal		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State		81	4	3	50	7	11	56	34	0
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30. Chandigarh		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32. Daman and Diu		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Delhi UT		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35. Puducherry		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Total All India		81	4	3	50	7	11	57	35	0

Source: Crime in India

Note : Information on disposal by police and courts includes the information on pending cases from previous years also.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
14. Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18. Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19. Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21. Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22. Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23. Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24. Tamil Nadu	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25. Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27. Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State	7	3	0	3	3	0	3	0	2	3	0	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30. Chandigarh			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32. Daman and Diu			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Delhi UT			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34. Lakshadweep			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35. Puducherry			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total All India			7	3	0	3	3	0	2	3	0	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0

Source: Crime in India.

Note : Information on disposal by police and courts includes the information on pending cases from previous years also.

Cultural and Moral Policing

62. SHRI MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of vandalism and rampage are on the rise in the country in the name of cultural and moral policing in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the last one year, Statewise;

(c) the total number of accused persons arrested and the law under which action has been taken against the accused; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop such incidents effectively in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (d) Incidents of vandalism are reported from various parts of the country from time to time. As per the Constitution, Law and Order and "public Order" is a State subject, and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to take action such as registration / investigation of cases, arrest of accused persons etc., in case of occurrence of such incidents. Accordingly, the State-Wise date on such incidents is not Centrally maintained.

The Central Government, however, monitors law and order situation in the country on a regular basis, and in the process, maintains close contact with State Governments, besides sharing information with them. Whenever necessary, advisories are also sent to the State Governments. When necessary, the Central Government, on the request of the State Government(s) also provides assistance in the form of deployment of Central paramilitary forces to aid the States to effectively deal with any specific situation that may arise.

Exemption from NET

63. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for granting exemption from taking the National Eligibility Test (NET);

(b) whether the UGC has decided to grant exemption from NET to candidates who obtain their M.Phil degree by 30 June, 2009; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has issued a direction to the University Grants Commission under Section 20(1) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, to frame regulations, inter-alia, making the qualification of National Eligibility Test/State Level Eligibility Test (NET/SLET) compulsory for appointment of teachers at entry level in the universities and colleges, with relaxation only for those who acquire Ph.D. degree from a university complying with the UGC regulations regarding registration, course work and evaluation process.

[English]

Counter Terrorism Measures

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

(a) whether Government proposes to set up twenty anti-terror schools in the country in view of the recent terror attacks;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith locations where the said schools are likely to be set up;

(c) whether a concept paper on raising a "Special Forces Command" to tackle terrorism is pending with the Government;

(d) if so, the time by which action on the recommendations made in the said paper are likely to be cleared; 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) and (b) The Government has decided to set up 20 Counter-Insurgency and Anti-Terrorism Schools during the XIth Plan. It is proposed to locate 4 schools each in the states of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa with a view to providing training to the State police personnel to tackle the insurgency/naxal menace.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

**Assistance from World Bank under
TEQI Programme**

65. SHRI RAKESH SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned any financial assistance under Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) to improve the infrastructure and facility in the technical institutes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Government plans to utilise the said funds, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) This Ministry is implementing the Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India (TEQIP) as World Bank assisted project to improve the quality of technical education and enhance existing capacities of the

institutions to become dynamic, demand-driven, quality conscious, efficient and forward looking, responsive to rapid economic and technological developments occurring both at national and international levels. The project became effective in March, 2003 and will be closing on 31st March, 2009. It is being implemented as a centrally co-ordinated central and state sector project at a total cost of Rs. 13393 million, out of which 85% is reimbursable by the World Bank. The project covers 109 state institutions from the 13 States and 18 centrally funded institutions.

(c) The funds are being utilised for institutional development and system management capacity improvement for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of technical education management system in the States and institutions selected under the programme. The list of selected States and Centrally Funded Institutions (CFIs) including National Project Implementation Unit (NPIU) alongwith their allocation and its utilization as on 31st December, 2003 is enclosed as statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Allocation (Rs. in Million)	Utilisation (Rs. in Million)	Per- centage Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1452.834	1403.497	97
2.	Gujarat	503.703	495.733	98
3.	Haryana	326.860	314.022	96
4.	Himachal Pradesh	79.953	71.638	90
5.	Jharkhand	318.700	309.100	97
6.	Karnataka	1624.757	1557.038	96
7.	Kerala	529.765	519.589	98
8.	Madhya Pradesh	458.476	435.957	95

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Maharashtra	1625.594	1568.608	96
10.	Tamil Nadu	961.630	940.552	98
11.	Uttarakhand	349.951	332.312	95
12.	Uttar Pradesh	625.060	606.096	97
13.	West Bengal	1470.970	1408.970	96
Total (A)		10328.253	9963.112	96

CFIs

1.	MNNIT, Allahabad	170.000	169.843	100
2.	MANIT, Bhopal	201.200	201.200	100
3.	NIT, Calicut	211.606	209.189	99
4.	NIT, Durgapur	210.000	206.498	98
5.	NIT, Hamirpur	183.634	185.209	101
6.	MNIT, Jaipur	85.394	79.768	93
7.	DBRANIT, Jalandhar	102.700	102.823	100
8.	NIT, Jamshedpur	93.729	86.432	92
9.	NIT, Kurukshetra	187.513	175.296	93
10.	VNIT, Nagpur	200.000	199.738	100
11.	NIFFT, Ranchi	93.819	90.207	96
12.	NIT, Rourkela	152.796	152.700	100
13.	NIT, Silchar	126.780	129.625	102
14.	NIT, Srinagar	79.252	74.789	94
15.	SVNIT, Surat	229.300	229.124	100

1	2	3	4	5
16.	NIT, Surathkal	218.654	221.182	101
17.	NIT, Tiruchirapalli	200.000	200.000	100
18.	NIT, Warangal	194.100	193.204	100
Total (B)		2940.477	2906.828	99
NPIU (C)		125.000	39.443	32
Grand Total (A+B+C)		13393.730	12909.383	96

*[English]***Quality of Education in NIOS**

66. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the quality of education in the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has declined;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality in the NIOS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The enrolment at Secondary and Senior Secondary stages has increased from 2.91 lakhs in 2006-07 to 3.58 lakhs in 2008-09.

Some of the major initiatives taken by NIOS to improve the quality of education include setting up of round the clock learning support centre, periodic revision of instructional material in the light of the National Curriculum Framework, development of interactive multi-media programmes, and Examination reforms.

Impact of Economic Slowdown on Production

67. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the

Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to international economic, melt-down, several Indian industries have started decreasing their production;

(b) if so, the details of such industries and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has issued any instruction to these industries to reduce prices of their products instead of decreasing or stopping production;

(d) if so, the reaction of the industries thereto; and

(e) the details of measures taken by the Government so far to reduce production cost and 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) to (e) The international economic meltdown has affected some of the export oriented industries in India, such as textiles, handicraft, leather, and gems and jewellery. Slowdown in the demand and automobiles and its ancillaries, cement, steel, housing sector etc. has also been seen.

The Government closely interacts with the Industry and Trade Associations to address issues relating to industrial development, and monitors production and prices. The prices of industrial products and the level of production are determined primarily by the market forces.

A number of steps have been taken by the Government to stimulate demand in the economy with the objective to address the impact of global financial crisis. Government announced two packages in December, 2008 and January, 2009. Measures introduced in these two packages, *inter alia*, 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 and Medium Enterprise sector.
- Additional funds of Rs. 1100 crore to ensure full refund of 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 and 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 and 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) of support MSMEs.

— Enhancement of the loan limits 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.

• **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 Jawaharalal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for the purchase of buses for the urban transport system.

• **Other :** (a) Government departments are allowed to replace Government vehicles within

the allowed budget, in relaxation of extant economy instructions. (b) Elimination of Import Duty on Nephtha for use in the power sector. (c) Elimination of export duty on iron ore fines and reduction of duty to 5% for lumps.

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 through reduction in interest rates and across the board cut of 4% in CENVAT rate, have helped to bring down cost of stimulate demand.

Revision in FDI Regulations

68. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

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

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to revise FDI regulations to bring them at par with those of developed economies;

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

(c) whether Government is considering to restrict FDI in sensitive sectors like Defence, Aviation and Telecom in the wake of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to allow FDI in aviation including domestic airlines sector and print media upto 100 percent for Persons of Indian Origin; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :

(a) and (b) Government has put in place a liberal and investor-friendly policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under which FDI upto 100% is permitted on the automatic route in most sectors/activities the UNCTAD's

World Investment Reports for 2007 and 2008 have rated India as the second most attractive investment destination.

(c) to (f) The policy on FDI is reviewed on a continuing basis through inter-ministerial consultations. A statement giving the extant FDI policy on sensitive sectors viz., Defence, Aviation, Print Media and Telecom is enclosed.

Statement

1. Defence Production:

FDI upto 26%, under the FIPB route, is allowed for Defence Production subject to licensing under Industries (Department and Regulation) Act, 1951 and guidelines on FDI in production of arms and ammunition.

2. FDI Policy for Air Transport Services Sector:

Government has allowed the following:

- (a) No foreign airlines would be allowed to participate directly or indirectly in the equity of an Air Service Undertaking;
- (b) FDI upto 49% and investment by Non-resident Indians (NRI) upto 100% will be allowed on the automatic route in Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airline Sector;
- (c) FDI up to 74% and investment by Non-resident Indians (NRI) up to 100% will be allowed on the automatic route in Non Scheduled airlines, Chartered airlines, and Cargo airlines;
- (d) FDI upto 74% and investment by NRI upto 100% will be allowed on the automatic route in Ground Handling Services; and
- (e) FDI upto 100% will be allowed on the automatic route in Maintenance and Repair organizations; flying institutes; technical training institutions; and helicopter services/seaplane services.

3. Telecommunications

Sector	Equity Cap	Entry route	Other Conditions
1	2	3	4
(a) Basic and cellular, Unified Access Services, National/International Long Distance, V-Sat, Public Mobile Radio Trunked Services (PMRTS), Global Mobile Personal Communications Services (GMPCS) and other value added telecom services	74% (Including FDI, FII, NRI, FCCBs, ADRs, GDRs, convertible Preference shares, and proportionate foreign equity in Indian promoters/Investing Company)	Automatic upto 49% FIPB beyond 49%.	Subject to guidelines notified in the PN 3 (2007)

1	2	3	4
(b) ISP with gateways, radio-paging, end-to-end bandwidth.	74%	Automatic upto 49% FIPB beyond 49%.	Subject to licensing and security requirements notified by the Department of Telecommunications.
(c) (a) ISP without gateway; (b) infrastructure provider providing dark fibre, right of way, duct space, tower (Category I); (c) electronic mail and voice mail.	100%	Automatic upto 49% FIPB beyond 49%.	Subject to the condition that such companies shall divest 26% of their equity in favour of Indian public in 5 years, if these companies are listed in other parts of the world. Also subject to licensing and security requirements, where required.
(d) Manufacture of telecom equipments	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral requirements.
4. Print Media			
(a) Publishing of newspaper and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs	26%	FIPB	Subject to Guidelines notified by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. www.mib.nic.in
(b) Publishing of scientific magazines/specialty journals/periodicals	100%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. www.mib.nic.in
(c) Publishing of facsimile edition of foreign newspapers.	100%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Press Note 1 of 2009.
(d) Publication of Indian editions of foreign magazines dealing with news and current affairs	26% (FDI and Investment by NRIs/PIOs/FII)	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Press Note 1 of 2009.

Minority Status to Educational Institutions

69. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of educational institutions granted minority status during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications pending in this regard, State-wise; and

(c) the details of financial allocation made for such institution during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) has issued 1666 Minority Status Certificates and 910 applications are pending before the Commission, details of which are given in Statement-I and II. The NCMEI does not sanction any financial assistance to the Minority Educational Institutions.

Statement-I

State-wise minority states certificates issued for the Year 2006, 2007 and 2008

Sl. No.	State	2006	2007	2008	Table No. of MSC pending
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	2		5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9	24	6	39
3.	Arunachal Pradesh		2		2

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Assam	2		17	19
5.	Bihar	2	20	17	39
6.	Chandigarh	2	3	1	6
7.	Chhattisgarh	1	4	5	10
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	2		4
9.	Daman	1			1
10.	Delhi	36	8	15	59
11.	Goa	9	31	28	68
12.	Gujarat	3	43	5	11
13.	Haryana	20	112	3	35
14.	Himachal Pradesh	9	3	4	16
15.	Jharkhand	2	15	15	32
16.	Karnataka	4	26	15	45
17.	Kerala	9	78	97	184
18.	Madhya Pradesh	15	19	12	46
19.	Maharashtra	22	28	21	71
20.	Manipur	1		1	2
21.	Meghalaya	1	4		5
22.	Orissa	14	16	23	53
23.	Pondicherry	2	13		15
24.	Punjab	11	39	4	54
25.	Rajasthan	2	22	37	61

1	2	3	4	5	6
26. Sikkim		3	13		16
27. Tamil Nadu		9	19	13	41
28. Tripura				1	1
29. Uttar Pradesh		107	99	48	254
30. Uttarakhand		36	17	6	59
31. West Bengal		85	215	113	1413
Total		422	737	507	1666

Statement-II

State-wise Pending cases for MSC pertaining to the Year 2006, 2007 and 2008

Sl. No.	State	2006	2007	2008	Table No. of MSC pending
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands				0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2		9	11
3.	Arunachal Pradesh				0
4.	Assam			62	62
5.	Bihar		2	3	5
6.	Chandigarh			1	1
7.	Chhattisgarh			22	22
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli				0

1	2	3	4	5	6
9. Daman					0
10. Delhi		2		39	41
11. Goa				78	78
12. Gujarat			4	7	11
13. Haryana			1	1	2
14. Himachal Pradesh					0
15. Jharkhand				1	1
16. Karnataka		3		6	9
17. Kerala		23	23	502	548
18. Madhya Pradesh				5	5
19. Maharashtra		1	1	12	14
20. Manipur			1		1
21. Meghalaya					0
22. Orissa				27	27
23. Pondicherry					0
24. Punjab					0
25. Rajasthan				17	17
26. Sikkim					0
27. Tamil Nadu		1	1	5	7
28. Tripura					0
29. Uttar Pradesh		4		28	31
30. Uttarakhand				2	2
31. West Bengal			8	6	14
Total		36	41	833	910

[Translation]

National Eligibility Test

70. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make passing of National Eligibility Test (NET) mandatory for appointment of lecturers in Universities and Colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) Quality in National Eligibility Test/State Level Eligibility Test (NET/SLET) is one of the essential qualifications for appointment of teachers at entry level in universities and colleges since 1991, with provision for relaxation in certain cases. The Central Government has issued a direction to the University Grants Commission under Section 20(1) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, to frame regulations, inter-alia, making the qualification of NET/SLET compulsory for appointment of teachers at entry level in the universities and colleges, with relaxation only for those who acquire Ph.D degree from a University complying with the UGC regulations regarding registration, course work and evaluation process.

Low Exports by SEZs

71. SHRI SURAJ SINGH :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

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

(a) whether the exports by units in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are not upto the expectations;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reaction of the Government thereto indicating the quantity and value

of imports and exports by different SEZs during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the quantum of financial relief in terms of tax rebate provided to these units during the said period, State-wise?

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) Exports from Special Economic Zones.

(Rs. In crores)

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto September 2008)
34614.56	66637.6821	48838.2

(c) In terms of SEZ Act and Rules, the following tax concessions are allowed to the SEZ Units:-

- Duty free import/domestic procurement of goods for development, operation and maintenance of SEZ units.
- 100% Income Tax exemption on export income for SEZ units under Section 10AA of the Income Tax Act for first 5 years, 50% for next 5 years thereafter and 50% of the ploughed back export profit for next 5 years.
- Exemption from minimum alternate tax under Section 115JB of the Income Tax Act.
- External commercial borrowing by SEZ units upto US\$500 million in a year without any maturity restriction through recognized banking channels.
- Exemption from Central Sales Tax.
- Exemption from Service Tax.

*[English]***Complaints against AICTE**

72. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received complaints against the All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for irregular approvals granted to educational institutions in the country;

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

(c) whether any inquiry has been instituted by the Government to probe such irregularities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any report has been received by the Government in this regard;

(f) if so, the details of the findings; and

(g) if not, the time by which the inquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) The Government has been receiving complaints against the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for irregular approval granted to educational institutions in the country. These relate mainly to delay in grant of approval, lack of uniformity in applying norms and standards in grant of approval, approval without meeting minimum norms and standards. Representations of the above kind are sent to AICTE for appropriate action.

(c) to (g) This Ministry has recently conducted an inquiry on a complaint made by the Chairman of the Echelon Educational and Welfare Society, Faridabad. Based on the outcome of the investigation, the case has

been referred to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on 10.2.2009 for seeking their first stage advice against two senior officials of AICTE. A direct inquiry is presently underway in CVC in three other cases. In yet another complaint, CVC has ordered a CBI investigation. The investigations are in the preliminary stages and as such time limit cannot be specified.

Allocation of Funds for Teacher Training Institutes

73. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO :
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :
SHRI HITEN BARMAN :

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

(a) whether the Planning Commission has asked the NCERT to carry out an evaluation with regard to allocation of funds for strengthening of teacher training institutes in the country;

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

(c) whether the Plan Panel and earlier also requested the Government for conducting assessment of teachers training institutes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) This Department's proposal for continuation/revision of the centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Teacher Education for the 11th plan was considered by Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) on 13th November, 2007. EFC recommended comprehensive evaluation of the Scheme. Accordingly, National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been assigned the evaluation of the Scheme. Evaluation is underway.

(c) and (d) National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) (now NUEPA) had conducted evaluation of DIETs in November, 1997. Based on its observations, suitable modifications were made in the guidelines of the Scheme in January, 2004.

Inter-State Border Disputes

74. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several States in the country are embroiled in Inter-State border disputes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the names of such States;

(c) the number of demonstrations and agitations held in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(d) the role of the Union Government in resolving the Inter-State border disputes in the country;

(e) whether the Government has constituted any Committee to resolve such Inter-State border disputes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) Maharashtra - Karnataka - Kerala:

The boundary dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra relates to the claim of Karnataka for the transfer of contiguous Kannada-speaking areas in Maharashtra to Karnataka and the claim of Maharashtra for transfer of Marathi-speaking areas in Karnataka to Maharashtra. Karnataka has also claimed the Taluka

of Kasargod in Kerala. The dispute is persisting from 1956. Kerala had not accepted the claim of Karnataka. The Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka have taken opposite stands on the recommendations of the Mahajan Commission, which has been constituted by the Union Government with a view to settle the boundary dispute.

Punjab - Haryana

The dispute between Punjab and Haryana from 1966 pertains to the transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and part of Fazilka Tehsil of Punjab to Haryana.

Assam - Nagaland

The Government of Assam has filed an Original Suit in the Supreme Court of India under Article 131 of the Constitution for demarcation of its boundaries on the ground. The Supreme Court in its Judgment dated 25.9.2006 has appointed Local Commission for identification of the boundaries of Assam-Nagaland. The Local Commission is continuing with its hearings.

Assam - Arunachal Pradesh

The Government of Assam has filed an Original Suit in the Supreme Court of India under Article 131 of the Constitution for demarcation of its boundaries on the ground. The Supreme Court in its Judgment dated 25.9.2006 has appointed Local Commission for identification of the boundaries of Assam - Arunachal Pradesh. The Local Commission is continuing with its hearings.

Assam - Meghalaya

There is some boundary dispute between Assam and Meghalaya. The Central Government has advised both State Governments from time to time to resolve the matter through mutual understanding.

Assam – Mizoram

The Government of Mizoram has requested the Central Government to constitute a separate boundary Commission to resolve the Assam-Mizoram boundary dispute. The Central Government has sought comments of State Government of Assam in this regard.

Andhra Pradesh – Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry

As per available information, the State of Andhra Pradesh has boundary disputes with Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. None of these State Governments have approached the Central Government to resolve their boundary disputes.

Orissa – Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal

The State of Orissa, as per available information, has boundary disputes with Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal. None of these State of Governments have approached the Central Government to resolve their boundary disputes.

Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh

As per available information, there are boundary disputes between Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. However neither of the State Governments has approached the Central Government to resolve their boundary disputes.

(c) Data of this nature is not maintained Centrally.

(d) to (f) The approach of the Central Government has consistently been that Inter State boundary disputes can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned and that the Central Government works only as a facilitator for amicable settlement of the dispute in a spirit of mutual accommodation and understanding. The Central Government had

constituted the Mahajan Commission in October, 1966 to resolve the Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala boundary dispute. Three Commissions have so far been appointed to determine the areas of Punjab that should go to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh. Government of India has made efforts in the past to resolve the boundary dispute between Assam and Nagaland, but these efforts were in vain.

Quality of Primary Education in Rural Areas

75. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ever widening socio-economic inequalities are adversely affecting the infrastructure and quality of primary education in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement the principle of equity in primary education in rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Ministry proposes to prepare an action plan to strengthen the infrastructure and quality of primary education in rural areas;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (g) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Programme is a time bound programme for universalization of elementary education for all children in the 6-14 years age group. Under SSA, 1,72,531 schools have been constructed, 9,68,237 teachers appointed, 2,31,577 toilets and 1,73,622 drinking water facilities set up, especially in rural areas, in order to promote equitable elementary education in the country.

Ph.D's in Computer Science

76. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to collaborate with Microsoft to encourage Ph.D. in computer science;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI C. PURANDESWARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Recruitment of Police Personnel

77. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY :
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL :
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the role of the basic police units in various States;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the number of police stations in various States including Delhi and equip them to deal with terrorist attacks more effectively;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether a large number of posts of police personnel in different States are lying vacant;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including NCT of Delhi;

(f) whether the Government has given any instructions to the State Governments to make recruitment of police personnel to fill up the vacant posts;

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

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) The role of basic police units in various States is regulated by Police Act 1861 and State specific regulations. Some States have enacted new Police Act to cover this subject.

(b) and (c) The issue of creation of new police stations, relocating and merging of police stations, jurisdictions etc. by State/UT Governments is a continuous process depending upon operational and other considerations. As the 'Police' and 'law and order' are State subjects as per the VII Schedule to the Constitution of India, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to adequately equip its police forces in terms of manpower and support infrastructure. However, under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) and under a separate scheme for UTs, the State/UT Governments are being provided funds by this Ministry to build police infrastructure, including police station buildings and equipment to augment the capacity of state police forces to deal with terrorist and other threats. Specific information relating to Delhi is being collected.

(d) and (e) BPR&D has compiled information on the sanctioned and actual strength of the State Police Forces, as on 1.1.2007. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(f) to (h) While 'Police' and 'law and order' are state subjects as per VII Schedule to the Constitution of India, the Central Government has been regularly urging the State Governments to augment the strength of their police forces.

Statement				
Sanctioned and Actual Strength and % of Vacancy in Police Force as on 1.1.2007				
Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Strength of State Police (Civil and Armed)		
		Sanctioned	Actual	% of Vacancy
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	92,106	NR	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6,018	5,239	12.94
3.	Assam	55,954	46,541	16.82
4.	Bihar	74,188	52,075	29.81
5.	Chhattisgarh	36,987	25,412	31.29
6.	Goa	4,540	4,178	7.97
7.	Gujarat	72,723	53,451	26.50
8.	Haryana	52,109	50,524	3.04
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14,722	12,033	18.27
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	68,125	NR	NR
11.	Jharkhand	51,081	40,663	20.40
12.	Karnataka	76,997	57,509	25.31
13.	Kerala	43,111	39,022	9.48
14.	Madhya Pradesh	76,365	NR	NR
15.	Maharashtra	182,195	NR	NR
16.	Manipur	16,771	13,339	20.46
17.	Meghalaya	9,347	8,550	8.53

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Mizoram	7,874	7,233	8.14
19.	Nagaland	31,407	31,305	0.32
20.	Orissa	45,158	38,752	14.18
21.	Punjab	71,859	63,641	11.44
22.	Rajasthan	71,664	51,051	28.76
23.	Sikkim	3,552	2,854	19.85
24.	Tamil Nadu*	98,683	NR	NR
25.	Tripura	25,504	19,367	24.06
26.	Uttar Pradesh	166,126	150,134	9.63
27.	Uttarakhand	20,896	14,591	30.17
28.	West Bengal	82,593	65,944	20.16
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2,901	2,750	5.21
30.	Chandigarh	4,628	4,395	5.03
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	208	185	11.06
32.	Daman and Diu	246	226	8.13
33.	Delhi	62,420	66,275	-6.18
34.	Lakshadweep	349	302	13.47
35.	Pondicherry*	3,246	NR	NR
All India**		1,632,651	927,541	

*As on 1.1.2006.

NR : Data Not Received.

**All India total of Actual excludes the States of Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry.

Model Schools

78. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :
SHRI HITEN BARMAN :
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

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

(a) whether the modalities for participation of State Government and other agencies in setting up of Model Schools has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in finalizing the said modalities; and

(d) the time by which the scheme to set up 6000 model schools at block levels is likely to be finalized by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) The first phase of a new centrally sponsored scheme to establish 2500 high quality model schools under State Government in educationally backward blocks has been launched in 2008-09. Land for these schools will be identified and provided by the State Government. The schools will have classes from VI to XII, or IX to XII. The medium of instruction and affiliating board will be decided by the State Governments. The Central Government will share 75% of the recurring/non-recurring expenditure during the 11th Plan except for special category States, for which the Central share would be 90%. The modalities for the remaining 3500 schools are yet to be finalised as the Ministry is in the process of consultation with Planning Commission.

Spending on Research and Development

79. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's spending on Research and Development (R&D) is less as compared to other developing countries;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the reasons for less investment in R&D in the country;

(c) whether there is a demand from many quarters to increase the percentage of GDP spending on R&D;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the number of scientists per million people in India is far below the other Asian countries;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith steps being taken to encourage scientific activities in the country; and

(g) the number of patent for new innovations granted to Indian scientists during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (d) According to the available official statistics, the expenditure on Research and Development (R&D) as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India is 0.88%, which is higher as compared to most of the developing countries excepting China where it is 1.42%. The low investment in R&D in India as compared to China is mainly due to the lower contribution in R&D by the Industry.

To meet the demand for enhanced R&D in the country, the Government have taken several measures from time to time. These include formulation of S&T policies, setting up of autonomous research organisations and facilities in emerging and frontline areas, fiscal incentives and support

measures to encourage investment on R&D in industry, national awards for outstanding R&D and encouraging public-private R&D partnerships. In addition, the Government have enhanced XI plan allocation for Scientific Departments to Rs. 75,304.00 crores from 25,301.35 crores during X Plan.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The details of the number of scientists per million population as per the available official statistics for the select Asian countries is given below:—

Name of the Country	Scientist per Million Population
Singapore	5713
Japan	5546
Korea	4162
China	926
Sri Lanka	141
India	140
Pakistan	80

The Government from time to time have initiated various schemes to attract and retain talent for enhancing scientific activities in the country. These include (i) Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) (ii) BOYSCAST fellowship (iii) The Ramanujan Fellowship and (iv) Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Higher Educational Institutions (FIST).

(g) According to the available statistics, the number of patents for new inventions granted by Indian Patent Office to Indians during the last three years is 1907 in 2006-07, 1396 in 2005-06 and 764 in 2004-05.

Dropout Rate

80. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY : Will the Minister of

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the highest dropout rate of children is between class V and class VII;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to retain these children in schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) Details of the dropout rates in primary (class-I-V), elementary (classes I-VIII) and secondary (classes I-X) stages, which have decreased during 2003-04 to 2005-06, are given below:—

Year	Dropout rates in		
	Primary (I-V)	Elementary (I-VIII)	Secondary (I-X)
2003-04	31.5	52.3	62.7
2004-05	29.0	50.8	61.9
2005-06	25.7	48.8	61.6

(c) A multi-pronged approach has been adopted under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for reducing dropout rates. These include, inter alia, strengthening of schools and improving the quality of education through improvement in school infrastructure, recruitments of additional teachers, provision of annual school grants, regular training of teachers, regular academic support to teachers etc. In addition, interventions under SSA also aim at building community support, flexible schooling for the hardest to reach children, special provision to promote education of girls, as well as children with special need. The Mid-day Meal Programme

also compliments the strategy to reduce dropout rates.

[Translation]

Relief for Victims of Bomb Blasts

81. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the victims of Jaipur blasts have not received the financial assistance granted under the relief package for the said victims;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which the assistance is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) The District collector, Jaipur has informed about the victims/injured persons and the compensation paid as under:

No. of dead persons	: 69
No. of dead persons identified (Rs. 5 lacs each to the family members of the victim)	: 63
No. of seriously injured persons	: 77 (Rs. 1 lac each)
No. of persons with minor injuries	: 106 (Rs. 25,000/- each)
No. of persons permanently incapacitated	: 2 (Rs. 2 lac each)

Twenty-two families have been identified for rehabilitation package which includes sustenance allowance, assistance for school/college education. Job has also been

provided to the family member of 10 victims and in other cases the matter is being investigated.

However, under the 'Central Scheme for Assistance to the Victims of Terrorist and Communal Violence', a sum of Rs. 3 lac is provided to the Next of kin of the innocent persons who have died or have become permanently incapacitated due to terrorist violence This Ministry has not received so far any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan in this regard.

[English]

Legal Assistance to Students

82. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Universities are mandated to incur cost related to providing legal assistance to students accused by the State for crimes under the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Penal Code;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the authorities at University/Government levels, competent to grant approval for expenses involved on such litigation; and

(c) the details of such expenses incurred by Central Universities in each of the last three years and the current year, University-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWAR) : (a) to (c) Central Universities are empowered under their respective Acts/Statutes/Ordinances to incur expenditure on all budgeted activities including on Student's Welfare as approved by their competent statutory bodies. According to the information furnished by Central Universities, no expenditure has been incurred by them to provide legal assistance to students

accused by the State for crimes under the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Penal Code, during the last three years and the current year.

Grants to Private Colleges

83. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government and private colleges in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of private colleges getting grant from the University Grants Commission (UGC);

(c) the criterion for disbursement of grants to private colleges; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for promoting quality education in private and Government colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) As per information gathered from the University Grants Commission (UGC), on 31.01.2009, there are 5068 Private Colleges and 2047 Government owned Colleges recognized by the Commission. A State-wise List of colleges is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) As on 31.01.2009, 3931 private colleges were eligible to receive grants from the UGC.

(c) Private Colleges that are permanently affiliated to State Universities and which get maintenance grants (under Salary head) from the State Government concerned are eligible for grants from the UGC.

(d) Eligible colleges are provided development grants and also grants for improvement of quality of education under the UGC's scheme of 'Colleges with Potential for Excellence'.

Statement

No. of colleges, Government/Non-Government, State-wise under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956 as on 31.1.2009

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Colleges		Total	
		Govt.	Non-Government	Aided	Unaided
		3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	189	226	39	454
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	06	-	02	08
3.	Assam	27	166	34	227
4.	Bihar	205	91	42	338
5.	Chhattisgarh	114	29	02	145
6.	Goa	08	15	03	26
7.	Gujarat	40	327	17	384
8.	Haryana	49	98	03	150
9.	Himachal Pradesh	39	10	-	49
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	43	08	57	108
11.	Jharkhand	61	25	15	101
12.	Karnataka	155	384	57	596
13.	Kerala	54	164	09	227
14.	Madhya Pradesh	297	124	23	444
15.	Maharashtra	75	723	139	937
16.	Manipur	36	12	06	54
17.	Meghalaya	3	22	08	33
18.	Mizoram	10	10	01	21

1	2	3	4	5	6
19. Nagaland		04	07	03	14
20. Orissa		119	207	51	377
21. Punjab		48	163	07	218
22. Rajasthan		135	92	24	251
23. Sikkim		03	—	01	04
24. Tamil Nadu		80	203	68	351
25. Tripura		13	03	—	16
26. Uttar Pradesh		98	420	511	1029
27. Uttaranchal		31	12	03	46
28. West Bengal		45	342	06	393
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		02	—	—	02
30. Chandigarh		11	07	—	18
31. Dadra and Nagar Islands		—	—	—	—
32. Daman and Diu		01	—	—	01
33. Delhi		36	40	05	81
34. Lakshadweep		—	—	—	—
35. Pondicherry		10	01	01	12
Total		2047	3931	1137	7115

Cases of Lightning Raids at Borders

84. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of incidents of 'Lightning raids' from across the line of control by small

groups of exsoldiers and terrorists who attack ammunition depots and fuel dumps and retreat;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during 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) As informed by Ministry of Defence there have been no instances of raids from across the line of control by ex-soldiers or terrorists against ammunition depots and fuel dumps in the last three years.

[Translation]

Pending Proposals for Affiliation with UGC

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

(a) the names of the universities and colleges in Rajasthan whose proposals for affiliation and financial assistance are pending with the University Grants Commission (UGC);

(b) the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) does not affiliate any university or college. However, the Commission provides financial assistance to such institutions that are included under Section 2(f) and declared eligible as per the provisions of Section 12 B of the UGC Act 1956. As per information obtained from the UGC, while there is no proposal for inclusion under Section 2(f) and 12B of the UGC Act, 1956, from any college in Rajasthan, a proposal received from

the Rajasthan Ayurved University, Jodhpur for inclusion under Section 12B of the Act, has been found to be deficient with regard to the faculty position vis-a-vis that as per the UGC norms.

[English]

Agri-Export Zones

86. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken up development of Agri-Export Zones (AEZs) on a priority basis;

(b) if so, the details of the location where AEZs are functioning alongwith their activities, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has undertaken any study on the performance of such AEZs and to assess their utility;

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

(e) whether the AEZs provide opportunities for under represented States which have potential for growth; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUS-

TRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. So far, the Government of India has sanctioned 60 Agri-Export Zones in 20 states of the country. The list of 60 AEZs is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) A peer evaluation of the existing AEZs was carried out with a view to ascertain the reasons for shortfall in their performance and to suggest a remedial action plan. The review revealed that the AEZ were not able to make headway, mainly, owing to lack of:—

- (i) Project orientation in their conceptual design;
- (ii) Awareness amongst the field functionaries about the concept of AEZs;
- (iii) Effective agency to coordinate with other implementing agencies and monitor the performance of the AEZs; and
- (iv) Effective public participation.

The main elements of the remedial action plan are setting up of institutional administrative mechanism for coordinating and monitoring the progress of implementation of AEZs and short listing of a few AEZs for special focus for their revival as well as to make them model AEZs.

(e) and (f) State-wise details of AEZs, products covered by them, investment and exports from these AEZs is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

(Rupees in crore)

Sl. No.	State	AEZ Project	State and Districts	Actual Exports	Actual Investments
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	West Bengal	Pineapple	Darjeeling, Uttar Dinajpur, Cooch Bihar and Jalpaiguri	0.20	78.69

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Lychee	(Districts of Murshidabad Malda, 24 Pargana (N) and 24 Pargana(s))	3.30	0.93
		Potatoes	Hoogly, Burdwan, Midnapore (W) Uday Narayanpur and Howrah	3.72	0.15 ²
		Mango	Malda and Murshidabad	74.00	3.58
		Vegetables	Nadia, Murshidabad and North 24 Parganas	4.43	0.12
		Darjeeling Tea	Darjeeling	0.00	0.00
			Sub total	85.65	83.47
2.	Karnataka	Gherkins	Tumkur, Bangalore Urban Bangalore, Rural, Hassan, Kolar, Chitradurga, Dharwad and Bagalkot	1237.05	87.34
		Rose Onion	Bangalore Urban Bangalore (Rural), Kolar	276.00	0.13
		Flowers	Bangalore (Urban) Bangalore (Rural), Kolar, Tumkur, Kodagu and Belgaum	31.74	3.57
		Vanilla	Dakshin Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Shimoga, Kodagu, Chickamagalur)	0.00	0.00
			Sub total	1544.79	91.04
3.	Uttaranchal	Lychee	Udhamsingh Nagar, Nainital and Dehradun	2.45	3.72
		Flowers	Dehradun, Pantnagar	0.04	10.19
		Basmati rice	Udham Singh Nagar, Nainital, Dehradun and Haridwar	0.00	0.39
		Medicine and Aromatic Plants	Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Dehradun and Nainital	1.00	0.00
			Sub total	3.49	14.30
4.	Punjab	Vegetables	Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Sangrur, Fopar and Ludhiana	0.03	35.75

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Potatoes	Singhpura Zirakpur (Patiala) Rampura Phul, Muksar, Ludhiana, Jullunder		2.80	8.46
	Basmati Rice	Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur and Nawanshahar		1521.00	5.27
		Sub total		1523.83	49.48
5. Uttar Pradesh	Potatoes	Agra, Hathras, Farrukhabad, Kannoji, Meerut, Aligarh and Bagpat		7.00	0.97
	Mangoes and Vegetables	Lucknow, Unnao, Hardoi, sitapur and Barabanki		0.47	20.89
	Mangoes	Saharanpur, Muzzfarnagar, Bijnaur, Meerut, Bhagpat and Bulandshahar		12.49	16.99
	Basmati Rice	Bareilly, Shahajahanpur, Pilibhit, Rampur, Badaun, Bijnor, Moradabad, J B Phulenagar, Saharanpur, Mujafarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahar, Ghaziabad		0.00	0.47
		Sub total		19.96	39.32
6. Maharashtra	Grape and grapewine	Nasik, Sangli, Pune, Satara, Ahmednagar and Sholapur		384.67	110.17
	Mango (Alphonso)	Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Raigarh and Thane		123.00	36.86
	Kesar Mango	Aurangabad, Beed, Jalna, Ahmednagar and Latur		12.17	3.43
	Flowers	Pune, Nasik, Kolhapur and Sangli		35.50	168.00
	Onions	Nasik, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Jalgaon and Solapur		588.00	38.33
	Pomegranate	Solapur, Sangli, Ahmednagar, Pune, Nasik, Osmanabad and Latur		20.24	1.53
	Banana	Jalgaon, Dhule, Nandurbar, Buldhana, Parbhani, Hindoli, Nanded and Wardha		0.04	6.99

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Oranges	Nagpur and Amraoti		2.72	0.01
		Sub total		1166.34	355.32
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Mango Pulp and Fresh Vegetable	Chittoor	2736.03	91.40
		Mango and Grapes	Ranga Reddy, Madak and Parts of Mahaboobnagar Districts	18.29	57.21
		Mango	Krishna District	2.75	17.90
		Gherkins	Mahboobnagar, Rangareddy, Medak, Karimnagar, Warangal, Ananthapur and Nalgonda	44.52	20.05
		Chilli	Guntur	51.00	20.32
		Sub total		2852.59	206.88
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	Apple	Srinagar, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara, Badgaum, Pulwama	124.72	6.71
		Walnuts	Baramulla, Anantnag, Pulwama, Budgam, Kupwara Srinagar, Doda, Poonch, Udampur, Rajouri, Kathua	552.21	14.14
		Sub total		676.93	20.85
9.	Tripura	Organic pineapple	Kumarghat, Manu, Melaghar, Matabari and Kakraban	0.00	7.62
		Sub total		0.00	7.62
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Potatoes Onion Garlic	Malwa, Ujjain, Indore, Dewas, Dhar, Shajapur, Ratlam, Neemuch, Mandasaur	15.99	42.64
		Seed Spices	Guna, Mandasaur, Ujjain, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Shajapur and Neemuch	38.43	4.55

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Wheat (Duram)	Neemach, Ratlam, Mandasaur Ujjain, Indore, Dhar, Harda, Shajapur, Dewas, Sehore, Vidisha, Raisen, Hoshangabad, Narsinghpur and Bhopal	21.00	4.71
		Lentil and Grams	Shivpuri, Guna, Vidisha, Raisen, Narsinghpura, Chhindwara	0.00	0.00
		Oranges	Chhindwara, Hoshangabad, Betul	0.00	8.90
			Sub total	75.42	60.80
11. Tamil Nadu	Flower	Dharmapuri		39.40	22.47
	Flowers	Nilgiri District		44.56	5.50
	Mangoes	Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli		0.00	0.81
	Cashewnut	Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Sivaganga		18.33	0.00
			Sub total	102.29	28.78
12. Bihar	Lychee, Vegetables and Honey	Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Hajipur, Vaishali, East and West Champaran, Bhagalpur, Beghlsarai, Khagaria, Sitamarhi, Saran, Gopalganj		5.87	20.10
			Sub total	5.87	20.10
13. Gujarat	Mango and Vegetables	Ahmedabad, Khadia, Anand, Vadodra, Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Bharuch, Narmada		1.65	16.66
	Value Added Onion	Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Amreli, Rajkot, Junagadh and Jamnagar		300.49	13.67
	Sesame Seeds	Amerali, Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Jamnagar		0.00	0.00
			Sub total	302.14	30.31

1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Sikkim	Flowers (Orchids) and Cherry Pepper	Sikkim (East Sikkim)		0.00	0.15
	Ginger	Sikkim (North, East, South and West Sikkim)		0.00	0.00
		Sub total		0.00	0.15
15. Himachal Pradesh	Apples	Shimla, Sirmour, Kullu, Mandi, Chamba and Kinnaur		0.00	0.00
		Sub total		0.00	0.00
16. Orissa	Ginger and Turmeric	Kandhamal		1.76	0.00
		Sub total		0.00	0.00
17. Jharkhand	Vegetables	Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga		0.00	0.00
		Sub total		0.00	0.00
18. Kerala	Horticulture Products	Thrissur, Idukki, Emakulam, Kottayaam, Alappuzha, Pathanumthitta, Kollam, Thiruvanthapuram, Palakkod		2277.79	3.10
	Medicinal Plant	Wayanad Palakkad, Idukki, Mallapuram, Thrissur, Kollam Emakulam, Pathanamittha, Thiruvananthapuram		0.00	0.00
		Sub total		2277.79	3.10
19. Assam	Fresh and Processed Ginger	Kamrup, Nalbari, Barpeta, Darrang, Nagaon, Morigaon, Karbi Anglong, North Cachar		2.17	3.15
		Sub total		2.17	3.15
20. Rajasthan	Coriander	Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar and Chittoor		41.49	89.67
	Cumin	Nagaur, Barmer, Jalore, Pali and Jodhpur		39.27	47.03
		Sub total		80.76	136.70
	Total			10721.78	1162.37

Police Public Ratio

87. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the present police-public ratio in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the said ratio is as per the recommendations of the UN;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if no, the reasons therefor alongwith the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) As per information received from Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), a Statement indicating state-wise Police-Population ratio, as on 1.1.2007, is enclosed.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per VII Scheduled to the Constitution of India. Therefore, the States are competent to raise police force in strength commensurate with the state-specific requirements of Law and Order, Crime Control, Traffic Management, Internal security and allied requirements.

Statement**Police - Population Ratio as on 1.1.2007**

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	Total Police per lakh of Population	
		Sanctioned	Actual
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.79	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	510.43	444.36
3.	Assam	191.12	158.97

	1	2	3	4
4. Bihar			80.90	56.78
5. Chhattisgarh			160.19	110.06
6. Goa			290.65	267.48
7. Gujarat			131.55	96.69
8. Haryana			224.07	217.25
9. Himachal Pradesh			227.82	186.21
10. Jammu and Kashmir			576.45	NR
11. Jharkhand			173.63	138.22
12. Karnataka			136.26	101.77
13. Kerala			127.69	115.58
14. Madhya Pradesh			113.09	NR
15. Maharashtra			173.65	NR
16. Manipur			650.04	517.02
17. Meghalaya			375.23	343.24
18. Mizoram			818.50	751.87
19. Nagaland			1461.47	1456.72
20. Orissa			114.89	98.60
21. Punjab			274.72	243.30
22. Rajasthan			113.61	80.93
23. Sikkim			609.26	489.54
24. Tamil Nadu*			150.44	NR
25. Tripura			739.89	561.85
26. Uttar Pradesh			89.36	80.76

1	2	3	4
27.	Uttarakhand	224.74	156.93
28.	West Bengal	95.60	76.33
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	727.07	689.25
30.	Chandigarh	450.63	427.95
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	82.54	73.41
32.	Daman and Diu	135.16	NR
33.	Delhi	381.68	405.25
34.	Lakshadweep	520.90	450.75
35.	Pondicherry*	308.85	NR
All India		145.25	117.09

*As on 1.1.2006.

NR – Data not received.

[Translation]

NGO under National Literacy Mission

88. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

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

(a) the details of the proposals received from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) approved by the Government under the National Literacy Mission (NLM) during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the allocation made during the period, State-wise and NGO-wise;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the working of these NGOs;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government to the outcome of the review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) A statement showing the state-wise number of projects sanctioned under the Scheme of 'Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)' and Scheme of 'Support to NGOs/ Institutions/ SRCs for Adult Education and Skill Development' during the last three years and the current year is enclosed.

(b) Under the scheme, there is no provision of year-wise allocation to States and NGOs.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir, Performance of JSSs and NGOs is reviewed periodically through their Annual Action Plans, Mid Term Assessment Meetings. Shortcomings, if any, in implementation are communicated to the concerned JSS and NGO for taking corrective measures.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Number of Projects Sanctioned							
		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (till 13.2.09)	
		JSS	NGO	JSS	NGO	JSS	NGO	JSS	NGO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Assam	—	01	—	—	—	—	01	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2. Andhra Pradesh		01	—	—	—	02	—	01	—
3. Bihar		—	01	01	—	02	—	03	—
4. Chhattisgarh		—	—	01	01	01	—	02	—
5. Gujarat		—	01	01	—	01	01	—	—
6. Haryana		—	01	—	—	01	—	—	—
7. Himachal Pradesh		—	—	—	—	—	—	01	—
8. Jammu and Kashmir		—	—	—	—	01	—	—	—
9. Karnataka		—	04	—	—	—	—	01	—
10. Kerala		01	—	—	—	02	—	02	—
11. Madhya Pradesh		03	—	07	02	03	—	04	—
12. Maharashtra		01	—	01	—	02	—	04	—
13. Manipur		01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Orissa		—	—	03	01	03	—	02	—
15. Rajasthan		—	—	—	—	—	—	01	—
16. Tamil Nadu		01	—	—	01	01	—	—	—
17. Uttar Pradesh		05	03	07	01	04	—	04	—
18. Uttarakhand		01	01	01	—	01	—	—	—
19. West Bengal		—	—	01	—	01	—	01	—
20. Delhi		—	05	01	02	—	—	01	—
21. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		—	—	—	—	—	—	01	—
Total		14	17	24	08	25	01	29	00

[English]

Closure of Khadi Sale Centres

89. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of khadi sale centres/outlets in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the new centres established/centres closed down during each of the last three years and the current year separately, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the closure of khadi centres;

(d) whether any review was made before closure of these centres;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has any proposal to provide financial assistance to reopen the closed centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The State/UT – wise number of khadi sale centres/outlets in the country existing as on 31.03.2008, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No new departmental sales centres/outlets have been established by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during the last 3 years. 2 Central Vastragars of KVIC meant for wholesale transaction however, have been closed down during current year, i.e., 2008-09.

(c) The central vastragars were originally established by KVIC to cater to the needs of the smaller khadi institutions of the States. However, over a period of time, it was observed that the new khadi institutions subse-

quently formed in the States had started similar type of production and sales activities. As such, purchases by the smaller institutions from KVIC vastragars were not adequate.

(d) and (e) In view of the decreasing purchase of khadi from KVIC run central vastragars by the small/new khadi institutions, KVIC constituted a committee to assess the utility of the continuation/closure of these vastragars. As per the recommendations of this committee, KVIC decided to close these 2 vastragars.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Due to the reasons given at (e) above, the reopening of 2 closed Central Vastragars of KVIC meant for wholesales transactions, will not serve the purpose for which these were established originally. Hence, there is no question of providing any financial assistance for their reopening.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of khadi sale centres/outlets in the country as on 31.03.2008

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Number of khadi sale centres/outlets	
		Institutions	KVIC
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	251	–
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	–
3.	Assam	96	–
4.	Bihar	492	1
5.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	–
6.	Goa	2	1
7.	Gujarat	317	1

1	2	3	4
8.	Haryana	184	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	124	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	74	-
11.	Jharkhand	139	-
12.	Karnataka	346	1
13.	Kerala	403	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	182	1
15.	Maharashtra	97	1
16.	Manipur	9	-
17.	Meghalaya	4	-
18.	Mizoram	2	-
19.	Nagaland	7	-
20.	Delhi	65	2
21.	Orissa	69	1
22.	Puducherry	17	-
23.	Punjab	252	-
24.	Rajasthan	493	-
25.	Sikkim	7	-
26.	Tamil Nadu	1159	-
27.	Tripura	2	1
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1839	-
29.	Uttarakhand	210	-
30.	West Bengal	198	1
Total		7050	12

Ashok Chakra Award to Civilians

90. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of guidelines on award of Ashok Chakra to Civilians; and

(b) the names of the persons to whom the 'Ashok Chakra' has been awarded during the last three years and in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The 'Ashoka Chakra' is awarded for most conspicuous bravery; or some act of daring or pre-iminent valour or self-sacrifice otherwise than in the face of the enemy. It can be awarded posthumously. Besides the Defence personnel, civilian citizens of either sex in all walks of life including members of Police Forces, Central Para Military Forces and Railway Protection Force are also eligible for the award.

(b) Names of the persons to whom the 'Ashoka Chakra' has been awarded in the last three years and in the current year have been given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement**2006**

No 'Ashoka Chakra' Award was announced.

2007

1. IC-65241 Captain Harshan R, 2 Parachute Regiment (Special Forces), (Posthumous).
2. JC-593527 Naib Subedar Chunni Lal, VRC, SM, 8 Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry (Posthumous).
3. IC-48714 Colonel Vasanth Venugopal, 9 Maratha Light Infantry (Posthumous).

2008

1. IC-59263 Major Dinesh Raghu Raman, Jat Regiment/ 34 Rashtriya Rifles. (Posthumous).
2. Shri R.P. Diengdoh, Meghalaya Police. (Posthumous).
3. Asstt. Commandant Shri Pramod Kumar Satapathy, Special Operation Group, Orissa State Armed Police. (Posthumous).

2009

1. IC-45618 Colonel Jojan Thomas, Jat Regiment/45 Rashtriya Rifles (Posthumous).
2. Shri Mohan Chand Sharma, Inspector, Delhi Police (Posthumous).
3. 13621503 Havildar Bahadur Singh Bohra, 10 Battalion the Parachute Regiment, (Special Forces) (Posthumous).
4. Shri Hemant Kamlakar Karkare, Joint Commissioner of Police, Maharashtra Police (Posthumous).
5. Shri Ashok Marutrao Karnte, Addl. Commissioner of Police, Maharashtra (Posthumous).
6. Shri Vijay Shahadev Salaskar, Inspector, Anti Extortion Cell of Crime Branch, Maharashtra (Posthumous).
7. Shri Tukaram Gopal Ombale, Asstt. Sub-Inspector of Police, Maharashtra (Posthumous).
8. IC-58680 Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan Bihar Regi-

ment/51 Special Action Group (NSG) (Posthumous).

9. 4073611 Haviladar Gajender Singh, Parachute Regiment/51 Special Action Group (NSG) (Posthumous).

Progress of SPTF

91. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated, sanctioned and pending under Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) of Tea Board of India during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether SPTF has been fully utilised;

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

(d) the number of applications received, sanctioned and pending under SPTF during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for early disposal of pending applications?

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 Special Purpose Tea Fund Scheme was notified by the Government of India on 17.01.2007. The funds allocated/released under Special Purpose Tea Fund over the last three years is as under:—

A/c. Year	Subsidy (Cr. Rs.)			Default Reserve Fund (Cr. Rs.)		
	Sanctioned	Released	Pending	Sanctioned	Released	Pending
2006-07	Nil	Nil	Nil	30.00	30.00	Nil
2007-08	15.00	15.00	Nil	15.00	15.00	Nil
2008-09	25.00	25.00	Nil	15.00	15.00	Nil

The funds are not allocated/sanctioned state-wise.

(b) and (c) During 2007-08, 96% of allocation subsidy has been utilized. During 2008-09, it is expected to utilize 100% of allocated fund.

(d) The scheme came into operation only in 2007-08. Hence the status of the applications received during 2007-08 and 2008-09 is shown below:—

Applications received for Loan and subsidy

State	2007-08			2008-09		
	No.	Sanctioned	Pending	No.	Sanctioned	Pending
Assam	126	89	37	82	5	77
West Bengal	72	49	23	72	17	55
Cachar	9	3	6	7	0	7
Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kerala	15	14	1	7	1	6
Tamil Nadu	2	1	1	4	3	1
Tripura	3	0	3	1	0	1

Application received for Subsidy only

State	2007-08			2008-09		
	No.	Sanctioned	Pending	No.	Sanctioned	Pending
Assam	210	109	101	155	3	152
West Bengal	134	66	68	62	4	58
Cachar	16	3	13	11	0	11
Karnataka	3	3	0	1	0	1
Kerala	21	17	4	20	4	16
Tamil Nadu	24	21	3	27	0	27
Tripura	12	2	10	12	0	0

- (e) The details are as follows:—
- (i) Meetings taken by Tea Board with the various stakeholders for exploring the ways and means for resolving procedural delays.
- (ii) Matter taken up by Tea Board with the West Bengal Government for expediting the process of renewal of the lease in r/o gardens in the state as non renewal makes it difficult for the Banks to give their consent for sharing the mortgage rights with Tea Board.
- (iii) The intervention of the Indian Bank Association (IBA) has been sought for overcoming the differences arising as to the various clauses of the Tripartite Agreement between the Banks holding the title deeds, applicant and Tea Board and for devising a common standard Tripartite Agreement which will be applicable to all the commercial Banks.
- (iv) Simplification of scheme provisions and centrally monitoring of the various stages of receipt and processing of applications.
- (v) Time frames have been set up for the various stages of processing, i.e. from the time of receipt of application to disbursement of financial assistance to ensure payment of loan/subsidy within 6 months from the date of receipt of applications.
- (vi) A dedicated web site is being developed for the scheme with the provision of submission of applications online.

the rise in the country and criminals responsible for such crimes remain unidentified;

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

(c) the total number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year in which criminals could not be identified, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any new investigation policy or set up forensic expert groups to deal with such type of crimes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) As per information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on annual basis, a total of 1822602, 1878293 and 1989673 cases of cognizable IPC crimes were reported in the country during 2005-2007 respectively. A total of 3203735, 3224167 and 3743734 cognizable cases were reported in the country under various Special and Local Laws (SLLs) during 2005-2007 respectively. The State-wise and year-wise details are given statement-I and II. The information in respect of cases in which the criminals remain unidentified is not maintained.

(d) and (e) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies. The Union Government, however, attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime and therefore, has been urging the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for prevention and control of crime. There are sufficient number of forensic experts available in different forensic science laboratories under the Union Government/State Governments to deal with all types of cognizable crimes and to offer forensic analytical solutions to identify the perpetrators of such crimes.

[Translation]

Rise in cognizable crime

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

- (a) whether incidents of cognizable crimes are on

Statement-I

Cases Registered (CR), Cases Chargesheeted, Persons Arrested (PAR) and Persons Chargesheeted (PCS) under Total IPC Crimes during 2005-2007

Sl. No.	State	2005					2006					2007					
		CR	CS	PAR	PCS	CR	CS	PAR	PCS	CR	CS	PAR	PCS	CR	CS	PAR	PCS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	157123	125082	216277	214244	173909	124089	227935	200905	175087	148066	236176	232163				
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2304	1463	2488	1627	2294	1281	2849	1629	2286	1362	2478	1821				
3.	Assam	42006	22710	68674	41281	43673	23460	58943	35003	45282	23335	59402	37358				
4.	Bihar	97850	68729	186140	154046	100665	67494	180446	159397	109420	81292	219895	188393				
5.	Chhattisgarh	43633	33170	56000	55521	45177	36508	58502	57020	45845	35652	60239	58998				
6.	Goa	2119	1097	2588	1809	2204	1238	3225	2249	2479	1153	2619	1786				
7.	Gujarat	113414	86877	156597	155170	120972	92019	159810	154703	123195	100655	169444	169728				
8.	Haryana	42664	28980	58940	58364	50509	34313	66784	65868	51597	35510	70746	69293				
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12345	10140	18628	18237	13093	10146	19993	19457	14222	10686	19598	18068				
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	20115	14375	27616	26877	20787	15803	30778	30670	21443	16792	32936	32932				
11.	Jharkhand	35175	21107	46914	27176	36364	22192	45674	54716	38489	24568	46489	42457				
12.	Karnataka	117580	80432	198588	139483	11710	82690	142252	134775	120606	94831	134054	131399				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13. Kerala	104350	91625	145609	145835	105255	89790	142301	144118	108530	92771	149117	149406	
14. Madhya Pradesh	189172	159646	314961	314888	194711	164435	310782	310422	202386	170774	329280	329263	
15. Maharashtra	187027	126514	287114	280432	191788	126941	290546	272770	195707	131761	291313	272888	
16. Manipur	2913	128	1390	133	2884	155	934	132	3259	80	1306	93	
17. Meghalaya	1880	662	1594	858	1935	905	1699	1169	2079	651	1557	896	
18. Mizoram	2156	2044	2716	2552	2073	2025	2215	2493	2083	1814	2062	2595	
19. Nagaland	1049	1049	1226	1242	1103	545	906	792	1180	604	795	689	
20. Orissa	51685	40644	78300	78257	52792	41243	85592	81747	54872	41951	80874	78314	
21. Punjab	27136	19237	39537	36377	32068	20931	45391	38597	35793	23648	47042	44045	
22. Rajasthan	140917	91615	178811	178877	141992	91826	185350	185453	148870	92544	183814	183575	
23. Sikkim	552	278	455	292	703	384	737	468	667	319	623	468	
24. Tamil Nadu	162360	145181	194845	204651	148972	131443	177582	168254	172754	141942	201372	192604	
25. Tripura	3356	2505	4252	3586	3940	2817	5114	3330	4273	3361	4578	3905	
26. Uttar Pradesh	122108	86431	211275	199576	127001	91655	217758	212001	150258	96312	246821	210722	
27. Uttaranchal	8039	4934	13424	11091	8412	5493	13471	11618	9599	6222	14473	12219	
28. West Bengal	66406	51266	102161	82282	68052	49012	110346	83063	81102	57726	109678	93532	
Total State	1757428	1317931	2557120	2434764	1811038	1331033	2587915	2432819	1923363	1436392	2718781	2559510	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands			682	474	848	731	676	517	797	834	807	632	1065	956
30. Chandigarh			3133	1625	2989	2368	3126	1817	3381	2995	3643	1224	2846	2068
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli			434	293	714	681	435	310	596	559	425	239	413	399
32. Daman and Diu			243	129	290	293	288	108	372	250	260	131	393	354
33. Delhi UT			56065	42229	53318	44057	57963	37276	54198	47455	56065	32027	50744	41117
34. Latakadweep			42	22	45	18	80	30	237	124	56	25	26	17
35. Pondicherry			4575	4565	6223	6159	4687	3191	6187	5092	5054	5041	6291	7059
Total UT			65174	49337	64427.0	54307	67255	43249	65768.0	57349	66310	39319	61778.0	51960
Total All India			1822602	1367268	2621547	2489071	1878293	1374282	2653683	2490168	1969873	1475711	2780559	2611470

Source: Crime in India.

Note : Information on disposal by police and courts includes the information on pending cases from previous years also.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13. Kerala	57821	50342	71785	72287	54176	50022	68482	66133	88726	83263	102263	88391	
14. Madhya Pradesh	227901	227648	266360	266374	183669	175164	230623	230738	196849	188266	230657	232721	
15. Maharashtra	142293	144449	189416	192263	129397	125179	175380	174310	120310	118658	155360	164361	
16. Manipur	538	93	618	113	483	40	580	42	753	51	926	68	
17. Meghalaya	136	131	197	124	85	102	148	185	123	65	132	73	
18. Mizoram	1214	744	1707	1620	977	1475	1539	1698	824	818	1154	1189	
19. Nagaland	414	356	583	574	308	293	458	393	305	274	435	293	
20. Orissa	13344	12193	18633	18359	12760	11790	17886	17912	12162	4839	15417	10546	
21. Punjab	26592	26882	29904	29830	20730	22095	23931	25212	22612	18765	26169	21745	
22. Rajasthan	31072	30180	43910	43906	35942	33261	47888	47879	37631	34660	48901	48919	
23. Sikkim	369	226	268	229	143	138	177	170	190	168	230	200	
24. Tamil Nadu	533721	266472	656288	353817	449207	223766	522406	280003	474963	268050	531819	308906	
25. Tripura	213	183	158	145	206	177	158	162	175	165	206	150	
26. Uttar Pradesh	1010654	1004231	1079861	1075577	1189216	1184506	1241677	1241007	1444342	1428508	1501219	1487973	
27. Uttaranchal	126953	126622	128303	127917	120325	120230	121275	121395	140428	140267	141567	141287	
28. West Bengal	9235	12922	12756	17217	7588	7366	11262	10656	6453	6216	10630	10151	
Total State	3167989	2871683	3445930	3140455	3185330	2923898	3509515	3255672	3715367	3451843	4053590	3787612	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7114	7052	7334	7652	6526	6251	7262	6801	5304	6160	5948	6681		
30. Chandigarh	803	714	1104	1001	917	909	1198	1202	853	731	1181	996		
31. Dadra and Nagar Havelli	25	23	60	54	9	18	17	39	15	12	34	22		
32. Daman and Diu	5	6	17	20	3	2	6	6	13	0	65	0		
33. Delhi UT	26573	23696	31881	29133	30372	27741	34825	33372	20994	25974	24771	25580		
34. Lakshadweep	7	2	7	1	13	10	12	11	10	4	11	5		
35. Pondicherry	1219	1188	1566	1539	997	989	1367	1359	1178	1165	1646	1657		
Total UT	35746	32681	41969.0	39400	38837	35920	44707.0	42790	28367	34046	33656.0	35141		
Total All India	3203735	2904364	3487899	3179855	3224167	2959818	3554222	3298462	3743734	3485889	4087246	3822753		

Source: Crime in India.

Note : Information on disposal by police and courts includes the information on pending cases from previous years also.

[English]

**Merger of SSA and National
Literacy Programme**

93. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to merge Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the National Literacy Programme;

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

(c) the benefits likely to accrue by this move?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Earthquake Prone Area

94. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a leading geologist has warned that some regions of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh are prone to earthquakes as reported in *The Hindu* dated 16th November, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any seismological study of the said regions has been conducted by the Government;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and parts of Uttar Pradesh lying in the Himalayan range are in the Seismic Zone V of the Seismic Zoning Map of India prepared by Bureau of Indian Standards and are seismically active region.

(c) and (d) Several seismological studies have been initiated in the said regions by the Department of Science and Technology, and now continued by the Ministry of Earth Sciences by establishing an appropriate seismological and GPS networks for recording earthquakes in the region. In addition Survey of India and Geological Survey of India have been carrying out several studies in the seismically active Himalayan region. However, none of these studies were able to make a specific mention of precise location, time and magnitude of a likely event.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Efforts are directed towards spreading awareness about earthquake hazard, risk and vulnerability to save lives and likely damage and for developing emergency response actions by all stakeholders. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is building interface and institutional mechanisms with State Government authorities for impact minimization.

**Impact of Economic Slowdown on Indian
Diamond and Jewellery Industry**

95. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of diamond, gems and Jewellery exported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise; item-wise;

(b) the impact of global economic slowdown on Indian diamond and jewellery industry;

(c) the number of jobs lost by workers involved in the said industry; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to raise production in the sector and encourage exports to protect the interest of labour and industry?

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 value of diamond, gems and jewellery exported during each of the last three years and the current year, item-wise are as under:—

(In Million USD)

Item	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (Upto Aug. 2008)
Diamond	11171.49	10088.10	13685.01	6379.24
Gold Jewellery	3198.44	4459.36	4351.47	1145.78
Colour Gemstones and others	1159.13	1417.06	144947.42	731.20
Total	15529.06	15984.52	162983.90	8256.22

Source: DGC&S

Country-wise value of diamond, gems and jewellery exported during each of the last three years and the current year are as under:—

(In Million USD)

Country	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (Upto Oct. 2008)
1	2	3	4	5
USA	4371.61	4751.59	4974.69	2983.04

	1	2	3	4	5
Hong Kong	3330.07	3460.25	5100.82	3399.84	
UAE	2487.98	3297.33	4040.96	2703.95	
Belgium	1490.76	1468.10	1964.24	1309.43	
Singapore	1241.11	151.46	217.38	186.48	
Israel	813.75	874.88	1038.24	616.70	
Japan	485.50	430.19	450.31	247.05	
Thailand	329.50	339.86	390.72	220.04	
UK	225.96	277.89	285.37	216.26	
Switzerland	143.48	117.52	211.98	97.56	
Others	609.34	795.45	144309.19	641.78	
Total	15529.06	15984.52	162983.90	12622.33	

Source: DGC&S

(b) The global economic slowdown has led to fall in consumer demand across the world; build up of inventories due to lack of sufficient demand in the global market; liquidity problems; retrenchment/job loss; closing of units, etc.

(c) According to the information made available by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, during the period August – October, 2008, about 65,000 jobs were lost by workers involved in the Gems and Jewellery industry. The Government of Gujarat has estimated that about 2 lac diamond workers have lost their jobs due to the present global economic slowdown in Surat.

(d) Some of the remedial measures taken by the Government to boost export, including gems and jewellery export, are as follows:—

- (i) The period of entitlement of the first slab of pre-shipment rupee export credit, available at a

concessional interest rate ceiling of the benchmark prime lending rate (BPLR) minus 2.5 percentage points has been extended from 1-80 days to 270 days.

- (ii) The period of entitlement of the first slab of post shipment rupee export credit available at a concessional interest rate ceiling (not exceeding BPLR minus 2.5 percentage points) have been extended from 90 days to 180 days.
- (iii) Prescribed interest rate as applicable to post shipment rupee export credit (not exceeding BPLR minus 2.5 percentage points) has been extended to overdue bills upto 180 days from the date of advance.
- (iv) Pre and post shipment export credit have been provided an interest subvention of 2 percent upto 31/3/2009 subject to minimum rate to interest of 7% per annum.
- (v) Additional funds of Rs. 1,100 crore has been provided to ensure full refund of terminal excise duty/Central Sales Tax.
- (vi) Government back-up guarantee has been made available to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd. to the extent of Rs. 350 crore to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products.
- (vii) Exporters have been allowed refund of service tax on foreign agent commissions of upto 10 percent of FOB value of exports and refund of service tax on output services while availing of benefits under Duty Drawback Scheme.
- (viii) RBI has extended a line of credit of Rs. 5,000 crores to EXIM Bank to provide pre-shipment and post shipment credit, in Rupees or Dollars to Indian exporters at competitive rates.
- (ix) Ceiling rates on export credit in foreign currency has been raised to LIBOR + 350 basis points

subject to the condition that the banks will not levy any other charges, i.e., service charge, management charge, etc. except for recovery towards out-of-pocket expenses incurred.

Upgradation of CPMF

96. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR :
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to upgrade the equipment and security related facilities to the Central Para Military Forces (CPMF) to fight with terrorist and naxalites in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such facilities are likely to be provided including financial allocation for this purpose; and

(c) the extent to which the CPMF are likely to benefit from such measures in tackling terrorist and naxal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) There is an ongoing Modernisation Scheme for Central Para-Military Forces with an outlay of Rs. 4184.50 crores which will come to end on 31.3.2010. Under the Modernisation Scheme, CPMFs are provided with superior arms and ammunitions, effective transport vehicles, communication and surveillance equipments and clothing so as to sustain and increase the effectiveness of the CPMFs. The skills of the troops are also continuously upgraded by providing regular training and creation of modern training facilities.

[Translation]

Research and Development in Drugs

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

(a) the details of research projects funded by the Government in the health sector during each of the last three years, product-wise and time taken on each project;

(b) whether majority of such Government funded projects are abandoned midway and illegally outsourced to multinational companies;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether small scale pharma units are not associated with such Government funded projects; and

(e) 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) Several Government Ministries/Departments/Agencies like Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Earth Sciences are funding research projects in health sector. As per the latest data compiled by DST on Extramural Research and Development, the number of projects funded by various scientific agencies on medical sciences during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 were 286, 344 and 565 with an investment of Rs.55.56 crores, Rs. 126.60 crores and Rs. 372.84 crores respectively. This inter-alia included development of medicines for several diseases such as malaria, filaria, cancer, ulcer, tuberculosis, kala azar, leucoderma, rheumatism, rheumatoid arthritis, diarrhoea, pancreatitis, gastritis, heart diseases, hypertension, diabetes, AIDS and vaccines for rota virus, cholera, rabies, tuberculosis, typhoid, HIV, malaria etc. These projects were funded to national labs, universities and colleges, institutes of national importance and industries including the small scale ones, wherever required. The project duration generally spanned upto three years.

(b) to (e) No, Sir. Majority of these projects are concluded meeting their objectives within the specified timeframe. The Indian pharma industries, both small and large actively participated in various Government funded programmes like Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP) of DST, New Millennium India Technology Leadership Initiatives (NMITLI) of CSIR, Small Business Innovative Research Initiatives (SBIRI) of DBT, Technology Development and Demonstration Programme (TDDP) of DSIR in drug research in the country.

[English]

Infrastructure for KVs

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

(a) the details of Kendriya Vidyalayas functioning without buildings and basic amenities as on date, State-wise including in Karnataka;

(b) the number of Kendriya Vidyalaya functioning in their own buildings and having all basic amenities in the country as on date, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the Government proposes to construct buildings for schools which do not have their own buildings and provide basic amenities there is and the action plan formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) There are 978 functional Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the country. In case of 129 KVs, buildings are provided by the sponsoring agencies. Out of the remaining 849 KVs, own buildings are available in case of 635 schools with 214 KVs without own buildings. The state-wise details including those for Karnataka are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Construction of school buildings critically depends upon the transfer of suitable land by the sponsoring authorities and availability of funds.

Statement**Status of 214 KVs Functioning in Buildings Provided by Sponsors/Temporary
Class Room with basic Amenities State-wise**

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Total No. of KVs	KVs in Project/IHL Sector	Building to be constructed by KVs	KVs with Building	Building under construction	Building under Planning	Land identified	Land yet to be identified
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	02	—	02	02	—	—	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	50	05	45	35	05	—	04	01
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	01	12	08	01	—	02	01
4.	Assam	50	15	35	25	04	02	02	02
5.	Bihar	40	02	38	20	03	01	07	07
6.	Chandigarh	05	—	05	05	—	—	—	—
7.	Chhattisgarh	25	09	16	10	03	01	01	01
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	01	—	01	—	01	—	—	—
9.	Daman and Diu	01	—	01	—	01	—	—	—
10.	Delhi	41	03	38	32	05	—	01	—
11.	Goa	05	—	05	05	—	—	—	—
12.	Gujarat	42	10	32	29	01	—	02	—
13.	Haryana	27	01	26	21	02	01	01	01
14.	Himachal Pradesh	21	03	18	09	03	—	05	01
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	35	03	32	12	03	01	09	07
16.	Jharkhand	30	05	25	14	—	01	04	06
17.	Karnataka	36	07	29	21	06	—	02	—
18.	Kerala	29	02	27	23	01	—	03	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
19.	Lakshadweep	01	—	01	—	—	—	—	01
20.	Madhya Pradesh	81	11	70	56	08	—	03	03
21.	Maharashtra	53	05	48	45	01	—	02	—
22.	Manipur	07	01	06	03	—	—	02	01
23.	Meghalaya	07	01	06	06	—	—	—	—
24.	Mizoram	02	—	02	—	01	—	—	01
25.	Nagaland	05	—	05	02	—	—	02	01
26.	Orissa	36	04	32	23	07	—	02	—
27.	Puducherry	03	01	02	01	—	—	01	—
28.	Punjab	39	01	38	31	02	—	04	01
29.	Rajasthan	57	05	52	46	02	02	02	—
30.	Sikkim	02	01	01	01	—	—	—	—
31.	Tamil Nadu	37	05	32	24	03	—	05	—
32.	Tripura	06	01	05	02	01	01	—	01
33.	Uttar Pradesh	97	13	84	66	09	—	07	02
34.	Uttarakhand	41	07	34	19	02	03	03	07
35.	West Bengal	51	07	44	39	—	—	04	01
Total		978	129	849	635	75	13	80	46

**Earthquakes due to Depleting
Ground Water**

the country, many areas have become prone to earthquakes;

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

(b) if so, the areas identified so far; and

(a) whether due to depleting ground water level in

(c) the steps taken by the Government to generate public awareness in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Relief to Victims of Mumbai Attacks

100. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR :
 SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :
 SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :
 DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA :
 SHRI GANESH SINGH :
 SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
 SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL :
 SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL :
 SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any financial assistance has been provided to the families of persons killed and injured including security personnel during the terrorist attack on Mumbai in November, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some persons entitled for the said assistance have not been provided assistance so far;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the said assistance is likely to be disbursed to the persons concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (e) Government of Maharashtra has informed that they have released compensation of Rs. 50,000/- each to 233 injured persons. In 5 cases, persons have denied to accept the compensation and in one case the address of injured person remains untraced. Out of 166 dead persons, 22

dead persons are martyrs whose legal heirs have been paid compensation of Rs. 25 lakh each and for other remaining legal heirs of 142 dead persons cheques of Rs. 5 lakhs (Rs. Five Lakh only) each have been issued. Two dead bodies still remain unidentified.

However, under the 'Central Scheme for Assistance to the Victims of Terrorist and Communal Violence', a sum of Rs. 3 lac is provided to the Next of kin of the innocent persons who have died/or have become permanently incapacitated due to terrorist violence This Ministry has not received so far any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra in this regard.

Foreign aid for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

101. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
 SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :
 SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN :

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

- (a) the total amount of foreign aid received for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during each of the last three years and the current year including the name of such agency and countries providing financial aid;
- (b) the total amount of foreign assistance spent so far alongwith the details of amount yet to be spent thereon; and
- (c) the details of the monitoring mechanism to ensure proper utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) The foreign assistance under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is received by Government of India on reimbursement basis. The total amount of foreign assistance received for SSA phase I (covering the period from 2004-07) and SSA phase II (covering the period from 2007-10) during each of the last three years and the current year including the name of such funding agencies are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Name of the Funding Agency		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
World Bank	SSA-I	1133.71	477.76	—	—
	SSA-II				543.87
European Commission	SSA-I	704.15	179.35	—	59.44
	SSA-II	—	—	—	136.54
DFID	SSA-I	504.12	434.80	189.89	—
	SSA-II	—	—	—	310.00

(c) A rigorous system of monitoring of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been put in place which interalia include a Joint Review Mission twice a year, along with external funding agencies, to review the programme.

[English]

Fee Hike in Private Schools

102. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA :

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

(a) whether after the implementation of recommendations of the 6th Central Pay Commission Report, private schools in metropolitan cities have hiked their fee and passed on the entire financial burden to the parents of the students;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines/directive on the modalities to be followed by the private schools while implementing the recommendations of the Pay Commission and effecting hike in fees;

(d) if so, the extent to which the private schools are observing such guidelines;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy or to constitute any wage board to facilitate payment of salary to teachers and prevent exorbitant fee hike by private schools; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) Education being a concurrent subject, school education is primarily within the purview of the State Governments. It is for the concerned State Governments to monitor the fee hike in private schools. In case of the metropolitan city of Delhi, following receipt of complaints against 7 unaided private schools of Delhi about abnormal increase in fee after the implementation of the 6th Pay Commission Report, Government of NCT of Delhi had directed on 20.1.2009 to all unaided recognized schools not to raise tuition fee till further orders.

(c) and (d) On 11.2.2009, Government of NCT of Delhi has issued guidelines to be followed by the private schools

while hiking fees. The information about violation of such guidelines by private schools of States/UTs is not centrally monitored.

(e) There is no such proposal before the Central Government.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Extortion by militants in NE states

103. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

SHRI KIREN RIJU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the militant outfits active in the North Eastern States are involved in extortion from the Government and private institutions;

(b) if so, the details of the cases reported during each of the last three years and current year alongwith the names of outfits involved in such activities; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) There are reports of various militant organizations/groups in the North Eastern States indulging in extortion to collect money from various industrial and business establishments, contractors, transports, official, politicians, etc. Whenever specific cases in respect of such activities are reported, cases are registered and other counter-measures and action, as necessary, are taken. Details of cases registered are not centrally maintained.

(c) Concerted efforts are being made by the State Governments in the region to counter the activities of the

groups and misguided elements, who have been indulging in violence and extortion, etc., and create an atmosphere of peace and normalcy. The Central Government is supplementing their efforts through various measures such as deployment of additional Central Security Forces for carrying out intensive counter insurgency operations and providing security for vulnerable installations and projects, based on threat assessments; sharing of intelligence; financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and intelligence agencies under the Police Modernization Scheme; assistance for strengthening various aspects of security apparatus and other aspects of anti-militancy operations by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure; raising of additional Forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions; etc. The Central Government is maintaining close and continuous coordination with the State Governments in the region with a view to periodically review the situation and taking further steps, as may be necessary on a continuing basis.

[English]

**Quality of Education Imparted
by IGNOU**

104. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken for improving the quality of education imparted by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU);

(b) the details of budgetary allocation for this purpose during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether IGNOU had resorted to mid session change in syllabus of various courses including Master of Computer Applications (MCA), thereby putting the aca-

demographic and career prospects of students of such courses in peril;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the details of students affected, number of complaints received and remedial measures taken to help the affected students of each course including MCA;

(e) whether IGNOU is considering to revive the old syllabus to help the affected students, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), being an autonomous body established by an Act of Parliament for promotion of open university and distance education systems in the educational pattern of the country and for determination of standards in such systems, is not only responsible for the quality of education imparted by it but also for the quality of education offered by other institutions of distance learning. The Government provide budgetary support to the university to meet its objectives. The budgetary allocations during the last three years and the current year are as under:—

(Rupees in crore)

Year	BE (Rupees)	RE (Rupees)
2005-06	60.00	60.00
2006-07	100.00	95.05
2007-08	108.00	108.00
2008-09	120.00	92.44

IGNOU has informed that it takes special initiatives for training the course writers for development of materials in self instruction mode and for training of the academic

counselors for providing better support services to the students.

(c) and (d) IGNOU has informed that there have never been mid-session changes in the syllabus of any course of MCA Programme. However, it had revised the syllabus of its MCA programme on offer with effect from January, 2005 and the students enrolled in pre-revised MCA Programme were allowed to complete their programme with pre-revised syllabus by December, 2010.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Closure of Tea Estates

105. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of tea estates in the country are lying closed;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the period since when they have remained closed, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has commissioned any study to ascertain the causes behind these closures;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of such estates revived/reopened, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for revival/reopening and also for modernisation of these tea estates?

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) As on date only 17 tea gardens – 12 in West Bengal, 5 in Kerala are lying closed. The details are as follows:—

States: West Bengal

Sl. No.	Name of Tea Estate	Closed since
1.	Ramjhora	10.08.2002
2.	Katalguri	22.07.2002
3.	Chamruchi	02.04.2004
4.	Rajpur	05.07.2005
5.	Samsing	25.11.2005
6.	Bamondanga-Tondoo	18.11.2005
7.	Chinchula	Mid Dec. 2005
8.	Shikarpur-Bhanderpur	18.10.2005
9.	Raimatang	04.03.2006
10.	Kalchini	04.03.2006
11.	Red bank	2004
12.	Dheklapara	11.03.2006

State: Kerala

Sl. No.	Name of Tea Estate	Closed since
1.	Lone Tree	December, 2000
2.	Peermade	-do-
3.	Koliekanam	01.01.2004
4.	Mount	01.04.2003
5.	Tungmullay	01.12.2003

in – depth study of 36 closed tea gardens in the States of West Bengal (19 gardens), Kerala (11 gardens), Assam (3 gardens) and Tripura (3 gardens). The Committees revealed following reasons for sickness/closure:—

- (i) Almost all the gardens were private limited (unlisted) companies, or family managed enterprises and none of the gardens belonged to any large tea corporate/agency house.
- (ii) (a) poor condition of the estates including the plantations and factories (b) poor yields and consequent failing quality and price realizations (c) Uneasy industrial relations scenario, (d) "Remote Control" style of management, (e) weak financial position and requirement of investment in factory/estate infrastructure.
- (iii) Accumulation of huge losses and default in payment of the statutory/loan liabilities.
- (iv) The investment also required in the plantation with the focus being on a long term programme to improve yields (through systematic uprooting and replantation and/or extension) and improvement in garden management practices. For most gardens, an average per garden investment of between Rs. 1.0 to 2.5 crores over a 10 year period is required to improve the plantation.

(e) The details are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Name of Tea Estates	Date of reopening
1	2	3
1.	Kottamullai	11.06.2007
2.	Bon Ami	11.06.2007
3.	Vagamom	11.06.2007

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India appointed three Expert Committees, in January, 2003, to make an

1	2	3
4.	Munjuamalaj	25.06.2007
5.	Thengakal	25.06.2007
6.	Pambaran	25.06.2007
7.	Nellikai	25.06.2007
8.	Bonacord	11.04.2007
9.	Methanathu	10.07.2007
10.	Vengakotta	03.10.2007
11.	Granby	28.07.2008
12.	Passumulay	28.07.2008

State: West Bengal

1.	Surendra Nagar	17.05.2007
2.	Bhamobari	28.04.2008

State: Assam

1 & 2	Hatticherra and Subhong	28.08.2008
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(f) The Government of India announced rehabilitation package for 33 nos. of closed tea gardens closed as on 1.4.2007. This package provides for restructuring of outstanding bank loan into a fresh term loan and payable over a period of ten years and sharing of the accumulated interest @ 1/3 each by Government, the concerned bank and the borrowers, 3% interest subsidy on working capital for five years, payment of PF dues relating to damages in installments over 10 years, complete waiver of Tea Board outstanding loan, extension of Board's tea developmental schemes etc. From Tea Board, a lump-sum grant @ Rs. 1000 per worker for assistance for educational support for wards of workers and disabled persons of closed tea estate was extended during 2007-08 and 2008-09 from Human Resource Development Scheme.

The Government of West Bengal has decided to draw up a complete package of benefits including electricity dues, salami, land revenue and agricultural cess etc. for facilitating the existing owners to reopen the garden either on their own or through new owners identified by the garden owner.

The Government of Kerala has also offered many supports i.e. Free noon meal to all school going children, Wage employment under SGRY scheme, Placement of fund of Rs. 5.00 crore with the district administration, Idukki (where most closed tea gardens are located) for providing uniform and essential school books to school going children and for providing medicines to garden workers where public health system is unable to provide medical facilities, Ex-gratia amount of Rs. 500.00 per workers on account of Onam Festival and Educational expenses for pursuing graduation course for the wards of the garden workers.

As regards modernization of the tea estates, a scheme called Quality Upgradation and Product Diversification scheme is already in operation.

Geophysical Mapping Programme

106. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- whether Geophysical Mapping programme has been taken up in the country utilizing gravity magnetic methods;
- if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- the salient features of said survey; and
- the outcome of the said surveys?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI), a subordinate office of Ministry of

Mines, has taken up a systematic ground regional geophysical mapping programme employing gravity and magnetic methods for preparation of gravity and magnetic maps of the country on 1:50,000 scale. A total area of 1,02,779 square kilometers has been covered by systematic geophysical mapping. The details are as follows:—

State	Area covered [in square kilometres]
Maharashtra	11200
Orissa	10332
Jharkhand	378
West Bengal	4860
Meghalaya	1400
Assam	5900
Haryana	11000
Uttar Pradesh	14500
Rajasthan	3459
Gujarat	700
Andhra Pradesh	7050
Tamil Nadu	5030
Karnataka	26970
Total	102779

(c) Systematic geophysical mapping on 1:50,000 scale is done with an average station density of one station for 2.5 sq.km. over the entire shield area, Indo-Gangetic Plains, the Eastern and Western Ghat areas including coastal Plains and other covered areas.

The data acquired under regional geophysical mapping programme:—

- (i) will be used to generate gravity and magnetic maps of the areas covered.
- (ii) will be useful for postulating conceptual models to target the potential areas for the exploration of metallic/non-metallic mineral deposits and understanding the deeper sub-surface structures.
- (iii) in context of mineral exploration, helps in identifying deep seated bodies having feeble to strong density contrast and magnetically susceptible zones.

Gravity and magnetic mapping methods can be used in ground water survey, basement configuration etc. This method along with other geophysical methods i.e. seismic reflection surveys can be used to explore hydrocarbons.

(d) Some of the encouraging results obtained through data generation by this mapping programme with respect of mineral exploration and updating geoscientific knowledge base are:—

- (i) extension of concealed schist belt and favourable zones of gold mineralization and emplacement of kimberlite clan rocks in Chitradurga – Gadag and Raichur schist belt of Karnataka.
- (ii) several gravity lows, indicating small sub-basins for lignite at shallow depth, in Ramnad sub-basin, Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) the prominent gravity low anomaly around Karbi, Haryana and indicating sub-surface basinal structure stretched over a length of 15 km.
- (iv) measurement of 'g' values at five locations of

Pune and Mumbai for factories and laboratories on commercial basis.

- (v) determination of sub-surface tectonic configuration of Indo-Gangetic Plains of Uttar Pradesh.
- (vi) curving out the basinal morphology of the Sakoli basin of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Complaints against Mid Day Meal Scheme

107. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
 SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
 SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :
 SHRI MILIND DEORA :

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

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from various quarters regarding students falling sick/having died after consuming mid-day meal in schools including MCD schools in Delhi and food served in Navodaya Vidyalayas Hostels across the country;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents where students fell sick or died during the last one year and current year separately, State-wise;

(c) the remedial measures being taken by the Government to ensure the quality of mid-day meal and food being served in the schools and hostels; and

(d) the details of action taken against those found responsible for such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) Some cases of students fallen sick after

consuming Mid Day Meal have come to the notice of the Government. The details of such cases and action taken are given in the enclosed Statement. However, no death case has been reported in the Specified period (till the end of third quarter) due to food poisoning. Though the overall responsibility to ensure all logistic and administrative arrangements for regular serving of wholesome, cooked mid day meal in every eligible school, EGS/AIE centres lies with the State Government/UT Administration, the Central Government has been continuously urging the State Governments to

- ensure that food is cooked in a hygienic environment
- food items are stored in dry and safe places
- adequate drinking water is made available
- cooks are properly trained in adopting hygienic habits.

Besides, States have also been urged to involve the parents and community members to supervise the cooking and serving of mid-day meal. It provided in the guidelines that the food prepared is tasted by 2-3 adults including atleast one teacher before it is served to children. As and when, any complaint is brought to the notice of the Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct suitable enquiry and to take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) and initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has informed that one incident has been reported to them from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), Jaffarpur Kalan, Delhi in which about 150 students had fallen sick on 25.01.2009. However, no death case has been reported due to food poisoning during the last year and current year. There is a Mess Committee at Vidyalaya level to check the quality of food. Six persons have been placed under suspension for their lapses in their duties at JNV, Jaffarpur Kalan, Delhi.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of cases	Details of cases and action taken
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	04	<p>The State Govt. has reported that in one school of Shivsagar Block, and two schools of Mansi Block, both of District Rohtas, cases of children fell ill come to their notice. The affected children were given medical treatment in Primary Health Centre and discharged after being normal.</p> <p>It has further reported that in Primary School, Vishnupur-Rajkhand, District Vaishali, 82 children of class-I, who had consumed meal brought to the Primary Health Centre presuming that the children had consumed poisoned meal caused by a frog reported to have been found in the meal supplied. After examination, all were found normal and 62 of them attended the school on next day itself.</p>
2.	Chhattisgarh	01	<p>The State Govt. has reported that on 21.11.2007, 40 students of both boys and girls middle school Lahpatra Block Lakhanpur fell ill. After primary treatment student were fit and healthy to join the school. FIR lodged in Lakhanpur Police Station. Headmaster of Middle School Boys suspended from his duties. Headmistress Girls Lahpatra and 3 other teacher's increment withheld for one year. Both the cooks were dismissed from the duty.</p>
3.	Haryana	01	<p>The State Govt. has reported that 38 children fell ill and were admitted to hospital. The State Govt. has further reported that an enquiry was conducted by the Additional Director which revealed that the students didn't fall ill due to consumption of mid day meal but due to eating of Jatropha Plant growing in the campus of the school. To avoid such incidence in future, the State Govt. has directed all the District Education Officers, District Elementary Education Officers and Block Education Officers to uproot and destroy all such plants from all government school premises.</p>

1	2	3	4
4.	Jharkhand	02	The State Govt. has reported that two such incidents had occurred. In Dhanbad district about 60 and in East Singhbhum district about 70 students fell ill due to food poisoning. Later on enquiry, it was found that these had happened due to fall of deleterious materials in cooked food for which immediate steps have been taken.
5.	Karnataka	02	The State Govt. has reported two cases in which after laboratory tests, it was found that illness was not due to mid day meal.
6.	Rajasthan	02	The State Govt. has reported that in Govt. Upper Primary School, Gram Panchayat Dhakad Khedi, District Bhilwara 188 children fell ill on 10.01208. The guilty teacher was suspended. All Block Education Officers were directed to conduct inspection so that mis-happenings could be avoided in future. Further reported that in Govt. Upper Primary School, Karelia District Dungarpur 8 children fell ill on 22.01.2008. The NGO Geetanjali Charitable Trust responsible of providing mid day meal was terminated and their MOU was also cancelled. All Block Education Officer's were directed to be more vigilant in future.
7.	Uttar Pradesh	09	<p>The State Govt. has reported that:</p> <p>(1) In the Primary School, Bhauabazar, Gopalpur and Satvanpatti, District Bareilly 100 students fell ill on 20.09.2007. All students were given proper medical treatment and were discharged after being normal. The Head Master, primary school Bhauabazar was suspended, cook was replaced and notice was given to Gram Pradhan for slackness in duties.</p> <p>(2) In the Primary School, Uttampur Bahlolpur and Milak Bahlolpur, District Moradabad 84 children fell ill on 27.09.2007. All children were admitted in various hospitals and given proper treatment. FIR was lodged in Thana-Majhola against Gram Pradhan, District Basic Education Officer, Moradabad Village Panchayat Officer, Bahlolpur, Concerned Head Masters and Assistant Teacher were suspended for slackness and poor supervision.</p>

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- (3) In the Primary School, Milak-Mankara, District Moradabad 16 students had fallen ill on 05.10.2007. All students were given medical treatment and discharged after being normal. In the enquiry, it was found that the conduct of Shiksha Mitra was suspicious. FIR was lodged against him.
- (4) In the Primary School - Shahgarh, District Pilibheet 99 students fell ill on 08.10.2007. After enquiry, it was found that the probable cause of incident was edible oil used in preparing food. All students were discharged after giving medical treatment. FIR was lodged against the Gram Pradhan., Cook and Kotedar. Headmistress of the school was also suspended for slackness in duty.
- (5) In the Primary School - Tilhari Khurd, District Kanpur Nagar 3 students fell ill on 22.10.2007. After primary treatment they became normal. Head Master was suspended for slackness in his duty and necessary action had been taken against Gram Pradhan.
- (6) In the Primary School Shah Alampur, District Moradabad 72 student fell ill on 24.10.2007. All suffered students were given medical treatment in District Hospital. FIR was lodged against the Gram Pradhan, husband of Gram Pradhan, Head Master, Shiksha Mitra and Cook. Head Master of the school was suspended and services of Shiksha Mitra also terminated.
- (7) In the Primary School-Chandpur, Hilalpur and Janipur, District Sitapur 2005 students fell ill on 01.11.2007. 161 students were discharged immediately after treatment and remaining 44 got special treatment in District Hospital. The cause of incident was adulterated cooking oil. FIR was lodged against Gram Pradhan, husband of Gram Pradhan, Cook & Asstt. Basic Education Officer. The responsible head masters and teachers were suspended due to slackness in duties.

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(8) In the Primary School-Itwan Duddela, District Chitrakoot about 55 students fell ill on 11.12.2007. After enquiry, it was found that the cause of incident was due to eating of unknown wild fruit found in nearby forest and not MDM. All students were normal after taking MDM.

(9) In the Primary School, Khudaganj, District Shahjahanpur 4 students and Headmistress fell ill on 23.01.2008. After medical treatment, they were discharged being normal. The samples of cooked meal were taken for testing in the laboratory. FIR was lodged against the ward member and two cooks.

8. Delhi

01

Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has reported that on 16.07.2008 some girls student of M.C. Primary School Marginal Band (Old)-I, Shahdara had complained of pain in their head. 9 students were taken up in nearby Nursing Home and 14 in GTB Hospital for treatment. After enquiry, it was found that on the previous day, some outside person had distributed some churan goli free of cost outside the main gate of the school, which might have caused illness of the children. No problem was found in 47 other primary schools of the same zone to whom Halwa-chana was distributed by the same organization i.e. Dalit Manav Uthan Sansthan.

[English]

Impact of Recession on SMEs

108. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
SHRI SURESH ANGADI :

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

(a) whether small and medium enterprises (SMEs) have been affected by global recession;

(b) if so, the number and percentage of such enterprises alongwith the names of the products being manufactured by them;

(c) the details of loss of jobs caused due to recession;

(d) whether the Government has formulated a scheme to bail out these enterprises;

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

(f) the number of enterprises provided benefits under the said bail out scheme?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The global recession has adversely impacted the Indian economy, including the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). While there is no separate information on MSMEs, as per the sample survey conducted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, about 5 lakh workers are estimated to have lost their jobs during October-December, 2008. The most affected sectors were Gems and Jewellery, Transport and Automobiles.

(d) to (f) Keeping in view the impact of global recession on MSMEs, the Government, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Public Sector Banks have taken several measures 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 13.3.2009; (v) refinance limit of Rs. 7,000 crore to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to 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. The details of credit flow to enterprises (including MSMEs) is collected by the RBI through the banking system and published on an annual basis. An indication of the credit flow to the MSMEs in the period after the package will, therefore, be inferable from the RBI's report for the year 2008-09.

Female Terrorists

109. DR. K. DHANARAJU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of female terrorists have infiltrated into the country and found to be active in acts of terror;

(b) if so, the details of cases reported and arrests made during each of the last three years and current year, area-wise; 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) and (b) No, Sir. However, an instance of a Pakistani lady who had crossed over to the Indian side has come to notice.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to strengthen border management and counter infiltration which, inter-alia, include, erection of fencing and floodlighting along the border; round the clock surveillance and patrolling by security forces; construction of border roads; establishment of additional observation/border posts; induction of modern and high-tech surveillance equipments; upgradation of the intelligence network and inter-agency coordination.

Physical Education in Schools

110. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government/National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) proposes to make physical education compulsory in all schools and colleges in the country;

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

(c) the number of Physical Education teachers sanctioned and actually appointed in each State/Union Territory including Delhi during each of the last three years and in the current year;

(d) whether there is any shortage of physical education teachers in the country; and

(e) If so, the remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) Physical Education is compulsory from primary to secondary stage (from classes I-X) and is prescribed as an optional subject at the senior secondary stage (classes XI-XII) in the schools affiliated to CBSE.

The National Curriculum Framework-2005 (NCF-2005) prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training recommends Health and Physical Education to be compulsory from primary to secondary stage and as an optional subject at higher secondary stage.

The NCF-2005 emphasizes comprehensive health and physical education curriculum. NCF-2005 has been circulated to all the States/Union territories. It is for the State/Union Territories to develop their own curriculum and syllabus based on NCF.

(c) to (e) Physical education teachers are appointed by the respective States/Union Territories and the statistics of these teachers is not maintained by the Central Government.

Setting up of Polytechnics

111. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved setting up of 1,000 polytechnics in the country;

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

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government to set up the new polytechnics in the country;

(d) if so, the details of polytechnics set up with one-time Central grant in the country, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the details of polytechnics proposed to be set up under public Private Partnership mode/private funding, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (e) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved a Scheme to provide financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories for establishment of new Polytechnics in the country Under this scheme a one time financial assistance of Rs. 12.3 crore per polytechnic is provided to State Government/Union Territories for establishment of 300 polytechnics in unserved and underserved districts. Similarly, it has also been decided to provide financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories for establishment of another 300 polytechnics through Public Private Partnership (PPP) made by providing a financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 3 crores per polytechnic. Further, 400 polytechnics are to be set up under the private sector. The criteria for establishment of new polytechnics is based on the availability of diploma seats per lakh of population as compared to the national average, with the lower intake capacity districts getting preference over the higher ones. The details of number of such unserved and under served 300 districts identified and financial assistance provided State-wise so far, including the State of Andhra Pradesh are enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Unserved and Underserved Districts	No. of District where Financial Assistance has been provided so far
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	-
2.	Puducherry	-	-

1	2	3	4
3.	Tamil Nadu	7	—
4.	Kerala	—	—
5.	Karnataka	—	—
6.	Chandigarh	—	—
7.	Delhi	5	—
8.	Haryana	7	2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18	4
11.	Punjab	7	—
12.	Rajasthan	15	1
13.	Uttar Pradesh	41	6
14.	Uttarakhand	1	—
15.	Arunachal Pradesh	14	3
16.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	—
17.	Assam	21	—
18.	Bihar	34	5
19.	Jharkhand	17	4
20.	Manipur	8	2
21.	Meghalaya	4	1
22.	Mizoram	6	2
23.	Nagaland	8	2
24.	Orissa	22	4
25.	Sikkim	2	1

1	2	3	4
26.	Tripura	3	1
27.	West Bengal	11	1
28.	Chhattisgarh	11	4
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—
30.	Daman and Diu	1	—
31.	Goa	—	—
32.	Gujarat	5	1
33.	Lakshadweep	1	—
34.	Madhya Pradesh	21	5
35.	Maharashtra	2	—
Total		300	50

Replanting Subsidy of Natural Rubber

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase the replanting subsidy on natural rubber; and

(b) 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) and (b) There is no proposal at present to increase the replanting subsidy of natural rubber.

Funds to Rural and Urban Areas under PMEGP

113. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

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

(a) whether the Government has provided funds to rural and urban areas under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP);

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

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government to grant funds to rural and urban areas under the said programme?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rs. 823 crore [Rs. 740 crore (approximately) towards margin money and Rs. 83 crore (approximately) towards backward-forward linkages] have been provided during 2008-09 for the implementation of Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP). The scheme has been approved for implementation from 2008-09 to 2011-12 with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 4735 crore (Rs. 4485 crore towards margin money and Rs. 250 crore towards backward forward linkages). PMEGP is administered by the Government [in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME)] and implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), as the single nodal agency at the national level. At the State/Union Territories level, the scheme is implemented through field offices of KVIC, State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) and District Industries Centres (DICs) and Banks.

The following tentative targets have been proposed under PMEGP during the four years, i.e., from 2008-09 to 2011-12:—

Year	Employment (number of persons)	Margin Money (subsidy) (Rs. crore)
1	2	3
2008-09	6,16,867	740.00
2009-10	7,40,000	888.00
2010-11	9,62,000	1,154.40

1	2	3
2011-12	14,18,833	1702.60
Total	37,37,500	4485.00

Note: 1. An additional amount of Rs. 250 crore has been earmarked for backward and forward linkages.

2. To begin with, the targets have been distributed between KVIC (including State KVIBs) and State DICs in the ratio of 60:40 to ensure comparatively greater emphasis to micro enterprises in rural areas. The margin money subsidy has also been allocated in the same ratio. DICs have been asked to ensure that at least 50 per cent of the amount allocated to them is utilized in the rural areas.
3. The annual allocation of targets has been issued State/Union Territory-wise to the implementing agencies.

The State/Union Territory-wise details of targets of margin money of Rs. 740.33 crore allocated under the PMEGP during 2008-09, are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The broad criteria for distribution of State/Union Territory-wise targets are as given below:—

- (i) Extent of backwardness of State;
- (ii) Extent of unemployment;
- (iii) Extent of fulfilment of targets under PMRY and REGP in 2007-08;
- (iv) Extent of recovery of loans under PMRY and REGY in 2007-08;
- (v) Population of State/Union Territory; and
- (vi) Availability of traditional skills and raw material.

Statement

*State/Union Territory-wise details of allocation of Margin Money (MM)
targets under PMEGP for 2008-09*

(amount in Rs. lakh)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Total MM	% of Total Allocation	State DIC		%	KVIC	KVIBs
				Rural	Urban			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Chandigarh	59.94	0.08	11.99	11.99	40%	0.00	35.96
2.	Delhi	899.10	1.21	179.82	179.82	40%	269.73	269.73
3.	Haryana	1431.16	1.93	286.23	286.23	40%	429.35	429.35
4.	Himachal Pradesh	452.14	0.61	90.43	90.43	40%	135.64	135.64
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	748.14	1.01	149.63	149.63	40%	134.66	314.22
6.	Punjab	1608.02	2.17	321.61	321.60	40%	482.41	482.40
7.	Rajasthan	4011.54	5.42	802.31	802.31	40%	1203.46	1203.46
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	19.98	0.03	4.00	3.99	40%	0.00	11.99
9.	Bihar	6440.22	8.70	1288.05	1288.04	40%	1932.07	1932.06
10.	Jharkhand	2366.52	3.20	473.31	473.30	40%	709.96	709.95
11.	Orissa	2946.68	3.98	589.34	589.33	40%	884.01	884.00
12.	West Bengal	5513.74	7.45	1102.75	1102.75	40%	992.47	2315.77
13.	Andhra Pradesh	5319.86	7.19	1063.97	1063.97	40%	1595.96	1595.96
14.	Karnataka	3571.24	4.82	714.25	714.25	40%	1071.37	1071.37
15.	Kerala	2123.80	2.87	424.76	424.76	40%	637.14	637.14
16.	Lakshadweep	6.66	0.01	1.33	1.33	40%	0.00	4.00
17.	Puducherry	59.94	0.08	11.99	11.99	40%	0.00	35.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18. Tamil Nadu		4220.23	5.70	844.05	844.04	40%	1266.07	1266.07
19. Goa		86.59	0.12	17.32	17.31	40%	15.60	36.36
20. Gujarat		3460.98	4.67	692.20	692.19	40%	1038.3	1038.29
21. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		13.32	0.02	2.67	2.66	40%	7.99	0.00
22. Daman and Diu		13.32	0.02	2.67	2.66	40%	7.99	0.00
23. Maharashtra		6628.91	8.95	1325.79	1325.78	40%	1988.67	1988.67
24. Chhattisgarh		1736.78	2.35	347.36	347.35	40%	521.04	521.03
25. Madhya Pradesh		4619.82	6.24	923.97	923.96	40%	1385.95	1385.94
26. Uttarakhand		641.59	0.87	128.32	128.32	40%	192.48	192.47
27. Uttar Pradesh		11768.96	15.90	2353.79	2353.79	40%	3530.69	3530.69
28. Arunachal Pradesh		102.86	0.14	20.57	20.57	40%	30.86	30.86
29. Assam		2050.54	2.77	410.11	410.11	40%	615.16	615.16
30. Manipur		235.32	0.32	47.07	47.06	40%	70.60	70.59
31. Meghalaya		241.98	0.33	48.40	48.39	40%	72.60	72.59
32. Mizoram		119.14	0.16	23.83	23.83	40%	21.44	50.04
33. Nagaland		215.34	0.29	43.07	43.07	40%	38.76	90.44
34. Tripura		236.06	0.32	47.21	47.21	40%	70.82	70.82
35. Sikkim		62.90	0.08	12.58	12.58	40%	18.87	18.87
Total		74033.32	100.00	14806.75	4806.60	40%	1372.12	23047.85

Meeting of CMs on Internal Security

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

114. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL :
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR :

(a) whether a meeting of Chief Ministers was held in January, 2009 to discuss internal security scenario including naxalism;

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

(c) whether the issues of providing guerrilla training to security forces and involvement of neighbouring countries inciting terrorism in India was also discussed;

(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) A meeting of the Chief Ministers of the States on 'Internal Security' was held on 6.1.2009 in which various measures to raise the level of preparedness to counter the increasingly sophisticated terrorist threats as well as to enhance the speed and decisiveness of the response to a terrorist threat or a terrorist attack were discussed. Various areas requiring attention in this context, which emerged in the deliberations, inter-alia, include: strengthening of intelligence machinery in the States and arrangements for sharing of intelligence between various agencies and action thereon, raising of Commands/Special forces for responding to terrorist attacks; security arrangements for strategic and vulnerable establishments and installations; filling up of vacancies in/and augmentation of State Police forces; setting up of special forces for the latter at the State level; community policing, building public awareness and developing police-citizen interface; development of action plans for building crime and criminal tracking network; vigorous implementation of identity norms for mobile phone subscribers, strengthening the arrangements for coastal security, including registration of fishing vessels and issue of identity cards to fishermen. Meeting of the Chief Ministers of seven naxal affected States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and West Bengal was held on 7.1.2009. There was a consensus in the meeting that there

should be a uniform approach and holistic policy to deal with naxalism, in which attention should be paid to the needs and grievances of the people, on the one hand; and well-planned and determined action should be taken against the naxals by the police and security forces, on the other. With reference to the latter the need to raise specialized forces trained in Guerilla/Jungle warfare, and for coordinated and joint operations by the forces of neighbouring States in bordering areas was emphasized.

Action in the various areas mentioned above is being pursued in close coordination with the State Governments.

[Translation]

Cases of internet fraud

115. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of internet and Credit Card frauds are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and in the current year, State-wise including conviction rate achieved in such cases during the said period;

(c) whether the Central and State investigation agencies are fully equipped to deal with the such cases;

(d) if so, the details of existing facilities available with the investigating agencies alongwith budgetary allocations made in the last three years and in the current year in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons and constraints faced by the investigation agencies in dealing with such cases;

(f) whether the Government has any plan to increase the allocation for improving the facilities and training in information Technology to personnel of the Central and State investigation agencies to effectively deal with such crimes;

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

(h) whether there is any need for strengthening the existing penal provisions relating to internet and credit card frauds; and

(i) if so, the details thereof alongwith details of steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The State-wise number of incidents of Internet frauds, i.e., cases of fraudulent withdrawal of money from banks through internet/online banking, as reported by the banks to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), during the last three financial years and current year (upto December 2008) is given in the enclosed Statement-I. RBI has intimated that the Credit Card frauds are reported by the issuing office of the bank, which is centralised in one city for each bank. Therefore, State-wise perpetration of Credit Card frauds is not reported to RBI. However, bank-wise data for Credit Card related frauds, as furnished by RBI, has been given in Statement-II. The figures relating to the incidents of both Internet and Credit Card frauds indicate a mixed trend. RBI does not maintain data relating to conviction in such cases. Banks are required to report the matter to the State Police/ CBI as per guidelines issued by RBI and pursue the cases with the investigative agencies till their logical end. However, as reported by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), State/UT-wise details of cases registered under Fraud digital signature (Sec. 74 IT Act) and Breach of confidentiality / privacy (Sec 72 IT Act) and other related sections of IPC during 2005 to 2007 are enclosed in Statement-III. The State/UT wise number of persons

arrested during 2006 and 2007 in above offences are enclosed in Statement-IV. Similar information for 2005 is not available. Other details regarding conviction are not maintained by NCRB.

(c) The Department of Information Technology (DIT) has set up Resource Centre for Cyber Forensics at the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Thiruvananthapuram, which has developed indigenous cyber forensics tools. These tools are now being used by agencies to investigate cyber crime cases. C-DAT, Thiruvananthapuram also conducts training programmes for law enforcement agencies on these tools. Organizations like Police Academies, Central Bureau of investigation (CBI), Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), Controller of Certifying Authority (CCA), NCRB, Regional Police Computer Training Centres (RPCTCs) etc. conduct regular training programmes for imparting training to the police officials for preventing cyber crime in the country. The laboratories under the Directorate of Forensic Science (DFS) also conduct regular training programmes in the country for the benefit of law enforcement agencies and train them in search and seizure and handling of digital evidence. DIT has provided grants to CBI and Kerala Police to set up cyber forensics labs for investigation of cyber crimes and these labs will also be used for training the police officers. Therefore, it can be said that the Central and State investigation agencies are reasonably equipped to deal with such cases.

(d) to (g) The requisite information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(h) and (i) The existing Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for legal framework to prevent cyber crimes including Internet frauds. Further, the Act has been amended to include provisions to address computer crimes like, phishing, spamming, online frauds and identity theft as also for data protection. The Government has also conducted several awareness and training programmes on cyber laws and cyber crimes for Judicial Officers and law

enforcement agencies. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN) under DIT provides reactive and proactive support to the cyber incidents in the country. It also liaisons with similar agencies worldwide and users of cyberspace in the country including Government, public or

private and issues alerts, advisories and vulnerability notes. These advisories are also published on the website of CERT-IN (<http://www.cert-in.org.in>). CERT-IN also interacts with cyber users in the country to mitigate such incidents.

Statement-I

State-wise data on number of internet frauds and amount involved therein as reported by the banks to Reserve Bank of India

(Rs. in Lakh)

Name of State	April 2005- March 2006		April 2006- March 2007		April 2007- March 2008		April 2008 to December 2008	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	2	4.32	5	11.50	7	14.77	11	64.29
Assam	0	0	0	0	1	5.00	1	1.00
Bihar	0	0	0	0	1	1.00	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.65
Delhi	1	1.00	6	10.72	18	24.55	8	10.90
Goa	0	0	0	0	1	2.00	0	0
Gujarat	0	0	1	1.00	3	23.00	4	5.51
Haryana	1	30.87	1	1.00	1	1.02	3	4.00
Jharkhand	0	0	1	1.50	0	0	0	0
Karnataka	1	2.40	5	12.76	5	6.59	6	7.90
Kerala	0	0	1	1.06	3	3.67	2	17.60
Madhya Pradesh	2	4.33	3	3.31	8	11.52	1	1.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Maharashtra	4	6.03	18	30.04	44	88.57	23	55.54
Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	89.93
Orissa	1	5.55	0	0	2	5.63	1	1.96
Tamil Nadu	2	3.79	2	3.00	16	43.56	7	209.74
Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.00
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	8	19.53	2	4.00
West Bengal	1	2.98	2	3.56	12	28.70	5	35.72
#Incidents where amount involved is less than Rs. 1.00 lakh each	198	35.51	102	28.38	244	279.11	46	17.43
Total	213	96.78	147	107.83	374	558.22	233	657.05

#State-wise details of incidents where amount involved is less than Rs. 1 lakh each is currently not available with RBI.

Statement-II

Bank-wise data on number of credit card frauds and amount involved therein, as reported by the banks to Reserve Bank of India

(Amount in Rs. lakh)

Name of Bank	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (till December 2008)	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ABN AMRO Bank	24	10.68	148	71.13	173	103.29	128	120.15
American Express Bank	—	—	524	262.58	499	266.43	73	604.93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Axis Bank	—	—			—	—	5	18.27
Bank of Baroda	—	—	—	—	4	2.81	2	0.21
Bank of India	—	—	2	5.52	1	2.79	1	6.63
Bank of Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2.61
Bank of Rajasthan	—	—	8	1.64	1	1.02	3	2.83
Barclays Bank	—	—	—	—	33	19.02	17	183.74
Canara Bank	2	0.53	4	3.07	3	11.80	—	—
Central Bank of India	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.22
Citi Bank	331	106.12	2020	610.40	1586	592.64	817	473.13
Deutsche Bank	—	—	—	—	40	81.44	78	209.71
HDFC Bank	9	13.10	60	73.66	114	85.32	114	98.57
HSBC Bank	10	72.12	2495	613.21	3721	626.89	2483	490.17
ICICI Bank	2613	322.45	13954	1863.66	10035	1678.48	8280	1147.09
IDBI Bank	—	—	3	13.79	—	—	—	—
IOB	—	—	—	—	1	0.75	—	—
Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	34.90
Kotak Mahindra Bank	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	5.48
Std. Chartered Bank	5	7.32	34	50.61	96	108.87	306	239.11
Union Bank of India	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7.48
Vijaya Bank	—	—	—	—	1	1.31	2	9.02
Total	2994	532.32	19252	3569.27	16308	3582.86	12959	3854.25

Statement-III

Incidence of Fraud related cases registered for the period 2005 to 2007 under IT ACT and IPC Crime

Sl. No.	States	2005		2006		2007				
		IT Act	IPC Crime	IT Act	IPC Crime	IT Act	IPC Crime			
		Fraud Breach of confi- dentiality/ (Sec 74)	Forgery Breach of 463, 466 468, 469 471, 474 476 477A)	Criminal Breach of 463, 466 Trust/ 474 Fraud (Sec 405, 406, 408, 409)	Fraud Breach of confi- dentiality/ (Sec 74)	Forgery Breach of confi- dentiality/ 465, 466 Trust/ 468, 469 471, 474 Fraud (Sec 405, 406, 408, 409)	Fraud Breach of confi- dentiality/ 465, 466 Trust/ 468, 469 471, 474 Fraud (Sec 405, 406, 408, 409)	Fraud Breach of confi- dentiality/ 465, 466 Trust/ 468, 469 471, 474 Fraud (Sec 405, 406, 408, 409)		
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	28	0	31	0	41	0	22	15
2	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Chhattisgarh	1	4	0	7	0	11	3	0	28
5	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Gujarat	0	4	0	118	0	0	0	0	2
7	Haryana	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
27. Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	1
UTs:														
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	3	7
30. Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32. Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	4	3	0	0	14	1
34. Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35. Pondichery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (All India)	1	5	1	5	48	186	1	3	160	90	3	9	217	73

Source: Crime in India

Statement-IV

*Persons arrested under cheating related cases in IT ACT and
IPC Sections during 2006-2007*

Sl. No.	State/UTs	2006				2007			
		IT ACT		IPC Crime		IT ACT		IPC Crime	
		Fraud Digital/Signature (Sec. 74)	Breach of confidentiality/privacy (Sec. 72)	Forgery	Criminal Breach of Trust/ Fraud	Fraud Digital/Signature (Sec. 74)	Breach of confidentiality/privacy (Sec. 72)	Forgery	Criminal Breach of Trust/ Fraud
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	36	88	0	0	46	13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	13	6	3	0	52	20
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
8.	Haryana	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	132	13	0	0	140	16
15.	Maharashtra	0	0	4	2	0	0	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	0	0	0	6	0	2	10	24
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	3	1	0	0	4	12
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Havelli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	0	4	3	0	0	4	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (All India)		0	2	194	121	3	3	264	85

Source: Crime in India.

[English]

Vacant Seats in Higher Educational Institutions

116. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI :
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :

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

(a) whether a large number of teaching and non-teaching posts including in reserved categories are lying vacant in Higher Educational Institutions and Central Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof in Higher Educational institutions, universities, category-wise;

(c) the reasons for not filling up of the vacant posts;

(d) the time by which such posts are likely to be filled up;

(e) whether the Oversight Committee has recommended for more financial assistance to recruit additional teaching staff in view of 27 per cent reservation in Higher Education; and

(f) if so, the allocation made for recruitment of additional teachers in the Central Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) According to information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), out of sanctioned strength (teaching), 18.8% posts in 21 Central Universities and 33.12% posts in 74 State Universities are lying vacant. Vacancy position in 21 Central Universities and 74 State Universities is given below:—

	Sanctioned Posts	Vacant posts			
		Professor	Reader	Lecturer	Total
Central Universities	9998	478	603	808	1889 (18.8%)
State Universities	23527	1598	2273	3922	7793 (33.12%)

Non-Teaching Staff

	Sanctioned Posts	Vacant Posts				
		Group-A	Group-B	Group-C	Group-D	Total
Central Universities	28987	336	303	2323	2078	5040

(c) and (d) Posts are vacant due to non-availability of suitable candidates, academic mobility of faculty members, retirements and resignations. The Government and University Grants Commission (UGC) have been reminding the universities to fill up the vacant posts. In so far as shortage of teaching staff is concerned, the

measures taken by the Government/UGC to attract bright young peoples to adopt teaching in higher education as a career vis-à-vis the opportunity available to them in new and emerging sectors of our economy are as under:—

— The Government have announced a very progressive Pay Review Package for attracting

and retaining talent in the teaching profession in the higher education sector.

- Enhancing rates of Junior and Senior Research Fellowships by about 50%
- Strengthening science based education and research in Universities.
- Disbursement of grant for presentation of research papers in international fora/conferences.
- Enhancing the quantum of research grant to Universities aimed at encouraging research.
- Selecting about 250 Professors of Eminence for appointment in a higher grade with a view to encouraging and rewarding the top faculty.
- Organizing summer schools to train teachers.
- Enhancing the retirement age of teachers from 62 to 65 years as also retention of the re-employment teachers upto the age of 70 years.

(e) and (f) The Oversight Committee has recommended financial assistance to recruit more teaching staff. UGC has allocated an amount of Rs. 1943.29 crores to Central Universities for recruitment of teachers of non-teaching staff (including non-salary grants) for 5 years.

Computer Facilities in Police Station

117. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide computer facility with Internet to all the Police Stations in the country;

(b) if so, whether Planning Commission has allocated funds for the said purpose during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

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

(d) the total funds granted/utilised during the said period, State-wise; and

(e) the total number of Police Stations in the country provided with computer facility, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A project i.e., Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System (CCTNS) has been conceptualized in the Ministry of Home Affairs to provide computer facility with internet to all Police Stations in the country. Rs. 2000 crore has been allocated by Planning Commission for the said purposes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) The project is at initial stage of necessary approvals and provisions have been made year-wise and component-wise in the project report.

(e) 2760 Police Stations have so far been provided computers out of non-plan scheme called 'Modernization of State Police Forces' with funding of Rs. 129 crore. A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	State Name	No. of Police Station where Computers provided
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	105
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29
3.	Assam	25
4.	Bihar	80
5.	Chhattisgarh	32
6.	Goa	4
7.	Gujarat	186

1	2	3
8.	Haryana	60
9.	Himachal Pradesh	40
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	23
11.	Jharkhand	38
12.	Karnataka	291
13.	Kerala	180
14.	Madhya Pradesh	202
15.	Maharashtra	317
16.	Manipur	6
17.	Meghalaya	16
18.	Mizoram	8
19.	Nagaland	4
20.	Orissa	45
21.	Punjab	95
22.	Rajasthan	320
23.	Sikkim	11
24.	Tamil Nadu*	137
25.	Tripura	5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	137
27.	Uttarakhand	41
28.	West Bengal	137
Total		2574

Sl. No.	Name of Union Territory	No. of Police Station where Computers provided
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
2.	Chandigarh	11
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2
4.	Daman and Diu	3
5.	Delhi	126
6.	Lakshadweep	9
7.	Puducherry	33
Total		186

Setting up of Small Scale Industries

118. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken initiatives to encourage setting up of Small Scale Industries in economically underdeveloped areas in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of such schemes implemented and funds released by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments/Union Territories (UTs) for development and promotion of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises through various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing and entrepreneurial development. An allocation of Rs. 1794 crore was kept for this sector (including for Khadi and Village Industry Commission and Coir Board) during the financial year 2008-09 by the Ministry of Micro, Small

and Medium Enterprises. As per standing guidelines allocation of 10% of the gross budgetary support is kept for the North Eastern Region (NER). In addition Central Government provides fiscal incentives for all the industries including micro, small and medium enterprises variously in the eight states of NER and special category of states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir. These incentives include Central Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, Central Interest Subsidy Scheme, Income Tax Exemptions, Central Excise Duty Exemptions and Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme.

[Translation]

Standard of Distance Education

119. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any concrete proposal/scheme to improve the standard of distance education in the country;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the details of funds allocated for this purpose during each of the last three years and in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (d) A proposal to establish the Distance Education Council, as a statutory authority, to coordinate, maintain and regulate the standards of education through distance mode is under consideration.

[English]

Anti Smuggling Measures

120. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the smuggling activities on the Indo-Bangladesh border;

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

(c) the details of steps taken in coordination with the West Bengal Government and BSF to crackdown on smugglers cartels operating alongwith the Indo-Bangladesh border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) As per available information, the smuggling activities along Indo Bangladesh Border has declined during the last three years. The reported value of seized contraband goods are as under:—

Sl. No.	Year	Value (Rs. in crore)
1.	2006	107.81
2.	2007	118.79
3.	2008	100.50
4.	2009 (upto 31.01.2009)	12.45

(c) Government of India has taken following steps to check smuggling along Indo Bangladesh Border.

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

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of borders by Border Security Forces which patrols both land and riverine stretches. BSF is working in close coordination with State Police and other Intelligence Agencies to stop smuggling and other trans-border crimes on Indo-Bangladesh Border.

- (iii) Establishment of 1185 border out posts long Indo-Bangladesh border, out of which 802 outposts have already been set up.
- (iv) Introduction of modern surveillance equipments including night vision devices, etc.
- (v) Upgradation of intelligence machinery.

Freedom Fighters' Pension

121. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of freedom fighters, their widows and other eligible dependents in the country who are receiving Freedom Fighters' Pension as on date, separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any complaints about Fake Freedom Fighters receiving pension in the country;

(c) if so, the total number of such cases registered by the Government and details of action taken against them during each of the last three years and current year, State wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Since the inception of the Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme in 1972, the Government has sanctioned pension to about 1,70,483 freedom fighters and their widows and other eligible dependents till 31.01.2009. A Statement indicating the State-wise details is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Complaints containing allegation of bogus/ fraudulent claims for freedom fighter's pension are received from time to time. All such complaints are examined with reference to the applicable provisions to the pension scheme is consultation with the concerned State Governments. In cases where the allegations are sustained,

the claims are rejected and if the pension has been sanctioned, the same is suspended/cancelled and recovery of pension ordered after following the prescribed procedure.

(d) The claims of Central Samman Pension are considered on the basis for eligibility criteria and evidentiary requirements prescribed in the Scheme and duly verified by State Government/Union Territory.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Pensions sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14,648
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	4,438
4. and 5.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	24,874
6.	Goa	1,470
7.	Gujarat	3,598
8.	Haryana	1,886
9.	Himachal Pradesh	624
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,807
11.	Karnataka	10,087
12.	Kerala	3,291
13. and 14.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	3,468
15.	Maharashtra	17,810
16.	Manipur	62

1	2	3
17.	Meghalaya	86
18.	Mizoram	04
19.	Nagaland	03
20.	Orissa	4,190
21.	Punjab	7,016
22.	Rajasthan	811
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	4,106
25.	Tripura	887
26. and 27.	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	17,993
28.	West Bengal	22,486
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	03
30.	Chandigarh	90
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	83
32.	Daman and Diu	33
33.	Lakshadweep	0
34.	NCT of Delhi	2,044
35.	Pondicherry	317
	Indian National Army (INA)	22,468
	Total	1,70,483

E-Auction by Tea Board of India

122. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tea Board has started e-Auction by discontinuing the traditional tea auction system;

(b) if so, the manner in which this system would be more beneficial and how would this system can help the Tea buyers of Assam; and

(c) the details of method/training incentive being given to the Tea buyers/officials in the State of Assam 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 re-designed E-auction system for tea has been inaugurated at the following centers in order to replace the existing manual tea auction system:—

Auction Centres	Inauguration date
Kolkata tea auction centre	19.11.2008
Guwahati tea auction centre	08.12.2008
Siliguri tea auction centre	13.12.2008
Coimbatore tea auction centre	20.12.2008
Cochin tea auction centre	20.12.2008
Coonoor tea auction centre	21.12.2008

(b) The re-designed e-auction system is more beneficial to auction stakeholders particularly auction buyers including auction tea buyers of Assam as it has the following facilities:—

- (1) Facility for parallel bidding.
- (2) Larger participation of eligible buyers in the bidding process ensuring competition in the fair price discovery mechanism.

- (3) Buyers are able to participate in the bidding process not only from auction hall but also from outside the auction hall.
- (4) Transparency in the pre e-auction mechanism, e-auction mechanism and post e-auction mechanism
- (c) The details are as follows:—
- (i) Customisation of software for User Acceptance Testing (UAT).
- (ii) Arrangement of primary network connectivity i.e. MPLS VPN network connectivity to six auction centers including Guwahati and to the server hosting station at Mumbai.
- (iii) Circulation of users' manual to all the auction centers including Guwahati indicating step by step direction on how to use software by tea auction stakeholders.
- (iv) Deployment of six support engineers at six auction centers including Guwahati.
- (v) Imparting of training to the stakeholders of six auction centres including Guwahati during September-October, 2008.
- (vi) Making necessary arrangements for mock sessions in the six auction centers including Guwahati.

**Construction of Roads along
Sino-India Border**

123. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of roads sanctioned for construction along the Sino-India border during the last three years;
- (b) the location of the roads for which constructions has been started;

(c) the number of roads which are pending for construction; and

(d) the time by which all the pending roads are likely to be constructed by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (d) The Government has sanctioned construction of 73 roads in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh along Sino-India border during the last three years. These include 27 roads of operational significance to Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) which are being executed by Ministry of Home Affairs. While the construction of 49 roads, including 6 ITBP roads, has started, work of construction of pending 24 roads will commence after obtaining the forest and environmental clearance of these roads. All the roads are expected to be completed by 2012-13.

Ban on FDI in Tobacco Sector

124. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state .

- (a) whether the Government proposes to ban FDI in tobacco sector;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether global tobacco players are lobbying against Government's proposal to ban FDI as reported in the Business Standard dated 15 January, 2009; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) to (d) As per extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is allowed, with prior Government approval, in the manufacture of cigars and cigarettes of tobacco products, subject to industrial licence

and conditions thereof under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. FDI policy for cigarettes is in the process of review through inter-ministerial consultations. India is a signatory to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Further, no proposal for creation of new capacity or addition of capacity is being allowed in the tobacco sector. A proposal to prohibit FDI in the manufacture of cigarettes, where the manufacture is for domestic consumption, has, accordingly, been initiated by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and is under consideration of the Government. Representations have been received in this regard from various companies.

[Translation]

Unregistered job bureaus

125. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of registered/unregistered job bureaus running in the National Capital Region of Delhi;

(b) whether the Delhi High Court has expressed its concern over such unregistered job bureaus involved in illicit trafficking of girls and flesh trade in the garb of providing jobs to them;

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

(d) whether the Government has taken action against such bureaus;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) As per the information provided by the Labour Department, Government of NCT of Delhi, no establishment has been registered as job bureau/placement agency in the NCT of Delhi.

(b) The Delhi High Court wants Government of NCT of Delhi to bring job bureaus/placement agencies under some statutory control.

(c) A Committee of Secretaries appointed by the Government of NCT of Delhi has asked Labour Department to amend Delhi Shops and Establishment Rules to resume registration of placement agencies.

(d) to (f) Since the registration of placement agencies in NCT of Delhi is not taking place, no action can be taken.

Mid Day Meal Scheme

126. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the Government has been successful in achieving the targets set under the Mid Day Meal Scheme;

(b) whether the teaching staff neglect their teaching duties because of Mid Day Meal Scheme resulting in poor quality of education;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and remedial measures taken in this regard;

(d) whether this is the cause for drop out cases in Government run primary Schools in the country including Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the corrective measures initiated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to provide Mid Day Meal on all school days to all children attending classes I to VIII in the Government, Government-aided and local body schools and Educational Guarantee Scheme (EGS)/Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE) centres of the country. All the 35 States/UTs are implementing the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The scheme is

monitored at various levels to ensure effective implementation and achievement of targets.

(b) and (c) The MDM Guidelines stipulate that the teachers should not be assigned responsibilities that would impede or interfere with teaching learning. Teachers should, however, be involved in ensuring that (i) good quality, wholesome food is served to children, and (ii) the actual serving and eating is undertaken in the spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions and in an orderly manner. In order to ensure that teaching-learning processes in the classrooms are not affected, States have been advised to assign the responsibility of the day-to-day management of the programme at school level to the Village Education Committees (VECs), School Management & Development Committee (SMDC) or Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs). Similarly, responsibility for cooking/supply of cooked Mid Day Meal be assigned to one of the following:-

- Local women's/mother' Self Help Group
- Local Youth Club affiliated to the Nehru Yuvak Kendras
- A voluntary organization fulfilling requirements laid down in the MDM Guidelines; and
- By personnel engaged directly by the VEC/SMDC/PTA/Gram Panchayat/Municipality.

(d) and (e) The drop-out rate at the primary level has shown a consistent decline over the years. In the year 2004-05, the drop-out rate in primary schools (I-V) at national level was 29.00 which has come down to 25.67 in the year 2005-06. So far as State to Uttar Pradesh is concerned; the drop-out rate has come down from 12.06 in 2004-05 to 9.76 in 2005-06.

[English]

Smuggling of Arms and Ammunition

127. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister

of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether large scale smuggling of arms and ammunition into the country is taking place;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has identified the countries from where arms and ammunition are being smuggled into the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has taken up the issue with such countries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

(f) The Government of India has taken the following steps to check the smuggling of arms and ammunition—

- (i) The State and UT Government have been urged to make sustained and continued efforts to unearth illegal weapons/arms.
- (ii) Regular meetings are held with the representatives of the States/UTs. to monitor and take stock of the situations.
- (iii) Border management has been strengthened by border fencing on the Indo-Pak and Bangladesh borders, deployment of security forces along the borders, infrared sensors, thermal imaging devices (including night vision devices), underground sensors, trip wire mechanisms to activate fence lights, battle field surveillance radars, etc.

New Centres and Air Wing for NSG

128. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :
 SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL :
 SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
 SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL :
 SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
 SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :
 SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to open new centres to station the commandos of the National Security Guards (NSG) for their swift deployment to tackle terrorist attacks in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the locations proposed for the said purpose;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to set up separate air wings for NSG and to station them in the vicinity of airports in the country to tackle emergencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the said proposals are likely to be implemented;

(e) whether the Government proposes to re-design the training courses and enhance training facilities for its commando units to help their counter terrorist skills; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) The Government has decided in principle to set up NSG hubs in the Metropolitan cities of Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai for swift deployment of the force in crisis situations.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Arrangements have been made for availability of an Air craft at Delhi for immediate movement of NSG in the event of need. In addition to this, Notifications under Indian Aircraft, Act, 1934 and NSG Act, 1986 have been issued on 22nd and 23rd January, 2009 wherein the Government and NSG can requisition Air craft in the event of emergency from Registered operators for the public service. One NSG Task Force has also been stationed at the IGI Airport, New Delhi.

(e) and (f) Training is an integral part of NSG and training course contents are updated, from time to time, according to the operational needs.

[Translation]

Foreign Companies in Indian Retail Market

129. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
 SHRI SURAJ SINGH :

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

(a) the details of foreign companies operating in retail sector till December, 2008 along with the amount of capital invested by them so far; and

(b) the detail with regard to retail outlets of these companies, product-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :

(a) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail trading is prohibited except in 'Single Brand Retail' where 51% FDI is allowed with prior Government approval. A detailed statement on FDI approvals granted for Single Brand Retail upto December 31, 2008 is enclosed.

(b) The products approved for retail trade are provided in the above Annex in the column: 'Item of Manufacture'. No centralised data in regard to location of retail outlets is maintained.

Statement**Detailed statement of FDI approvals in Single Brand Retail Trading****(March, 2006 to December, 2008)****(Amount in million)**

Sl. No.	Registration No. and Date	Indian Company Name and Address	Foreign Collaborator Name and Address	Foreign Equity		%age of Foreign Equity
				In Rs.	In US\$	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Country : Australia

1.	18 08 May, 2007	Forever New Apparels Pvt. Ltd. C/o R.P. Malhan and Company 1, A&C Vandhana Building 11, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001	Forever New Clothing PTY Ltd. Australia	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Location : Delhi (Delhi)	Item of Manufacture: To establish New Stores for Single Brand retail trade of Fashion clothing, Swimwear, Lingerie, Handbags, Belts, Jewellery, Footwear and Sunglasses under the brand name forever new			
		Appr. No. (Date): 9 (30 November 2007)				

Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 1, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 0.00, US\$ million : 0.00

Country : Belgium

2.	12 21 November, 2006	ETAMINT, C/o M/s. J. Sagar Associate S, 84E, C-6 Lane Sainik Farms, New Delhi-110062	ETAMINT Bruxelles, 206, Chaussee d' Alseberg Belgium	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Location: Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra)	Item of Manufacture: Wholesale Trading and Retail Trading under the Single Brand name "ETAM" in women's fashions (Ready-to-wear, Lingerie and accessories).			
		Appr No. (Date): 12 (31 January, 2007)				
3.	14 17 June, 2006	CELIO International, C/o Lalit Mathur, Advocate A-18, Second Floor, Jungpura Extension, New Delhi-110 014	CELIO International	120.0	2.63	50.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Location: Greater Mumbai
(Mumbai) (Maharashtra)

Appr No. (Date): 13 (30 Sept., 2007)

Item of Manufacture: Single Brand Retail Trading under the
Brand name "CELIO" in Men's fashions

Total Technical Cases : 0, **Total Financial Cases :** 2, **Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million :** 120.00, **US\$ million :** 2.63

Country : Canada

4.	23 06 July, 2007	TRIO Sports Wear (P) Ltd. C/o Seth Dua and Associates C-56, Neeti Bagh, New Delhi-110049	TRIO Selection INC Canada	0.00	0.00	0.00
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Location : Delhi (Delhi)

Appr No. (Date) : 10
(30 November, 2007)

Item of Manufacture: Single Brand Retailing and Production
of Sport, Goods, Apparels, Lifestyle Products, Garments
other Merchandising items and accessories

Total Technical Cases : 0, **Total Financial Cases :** 1, **Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million :** 0.00, **US\$ million :** 0.00

Country : China

5.	11 27 February, 2007	Jasbir Singh Chadda, C/o Anil Maihotra, Advocate, C-1/1026, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-70	Wah Luen Electronic Tools Co. Ltd. 9/F Bk 2, Trade Bldg. No. 42 Huanghe Rd. Shantou, Guangdong China	0.00	0.00	51.00
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Location : Delhi (Delhi)

Appr. No. (Date) : 6 (31 July, 2007)

Item of Manufacture: Import and single brand retail trade
of Electric/Electronic equipment, Industrial Machinery and
Equipment - Electrical and Non-Electrical under the Brand
name "CT BRAND"

Total Technical Cases : 0, **Total Financial Cases :** 1, **Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million :** 0.00, **US\$ million :** 0.00

Country : France

6.	1 03 January, 2007	SOCOME S.A., C/o J. Sagar Associates 84-E, C-6 Lane off, Central Avenue Sainik Farms, New Delhi-110062	SOCOME S.A. France	0.00	0.00	50.00
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		<p>Location : Tamil Nadu (Tamil Nadu) Appr. No. (Date): 1 (30 April 2007)</p>	<p>Item of Manufacture: Marketing and Distribution (including Single Brand Retail Trading) of Socomec Brand UPS Systems and related accessories</p>			
7.	2 17 April, 2007	<p>Louis Vuitton Malletier, C/o Thakker and Thakker A-320, Defence Colony, New Delhi</p> <p>Location : Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra) Appr. No. (Date) : 2 (31 August 2006)</p>	<p>Louis Vuitton Malletier 2 RUE DU PONT, NEUF Paris Codex 1, France</p> <p>Item of Manufacture : Retail trade of LVM brand products including pena/pens refills, diary refills paper, shoes, trunks/ travel bags/purses, leather items, sunglasses, watches, other article of plastics, jewellery imitation, ties, textile etc.</p>	38.20	0.82	51.00
8.	4 23 May, 2006	<p>Fendi International S.A. C/o Thakker and Thakker A-320, Defence Colony, New Delhi</p> <p>Location : Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra) Appr. No. (Date) : 4 (30 November, 2006)</p>	<p>Fendi International S.A.</p> <p>Item of Manufacture : Retail trade of Fendi Products.</p>	0.0	0.00	51.00
9.	16 19 April, 2007	<p>Christian DIOR Couture C/o Thakker and Thakker Advocates and Solicitors A-320, Defence Colony, New Delhi-24</p> <p>Location : Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra) Appr. No. (Date) : 4 (30 June, 2007)</p>	<p>Christian DIOR Couture France</p> <p>Item of Manufacture : Retail trading under the single brand "DIOR" products to be sold include other article of plastic, Trunks/Travel bags/purses, other article of leather shoes, Lingerie, ready to wear, headgear, umbrellas etc.</p>	0.00	0.00	51.00
10.	21 23 May, 2007	<p>Khanna Speciality Retail and Distributors P. Ltd. C/o Amarchand and Manvgalds and Suresh A. Shroff and Co., Amarchand Towers, 216 Okhla Indl. Estate Phase-III New Delhi</p>	<p>Hermes International France</p>	0.00	0.00	51.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 5 (30 June, 2007)	Item of Manufacture : Retail Trading under the single brand "Hermes" and wholesale/cash and Carry Trading of products includes leather goods, ready to wears, perfumes and cosmetics, stationery and diaries, footwears table-wear, saddlery and riding gear jewellery etc.			
11. 28	Crystal Ball Fashion P. Ltd. 21 Sept., 2007	C-49, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-II, New Delhi	Rene Derhy, 4, Rue DU Faubourg Pissonniere 75010, Paris, France	15.00	0.37	50.00
		Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 2 (31 March, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : Retail trade of readymade garments and accessories under the single brand "DERHY"			

Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 6, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 53.25, US\$ million : 1.19

Country : Hongkong

12. 24	TOD's Hong Kong Ltd. 20 July, 2007	C/o Thakker and Thakker A-320, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024	TOD'S Hongkong Ltd. 1, Queen's Road East, Hongkong	0.00	0.00	51.00
		Location : Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra) Appr. No. (Date) : 7 (30 September, 2007)	Item of Manufacture : To set up single brand TOD's retail stores in India. The products to be sold include leather, items, shoes, men and women ready to wear and accessories etc.			

Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 1, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 0.00, US\$ million : 0.00

Country : Italy

13. 2	Grotto S.P.A. 9 February, 2007	C/o Fox Mandal and Co. FM House, A-9, Sector-9, Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh	Grotto S.P.A.I.36010 Chiuppano (Vicenza), Italy initially by itself and subsequently in partnership with Simset SPA	0.00	0.00	50.00
		Location : Chennai (Tamil Nadu) Appr. No. (Date) : 2 (31 May, 2007)	Item of Manufacture : Cash and Carry wholesale trading Sourcing, manufacturing, Marketing and retailing of "GAS" brand premium casual clothing and accessory products in India			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14. 9 11 August, 2006	Rino Greggio Argenteries S.P.A. C/o M/s. K.R. Chawla and Co. 7th Floor, Kailash Bldg. 26, K.G. Marg New Delhi-110 001	Rino Greggio Argenteries S.P.A. via Tagliamento- 5-35030 Selvazzano, Italy	0.00	0.00	51.00	
	Location : State Not Indicated (State Not Indicated) Appr. No. (Date) : 9 (31 October, 2006)	Item of Manufacture : Retail trading for sale of all kind of Silverwar' and other Allied products including finished product etc.				
15. 10 12 May, 2008	Piquadro S.P.A. C/o Titus and Company R-77A, Greater Kailash-I New Delhi-110048	Piquadro S.P.A. LOC, Sassuriano, 246 40041 Silla di Gaggio Montaon Bologna Italy	15.30	0.36	51.00	
	Location : State Not Indicated (State Not Indicated) Appr. No. (Date) : 10 (31 August, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : To Engage in direct and/or indirect import, Marketing Distribution Sale or dealing in any manner with existing Range of Picquadro products in India under single brand piquadro through single brand retail stores.				
16. 11 11 October, 2008	Ermenegildo Zegna Holditalia SPA 135, Marine Drive Mumbai-400 020	Ermenegildo Zegna Holditalia SPA, Italy	57.54	1.29	51.00	
	Location : State Not Indicated (State Not Indicated) Appr. No. (Date) : 11 (31 December, 2006)	Item of Manufacture : Setting up of 'Single Brand' Zegna retail store in India for Marketing				
17. 12 23 May, 2008	ARAN Kitchenworld P. Ltd. 37, Conron Smith Road, Gopalapuram, Chennai-600 086	ARAN World S.R.L. Zona Industriale, Casoli di Arti Italy.	24.50	0.54	49.00	
	Location : Chennai (Tamil Nadu) Appr. No. (Date) : 12 (30 September, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : To set up stores for single brand retail trading of Modular Furniture, Kitchens, and accessories in India under the Brand Name "ARAN"				
18. 26 30 July, 2008	Dolce and Gabbana S.R.L. C/o Pricewaterhou SE Coopers P. Ltd. 11A, Sucheta Bhawan, 2nd Floor, Vishnu Digambar Marg, New Delhi	Dolce and Gabbana S.R.L. and/or ITS Subsidiaries Affiliates or Associate Companies via Goldoni 10, Milan, Italy-20129	365.00	9.25	51.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Location : State Not Indicated (State Not Indicated) Appr. No. (Date) : 13 (31 December, 2007)	Item of Manufacture : To undertake the Business of Single brand retail trading of all kinds of fashion and lifestyle products, including clothing, footwear leather goods bags, eyewear perfumes, jewellery etc. under the brands "DOLCE AND GABBANA etc.			
Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 6, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 462.34, US\$ million : 11.44						
19. 13	Signature Kitchens (I) P. Ltd. 9 April, 2007	C/o Daryani Naresh and Associates, 309A, Corner Point, behind Hotel Express, Alkapur, Baroda-390007	Fabrina SDN, BHD, Lot 24, Jalan Teknologi, Taman Sains Selangor 1, Kota Damansara 47810 Petaling Jaya Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	3.84	0.10	32.00
		Location : Bangalore (Urban) (Karnataka) Appr. No. (Date) : 1 (31 March, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : Retail Trade under the single brand "Signature Kitchen" the products to be sold include modular kitchens with inbuilt Accessories and Modular Wardrobes with inbuilt accessories.			
Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 1, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 3.84, US\$ million : 0.00						
Country : Mauritius						
20. 1	Moja Shoes P. Ltd. 22 March, 2006	C/o BMR and Associates, 1st Floor, the Great Eastern Centre, 70, Nehru Place, New Delhi	Tano India P. Equity Fund I/ or its subsidiaries 3rd Floor, Lee Cascades Edith Cavell Street, Mauritius	55	1.20	40.00
		Location : Sonipat (Haryana) Appr. No. (Date) : 1 (31 May, 2006)	Item of Manufacture : To set up an exclusive Retail outlet for the Nike Products covering footwear, sportswear, boots, slippers, sandals, athletic shoes and apparels			
21. 1	Goldano Fashions (India) Pvt. Ltd. 21 January, 2008	No. 85/17, Srimg AM Avenue Pantheon Road, Egmore Chennai-600008 Tamil Nadu	Giordano Mauritius Ltd. Mauritius	50.90	1.19	50.09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Location : Chennai (Tamil Nadu) Appr. No. (Date) : 6 (31 July, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : Establishing a chain of single brand retail stores under the brand name Giordano for foreign collaboration			
22. 1	Power Plate (I) P. Ltd. 24 January, 2008	C/o Valshe Associates, A-803, Signature Towers, South City-1, NH-8, Gurgaon, Haryana	Power Plate (I) Holdings Ltd.	5.00	0.12	50.00
		Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 4 (30 April, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : Retail trading of Health and Fitness equipment under A single brand name power plate manufactured by PPI and its affiliates, rendering training to dealers, Technicians and Customers, after sale services in relation to products etc.			
Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 4, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 110.79, US\$ million : 2.51						
23. 15	Fabindia Overseas P. Ltd. 27 December, 2008	14 N-Block Market, Greater Kallash Part-I, New Delhi-110048	WCP Mauritius Holdings	0.00	0.00	51.00
		Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 15 (31 March, 2007)	Item of Manufacture : Retail trading of single brand name "Fabindia" in crafts and fabrics, Garments and accessories, Home furnishings furniture, organic foods body care products and other similar product.			
Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 1, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 0.00, US\$ million : 0.00						
24. 4	Giorgio Armani Holding BV 15 February, 2008	C/o M/s. Trilegal, F2, Block-B1, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate New Delhi	Giorgio Armani Holding BV Netherlands	10.20	0.25	51.00
		Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 5 (30 April, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : To undertake single brand retail trading of "Armani" branded products in India. Wholesale trading of "Armani" branded products.			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25. 6	25 March, 2008	Pearle Europe B.V. C/o Amarchand and Mangaldas Suresh a Shroff and Co. Amarchand Towers, 216, Okhla Industrial Est., Phase-II, New Delhi-110020 Location : Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra) Appr. No. (Date) : 7 (31 July, 2008)	Pearle India B.V. Netherlands Item of Manufacture : Retail trading of optical products in India under the Brand Vision Express. The products include Spectacle Frames, Spectacle Lenses, Contact Lenses	0.00	0.00	50.00
26. 10	18 August, 2008	Mitsui Automotive Investment B.V. C/o Mayur Batra and Co. 7, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110 001 Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 10 (30 November, 2008)	Mitsui Automotive Investment B.V. Item of Manufacture : To carry on the business of retail trade of Toyotamake car in India etc.	0.00	0.00	51.00
27. 11	16 May, 2008	Ferragamo International B.V. C/o J. Sagar Associates, Sandstone Crest (opp. Park Plaza Hotel) Commercial Complex, Bushant Lok P-I, Gurgaon, Haryana Location : Delhi (Delhi) Appr. No. (Date) : 11 (31 August, 2008)	Ferragamo International B.V. Directly or through Affiliates, Netherland Item of Manufacture : To engage in the business of retail and corporate distribution and sale of "Salvatore Ferragamo" brand of premium clothing and accessory products in India (b) To open single brand retail stores.	300.00	6.99	51.00
28. 21	24 May, 2008	Diesel Fashion (I) Arvind P. Ltd. C/o Amarchand and Mangaldas and Suresh A. Shroff and Co., Amarchand Towers 216, Okhla Ind. Estate Phase-III, New Delhi Location : Ahmedabad (Gujarat) Appr. No. (Date) : 8 (30 September, 2007)	Diesel International BV JAN Luijkenstra at 92-96, 1071 CT Amsterdam, Netherlands Item of Manufacture : To set up single brand diesel retail stores in India Products includes Men and Women wears, footwear and related accessories, watches, jewellery and accessories, luggage and bags, kid's ready to wears and accessores frames and sunglass, Frgrances etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29.	32	Richemont Service BV C/o AZB and Partners, Express Towers, 23rd Floor, Nariman Point Mumbai-400021	Richemont Service BV Netherland	2.00	0.05	51.00
	29 October, 2007					
		Location : Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra)	Item of Manufacture : Single brand retail trading of "Cartier" brand products; setting up operating and managing retail stores for sale and distribution of cartier products.			
		Appr. No. (Date) : 3 (30 April, 2008)				

Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 6, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 312.20, US\$ million : 7.29

Country : Singapore

30.	3	Mahtani Fashions P. Ltd. C/o M/s. K.R. Chawla and Co. 7th Floor, Kailash Building, 26 K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001	Sin Rong P. Ltd. directly or indirectly through its subsidiary Company(ies) Singapore	0.00	0.00	51.00
	09 February, 2007					
		Location : Delhi (Delhi)	Item of Manufacture : Importing, Exporting, buying, selling distributing and marketing of all kinds of footwear and other allied products including finished products, to operate single brand retail stores for sale of footwear etc.			
		Appr. No. (Date) : 3 (30 April, 2007)				
31.	30	Crocs Inc C/o BAHIL Chandhoke C.A. T-6 LGF, Green Park Extn. New Delhi-110016	Crocs Aisa Pvt. Ltd. Singapore	0.00	0.00	51.00
	27 Sept., 2007					
		Location : Delhi (Delhi)	Item of Manufacture : The Management and operation of crocs TM branded retail stores selling crocs TM branded products.			
		Appr. No. (Date) : 12 (30 November, 2007)				

Total Technical Cases : 0, Total Financial Cases : 2, Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million : 0.00, US\$ million : 0.00

32.	3	LLADRO Commercial S.A. C/o Amar Aggarwal, M/s SPA Agencies (I) P. Ltd. 164/3, Lado Saria, New Delhi-110030	LLADRO Commercial S.A.	0.00	0.00	52.00
	2 May, 2006					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Location : State Not Indicated
(State Not Indicated)

Appr. No. (Date) : 3 (31 October, 2006)

Item of Manufacture : To establish a network of retail boutiques for marketing the single brand product under the name and style of "LLADRO".

Total Technical Cases : 0, **Total Financial Cases :** 1, **Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million :** 0.00, **US\$ million :** 0.00

Country : Sri Lanka

33. 6	Damro Furniture P. Ltd.	Damro Exports P. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	51.00
31 May, 2006	150 (Old No. 319) Arcot Road, Kodambakkam, Chennai-600 024				

Location : Chennai (Tamil Nadu)

Appr. No. (Date) : 6 (31 October, 2006)

Item of Manufacture : Retail trading of Damro brand product includes knock down furniture etc.

Total Technical Cases : 0, **Total Financial Cases :** 1, **Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million :** 0.00, **US\$ million :** 0.00

Country : Thailand

34. 27	LA Sovereign Bicycles Pvt. Ltd.	LA Bicycles (Thailand) Co. Ltd. Thailand	0.00	0.00	0.00
07 August, 2007	168-B, Industrial Estate Ludhiana-141003				

Location : Ludhiana (Punjab)

Appr. No. (Date) : 9
(31 November, 2008)

Item of Manufacture : Retail trade in bicycles toys, e-bike and their parts and accessories under the single brand name LA Sovereign.

Total Technical Cases : 0, **Total Financial Cases :** 1, **Total Foreign Equity in Rs. million :** 0.00, **US\$ million :** 0.00

Country : U.K.

35. 8,	Hallmark Group Ltd.	Hallmark Group Ltd.	2.10	0.05	51.00
05 May, 2008	C/o Kochar and Co. S-454, Greater Kailash-II New Delhi-110048	London UK			

Location : Delhi (Delhi)

Appr. No. (Date) : 9 (31 July, 2007)

Item of Manufacture : To import replicas (of silver and plated with Gold of select vintage postage stamps and sell directly to end customers primarily through direct mailing.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
36. 9, 08 May, 2008	Marks and Spencer PLC U.K. C/o Bharucha and Partners Cool Court, 4th Floor, Mahakavi Bhushan Road, Mumbai-400039	Marks and Spencer PLC London UK		0.05	0.00	51.00
	Location : Greater Mumbai Mumbai (Maharashtra) Appr. No. (Date) : 8 (31 July, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : Retail trading of the following products under the single brand names marks and spencer. Marks and spencer mands and M&S.				
37. 13, 23 November, 2008	Lee Cooper International Ltd., J. Sagar Associates, 84-E, C-6 Lane (Off. Central Avenue) Sainik Farms, New Delhi-110062	Lee Cooper International Ltd., U.K.		0.00	0.00	50.00
	Location : Bangalore (Urban) (Karnataka) Appr. No. (Date) : 13 (31 March, 2007)	Item of Manufacture : Wholesale and retail trading of business of single brand under the brand name of "Lee Cooper" in fashions category (ready to wear, denims woven knitweares and men's accessories)				
38. 22 23 Sept., 2008	Louis Vuitton Malletier, C/o Thakker and Thakker, A-320, Defence Colony, New Delhi-24	Louis Vuitton Malletier France		1500	30.82	100
	Location : Not Indicated Appr. No. (Date) : 15 (11 November, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : To act as a holding company for holding LVM groups existing investments in Louis Vuitton India Retail P. Ltd. M/s LES Ateliers de Pondichery P. Ltd. and to serve as a vehicle for future investments in India in accordance with the FDI Policy.				
39. 17, 07 August, 2008	Oliver Bernd Freier GMBH and Co. KG C/o Pricewater House Coopers P. Ltd., 11-A Sucheta Bhawan, 2nd Floor, Vishnu Digambar Marg, New Delhi	Oliver Bernd Frier GMBH and Co. KG Germany		53.65	5.00	50.00
	Location : New Delhi Appr. No. (Date) : 14 (11 November, 2008)	Item of Manufacture : To undertake the business of single brand retail trading in India of all kinds of Fashion and Lifestyle Products inter alia including clothes, Shoes, Bags, Leather goods etc. under the International Brands Oliver.				

[English]

Involvement of Bangladeshis in Terrorism

130. DR. K. DHANARAJU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any evidence suggesting involvement of Bangladeshi Nationals in the recent terrorist attacks on Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) As per available information no evidence of involvement of Bangladeshi nationals in the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai, has come to notice, so far.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Decline in Campus Selections

131. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the current global economic slowdown, the educational institutions including management institutions are getting few campus selections this year;

(b) if so, whether the Government has assessed that situation; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to help the youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Certain educational institutions under the Ministry of Human Resource Development have reported that campus selections have reduced this year to some extent. The Ministry is closely monitoring the situation.

These educational institutions have taken several steps as under:—

(i) University Grants Commission (UGC) is providing grants to eligible Universities for establishment of Career Counseling Centres. 70 Career Counseling Centres are already functional. Moreover, many Universities have their own Career Counseling Centres also.

(ii) Efforts are being made by various Central Educational Institutions to invite newer companies from various industries including Public Sector Undertakings to participate in the campus recruitments.

(iii) Some of the institutes are also making arrangements for sending their students to such companies who are not able to come to the campus for recruitments.

Missing Pak Nationals

132. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Pakistani nationals who visit India on medical visa go missing;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to trace the missing Pakistanis in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) As per information available, some Pakistani nationals who visited India on various types of visas, including medical visa, have not returned to their country after expiry of their visa. Central Government is vested with the powers to deport a foreign national under section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. These powers to identify and deport illegally staying foreign nationals, including Pakistani nationals, have also been delegated to the State

Governments/UT Administrations. Detection and deportation of illegally staying foreign nationals, including Pakistani nationals, is a continuous process. As and when Pakistani nationals are detected without valid visas, they are deported as per the prescribed procedure.

Survey on Crime in Delhi

133. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Delhi Police on increasing crime rate in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the outcome of the survey and steps taken to tackle increasing crime in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) No, Sir. However, as far as increase in crime cases is concerned, 11.97% decline has been registered in respect of IPC cases reported in 2008 in comparison to the IPC cases reported during 2007. Moreover, heinous offences reported in 2008 has also declined by 11.01% as compared to the cases reported in 2007.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Creation of Employment by KVIC

134. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has any proposal to generate employment for over one crore persons during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details and time by which such employment generation is likely to take place alongwith the schemes initiated for this purpose; and
- (c) the names of the States which are likely to benefit from the said proposal including Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

State Higher Education Councils

135. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has directed the State Governments to constitute State Higher Education Councils in order to raise the standard of education in schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of Higher Education Councils constituted by various States as per the guidelines issued by the Government;
- (d) whether the Government and UGC have decided to provide financial assistance to the Universities on the basis of their performance in conjuncture with the aforesaid directive; and;
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (e) The National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) provides that "State level planning and co-ordination of higher education will be done through Councils of Higher Education. The UGC and these Councils will develop coordinative methods to keep a watch on standards."

The guidelines for setting up of State Councils of Higher Education were finalized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and sent to the State Governments. According to the UGC, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Uttar

Pradesh have since set up their respective State Council of Higher Education. The State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Himachal Pradesh have set up their State Advisory Boards for Higher Education.

Financial assistance is provided by UGC to the State Universities in accordance with the relevant provisions of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.

[English]

Detailed Engineering Reports of ICPs

136. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Detailed Engineering Reports (DERs) of all the 13 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) have been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the time by which the said DERs would be completed; and

(d) the details of criteria fixed by the Government for identification of entry points on the land borders for setting up of ICPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Detailed Engineering Report (DER) in respect of Raxaul (Bihar) ICP has been completed. In respect of the other 12 ICPs, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have been prepared at this stage and site selection/land acquisition is underway/being finalized. DER preparation will be taken up thereafter as per phased prioritization.

(d) These 13 ICPs have been selected on the basis of volume of trade, security concerns and strategic considerations.

Guwahati Bomb Blasts

137. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has enquired into Guwahati Bomb Blasts which took place on January 1, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the involvement of Bangladeshis in the said blasts has been reported;

(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 (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) Three bomb blasts took place on 1st January, 2009 in different parts of Guwahati City, resulting in death of 7 persons and injuries to 69 persons. In this connection, three cases have been registered and are under investigation. During investigations, the involvement of United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) militants have come into light.

(c) State Government of Assam has stated that involvement of Bangladeshis in these blasts have not yet come out during investigations so far.

(d) and (e) In view of (c) above, do not arise.

Bottlenecks in Growth of Small and Medium Enterprises

138. SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :

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

(a) the issues and bottlenecks identified affecting the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;

(b) the details of factors responsible and non-availability of institutional finances including nodal officer in each District;

(c) whether the Government proposes to create special fund for such enterprises in unorganized sector

and make provision for liberal loans and enhancement of cash credit limits at subsidized cost to encourage the sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the funds allocated, spent, and unspent during each of the last three years and in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector is a heterogeneous sector, both in terms of size of enterprises and its sectoral composition. Hence, the problems faced by the sector are diverse. However, some of the common problems faced by the sector relate the lack of timely and adequate credit, obsolete technology, infrastructure bottlenecks, marketing constraints, delayed payments of their dues by large units, enhanced competition due to liberalized trade regime, etc.

(b) The constraints faced by the MSMEs in accessing the required credit facilities from institutional sources are inadequate exposure to banks/financial institutions, elaborate procedural requirements, cost of credit, high risk perception, etc. Under the Lead Bank Scheme, each district has been assigned to a scheduled commercial banks and the Lead District Manager is the nodal officer in the District.

(c) to (e) There is no separate fund for enterprises in the unorganized sector. In one of its reports, the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector has recommended creation of a separate fund for enterprises in the unorganized sector. For this purpose, no funds have been allocated. However, as per the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India, the loans outstanding against the micro and small enterprises from the public sector banks during the last 3 years and the current year (as at the end of September, 2008) is as under:—

As at the end of	Loans outstanding (Rs. crore)
March, 2006	82,434
March, 2007	1,02,550
March, 2008	1,48,651 (Provisional)
September, 2008	1,56,748 (Provisional)

Impact of Economic Slowdown on Trade Pacts

139. SHRI RAMESH DUBE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the economic slowdown on trade pacts with other countries particularly China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the indigenous industries 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) to (c) Impact of economic slowdown on Trade pacts with other countries particularly with China has not been specifically studied. There is no Trade pact with China except APTA (Asia Pacific Trade Agreement) of which China is a member. There has been a slight drop in India's black tea exports to China but this is not necessarily linked to the global economic slow down. Further, there is only one FTA in which India offers tariff concession for natural rubber (NR), the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA). The only NR exporting country among the signatories of APTA is Sri Lanka. Import of NR from Sri Lanka in 2006-07 and 2007-08 totalled to 7644 and 7277 tonnes, forming 8.5 and 8.4

per cent of total import respectively. Import of NR from Sri Lanka during April-December, 2008 amounted to 3520 tonnes forming only 5.4 per cent of total import. The import of rubber under APTA is regularly monitored.

Confiscation of Fees

140. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL :

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

(a) the details of the guidelines issued by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) regarding refund of fees to candidates withdrawing from the courses run by the technical institutions approved by it;

(b) whether the Government is aware that large number of colleges refuse to refund fees and confiscate it when students seek withdrawal from the courses run by them;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the details of complaints received in this regard;

(d) whether there have been number of instances of non-compliance of guidelines on refund of fees by institutions/colleges; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon and steps taken to prevent the commercialisation of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued a 'Public Notice' conveying instructions to technical institutions, Universities, including Deemed to be Universities imparting technical education regarding refund of fees and return of original documents in case of students withdrawing from the Institutes/Universities. A copy of the Public Notice is

enclosed as Statement. AICTE has received 1134 complaints/representations from parents/students related to refund of fees/return of original certificates by the Institutions on withdrawal of their admission during the period from Oct., 2007 till date. Out of these, 660 complaints pertained to AICTE. 474 complaints and representations pertaining to Universities and Deemed to be Universities have been forwarded to University Grants Commission for appropriate action.

(d) and (e) According to information furnished by AICTE, there have been instances of non-compliance of guidelines on refund of fees by institutions/colleges. On receipt of the complaints/representations, a notice is issued to the concerned Institutions to refund the fee as per the provision contained in the Public Notice issued by the AICTE in this regard. Any violation of these instructions shall can for punitive action including withdrawal of approval and recognition of erring institutions.

Statement

PUBLIC NOTICE

Adv. No. AICTE/Legal/04(01)/2007

Sub : Instructions to Technical Institutions, Universities including Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education regarding matters concerning charging of fees, refund of fees and other students related issues.

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been empowered *interalia* under section 10 (n) of AICTE Act to "take all necessary steps to prevent commercialization of technical education". In compliance with the provisions under AICTE Act and in the light of directions of Government of India issued under section 20 (1) of AICTE Act vide Letter No. (U. 1 (A) Section), it has been decided to issue instructions to the Technical institutions, Universities including Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education in the matters concerning students.

Whereas it has come to the notice of the AICTE that Technical Institutions and Universities including Deemed to be Universities, are admitting students to technical education programmes long before the actual starting of an academic session; collecting full fee from the admitted students; and, retaining their school/institutions's leaving certificates in the original;

And, Whereas, Institutions and Universities are also reportedly confiscating the fee paid if a student fails to join by such dates;

And, Whereas, certificates in original are being detained by institutions and Universities to force retention of admitted students;

And, Whereas the time-limit for students to join the courses/programmes is also being advanced in some cases unrealistically so as to pre-empt students/candidates from exercising other options of joining other institutions of their choice.

In the event of a student/candidate withdrawing before the starting of the course, the wait listed candidates should be given admissions against the vacant seat. The entire fee collected from the student, after a deduction of the processing fee of not more than Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) shall be refunded and returned by the Institution/University to the student/candidate withdrawing from the programme. It would not be permissible for institutions and Universities to retain the School/Institution Leaving Certificates in original. Should a student leave after joining the course and if the seat consequently falling vacant has been filled by another candidate by the last date of admission, the institution must return the fee collected with proportionate deductions of monthly fee and proportionate hostel rent, where applicable.

Any violation of instructions issued by the AICTE, shall call for punitive action including withdrawal of approval and recognition of erring institutions and Universities. AICTE

shall on its own or on receipt of specific complaints from those affected take all such steps as may be necessary to enforce these directions.

(Dr. K. Narayana Rao)
Member Secretary

[Translation]

**Reservation for SC/ST Employees in
NDMC School**

141. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has adopted the Government policy on reservation and promotion quota meant for its employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the number of employees belonging to SCs/STs category who have benefited therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year, categorywise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total number of posts meant for SCs/STs in NDMC Schools and Navyug Schools and Navyug Schools laying vacant, category-wise; and

(e) the time by which such vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details of the employees, working in the schools run by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) and the Navyug School Education Society (NSES), belonging to the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) categories, benefited from the Government policy on reservation, during each of the last three years and the current year are as follows:

(I) NDMC Schools

Year	Number of the employees					
	Group A		Group B		Group C	
	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
2005-06	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006-07	0	0	0	0	1	1
2007-08	0	1	1	1	1	2
2008-09	0	0	0	0	0	0

(II) Navyug Schools

During the last three years, no direct recruitment has been done by the NSES. However, two departmental candidates of the SC category were promoted during the year 2005-06.

(d) The total number of the posts, meant for SCs/STs in NDMC Schools and Navyug Schools lying vacant, category-wise, are as under:-

NDMC Schools

	SC	ST
Group-A	Nil	Nil
Group-B	02	01
Group-C	14	06
Total	16	07

Navyug Schools

	SC	ST
1	2	3
PGT	8	4

	1	2	3
TGT		15	9
Primary (Academic)		6	5
Primary (Activity)		4	1

(e) Filling up of vacant posts is a continuous process. However, the NDMC has taken steps to fill up the vacant posts, which include taking up the matter regarding filling up the posts vacant in the NDMC Schools with the Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board (DSSSB); initiating process for filling up the vacant posts under the direct recruitment quota in Navyug Schools and convening Departmental Promotion Committee to fill up the vacant posts meant for Departmental candidates.

[English]

International Trade in Animal Products

- 142: SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
 SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
 SHRI SURESH ANGADI :
 SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

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

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

(b) whether India's share in trade of animal products in the international market is negligible;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any plan for promotion of export of animal products;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of assistance provided to increase the share of India in animal/livestock products in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUS-

TRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The details of export and Import of these products both in value and volume during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (April-June) is as under:—

	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (April-June)	
	Value (Rs. in Crore)	Volume (Thousand Kg)	Value (Rs. in Crore)	Volume (Thousand Kg)	Value (Rs. in Crore)	Volume (Thousand Kg)
Import	306.01	30803.68	280.39	23861.55	68.51	5646.91
Export	11354.30	18162.18	11317.28	4596890.8	2767.18	414188.78

The major destinations of animal products (under chapter 02 to 05 of HS code) are Japan, China, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, etc. While India imports these products from Bangladesh, China, USA, European countries, Singapore etc.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As per the report of Working Group on Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Planning Commission on 11th Five Year Plan, India's share in the world trade of dairy products is only 0.25% and in case of meat and poultry it is 0.5%. The main reasons for this low share of India in the international trade in livestock sector are trade distorting subsidies by developed countries, stipulation of higher sanitary measures than required for protection of human and animal health by developed countries and prevalence and intermittent outbreaks of certain diseases such as FMD and avian influenza respectively in India.

(d) to (f) For promotion of India's exports of livestock products, the Government has been coordinating with the export promotion agencies such as Agricultural and Process Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Export Inspection Council (EIC) etc. by providing necessary technical inputs and financial assistance for gaining market access of India's livestock products. The

financial assistance provided by APEDA, during the last three years is as under:—

	Value Rs. in lakhs		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Infrastructure Development	54.50	32.50	Nil
Market Development	14.77	19.73	19.77
Quality Development	24.67	22.21	6.78
Transport Assistance	369.14	611.75	120.63

Films on Adult Literacy

143. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to review the selection process of films-maker for making films for creating awareness on adult literacy after several national film award winners cried foul over it;

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

(c) whether the eminent film-makers have not been selected for making movies on adult literacy programmes;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to maintain transparency in the process of selecting film-makers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A FATMI) : (a) to (f) The selection process for empanelment of media agencies for adult education programmes includes issue of advertisement in newspapers to invite applications for empanelment. A Screening Committee, constituted in accordance with the Media Policy of the Department and comprising representatives of Doordarshan, AIR and media experts, assessed the applications received in response to the advertisements. The assessment was made on the basis of (i) Volume of production (ii) Experience in producing education Programmes, (iii) Awards received, (iv) Professional degrees, (v) Presentation before the Committee, (vi) Quality of programmes presented in show reel.

All applicants were invited to make presentation before the Screening Committee about their productions, antecedents, experience in making educational programmes, on the basis of which the Screening Committee made its recommendations. The process was open and transparent. The recommendations of the Screening Committee were further placed before the "Communication, Planning and Costing Committee (CPCC)", chaired by Secretary, School Education and Literacy. The CPCC comprehensively considered the parameters/criteria adopted by the Screening Committee before endorsing its recommendations.

There have been representations from some of the applicants about non-inclusion of their names in the panel. The question of review of any individual case would arise only if it is found by CPCC that due weightage has not been accorded in that case.

Public-Private Participation in Higher Education

144. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. K.B. Power to formulate an action plan for identifying various mode of Public-private participation for promotion of Higher Education;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has since submitted its report to University Grants Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (f) According to the University Grants Commission (UGC) the Committee constituted by the Commission under the convenorship of Prof. K.B. Power to prepare an Action Plan on "Public-Private Partnership in Higher Education" has since submitted its report which is presently under its consideration.

Visa Frauds by Bangladeshis

145. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Bangladeshi Nationals are travelling to various countries from Indian airports after acquiring fake Indian Passports and Visas;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard including cases registered and arrests made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) As per available information, a few cases have been detected at International Airports where Bangladeshi Nationals were found using fake Indian passports and visas. The data regarding such cases detected at the major International Airports during the last three years is as under:—

Airports	Year 2006	Year 2007	Year 2008
Delhi	03	Nil	05
Mumbai	Nil	Nil	01
Chennai	04	Nil	09
Kolkata	Nil	01	Nil
Amritsar	Nil	Nil	Nil

To ascertain the genuineness of the travel documents including visas and to detect forgeries, the immigration officers at all the Immigration Check Posts (ICPs) in the country are provided with the specimen copies of the travel documents for comparison. They are also provided with Ultra Violet Lamps/Magnifying glasses to examine the travel documents including visas to detect possible tampering. In addition, Passport Reading Machines (PRMs) and Ques-

tionable Document Examiner (QDX) Machines have also been installed at major ICPs. All these equipments have resulted in enhanced security screening and better passenger facilitation. Above all, officers manning immigration counters at all the ICPs are given special training for detection of forged/fake travel documents.

All the Bangladeshi Nationals as detailed in the table above were handed over to the concerned police authorities. Appropriate action has been taken under law.

Strength of BSF

146. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the sanctioned and actual strength of Border Security Force (BSF) in the country as on date, gender-wise and cadre-wise;

(b) whether there is shortage of strength in BSF;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the Force does not suffer from shortage of manpower and equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (d) The sanctioned and actual strength of Border Security Force (BSF) in the country as on date; gender-wise and cadre-wise is as on 01.01.2009 was as under:—

Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned strength	Actual Strength		
			Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Executive Cadre (including General Duty, Motor Transport, Law, Water Wing, Air Wing and Engineering	1,95,361	1,90,703	645	1,91,348

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Ministerial cadre	3,550	2,859	239	3,098
3.	Communication	9,744	9,242	—	9,242
4.	Medical Staff	1,178	635	158	793
5.	Civil Staff (including Pay and Accounts Directorate)	468	280	84	364
		2,10,301	2,03,719	1,126	2,04,845

At present there are 5,456 vacancies in Border Security Force. The shortfall is caused by retirement, voluntary retirement, resignation, death, etc., which is less than three per cent of the total strength of the Force.

The vacancies for vacancy year are anticipated well in advance and are systematically filled up through direct recruitment, promotion, deputation, absorption, re-employment, etc. as provided in the relevant Recruitment Rules. Equipments are being regularly supplied to field units as per authorization.

Industrial Licence Applications from States

147. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of industrial licence applications from various States pending with the Government for approval along with the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(b) the estimated cost of each industrial project;

(c) whether additional information has been sought from the State Governments in respect of some projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof and response from State Governments in this regard; and

(e) the time by which pending project/applications are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :

(a) to (e) No application for grant of license to any State Government is pending approval by this Ministry/Department. However, the entrepreneurs desirous of setting up industries are granted industrial licence under the industries Development Regulation (ID and R) Act, 1951 in respect of five licensable industries. Consequent to withdrawal of locational restrictions for setting up of industries with effect from 14.8.2008 no clearance is called for from the State Government. The details of pending Industrial License applications, state-wise, is given in the enclosed Statement. These cases are pending for want of comments/recommendations from Administrative Ministries and clarifications from companies in certain cases. The disposal of the Industrial Licence applications is a continuing process. On receipt of the comments from the Administrative Ministries etc. the cases are considered by the Licensing Committee in its meeting and disposed off.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the company	State	Cost (Rs. in Lakhs) *Existing	Referred to State Governments	Response
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	M/s Butler Technical Services India Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	408.42	No	Not applicable
2.	M/s Ananth Technologies Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	3059.53*	No	Not applicable
3.	M/s Speak Systems Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	7591.93*	No	Not applicable
4.	M/s FLIC Microwaves Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	504.85*	No	Not applicable
5.	M/s A.P. Explochem Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	4450.00	No	Not applicable
6.	M/s. Vijaya Explosives Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	4650.00	No	Not applicable
7.	M/s Slavo Explosives and Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	700.00	No	Not applicable
8.	M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	1000.00	No	Not applicable
9.	M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	195.58	No	Not applicable
10.	M/s Jindal Sporting Arms Pvt. Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	10000.00	No	Not applicable
11.	M/s Sua Explosives and Accessories Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	540.00	No	Not applicable
12.	M/s Indian Explosives Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	1330.00	No	Not applicable
13.	M/s Micron Instruments Pvt. Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	1223.45	No	Not applicable
14.	M/s A.M. Designs Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	90.00	No	Not applicable
15.	M/s T.S. Kisan and Co. Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	37500.00	No	Not applicable
16.	M/s T.S. Kisan and Co. Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	10000.00	No	Not applicable
17.	M/s Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.	Haryana	380256.00	No	Not applicable
18.	M/s Advance Sporting Arms Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	10000.00	No	Not applicable
19.	M/s Dantal Hydraulics Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	675.00	No	Not applicable
20.	M/s Alpha Design Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	1270.00	No	Not applicable

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	M/s Dynamatic Technologies Ltd.	Karnataka	54231.92	No	Not applicable
22.	M/s Varisis Advanced Engineering and Software Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	800.00	No	Not applicable
23.	M/s Alpha Sofema Engineering and Services Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	100.00	No	Not applicable
24.	M/s Dynamatic Technologies Ltd.	Karnataka	52481.92	No	Not applicable
25.	M/s Dynamatic Technologies Ltd.	Karnataka	52481.92	No	Not applicable
26.	M/s Halbit Avionics Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	125.00	No	Not applicable
27.	M/s Halbit Avionics Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	125.00	No	Not applicable
28.	M/s Aurora Integrated Systems Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	240.00	No	Not applicable
29.	M/s Radel Advanced Technology Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	25.00	No	Not applicable
30.	M/s Bharat Fritz Werner Ltd.	Karnataka	8033.77*	No	Not applicable
31.	M/s Nav Baharat Explochem Pvt. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	960.00	No	Not applicable
32.	M/s Bharat Explochem Pvt. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	799.00	No	Not applicable
33.	M/s IBP Co. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	540.28*	No	Not applicable
34.	M/s Eldiar India Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	9000.00	No	Not applicable
35.	M/s Rolta India Ltd.	Maharashtra	55620.44	No	Not applicable
36.	M/s BF Utilities Ltd.	Maharashtra	6200.00	No	Not applicable
37.	M/s Amin Explosives Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	350.00	No	Not applicable
38.	M/s Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd.	Maharashtra	42957.38*	No	Not applicable
39.	M/s Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd.	Maharashtra	42957.38*	No	Not applicable
40.	M/s Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd.	Maharashtra	42957.38*	No	Not applicable
41.	M/s Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd.	Maharashtra	42957.38*	No	Not applicable
42.	M/s Kirloskar Pneumatic Co. Ltd.	Maharashtra	2615.81*	No	Not applicable

1	2	3	4	5	6
43.	M/s Kirloskar Brothers Ltd.	Maharashtra	13641.11*	No	Not applicable
44.	M/s Amin Explosives (p) Ltd.	Maharashtra	350.00	No	Not applicable
45.	M/s Blastec (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	709.35	No	Not applicable
46.	M/s IBP Co. Ltd.	Orissa	86.00	No	Not applicable
47.	M/s IBP Co. Ltd.	Orissa	130.00	No	Not applicable
48.	M/s Massant Furniture India Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	100.00	No	Not applicable
49.	M/s Haryana Explosives Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	1982.05	No	Not applicable
50.	M/s Super Shiv Shakti Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	950.00	No	Not applicable
51.	M/s Shiva Explosives India Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	595.00	No	Not applicable
52.	M/s Deejay Dynamix Explosives Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	380.00	No	Not applicable
53.	M/s IBP Co. Ltd.	Rajasthan	273.60*	No	Not applicable
54.	M/s Indus Teqsite Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	2000.00	No	Not applicable
55.	M/s Indus Teqsite Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	2000.00	No	Not applicable
56.	M/s Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	1964.00	No	Not applicable
57.	M/s Sua Explosives and Accessories Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	660.00	No	Not applicable
58.	M/s PMI Engineering Exports Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	9754.00	No	Not applicable
59.	M/s Siva Sakthi Industrial Explosives Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	375.00	No	Not applicable
60.	M/s Siva Sakthi Industrial Explosive Pvt. Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	675.00	No	Not applicable
61.	M/s MEL Systems and Services Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	894.00	No	Not applicable
62.	M/s Punj Lloyd Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	35000.00	No	Not applicable
63.	M/s Unique Fire Protection and Fabrication Consultants	Uttar Pradesh	353.00	No	Not applicable
64.	M/s Anjani Exports Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	3399.99	No	Not applicable

1	2	3	4	5	6
65.	M/s MKU Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	423.83 (Existing)	No	Not applicable
66.	M/s MiKU Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	423.83*	No	Not applicable
67.	M/s MKU Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	1158.06*	No	Not applicable
68.	M/s Applied Electro-Magnetics Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	400.00	No	Not applicable
69.	M/s Magnum Aviation Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	1820.00	No	Not applicable
70.	M/s Armet Armored Vehicles (India) Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	2385.75	No	Not applicable
71.	M/s Dinex India Pvt. Ltd.	Uttarakhand	100.00	No	Not applicable
72.	M/s Texplas India Pvt. Ltd.	Uttarakhand	697.54	No	Not applicable
73.	M/s Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd.	Uttarakhand	800.00	No	Not applicable
74.	M/s Alstein Furnitures Pvt. Ltd.	West Bengal	25.00	No	Not applicable
75.	M/s Misratech Pvt. Ltd.	West Bengal	450.00	No	Not applicable
76.	M/s Black Diamond Explosives Pvt. Ltd.	West Bengal	2450.59	No	Not applicable

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the National Investigation Agency (Manner of Constitution) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 3015(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2008 under Section 26 of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10464/09]

- (2) A copy of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention)

(Recommendation and Sanction of Prosecution) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 3014(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2008 under sub-section (3) of Section 21 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10465/09]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vayalar Ravi.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are holding the baby of Shri Kapil Sibal!

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, I, on behalf of Shri Kapil Sibal, beg to lay on the Table:-

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Consultancy Development Centre, 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 10467/09]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited, Bulandshahr, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited, Bulandshahr, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10468/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Presidential Order (Hindi and English versions) authorizing Governor of Goa for additional expenses under 'Tour Expenses' of Schedule -II to the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Rules, 1987, under sub-section (3) of Section 12 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10469/09]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of Section 34 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10470/09]

- (4) A copy of the Presidential Order (Hindi and English versions) authorizing Governor of Haryana for additional expenses under 'Hospitality Expenses', 'Contract Allowances' and 'Tour Expenses' of Schedule -II to the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Rules, 1987, under sub-section (3) of Section 12 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10471/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968:-

- (i) The Border Security Force Headquarters Group 'A' and 'B' posts, non-combated Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 208 in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2008.
- (ii) The Border Security Force (Tenure of Posting and Deputation) (Amendment) Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 255 in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 2007.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (ii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10472/09]

- (3) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Boarder Police Force, Animal Transport Cadre (Non-gazetted) Recruitment Second Amendment Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 25(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th January, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10473/09]

- (4) A copy of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 728(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2008 under sub-section (3) of Section 30 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10474/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 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 Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 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 10475/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Primary Education Development Society of Kerala (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Primary Education Development Society of Kerala (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2006-2007.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10476/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi

[Shri M.A.A. Fatmi]

Shiksha Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Bhopal, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Bhopal, 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 10477/09]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan State Mission Authority, Meghalaya, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan State Mission Authority, Meghalaya, for the year 2006-2007.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10478/09]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission Chhattisgarh, Raipur, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha

Mission Chhattisgarh, Raipur, for the year 2006-2007.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10479/09]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All, Chennai, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All, Chennai, for the year 2006-2007.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10480/09]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Sikkim, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Sikkim, for the year 2005-2006.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10481/09]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Sikkim, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Sikkim, for the year 2006-2007.
- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 10482/09]
- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Secunderabad, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Secunderabad, for the year 2006-2007.
- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 10483/09]
- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Uttarakhand Mahila Samakhya Society, Dehradun, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Uttarakhand Mahila Samakhya Society, Dehradun, for the year 2006-2007.
- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 10484/09]
- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gujarat Mahila Samakhya Society, Ahmedabad, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Gujarat Mahila Samakhya Society, Ahmedabad, for the year 2006-2007.
- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 10485/09]
- (23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Assam Mahila Samata Society, Guwahati, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Assam Mahila Samata Society, Guwahati, for the year 2006-2007.
- (24) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 10486/09]

[Shri M.A.A. Fatmi]

(25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhyia Society, Lucknow, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhyia Society, Lucknow, for the year 2006-2007.

(26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10487/09]

(27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Uttaranchal Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan) Dehradun, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Uttaranchal Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan) Dehradun, for the year 2006-2007, for the year 2006-2007.

(28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10488/09]

(29) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Guwahati, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Guwahati, 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 10489/09]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati V. Radhika Selvi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I, on behalf of ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal, there is no notice to lay the papers on behalf of Smt. V Radhika Selvi. Hence, I will not allow this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers' Research Association, Thane, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers' Research Association, Thane, 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 10491/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Quality Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

Notification No. 1105(E) dated the 11th October, 2004.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10493/09]

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Quality Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10492/09]

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10494/09]

- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under Section 18G of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951:-

- (3) (i) A copy of annual account (Hindi and English Versions) of the Mizoram University, Aizwal, for the year 2004-2005 together with Audit Report thereon. Statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10495/09]

- (i) The Newsprint Control (Amendment) Order, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 115(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2009.

- (ii) The Newsprint Control (Amendment) Order, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 116(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2009.

- (iii) The Newsprint Control (Amendment) Order, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 117(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2009.

- (iv) The Newsprint Control (Amendment) Order, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 118(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2009.

- (v) S.O. 114(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2009 containing order making certain amendments in the

- (ii) A copy of annual account (Hindi and English Versions) of the Mizoram University, Aizwal, for the year 2005-2006 together with Audit Report thereon. Statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10496/09]

- (iii) A copy of annual account (Hindi and English Versions) of the Mizoram University, Aizwal, for the year 2006-2007 together with Audit Report thereon. Statement (Hindi and English Versions)

[Shrimati D. Purandeswar]

showing reasons for delay in laying the papers.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10497/09]

- (4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mizoram University, Aizwal, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10498/09]

- (5) A copy of the Notification No. A.U./Comm. Sec./Uni.Coll./1140/2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September 2008 making certain amendments/deletion in the statutes of the University of Allahabad Act, 2005, under sub-section (2) of Section 44 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10499/09]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal, 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 Karnataka, Surathkal, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10500/09]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, 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 Rourkela, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10501/09]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, 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 Durgapur, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10502/09]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Book Trust, 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 National Book Trust, India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10503/09]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region), Mumbai, 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 Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region), Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10504/09]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, 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 Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10505/09]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Chandigarh, 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 Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10506/09]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chennai, 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 Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chennai, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10507/09]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Kolkata, 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 Technical Teachers Training and Research, Kolkata, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10508/09]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Itanagar, 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 North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Itanagar, for the year 2006-2007.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10509/09]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10510/09]

- (20) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, for the year 2007-2008 within the stipulated period of nine months after close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10511/09]

- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10512/09]

12.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

20th and 21st Reports

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2008-09):-

- (1) Twentieth Report of the Committee on Empowerment on the subject "Credit facilities for women by Public Sector Banks and NABARD".
- (2) Twenty-first Report on Action Taken on Sixteenth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women on the subject "Medical facilities for Women at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Hospitals and Primary Health Centres".

12.02½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

68th Report

[English]

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR (Aurangabad, Bihar): Sir, I beg to present the Sixty-eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Information Technology (2008-09) on "The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2008" relating to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications).

12.03 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN
DEVELOPMENT**

39th Report

[English]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta – North East): Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development (2008-09) on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on "Government of India Stationery Office, (GISO) Kolkata" of the Ministry of Urban Development.

12.03½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**

201st Report

[English]

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY (Jadavpur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table 201st Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

12.04 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TOURISM AND CULTURE**

148th Report

[English]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Bukdhana):

Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the One Hundred Forty-eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) on the National Highways Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2008 of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture.

12.04½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

52nd Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : Sir, I beg to present the Fifty-second report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.05 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in 202nd Report of Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on action taken on recommendations/ observations contained in 193rd Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) (Demand No. 57), pertaining to the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to make a statement in pursuance of rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha issued by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha bulletin

[Shri M.A.A. Fatmi]

Part-II dated September 1, 2004, I am making this Statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Two Hundred Second Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development which was on the Action Taken Report of the Ministry on the recommendations contained in the Hundred and Ninety Third Report of the Standing Committee on HRD on Demand for Grants 2007-08 (Demand No.57) of the Department of Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resource Development).

The Standing Committee on HRD examined the Demands for Grants 2007-08 (Demand No.57) of the Department of Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resource Development) and presented their Hundred and Ninety-Third Report to Lok Sabha on 27th April, 2007. The Standing Committee on HRD came out with the 202nd Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the 193rd Report on Demands for Grants 2007-08 (Demand No.57) of the Department of Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resource Development). The Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 5th December, 2007. Out of the 4 Chapters of the 202nd Report, Chapter III of the Report contains Recommendations/ Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and requires further comments/ ATN of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

I lay herewith the status of implementation/ Action Taken Note on the recommendations made in Chapter III of the 202nd Report on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10513/09]

12.06 hrs.

(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 24th Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Sharad Pawar, I beg to make this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 24th Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) in pursuance of direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker Lok Sabha Bulletin - Part II dated 1st September 2004.

A statement indicating the Action Taken/status of all the recommendations contained in the 24th Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution is annexed. It may be noted that the report contains 27 recommendations. These recommendations have been carefully examined by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs). Out of 27 recommendations, 26 have been accepted and one not accepted. The Action taken on the recommendations has been indicated.

The action taken replies have been sent to the Committee on 3.12.2008 in English and on 22.12.2008 in Hindi.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10514/09]

12.06½ hrs.

(iii) Status of Implementation of the recommendations contained in the 197th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on action taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the 186th Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Kapil Sibal, I beg to make a statement in pursuance of Direction No. 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin, Part II, dated 1st September, 2004 to inform the esteemed House about the status of implementation on the actions taken by the Government on One hundred ninety seventh Report on the action taken on recommendations contained in One hundred eighty sixth Report of the Demands for Grants of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) for the year 2008-09.

The Committee, while reviewing the working and considering the detailed Demands for Grants of DSIR, analyzed the Demands for Grants with reference to the aims, objectives and achievements of the Department and presented the 186th Report thereon to the House on the 29th April 2008. There were nineteen recommendations, which are both advisory and appreciative, contained in 186th Report of the Committee. The Department has furnished a detailed Action Taken Note on these recommendations to the Committee in July 2008. The Committee has considered the ATN and presented the One hundred ninety seventh Report to both the Houses on 23rd October, 2008. The recommendations of the Committee vide 197th Report were analyzed in the Department. Significant ones are:

- The Committee felt that *"there should not be unjustified decrease in fund allocation as the future of the country depends upon its technological prowess and the R&D projects of the Department play an important role in this regard."* The Committee reiterated that *"the Department should pursue its demand for higher allocation with the Planning Commission at RE stage"*
- The Committee hopes that *"Technology Development and Demonstration Programme Small Business will be a success during Eleventh Five Plan period and provide the required impetus to the small and medium industrial units"*.
- The Committee desires that *"the Department would finalize a time bound plan and set up Rural Technology Demonstration Centre to share the knowledge gained in the laboratories with the rural masses"*.
- The Committee recommends that *"R&D related to manufacturing cheap solar photovoltaic cells should be accorded top priority, so that solar power can be provided to the poor sections of the Society at an affordable cost"*.
- The Committee recommends that *"more number of solar water pumps may be supplied to the farmers across the country at subsidized prices"*.
- The Committee recommends that *"the Department should make sustained efforts for the development of desalinization plants across the country"*.
- The Committee recommends that *"efforts for R&D to find complete solution to common mans disease such as Malaria, Polio, Tuberculosis etc should be intensified"*.

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

- The Committee hopes that *"the Department will pursue the issue of land allotment to CSIR in cities of Hyderabad and Kolkata"*;
- The Committee is of the view that *"Human Resource Development Scheme should not remain only on paper but should be implemented in letter and spirit"*,
- The Committee is of the view that *"the Department would be able to satisfy aspirations of the country as regards growth of scientific research and development, providing scientific manpower and other associated responsibilities"*.

The Action Taken Note on 197th report has been forwarded to Rajya Sabha Secretariat on 03.02.09, copy of which is annexed.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10515/09]

12.07½ hrs.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 505 DATED 21.10.2008 REGARDING REFORMING JAIL INMATES ALONGWITH GIVING REASONS FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING THE REPLY*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Sir, I beg to lay a statement to correct the reply given in last para of the Unstarred question no. 505 dated 21.10.2008 in the Lok Sabha. The discrepancy in the reply was noticed when a communication has been received from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs treating the reply of the aforesaid question as an assurance. Immediately on receipt of the reference from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the exercise to correct the reply given earlier vide Unstarred question no. 505 dated 21.10.2008, had been started.

I beg to correct the reply of last para of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.505 answered on 21.10.2008 regarding reforming jail inmates as follows :

Part of the Question answered	For	Read
1	2	3
<p>Last para of the reply</p> <p>(a) to (c) : No, Sir,</p> <p>Providing training to prison staff is an intergral part of the prison management and more so for effecting reform process amongst the prisoners. Since prisons is a "State"subject, the State Governments are responsible for providing adequate training to its officials involved in prison management including implementation of meausres involving reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. Most of the State Governments have their established training institutes for providing requisite training to the lower level prison staff.</p>	<p>(a) to (c) : No, Sir,</p> <p>Providing training to prison staff is an integral part of the prison management and more so for effecting reform process amongst the prisoners. Since prisons is a "State" subject, the State Governments are responsible for providing adequate training to its officials involved in prison management including implementation of measures involving reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. Most of the State Governments have their established training institutes for providing requisite training to the lower level prison staff.</p>	

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT-10516/09.

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3

There is a Regional Institute of Correctional Administration at Vellore, Tamil Nadu which imparts training to prison officials of the southern states namely, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Besides, the Government of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs is managing the Institute of Correctional Administration Chandigarh which provides training to various prison officers from all over the country. The Institute also acts as a regional institute for imparting regular/periodic training to prison officials from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and J&K.

The Institute of Correctional Administration at Chandigarh is fully funded by the Government of India.

The Scheme is under the consideration of Ministry of Finance.

There is a Regional Institute of Correctional Administration at Vellore, Tamil Nadu which imparts training to prison officials of the southern states namely, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Besides, the Government of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs is managing the Institute of Correctional Administration Chandigarh which provides training to various prison officers from all over the country. The Institute also acts as a regional institute for imparting regular/periodic training to prison officials from Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and J&K.

The Institute of Correctional Administration at Chandigarh is fully funded by the Government of India.

12.08 hrs.

[English]

JHARKHAND INTERIM BUDGET-2009-10

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to present a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the State of Jharkhand for the year 2009-10.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10517/09]

12.08½ hrs.

[English]

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (JHARKHAND)-2008-09

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the State of Jharkhand for 2008-09.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10518/09]

12.09 hrs.

CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES BILL-2008- WITHDRAWN

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the

[Shrimati D. Purandeswar]

Bill to establish and incorporate universities for teaching and research in the various States and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to establish and incorporate universities for teaching and research in the various States and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, do you want to say something? You have quoted the wrong rule. That is relating to introduction of a Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): I oppose the Motion for a simple reason.

MR. SPEAKER: Under which rule?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Under rule 72.

MR. SPEAKER: Rule 72 is relating to introduction of a Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It is regarding Motion. Motion means introduction as well as withdrawal. Both are included in that Section.. I am opposing the Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: But there is another rule. Any way, I will treat this as under rule 111. Normally, you do not hear the Chair. That is the problem with you.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I oppose the Motion for a simple reason. We have been supplied with the statement by the Minister on the 12th of this month, that is, the last working day. This is an encroachment on the powers of the Legislature.

Now, I will explain the position if your honour permits me.

MR. SPEAKER: Why "your honour"? What happened to you today?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : The Central Universities are functioning in the States for a number of years. The academic year may commence at any time. Now, that being the circumstance, what was the necessity of issuing an Ordinance in the present state of affairs? You will find that the Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 23.10.2008. The Chairman, Rajya Sabha, with the consent of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha referred it to the Standing Committee concerned. The Standing Committee promptly submitted the Report on 17.12.2008. There was no legislative delay. If at all there was any emergency, it was the creation of the executive, which is not unprecedented and unexpected.

On legislative matters, it takes months for getting a Report from the Standing Committee concerned. But here is a case where the Standing Committee promptly submitted the Report within two months.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It was presented in both the Houses. The Government ought to have done it earlier. Now, when the House is seized of the matter, it is quite unjustified for the Government to issue an Ordinance on that basis. We are in possession of that. We have done a lot. We have examined the matter. We have made fifteen recommendations, out of which seven recommendations were accepted by the Government. Subsequently, amendments were also made in the Bill. But they have come all of a sudden to issue an Ordinance.

It has become a practice for the executive to make the legislature a rubber stamp of the executive. It cannot be allowed.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, you have made your point very strongly.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I have a statement here explaining the position.

MR. SPEAKER: Probably, you have not given him a copy of that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All of them have been incorporated in the new Bill, which is the next item.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to rely on the past?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us look upto the future.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly listen to the hon. Minister. Give her some attention. She is making a statement.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, with your permission let me read the Statement. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to read the entire Statement.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Since the proposal for providing one Central University to each of such States which did not have a Central University had been under consideration for a pretty long time and the announcements made in this regard at the various forums had led to heightened expectations in the concerned States for expeditious action by the Central Government and a number of preparatory steps were required to be taken for operationalising the Central Universities, well in time, for the next academic session, the Government was of the view that immediate action was required for the establishment of these Central Universities.

Whereas the Parliament was not in session and the provisions of the Central Universities Bill, 2008, incorporat-

ing therein the aforesaid seven recommendations of the Departmentally Related Parliamentary Standing Committee were to be given effect immediately, the Central Universities Ordinance, 2009 was promulgated on the 15th January, 2009.

I, however, lay the Statement on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: That you have already circulated.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to establish and incorporate universities for teaching and research in the various States and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

12.13 hrs.

GOVERNMENT BILLS—INTRODUCED

(I) Central Universities Bill—2009*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Item No. 22.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): On behalf of my senior colleague Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate universities for teaching and research in the various States and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2, dated 17.02.09.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate universities for teaching and research in the various States and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: I introduce the Bill.

12.15 hrs.

(ii) National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill-2009*

[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 move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004,"

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: I introduce the Bill.

12.16 hrs.

[English]

(iii) National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill-2009*

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2, dated 17.02.09.

S. JAIPAL REDDY): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for the National Capital Territory of Delhi for a further period up to the 31st day of December, 2009 and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make special provisions for the National Capital Territory of Delhi for a further period up to the 31st day of December, 2009 and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The Bill is introduced.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Item No. 25. The Minister has asked for my leave as to not to introduce the Bill and I have granted the permission.

All Special Mentions, which are important, will be taken up at the end of the day.

12.17 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377, listed for Monday, are laid on the Table of the House.

*Treated as laid on the Table.

(i) Need to withdraw the Gazette Notification stipulating compulsory educational qualification for seeking driving licence

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (VJAYAWADA): India is a major country in the world with large number of vehicular population, high percentage of illiteracy and one of the few countries having different modes of transportation to carry people and goods.

Motor Vehicle Act mandates every person to obtain driving licence to drive a vehicle - private or public or transport. People who drive auto rickshaw, taxi, light motor vehicles, trucks for their livelihood should also obtain driving licence from STA. What all they need is skill in driving and knowledge of traffic rules. The present Motor Vehicle Act does not prescribe any educational qualification. But, Gazette Notification G.S.R. No. 276 (E) dated 10.4.2007 makes it compulsory for every driver to have educational qualification of 8th standard for obtaining a driving licence. Drivers are poor and illiterate and drive transport/private vehicles to win bread and butter for their family. With the recent notification, the transport authorities are insisting for educational qualification certificate of 8th standard for driving licence. As many licence-seekers are poor and illiterate, they are feeling that they are being deprived of getting a driving licence. Now, they cannot go to school to study up to 8th standard to obtain a licence. So, what they are doing is they are submitting fake certificates. I fail to understand the rationale and purpose behind prescribing educational qualification. This notification deprives them an opportunity to earn a few rupees for their families.

So, I request the Government of India to immediately withdraw this Notification as it serves little purpose.

(ii) Need to provide a halt to Mahua-Surat rail service at Mota Liliya, District Amreli, Gujarat

[Translation]

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mahua-Surat train was inaugurated on 20.10.2008. On that

very day the people had requested for a stoppage of the said train at Mota Liliya and I have also written a number of letters in this regard. Four months have passed since then but the stoppage has been provided so far. Consequently, the people of my parliamentary constituency, Amreli are not to avail benefits of the said train. Apart from it, people have also requested for increasing its frequency to thrice a week and to reschedule its timings in a way so that it reaches Mahua during day time. As the train reaches Mahua at night, the people of villages around Mahua find it very difficult in reaching their villages.

Sir, through the House, I urge upon the Government to provide a stoppage of the said train at Mota Liliya and change its timing in such a way so that it reaches Mahua in day time.

(iii) Need to enhance the Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Sugarcane is considered to be one of the main cash crops grown throughout our country more particularly in Tamil Nadu. Unlike other crops agriculturists, sugarcane growers have to wait for nearly one year to get the cash from the crop. The cost of inputs and labour charges during the planting of the crop, clearing of weeds, irrigation and cutting are increasing day by day. The average cost of cultivation per acre varies from Rs. 25,000/ to Rs. 30,000/-. The Government of India has fixed the Statutory Minimum Price at Rs. 812/- per ton of sugarcane. The Government of Tamil Nadu has announced the State Advisory Price at Rs. 238.70 per ton. Now a days fire wood which is grown without any care, attention and water is sold at Rs. 1500 to Rs. 1700/- per ton. Sugarcane is used for various purposes including for the production of industrial alcohol and some sugar mills are even using it for the generation of power. Hence sugarcane gives number of value added products apart from making sugar.

[Shri N.S.V. Chitthan]

In order to save the cane growers from the grip of money-lender and rural indebtedness, I urge upon the Central Government to fix the Statutory Minimum Price as Rs. 2000/- per ton.

(iv) Need to cancel the allocation of coal mines to private sector in Palamu district of Jharkhand

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad) : Sir, the Ministry of Coal and Coal India Ltd. have so far allotted 269 coal blocks to private companies. In view of pitiable condition of coal labourers, the then Prime Minister] Shrimati Indira Gandhi nationalized the coal industry to protect the interests of coal labourers being exploited by the private sector. On the one hand the interests of the said labourers were protected and on the other it ensured exploitation of the national resource in a regulated and safer way. And the fact is that Coal India produced quality coal with the help of its skilled labourers with minimum accident rate to fulfill the needs of energy in the country.

Now, I have come to know that North-Eastern part of Rajhara Colliery in Rajhara area of CCL in Jharkhand has been allotted to Mukund Ltd. And Vinny Iron and Steel Industries Ltd. and Horilog Project to Rungta.

Palamu division of Jharkhand is quite backward where 80 per cent of its inhabitants are poor tribals and most backward class. Privatization of this colliery will render thousands of regular labourers jobless. This fact has also been corroborated by the then CMD and the Director (Technical Operation) vide their letter No.CCL/CAP/Mine/2087-89 dated 29.11.2007 and DTPNP/2008/18/10 dated 10.11.2008 respectively. In view of it, I urge up on the Government to cancel the said allotment immediately.

(v) Need to provide an economic package for development of civic facilities in Banaskantha Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha) : Sir, Urban Development schemes have not been implemented in small cities in my parliamentary constituency, Banaskantha. Consequently, there is filth in several cities, especially in absence of sewers. There is acute shortage of housing for the poor in urban areas. They face acute shortage of drinking water during summer and the women have to walk kilometers for fetching drinking water. The roads in these cities are in bad shape. The municipal Corporations of these cities are cash-strapped. Therefore, I urge the upon the Government to provide a financial package to these municipal corporations in Banaskantha.

I urge upon the Government to consider the above request seriously.

(vi) Need to formulate a scheme for providing irrigation facilities in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sabarkantha district in Gujarat is a backward region. Agriculture is the main occupation. However, farmers depend mainly on monsoon crops. The irrigation facilities are minimal. Though there are nearly six to seven medium and major dams built in the district, it receives little water for irrigation from these dams. The areas upstream are more or less a dry region.

I urge the Government of India, through its Irrigation Department to impress upon Government of Gujarat to formulate the irrigation scheme to irrigate this district. The Government of Gujarat should formulate an irrigation scheme to take water from Kadana Dam, through building a high bank canal and should take water to Sabarkantha district

so that the entire tribal areas, as well as the plain region of the district can be irrigated.

(vii) Need to construct a railway line on Ujjain-Agar-Malwa-Jhalawar sections in Ratlam division of Western Railways

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Sir, till the year 1976, there was meter gauge railway line between Ujjain and Agar-Malwa, the area falling under Western Railway Zone Ratlam and passenger trains as well as goods trains use to run on this line till that year. This railway line was removed in 1976 without any reason. The people of the area were against the removal of this railway line but they went unheard. Ever since the removal of this railway line the people of the area and their representatives have been demanding for laying of new railway line on Ujjain-Agar-Malwa-Jhalawar section. The Ministry of Railways has got a survey done for the said rail line and hon'ble Minister of Railways had announced in the previous Rail Budget Speech that fresh survey would be conducted but so far no action has been taken in this regard. As a result there is heavy resentment and anger amongst people of the area. I would like to demand from hon'ble Minister of Railways to kindly grant permission for laying new railway line between Ujjain-Agar-Malwa Jhalawar.

(viii) Need for widening and repairing of N.H. Nos. 7 and 75 besides construction of a bypass on N.H.-75 in Satna, Madhya Pradesh

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna) : Sir, there is a long standing demand for constructing a bypass on N.H.-75 which passes through Satna city. Similarly, there is a need to get sanction for the proposal of Satna-Sameria-Alahabad road which is proposed to be constructed by the State Government from the Central Road Fund. Besides, there is a need for repair and widening of NH 7 and NH-75 so that the accidents taking place daily on these roads could be checked.

(ix) Need to implement 'one-rank-one-pension' formula for retired defence personnels

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a large disparity in the pensions of defence personnels who retired in the past and who are retiring now, due to which discontentment is growing among the ex-servicemen. For the last many years the retired defence personnels have been requesting to implement the one rank one pension policy to do away with this disparity.

Sir, there are a large number of working and retired defence personnels in my Parliamentary Constituency. After the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission the Minister of Defence had constituted a special Committee which was required to give its recommendations for resolving this issue, but so far there has been no solution to this problem. This has led to a lot of anger and discontentment among the retired ex-servicemen of various ranks. Now, the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission have also been implemented but the one-rank-one pension policy has not been implemented so far. Therefore, through you I would like to request the hon'ble Ministers of Finance and of Defence that one-rank-one-pension policy should be implemented immediately so that the disparity in the pensions of ex-servicemen can be done away with.

(x) Need to provide funds for Indira Sagar Gosikhurd Irrigation Project in Maharashtra

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur) : Sir, most of farmers of our country depend on rain for irrigation. Due to the shortage of financial resources of the State Governments for providing irrigation facility for the unirrigated land in the country and non implementation of irrigation projects the condition is further deteriorating. The condition of farmers living in tribal and forest areas in the country is getting worse. In view of the Forest (Conversation) Act, 1980 with Amendments made therein in 1982 the State Governments have to deposit. Net Present Value (NPV) with the Union Government for

[Shri Hansraj G. Ahir]

conversion of forest land alongwith the total cost of the project for construction of irrigation projects there. Sometimes it has been seen that they have to deposit the four times Net Present Value of the total cost of the Irrigation Project with the Union Government. Owing to their precarious financial health the State Governments are unable to launch irrigation projects in forest and tribal areas. Due to this the people of these areas have not been able to reap any benefits of irrigation facility. As a result farmers of these areas are facing malnutrition and starvation. The work on Indira Sagar, Gosikhurd Irrigation Project is going on at a very slow speed in our area. Taking notice of this, we sought financial assistance from the Union Government by declaring it a national project but in spite of sanction and inclusion of the same in National River linking Project, no special assistance has been provided by the Union Government so far. There is a need of providing adequate financial assistance by the Union Government for early construction of the said project in order to give the benefit of irrigation facility to the farmers.

Through you I would like to request the Union Government to provide concession in Net Present Value (NPV) for construction of irrigation projects and also make financial assistance available continuously for construction of Gosikhurd Irrigation Project in forest region in Vidarbha.

(xi) Need to expedite the construction of third and fourth phases of Kollam by-pass on N.H.-47 in Kerala

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): The construction of Kollam by-pass as a part of NH-47 was ordered by the Union Government in 1978. Adequate land for four-lane road construction was also acquired by the State Government at the instance of the Union Government. But only two phases out of four were completed in 2003. For the last five years

the work of remaining two phases is pending before the Central Government. To avoid the traffic congestion at the Kollam city, completion of the by-pass is necessary. People's representatives and Kerala Government itself have taken up the issue several times but in vain. I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps to construct the remaining portion, i.e., third and four phases of Kollam by-pass at the earliest.

(xii) Need to expedite the expansion work on N.H.-2 from Dhanbad to Dankuni besides constructing Panagarh by-pass in West Bengal

SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY (Asansol): National Highway Authority of India has already agreed to start the work of expansion of NH-2 from Dhanbad to Dankuni. But there is hardly any attempt to expedite the work.

Due to poor traffic signal system accidents have increased in between Durgapur and Asansol. Proper planning is needed to avoid frequent accidents.

Also, inordinate delay to start the work of Panagarh by-pass has worsened the situation. The Government should take appropriate action in the matter.

(xiii) Need to release funds for rural electrification under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Scheme in Deoria, Ballia & Kushinagar districts in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Sir, electrification work in Deoria, Ballia and Kushinagar districts in Uttar Pradesh under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Scheme has come to a halt as the Ministry of Power has not released the second instalment of the amount sanctioned. The Govt. had fixed targets to electrify these most backward and flood affected districts of Uttar Pradesh on priority basis. In the first round, 237 villages in Deoria districts and 455 villages in Ballia district were to be electrified but the work could not be finished. In the second

round, electrification of 5400 hamlets in Deoria district and 1300 hamlets in Ballia district was to be completed by March 2007 but the work has come to a halt for the last two years because the Centre has not released the funds. In a reply to the question asked by me in this regard, the hon. Minister of Power had said on last 15th December that the electrification work of the backward districts would be done on priority basis for which funds would be provided separately. I had requested many times for release of funds by writing letters and meeting hon. Minister personally but I regret that no positive step has been taken so far.

I request the hon. Minister of Power for urgent release of second installment for completion of this important public interest project in the said backward districts.

(xiv) Need to set up a National Gramin Bank and give adequate decision making power and facilities to the existing Rural Banks

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Sir, the nationalized banks are far behind the Gramin Banks as far as the role played by the latter in the progress and interests of the farmers are concerned. But, even after 60 years of independence, the Gramin Banks have to take a decision in regard to farmers' interests under the decisions of their promoter banks, Not only this, Gramin Bank employees are not given same amount of pension, allowances and other facilities in comparise with those in nationalized banks which makes them feel like a victim. This affects their work also.

Today, the number of farmers committing suicide due to hunger, malnutrition, unemployment and burden of private moneylenders' loan is increasing constantly. Though the Govt. is concerned about this but is unable to take a satisfactory and concrete decision which will be pro-farmer and help solve the farmers' problem. Gramin Banks provide maximum loan to the farmers and that too in accordance with their needs and at interest rates lower than the nationalized banks. But, the most worrying thing is that

instead of an increase in the number of Gramin Banks, they are decreasing.

I request the Govt. that a National Gramin Bank should be set up by merging all the Gramin Banks. Gramin Banks should be freed from the control of the promoter banks and be vested with the power to take decision independently. Pension, allowances and other amenities should be brought at par with the employees of the promoter bank. New provisions should be made for recruitment and promotion and the role of NABARD in the financial management of Gramin Banks should be maximized.

(xv) Need to take effective steps to check naxalism in Jharkhand and provide adequate financial package for economic development of the naxal-hit regions

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL (Chatra) : Sir, through Rule 377, I want to bring to the notice of the House that naxalite activities are going on in my home state Jharkhand. A demand was made in the House for providing a package for the development of naxal hit regions but it has not been acceded to. The Govt. had launched a scheme involving Rs. 2500 crore for the development of the backward regions but the development of naxal hit areas under this scheme has been negligible. The people are taking to naxalism due to the widespread unemployment there.

Through the House, I request the Govt. that special packages should be provided to the naxal hit regions to gain early control over naxalism and create special opportunities for the industrial development and employment there and the concerned officials' work should be reviewed from time to time.

(xvi) Need to provide a stoppage to Patna-Rajdhani Express (2309/2310) at Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI RAMESH DUBEY (Mirzapur) : Sir, the Patna

[Shri Ramesh Dubey]

Rajdhani Express 2309/2310 does not halt at Mirzapur station though it is a busy station between Mughalsarai and Allahabad.

Mirzapur is a commercial city and carpets are exported from Mirzapur-Bhadohi which earns a lot of foreign exchange. Varanasi is a religious place visited by lakhs of people every year from within the country and from abroad. No Rajdhani or Shatabdi train has a stoppage in Mirzapur which is causing much difficulty to the people. Providing a stoppage of Patna Rajdhani Express at Mirzapur would benefit the people and business community of Mirzapur, Jaunpur, Robertsganj, Varanasi etc. I, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to provide a stoppage of Patna-Rajdhani at Mirzapur.

(xvii) Need to open a branch of State Bank of India and improve banking facilities at Barugur in Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (Krishnagiri): In my Krishnagiri Constituency, at Barugur, a mini Textile Market is located which consists of about 1,000 textile shops and is considered as next to Surat Market. Large quantities of coconuts and Mangoes are produced here. More than 100 Granite Polishing Units are functioning here.

The Population of Barugur is more than 25,000 and the floating population is also very high. It is surrounded by large number of villages and the people are coming here frequently for marketing, etc. as Barugur is the only big market near to them.

However, Barugur is not having good banking facilities. The traders, businessmen, students and the general public are facing lot of difficulties as a result thereof. There is a long pending demand for opening up of a Branch of State Bank of India (SBI) or any other nationalized Bank Branch at Barugur.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take appropriate action for opening of more Bank Branches in Barugur at the earliest.

(xviii) Need to impose ban on the production of Bt Brinjal, a GM food crop, in the country keeping in view its adverse impacts on health

DR. R. SENTHIL (Dharmapuri): I rise to bring forth my concerns over the entry of Bt Brinjal, a GM food on the Indian soil. This genetically modified Brinjal is going to be the first GM food crop in India and the first GM Brinjal ever to be commercialized in the world.

It is unfortunate that our regulatory regime in India does not insist upon a comprehensive bio-safety assessment including long term impacts for reproductive health, for carcinogenicity assessment etc. It is more alarming that no independent research is being taken up to guide our regulatory decision-making process. All decisions are now being taken based on the data supplied by the crop developers who obviously have a vested interest in the matter.

A recent official Austrian study showed that GM foods will cause reproductive health problems including infertility. There is another Italian study released last month which showed that immune systems of very old and young mice were affected with GM food diets.

Farmers as well as consumers across the country have been protesting against GM crops/foods like Bt Brinjal.

I urge upon the Government of India to pay heed to these ordinary citizens and uphold their right to safe food and food of their choice and stop the entry of GM food into the country.

(xix) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Virudhunagar in Tamil Nadu

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI (Sivakasi): Virudhunagar district has a track record in School Education in the past 25 years. Also, Virudhunagar is the district

headquarters with more than 10,000 employees working in various organisations of the Union Government. Moreover, the Kendriya Vidyalayas situated are at Madurai and Tirunelveli only, which is far away from Virudhunagar with an approximate distance of 50 kms and 70 kms respectively.

In regard to this, I wish to point out that a lot of representations are being received from the public as well as district authorities for starting a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Virudhunagar district. The infrastructure and land for the school have already been provided by a private donor.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to start a Kendriya Vidyalaya school at Virudhunagar in the academic year 2009-10 itself.

(xx) Need to provide an alternate satellite media for restoring telecommunication services in Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir

SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN (LADAKH): The services of BSNL like Mobile, WLL, Broadband and leased lines in entire Ladakh region are severely affected due to damage caused to optic fiber cable between Zojila Pass and Drass. BSNL is not able to restore OFC Media for at least two months as the area is covered under thick blanket of snow and, as such, inaccessible till Leh-Srinagar highway gets opened. The people in the region are agitated and demanding immediate restoration by making alternate arrangements. It is requested that adequate Satellite media be provided as an alternate media to restore telecom services in Ladakh. This should be done immediately on top priority basis so that services like Broadband, WLL and Mobile could be restored. I also demand that dedicated mobile MSC for Leh may be sanctioned and installed on top priority. Needless to mention that Ladakh is a very sensitive Border region and disruption in telecom services is also affecting Defence services which needs to be viewed seriously.

12.17 hrs.

[English]

**MOTION OF THANKS ON THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvatipuram):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I beg to move:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:-

'That the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on February 12, 2009.'

Sir, the President in her opening remarks of her Address has said and I quote:-

"Our functioning democracy has set for my government exacting standards to judge its performance. People measure government not on the basis of what it says but on the basis of what it does. In a democracy, government is measured on a simple maxim – *aam admi ko kya mila?*"

What has the common man got? This is the basis on which the UPA was formed. So, when democratic, secular and progressive forces combined together under the chairmanship of our leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, who facilitated the functioning of this Government, the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) was prepared to make the Government accountable to the people.

Sir, during the last five years, I believe, the Government acted in a manner that actually kept up most of the promises that were made in the National Common Minimum Programme.

Sir, as we near towards the end of the 14th Lok Sabha -- we are just a few weeks left before we go to the people

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

again, as the sun sets over this 14th Lok Sabha — I think it is also time to review what our Government has done during the last five years.

The hon. President in her Address has summed up the achievements of this Government vis-à-vis the promises that the Government had made.

Sir, the first promise that our Government had made was to ensure that there would be transparency in administration; that the Government in the Parliament would be accountable to the people. Sir, towards this end, the Right to Information Act was passed and enacted in this Parliament. It was a historic piece of legislation which undid the Official Secrecy Act which actually helped the colonial rulers during their regime.

This was a distinct departure which has brought in a different kind of transparency and accountability to the people. Immediately after this, our Government, the UPA Government, with the initiative of the Chairperson of the UPA, introduced and enacted the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. This was something which was due to the traditional forest dwellers for nearly a century. It was in 1972 that while enacting the Protection of Wildlife Act that the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had promised these rights to the traditional forest dwellers and to the Scheduled Tribes living in such areas. After more than three-and-a-half decades, today, our Government had redeemed the pledges made to the forest dwellers, to the Scheduled Tribes by the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi in the late 1960s and the early 1970s.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, fortunately or unfortunately, as is the system where the implementation of many of these programmes is done by the State Governments, keeping in view our federal nature of the Constitution, this is also one area where the State Governments have a great responsibility. But the Centre has taken its initiative. We have enacted the law, framed the rules. I am sure, the

Government at the Centre will continue to ensure that these hapless people would get succour, out of this new legislation.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which is now covering the whole of India, is a pioneering effort in the world. It is the first ever intention anywhere in the universe to ensure that the Government guarantees a specified number of days to the people of any category of citizens. So, this universal entitlement is actually one of the primary features of this Act. During the last few years, over 3.4 crore rural households have been provided employment. Out of this, 55 per cent of the beneficiaries of this programme belong to Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste. And, 49 per cent of the beneficiaries have been women. So, this has provided a great relief to the people in the rural areas, especially at a time when we are going through some economic crisis and recession. This has helped the poorest of the poor in most of the States where this programme is being implemented. So, it has covered the whole country now. According to the information that we have, I think, more than 20 States in our country have been implementing this programme well. Of course, many States have been doing it as if it is their own programme. I have no problem with that. But, I think the country needs to know, the people need to understand that this was possible only because of the Central Government's initiative and the funds that we are giving from here. I think, for the year 2008-09 alone, a sum of Rs.20,000 crore was earmarked for the NREGA. We, therefore, wish this NREGA well, wherever it is being worked successfully. We wish the State Governments well. But, I think, at this juncture, it is also essential and necessary for the people to know that such a programme would never have been possible if the Central Government had not enacted this legislation and given the funds from the Central resources.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, along with this, a social security framework has been set up to strengthen the rural population. So, the revamped Indira Gandhi National Old

Age Pension Scheme and several other Insurance Schemes have added to the social security of the people who have been working under this Scheme. ... (*Interruptions*) Still, two-thirds of our population depend on agriculture. More than 60 per cent of our population eke out their livelihood from the agricultural sector. So, the credit to agriculture has increased three-fold, by 300 per cent.

The allocation to agriculture has increased from Rs. 87,000 crore in the year 2003-04 to Rs. 2,40,000 crore in the year 2007-08. Short-term loans have been made available at 7 per cent rate of interest and the farm loan waiver of Rs. 65,000 crore has provided great relief to 3.7 crore farmers who are victims of bad times and natural calamities. Fortunately or unfortunately we have these natural calamities overtaking all the efforts that have been put in by our farmers in different parts of the country, in different years and, I think, for them, this initiative has reassured them and given them an opportunity to come out of their problems they have been immersed with in all these years.

Sir, the Government has also ensured that the interest of farmers have been fully protected while the WTO agreements were signed. In the protracted discussions which took place between the officials of our Government and other Governments, in the talks that took place at various levels of the WTO, the Government has ensured that agriculture will not become a victim in all the aspects of the WTO agreement.

The agriculture sector has grown by 4.5 per cent. Earlier on, the agriculture growth which was pegged at only 2.7 per cent has grown by 4.5 per cent. As far as oilseeds are concerned, we all know that soya bean oil is one of the good oils as far as health is concerned and the soya bean oilseed production has gone up from 60 lakh tonnes in 2004 to 99 lakh tonnes in the year 2008. There has been a marked increase in the production of almost all the crops. The record production of foodgrains of 230.67 million tonnes was achieved in the year 2007-08.

Agriculture continues to be an area of priority as far as the UPA Government is concerned. I think the last two to three years have seen increased allocations to the agriculture sector for various schemes and for various projects.

Sir, health was given a place of primary importance by this Government. The rural health and sanitation schemes have met with unprecedented success. The Government has increased the health coverage from 27 per cent in 2004 to 60 per cent by the end of January, 2009. The National Rural Health Mission has given a fillip to the healthcare of the people in different parts of the country, especially in rural areas.

Sir, several institutes of excellence have been opened in different parts of the country like Indian Institute of Technology, Indian Institute of Management etc. Just now we saw the Minister introduce a Bill which we will hopefully pass in this Session for opening several Central Universities in different parts of the country. All this is done with the aim of increasing our educational standard and to provide these facilities to people living in different parts of the country. I think special interest has also been taken to ensure that these facilities have been extended to the Northeast Region.

Sir, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has helped the universal coverage of primary education and the enrolment of children has increased from 15.6 crores in 2004 to 18.5 crores in the year 2008. The Mid-Day Meal Scheme, financed entirely by the Central Government, has provided the incentive to prevent drop-outs at the school level and today we have a retention of 15 crore children in our schools. About 6,000 Model Schools have been set up throughout the country and, for the first time, this Government has also set up a National Commission for Children's Rights so as to protect the rights of children.

The UPA Government has allocated special funds for the development of the backward regions, known as the Backward Regions Grant Fund. These funds have been used to institutionalize the district planning.

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

The decentralized programme through the Panchayat Raj and Urban Local Bodies to improve the delivery of services along with inclusive development was progressively done during the last four or five years. Slowly, I think, they have reached a stage where the villages in our country are in a position to independently decide their course of action with the special funds from the centre and other facilities that have been percolating down to them through the process of decentralization.

The urban areas have also been dealt with in an adequate manner. The Nehru Urban Renewal Mission for renewal of urban areas with projects costing up to Rs. 40,000 crore has given a new fillip to the development of urban areas specially the slums and the congested regions in these parts of the country. The special initiatives for better implementation of socio-economic development have been taken in all these respects in the North-Eastern Region also.

As far as housing is concerned, 60 lakh houses under the Indira Awas Yojana scheme have been allotted. Only during 2008-09, 2.39 lakh houses, dwelling units have been allotted to minorities. The amount of money for each of these dwelling units was also increased during the last Budget. Banks have also been instructed to give loans in addition for completion of these dwelling units to various levels.

As far as industrial development and growth is concerned, the SEZs have facilitated incremental investment of Rs. 90,000 crore. But the UPA Government has been very firm and clear on this aspect that SEZs will be created only with the consent of respective State Governments and land acquisition will be done only with the consent of the concerned people and those of the State. A special Bill regarding the acquisition of land and for the rehabilitation of displaced people is in the pipeline. I hope that it will soon become an Act.

During the UPA regime, the National Council for Skill

Development has been created chaired by none other than the Prime Minister himself to promote private sector-led development in different parts of the country. The National Knowledge Commission was yet another creation of the UPA Government. The National Knowledge Commission has been created to preserve the traditional knowledge and for developing and sharing the knowledge that our country has and possesses with the people not only within our country but also from the other parts of the world.

Major investments have been made or are expected, as far as the steel industry is concerned, in Orissa, in Chhattisgarh, in Karnataka, and in West Bengal. By the year 2015, India will be the second largest producer of steel.

It is of course our public sector units which, during those very crucial years, enabled our industry to develop, which helped us create an infrastructure. It was actually the farsightedness of Pandit Nehru which helped us to reach this stage. Today, many of the public sector units have been strengthened by the UPA Government and definitely are in a better position than what they were five years ago. It is his creation of this infrastructure which has also helped us or which is going to stand by us in these days of economic crisis to tide over the meltdown that has crept in all over the world.

Special importance was given to the development and construction of roads and communication facilities.

Sir, the Golden Quadrilateral, which was started during the NDA regime, is almost near completion. Apart from that, a lot of Central grants have been given for roads to be built in interior areas. Special incentives have been provided in the North Eastern Region. I think, 1840 kilometres of roads have been sanctioned in the North-East.

Sir, the Trans Arunachal Expressway has been approved. The alternative highway to Sikkim has also been grounded, and the Kaladan project will link Mizoram in the

entire North-East to the sea. These are very important for communication links which are necessary for the North-East. I think, our Government has taken a special care to see that the people in the North Eastern Region not only become a part of the mainstream but also enjoy facilities which are enjoyed by the people in other parts of the country.

Sir, the Indian Railways has recorded profits along with efficiency and improved service standards. I am not going to speak much about Railways because there will be a separate debate on Railways but I would like to make a mention about the Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited which has been set up. There is a freight corridor which is going to be set up between Mumbai and Dadri, and the second one between Kolkata and Ludhiana covering 27,000 kilometres at a cost of Rs.28,000 crore. I think, this will go a long way in improving industrial production and also providing freight communication facilities for freightage in these routes.

Sir, the telecom projects have, today, reached new heights. This was all started by late Shri Rajiv Gandhi when he was the Prime Minister of India. It was all started with C-DOT at a time when several people were rather sceptical about what would happen with C-DOT and telecommunication. Today, in our country, I am proud to say that we have connectivity almost in all regions of the country. Today we have 53 lakh broadband connections, and telephone facilities are available almost in every corner of this country.

Sir, it was during this Government's regime, in the last four years, we had a lot of discussion and debate on the nuclear issue. This issue was debated on the floor of the House many times, and several opinions were expressed on this. The India Specific Safeguard Agreement, the IAEA decision – which was taken later on – and the decision of NSG actually resulted in erasing nuclear apartheid which had isolated us for 30 long years. After Pokhran-I – it was done during the late Shrimati Indira ji – we were totally isolated from any kind of nuclear world and this hampered Research and Development in

that area. Sir, today, I think, all of us must be in agreement to one fact that we are out of nuclear apartheid regime and we are free to have even bilateral agreements with other countries.

Sir, our Government has been making efforts and will make efforts to work with the new administration of the United States to our mutual benefits and towards the major challenges that face the two countries.

This new era has also helped us to build up a strategic partnership with the USSR. Our relationship with the Soviet Union was built up during the time of late Panditji. A long standing and tested relationship, which was functioning for a long time, was actually hampered by this nuclear apartheid or isolation, which was thrust upon us by some countries. With the removal of this, it has enabled us to sort of renew and strengthen our strategic relationship with the USSR to diversify it in many other countries.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no USSR, now.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvatipuram): I am sorry, Sir. I stand corrected. I am an old man, I belong to the old age. I stand corrected. I mean to say Russia.

I think, now, we can also go into such agreements with France and other countries, who are eager to have such relationships with India.

Sir, a new chapter has opened up as far as this aspect is concerned. It is during the UPA Government regime, and for the first time ever, that we had an Indo-African Summit. Some new strategies have been chalked out to have new relations with African Continent and also to develop the vast potential that exists in our relations with Latin America and with Caribbean countries. In the future, we will have to work with these countries. There is a great potential, a lot of commonalities and a lot of cultural links with these countries. I think, it goes to the credit of our UPA Government, which has taken the initiative to see that these relations are built up.

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

Sir, the economic meltdown has affected the entire world. In the shrinking universe, we also could not have been exempt from this. But I must say that we recorded a continuous economic growth, a GDP growth of nine per cent for the last four years; and despite the economic meltdown, we still continue to maintain a growth rate of seven per cent. The inflation rate has come down. Today, I think, we have realized the wisdom and prudence with which late Indiraji had nationalized the banks in 1969-70. It is only her efforts of the late Sixties and early Seventies, which have actually prevented our banks, the nationalized banks in India from meeting the same fate that several global banks of the universe have faced. I do not have to elaborate further on this but it is a fact, and I am glad that our UPA Government has also decided to strengthen these banks to ensure that the common man is not affected and the system does not lapse any further.

Sir, it is these calibrated and prudent economic reforms, which have been pursued by our Government and which have helped us to tide over these extreme adversities. I am sure that we are prepared to meet them today in a fitting manner. As the other related aspects would be discussed when the discussion on the Budget takes place, I do not want to take the time of the House now in elaborating them.

Sir, the launching of the Chandrayan is a tribute to our scientists. I think, we are proud that it is during the term of the UPA Government that India has been launched into the orbit of the moon. Now, the data for monitoring environment and management of natural disasters would become much easier for us, and we do not have to depend on other countries or other sources as far as this aspect is concerned.

Sir, as far as power is concerned, I would particularly like to state about the environment-friendly mega-power projects, which have been set up in three States, basically, in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, which will produce 4,000 MW of power.

Sir, I am particularly grateful to our Government for having accorded the sanction for the Krishnampet project in Andhra Pradesh, which will be an environment friendly project and will produce the same 4000 MW of power for our nation.

Now, Mr. Speaker Sir, for the last couple of years, I have seen a lot of turmoil in our domestic polity. The main scourge for us has been terrorism. Terrorist does not belong to any caste or any region or religion. A terrorist is a terrorist. Whether he or she is a Hindu or a Muslim or a Christian, a terrorist is a terrorist. We have been at the receiving end of terrorist attacks. I see this as a national problem which we have to jointly address. We saw the House which was totally united when we discussed the issue of terrorism immediately after the Bombay blast.

But I would only like to mention a few things as far as terrorism is concerned. Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition is sitting here. When we discussed this issue, the hon. Leader of the Opposition very emphatically stated—you know, this happened at a time when we had elections in some States—that the vote that the Congress got in Delhi or the UPA got in Delhi was not to be construed to be a vote in favour of terrorism. I do not think it was anybody's contention that the vote that we got was a vote for terrorism. It is certainly not. That was not our contention. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is only a sick and a convoluted mind which can think that in those circumstances a vote, which has been secured, is a vote for terrorism. It is certainly not. I am sure that the House is all united on this issue. We are against the issue of terrorism.

Sir, but there were two messages that we got from that mandate from the people. One was that people vote on the basis of your governance, on what you have delivered to them. And second was, I think people gave a clear message, a mandate, a clear and sound minded message that votes cannot be got or cannot be sought on the innocent bodies of slain people. Terrorist cannot be made an issue for procuring or terrorism cannot be made an issue for procuring votes, and I think all of us

should remember this because I do not doubt the patriotism of anybody. But it was at a time when the nation should have been totally divided. It is unfortunate that it appeared that there were some aspects which were dividing the nation into two. This is most unfortunate. I do not think it was deliberate. I wish it was not. But this should never happen again and I am sure that it will not recur at any time.

Sir, the Government brought in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act to ensure that prompt action can be taken against those indulging in terrorist activities. After that, it was because of the sustained efforts of our Government, diplomatic initiatives and investigating agencies that we were able to pin down the culprits, and today we have reached a stage where even Pakistan has found it very difficult to deny that their people have been trained or their people have been involved in acts of terrorism over here.

This is an issue which concerns several other nations also. I think today, people all over the world, people from different nationalities, from different nations in the comity of nations are convinced that terrorism is something which has to be dealt with an iron hand. It is not a bilateral issue. It is not a religious issue. It is not any kind of a sentimental issue. I appeal to this august House, to all the Members over here, to look at terrorism as a national issue which we all have to deal with in a united manner.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the elections in Jammu and Kashmir actually demonstrated the faith of our people in the democratic system. It is not relevant which party came to power or which party did not come to power. I am not gloating over the fact that we are one of the partners in the ruling combine over there. That is not important. The fact is that 60 per cent of the people voted in Kashmir. I think, this is a great victory for democracy. It is an endorsement of the people in a democratic process.

Sir, I think, Delhi is not only the National Capital; we have in Delhi people from different parts of the country, representing different views. Now 60 years down the line

since we attained independence, we have people from all parts of the country – North, South, East and West – assembled over here. It is a cosmopolitan city. The mandate of Delhi is like the mandate of the country. ... *(Interruptions)* My friend, Shri Topdar has not enjoyed what I am saying. It does not suit him. But the mandate given to us in Delhi was the mandate given by the people of India. It was not only an endorsement of our governance, but it was also rejection of terrorism and of violence and of the politics of hate-ridden vengeance. It is a secular mandate that we received. We are sure that the UPA Government has tried and will continue its efforts further. Hopefully, we will be back here to see that we continue with these efforts which we have persisted with for the last four years.

Sir, the last year of the UPA rule was testing. I quote what the President has said:

"A year that tested by fire the principles that our country has always lived by – communal amity, tolerance, compassion, justice and peaceful coexistence."

So, there was a threat to all these aspects and we still overcame that. We can overcome any situation, Mr. Speaker, Sir. So, I thank the President for her Address. As we go to the people again in 2009, I would like to most respectfully submit to the House that we are not going to go with a handful of promises but we will go to the people with a basket full of achievements that we have achieved in the last five years.

With these words, I commend that this Motion be adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Sir, I stand to support Motion of Thanks on President's Address initiated by my colleague Shri Kishore Chandra Deo. I am grateful to the President for her Address. I would also like to point out that this Government is completing its five year

[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

term. Since the day we came to power, our colleagues in the Opposition were guessing that this government would last one, two or at the most three years. In fact, at one stage it appeared to our opposition colleagues that the Government's fall was imminent and they even declared the names of their candidates in anticipation of elections. But the Government completed its five year term under the leadership of the Chairperson of the UPA and Manmohan Singh ji. I thank the entire UPA for this. I also thank our leftist friends who walked with us for a short while before parting their way. The programmes implemented by the UPA Government during its five year tenure and its strategy can be summed up in the words uttered by Gandhiji on 13.07.1945 which I would like to quote:

"If India lives in its villages, then it should be self-reliant and only then we can come to know what should be done and in what manner."

I would also like to quote Smt. Indira Gandhiji, whose vision the Chairperson of UPA, Smt. Sonia Gandhi has taken forward to describe the thrust of the programmes of the UPA Government and the challenges it has faced during the last five years. Smt. Indira Gandhi has said about challenges:-

[English]

"We have challenges right at our doorsteps. We do not have to go to the mountains or cross the high seas. We have poverty in our villages and we have the caste system in every home. These are the mountains we have to climb, the oceans which we have to cross."

[Translation]

With this perspective in our vision the farmer is the main figure to emerge in the rural scenario. As far as I know, this government has offered the most remunerative prices to the farmers. I would like to remind the leader of the Opposition that, when the loan waiver proposal for

farmers was mooted in the House, he had said that banks and other institutions would be reluctant to carry it out. I would like to tell him today that this government has granted the highest remunerative prices for the produce of the farmers. I came to know of this when I was going through his speech yesterday, that is why I am mentioning this point here. The remunerative price of wheat was Rs.630 per quintal when NDA Government was in power whereas now the price is Rs.1080 per quintal. This year there has been a bumper crop of cotton in the country due to which a possibility of sharp fall in price of cotton arose. At such a time, when cotton was priced at Rs.400-500, the Minister of Textiles and the Cotton Corporation of India had bought cotton at the rate of Rs.550-570 from the farmers. This enabled the farmers to make higher profits. It has been the policy of our government to let farmers earn profits. Care has been taken to lower production cost of cotton.

Let us take the case of fertilizers. The Government is subsidizing one bag of DAP by Rs.2800 to 2900. A total subsidy of Rs.1,24,000 crore is being given which is not a small amount. A subsidy of Rs.500 is being given on one bag of urea. I suggested the Fertilizer Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji to get Rs.3300/- printed as the price of DAP on the bags of urea. It is also printed with this price that Rs.2800-2900 are deducted from this as subsidy and the farmers get these bags at the cost of Rs.490-500 per bag. Despite such huge subsidy, the Gujarat Government imposes VAT and extracts tax from the farmers.

A scheme costing Rs.2,80,000/- crore was formulated under infrastructure finance as a strategy to enable farmers to become self-reliant, Rs.65,000 crore of loan was waived to bail out the farmers. More relief measures have been announced in the budget speech yesterday. I am glad the condition of farmers is improving under the UPA regime.

My colleague had mentioned just now, that a scheme to provide at least 100 days of work in a year has been started for agricultural labourers. Also, to ensure that they get the funds meant for them and in order to stop any

leakage in this amount their accounts have been opened in post offices and banks. At one stage such a situation was going to arise in the country in which it was being presumed that the Government is not in a position to provide employment to the able-handed people. But this Government increased revenue-earnings, mobilized funds, enacted the National Rural Employment Guarantee legislation and finally implemented it in all the districts in the country after its initial introduction in some districts. A provision of Rs.20,000 crore was made for this purpose initially and it is proposed to raise this amount of Rs.30,000 crore this year. This is not a small amount and the UPA Government deserves to be commended.

Social security has been provided through a legislation to people working in unorganized sectors in villages. I am talking about the villages specifically because I want to highlight the efforts made by the Government for the rural farmers because of which they are praising the Government with are voice.

Sir, village infrastructure has been developed. Village infrastructure has been added as a component of Bharat Nirman for the first time. I am proud to say that when I was elected to the House for the first time, six or seven years ago, telephones were a rarity in my constituency, which is a remote area. Today, 95 percent of the area is covered by BSNL. I was astonished when I received a phone-call from Delhi in one of the villages there. Where once, no one could have imagined having a telephone, today I can talk to some one there from Delhi or from any other part of the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Madhsudanji, you will continue after Lunch.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forty-Five Minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

13.50 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty Minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS – Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When the House was adjourned, Shri Madhusudan Mistry was on his legs. Now, I will request him to continue his speech.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, I seek your permission to speak from this seat.

[Translation]

Sir, I was stating that the programmes implemented by the UPA Government during its tenure of five years have been targeted at the development of the villages in line with Gandhi's ideology that if Hindustan lived in the villages, then the villages should be turned into model villages having everything in their fold. I have stated earlier that a farmer in the village has been given remunerative prices, subsidy has been provided on fertilizers, financial institutions have been set up and a loan-waiver scheme has been introduced: I would like my friends to recall that they had heavily criticized the loan-waiver scheme. When the price of CCI was Rs. 570, I told the Gujarat Government that the figure of 570 was not good. The Central Government provides Rs.570 then Rs.30 should be provided by the State Government so that it may be reflected that the State Government is concerned about the farmers but it was not done. Several measures like fixation of minimum wages for farm workers, introduction of unorganized workers' welfare scheme, development of village infrastructure for the further development of the villages were taken. Under this development programme first of all telephone was provided in the villages which proved very useful. If the Patwari and the school teachers do not come, one can complain to the district administration

[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

against them immediately. Likewise, if the foodgrains are not available in the fair price shop, one can take up the issue with the concerned authority on phone. Such a means of communication was not available earlier and the present Government has made an effort to provide this service in the villages through BSNL. There have been a lot of problems in the course of providing all weather road links as permission was not granted at various places in the tribal areas due to Forest Conservation Act and the road links could not be provided. Similarly, housing and drinking water facilities were provided under Bharat Nirman Programme. I was surprised to know that in my state 400 MW power not could be produced during the last several years of Governance whereas our demand stands at 11400 MW and at present about 7800 MW power is produced and the rest is procured. Power worth about Rs.9000 crore is procured every year. This is the prevailing situation in my state and yet I am surprised as to why atomic energy agreement is being opposed. I could not understand this. On one hand we can not provide power while on the other the main opposition opposes the agreement for providing power.

Sir, widow pension scheme for the women living in the villages has been formulated. This Government enacted an Act for protection of the women in the villages as well as in the cities against domestic violence. The Panchayats have been given more powers. The women have been given more powers. Likewise, scholarships for education have been provided in the schools, various schemes have been introduced, mid-day meal scheme was introduced and the funds thereunder were increased. I am sorry to say that the Minister of Finance announced payment of Rs.500 to aaganwadi teachers and Rs.250 to aaganwadi helpers per month in the month of March of the last year. For which funds were provided. In my constituency, an amount of about 17 crore and 50 lakh rupees was provided in December, but our State Government has not paid the arrears to the aaganwadi teachers and helpers till date. This fund is kept in a common account and spent for

various purposes. When I asked the Secretary in this regard, I was told that arrears would be paid after more funds were received. This is the situation. The Central Government has already released the funds but they have not been paid their arrears which is their right. It is a matter of great surprise as to why arrears are not being paid to them.

Eight percent of the population of this country is tribal population. The tribal and traditional forest dwellers have been living there for years. Despite being tribal this community got itself recorded as non-tribal before Kaka Kalelkar Commission in 1951-52, that is why they were named as traditional forest dwellers. At the time of passing the legislation, it was recorded that this community had been subjected to historical injustice till that day and the legislation was an effort to convert that historical injustice into justice. It was provided that the persons, who have been cultivating the forest land since 2005 in the country should not be evicted from their land till settlement of the disputes with regard to the land under their possession. The land should be provided to them on lease. If it is not done they should be provided certificates of rights to cultivation on that land. Therefore, the entire village was given community rights under which they had the rights to collect and sell the Mahua, Tendue leaves, Lakh, Gunder, Chiraunjis, Saal seeds. Proper care was taken in the said legislation so as to ensure that there is no forest offence. But I am very sorry that the state governments have not implemented this Act in the manner in which it should have been implemented.

Today, I would like to state that our system provides that the center has to provide funds for the maximum of state subjects and help the states if they want. *[English]* Ultimately it is the State Government which has to implement all these programmes. The State Governments are lacking in implementing these various Acts; whether it is the NREGY, Domestic Violence Act or Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. *[Translation]* I want to state that all the pro-poor Acts were enacted to empower the people living in the villages. Under Bharat

Nirman Programme village was on the focus. Under this programme the matter of irrigation facilities and provision of fund was taken up in order to create employment opportunities for this people so that they earn their livelihood to run their families. The UPA Government made this possible. Gandhiji had a vision - everyone with me should take a spindle and earn by spinning thread. During those days very household had an income of one rupee. He had emphasised on creating such situation and today we see that vision in another form. Today we have employment guarantee programme which ensures income for every household in villages. If there is no money, poverty becomes a big problem and this problem cannot be solved. An effort has been made to develop a modern state on the principle of Hind Swaraj of Gandhiji.

Sir, the UPA Government has provided health service and incentive under ASHA programme of National Rural Health Mission in the villages. One thing emerges clear that the villages and the slums in the cities should be empowered and strengthened so as to ensure income in every household. The Central Government has adopted this strategy. I was surprised to read the statement given by General Secretary regarding Nehru's vision in Nagpur session. My leftists friends sitting to my right are saying that Nehru's vision was right whereas my friends sitting in the front support Gandhiji and Hindi Swaraj. Truth and non-violence were in the focus of Gandhiji's principles, but these people have given up communal unity, Hindu-Muslim unity and Minority-Majority unity after they resorted to communal violence.

14.00 hrs.

But the question arises that if the major political opposition party is talking about Hind Swaraj after so many years, then [English] is there something wrong with their own ideology? Are they going to shed it? Do they want to return to the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi? They know the very fact that, they are following the same ideology which had killed Mahatma Gandhi.

[Translation]

He had very strong views about Hindi-Muslim unity and his ideology got him killed. We want to tell them that...(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Supreme Court has given the verdict, High Court has given its verdict...(Interruptions) They have themselves murdered the principles of Gandhiji...(Interruptions).*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will see it and if there is anything objectionable, I will expunge it. Nothing would go on record...(Interruptions).*

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : The whole world knows, the entire country knows who has murdered.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Manavendraji, please sit down.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, I did not mention their name. I am saying that the ideology...(Interruption). The ideology has killed them. I did not say that they killed. I do not know why they get agitated as they cannot tolerate it. They are finding out solace and shelter in Hindi Swaraj I am happy that they are following Gandhian principles and Hindi swaraj theory, but, they should also follow the doctrine of communal harmony. The country is facing a very serious challenge, from terrorism and when the issue of terrorism comes up...(Interruption).

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Nothing is going on record.

* Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, I would like to put it on record that Gandhiji had asked the people associated with the movement for independence to wear khadi and he stipulated strict rules for khadi wearers that they will not drink, speak the truth, will follow the path of non-violence and will act against communal violence and work for ensuring communal harmony...(Interruptions) I wear it and they know what principles I follow. But he does not know about those who do not wear khadi. First he should adopt khadi...(Interruptions) wear khadi and then only he would come to realize that...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not address the individual. You please address the Chair.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, I am addressing the Chair. I do not understand why are they getting agitated. [Translation] I would like to say that we have a multi-dimensional ideology propounded by father of the nation which has a large number of followers. We are put to test daily by the thousand of people whether we come up to their expectation in terms to that ideology. And those who do not wear khadi, they are not concerned at all. Therefore, I would like to say that when they are talking about Hind Swaraj, they should not do away with the concept of Hindu-Muslim harmony.

People of all the religions live in villages. Social harmony must permit to bring forward their country. Swaraj should reach to the poorest of the poor.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you, you conclude now.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, I am coming to the point. I have just started and I have yet to make my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Members from other parties also are to speak.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, terrorism is a big challenge. But why efforts were made to hush up Malegaon terrorist attacks. Some of the Members had said that if they come to power they would send the officers investigating Malegaon incident to jail. But when these officers died in Mumbai attack, they were declared as martyrs. When firing was going on these Chief Minister of a State was visiting the sites carrying a cheque worth Rs. one crore. He was trying to project himself future Prime Minister of the country. Even otherwise, there are many aspirants for Prime Ministership in Opposition.

People who staged terrorist attack on themselves in Ahmedabad were arrested. Malegaon was also attacked. Nine people were injured in my constituency and a muslim was killed. All the ten were muslims. The terrorist who masterminded attack has not been arrested so far. The terrorists responsible for Ahmedabad attack were given money i.e. compensation and those from Modasa have not been paid a single penny though a compensation of five lakh to each was announced more than four months ago.

Sir, they are the some people who were once talking about secularism and saying that we live in a secular society. Sir, I would quote them. Sir, Shri Advaniji had quoted, though about UPA Government. On fifth anniversary of NDA Government Shri Advaniji had said.

[English]

"We remain firmly wedded to the ideal of peaceful, harmonious, inclusive and secular nation that celebrates its diversity but it is determined to defend its unity at all costs. This has been India's national ethos for millennia and this shall remain our ethos for ever,"

[Translation]

Sir, then how the issue of Ram Janam Bhoorni came up, how the issue of Ram Mandir came up and how they adopted it in National Agenda? Why an opportunity is being

given to the divisive forces? I would like to ask him if he is above such ideology, take a clear stand before the people now elections are round the corner.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Gandhiji also used to chant the name of Lord Ram and it is only Lord Ram, what is harm in it.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : I did not object to it, you also chant the name of Lord Ram...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Anybody who speaks without my permission, his statements would not be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : I am not denying him, he may speak for length of time he desires. He can speak when his turn comes. I am making my speech. Set aside all the things. Let us not talk of dual face.

Sir, POTA was supposed to deal with terrorism. They said that they enacted POTA in order to check terrorism. People apprehended for Godhra riots remained in jails for 4 and even up to 5 years. Today Gujarat High Court has ordered release of 15-20 persons saying they cannot be arrested under POTA. Does it mean that POTA was misused? Why was it invoked? The biggest threat from terrorism in Gujarat was always to our Chief Minister. There was a DSP and an IG and as long as they were posted there, people were killed there in every three months in the name of terrorism. Fifty-six persons were killed. No terrorist has come to kill our Chief Minister since the day he is in jail. Sir, I want to know what is this going on in this State?

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Janjgir) : You forget all

this. The people of Gujarat have given us majority and voted for Narendra Modi ji as Chief Minister again and again. Let you not be obsessed by the ghost of Narendra Modi ji and Gujarat every time.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Your speaking will not change the fact...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Silence please. Nothing should be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : The Gujarat incident is a blot on you. I want to say this in the House that this blot will not fade away even if you are voted to power six times. You may try as hard as possible...(Interruptions). This has been said by your PM and I am not saying this.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only the statement of Shri Mistry should recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, my only contention with her is that she should listen to me. She wants that everyone must listen to her and she should not listen to anyone...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded except Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : I want to say that the UPA Government has not excluded any section of the society in its five years' rule, it has moved forward taking all the sections of the society along, be it Government employees or businessmen.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they were publicizing India Shining campaign when sensex was at the level of 6000 points. Maximum number of people from my state invest in the capital market and even today they are hoping that our economy is progressing. Sensex touched 21,000 and has not gone below 9000 now. I want to say that the atmosphere created, the stability provided, the programmes, schemes launched and agreements signed in these 5 years by our Government have made common man hope for the future. We have seen the result of that hope in Rajasthan and Delhi...*(Interruptions)* When elections were going on, terrorist attack on Mumbai took place and all of them were happy that God had given them an opportunity and nobody could stop them then. Today, they are asking us to break relations with Pakistan. They had gone to the President of Pakistan. They had also gone to the person who was not the President of Pakistan. They had gone there to invite him and he had to acquire the status of President for the purpose. He came here and started the road link and bus link. They used to feel proud for that and even today they are feeling so. I will never be able to forget the scene where a woman Minister of their Government was greeting Musharraf Saheb. A photo showing them talking was published which I will never forget. Today, they are asking us to break the relations with Pakistan. Did terrorist attack not take place during their Government? Did not they go to Kargil? They had tried to win elections on the basis of bodies of the martyrs of kargil. How are they now suddenly reminded of snapping ties with Pakistan? Four jawans were martyred from my constituency...
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : You had insulted them when you brought their dead bodies to the village...*(Interruptions)*. Sir, there are many things which I want to bring to light. You can encash the issue of constructing a temple again on Ram Janmabhumi as much as you please but the people of the country will keep you on opposition side only. They will never vote you to power...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mistry ji please conclude.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Sir, our scientists have brought glory to India in the world. Our scientists have made our country feel proud by launching Chandrayan onto Moon. UPA Government has achieved many such feats due to which country is making progress. This work has not finished yet. This will continue in future also because I hope that the people will vote the UPA to power in the forthcoming elections keeping in view the work done by it. My friends sitting on my right side were with us in running the Government together for two and half to three years and still they will remain on our side because we are not so apart from them and they should also not grow apart.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that these five years of the UPA Government have been glorious. I analyse the budget. I explain the budget to NGO's in the country. No other Government has taken the number of measures that the UPA Government has taken during the course of the last four to five years. Also, I support the Vote of Thanks on the President's Address moved by my colleague Kishore Deoji and hope that the Congress would once again form the Government and lead the country for years.

* Not recorded.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:-

"That the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on February 12, 2009."

Before I would request the hon. Leader of Opposition to take the floor, I would like to make an announcement.

Hon. Members whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips at the table within fifteen minutes indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move. Those amendments only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of amendments treated as moved will be put on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

Now, Shri L.K. Advani

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this would be the last discussion on the President's Address and the Motion of Thanks thereon, during the 14th Lok Sabha. I stand to support this motion. It is a unique Motion, unique in the manner that the entire House unanimously supports the Motion of Thanks even if one does not concur with the President's Address. The Motion of Thanks is never opposed. The only way to express opposition is to move amendments stating that such and such things do not find any mention in the Address.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the last such discussion. Hence, I feel the need to go by certain formalities. This is for the first time the Prime Minister is not present in the House during the course of discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I would like to join the other colleagues to wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he may soon return to take part in the proceedings of the House. My own leader, the former Prime Minister, is also unwell and I am sure that all of you too wish him to recover soon and joins us in the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is also the last opportunity for you and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha to conduct the House over such a discussion. I offer you my good wishes and my thanks.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will say this to Mr. Speaker too Mr. Speaker too when he arrives. I believe that he has also served the House in his own way.

I commend him as well. I cannot forget the leader of the House. He is my senior. I was elected to the Rajya Sabha in 1970 and he was elected in 1969. That is one year earlier. Sometimes, I wonder, what would the UPA Government had done if it had not got Pranab Mukherjee? At the time of crises, it has always been Pranabji to whom it has looked to. Yesterday, he again presented the budget after a gap of twenty-five years. It was a time of crisis. I may have a difference of opinion with him but, ever since I got to know Pranab da in the Rajya Sabha, I have been an admirer of his ability, his capability and his knack of being able to shoulder any responsibility put on him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government has only two or three months to complete its term and this document is not written by the President. It is prepared by the Government. I don't understand why this document was made so lengthy. I don't remember any precedence when

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the President's Address went on for such a long time that is for one hour and twenty minutes. A new practice has been started since the past few years that people may listen to the English version of the speech if the speech is delivered in Hindi and vice-versa through Automatic Translation System. However, if the speech runs for one hour and twenty minutes and its translation also runs for the same duration, we can imagine the pressure it would put on the Members of Parliament.

Sir, in the last few years, we have effected a change in the Address that merely the first and last paragraph of the translated version is sufficient to understand the contents of the Original Address. This is what happened yesterday too when the President's Address was delivered. Even so, the Address was so lengthy that it seemed like the answer sheet of a student who does not really know the answer to the examination question but goes on writing in great detail about whatever little he knows. This is not a comment on Her Excellency, the President. Whatever I am saying is a comment on the Government since this speech is prepared by the Cabinet. I do not mean to make any personal comment on the President. My remarks only target the Government.

Sir, they felt the need to write such a lengthy speech because they do not have any tangible achievements to boast of. When the five years of the UPA Government are analysed in future by a historian or an analyst, they would be deemed to be the years of a failed Government. I am not using a harsher word, though I could. The Members sitting on the left were also the allies of the Government. Why did they leave the alliance? They were the major allies of the Government, but left the alliance. I have said time and again that the only basis for an alliance to form can be an agreement based on Common Minimum Programme.

If there is no concordance in the basic point of view, be it the foreign policy or the economic policy, it

will cause difficulty for the alliance. And the difficulties did arise, there were times when it became difficult to predict how long the Government would be able to last. And in the end, it happened which I will talk about later on. The Government would have fallen, but was saved somehow.

During the previous session, the initial round of discussions concentrated on the subject of the Mumbai attacks since the attack had just taken place. I remember very well that after the Mumbai attack, the Government all of a sudden, announced that it would enact a new law to deal with terrorism. Such incidents have occurred one after another during the previous five years. This incident was in only one way different from the ones preceding it. This attack went on for three days whereas the previous incidents were one-dayers. Since this attack was played-out over three days, the electorates of the country, the citizens of the country watched the entire chain of events on their television-sets in the manner they watch a cricket-match ball-by-ball commentary. This created a fear-psychosis in their minds. The duration of the attack and its television created an impression in the minds of the people that this was war, not any ordinary attack.

It is a natural reaction-there is nothing wrong in it. The point is that there is basically no difference between this incident and the 1993 incident, or serial-blasts in the train in Mumbai where bombs were triggered-off in seven trains simultaneously. They were terrorists, fidayeens. Their aim was to create terror at the cost of their lives, challenging of the Government to do what it could in face of their audacity. This has happened before and keeps happening. When we said that at least there should be a legal framework to ensure that such people are punished it was said that there was no need for such laws.

[English]

"The present laws that are there are adequate".

[Translation]

Everyone sang the same tune, although this attitude is not acceptable anywhere else in the world. Even the countries which were untouched by the spectre of terrorism accepted the advice of United Nations Security Council that the normal laws were inadequate to deal with the horrors of terrorism. Such laws should be enacted, everyone else has formulated such laws; only we refused to do so. In fact, this Government took pride in repealing the legislation formulated by the NDA Government. I took pride in saying that.

[English]

"We have repealed the POTA".

[Translation]

I know that I had not taken up this matter in detail last time. But I was extremely worried. One reason for my tension was that at least at this juncture the Government and the Opposition should take a united stand. I had delivered my first speech on this premise. I had also espoused the wisdom expounded in the Mahabharata that Kauravas and Pandavas in their mutual dealings may treat themselves as 100 and 5 persons respectively but when dealing with an outsider, they would be counted as 105. "Vayam Panchadhikam Shatam". I also followed this principle. That is why I said that even if I do not concur with the proposed anti-terror law in its entirety, I would still support it and the entire NDA gave its support to the legislation. Let me know, where were we at fault? We pointed out that this law does not allow the confession of Kasab to be admissible as evidence.

Kasab confessed that he came from Pakistan. His father recognized him as his son. The former Prime Minister also said that he belonged to Pakistan, that he had seen his village and his house. But we cannot use his confession because this law does not allow it. I do not know why, but they know best. I was told that he was being charged and prosecuted under MCOCA since the provision of the new law were not adequate to charge him.

[English]

Because the Maharashtra law against organised crime makes his confession admissible evidence. If that is so, it is all the more glaring how inadequate is the amendment that we enacted in the Prevention of Unlawful Activities Act during the last Session. So, why should we not frankly say that in case of terrorism, this particular amendment is a must and therefore we will incorporate it?

[Translation]

I remember I had said this during the debate at that time and I had made suggestions on the basis of the shortcomings the other Members had pointed out.

[English]

Why should we not refer it to the Standing Committee because we are meeting once again in January or February? The Home Minister said.

[Translation]

That they would carry out the corrections and remove the shortcomings. But this time they have brought no law, no amendment.

I want to make another important point that the Mumbai attack was not an ordinary incident. The Government cannot say that it was caught unawares. It had some inkling of the coming events. A number of Ministers, the Prime Minister, the National Security Adviser, the Defence Minister, all had expressed the apprehension that the next attack could be from the sea-route. I would like to ask the Government whether it is not time that in February 2008, about 10 months before this attack in November 2008, CRPF camp in Rampur was attacked and thereafter a terrorist named Fahim Ansari was arrested from Uttar Pradesh. Fahim belongs to Goregaon. He is a resident of Goregaon. During his interrogation, he had revealed that such an attack was going to take place. In fact, it has come to knowledge that Fahim conducted a reiki of those areas

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in Maharashtra, and personally looked into the possibilities of what could be done. Not only that, sketches of those areas were also recovered from him. This is a serious matter. I got the information about Fahim Ansari's activities. He had an accomplice, Shahbuddin Ahmed. He was also arrested in April, 2008. It is possible that his identity was revealed during the interrogation and then he was arrested. It is quite clear that preparations for the attack were on for a year and these people visited all the areas where the terrorist attack took place on November 26th. It is impossible that they did not have the support of some locals in making such meticulous preparations. The investigations are still on, they have not been completed, so I was surprised to read a statement. There is a statement by the Police Commissioner of Mumbai.

[English]

"The Police Commissioner of Mumbai..." "...saying that all those responsible for the carnage have been accounted for."

[Translation]

This is his statement. They have either been killed or one of them has been arrested. There is no local involvement in this case. How this certificate was given and why was it given? When I specially came to know about Fahim Ansari or Sahabuddin Ahmed, I felt that I must ask for clarification from the Government with regard to the facts. What was the evidence given by Fahim Ansari? Whether his accomplice Sahabuddin Ahmed was interrogated and what were the findings? Furthermore, I would like to say that it would not have happened in any other country in the world that no thorough judicial investigation was carried after such a grave incident like Mumbai attack. 9/11 took place in 2001 in America. Thereafter, a thorough judicial enquiry was held and a detailed report was submitted which I have seen and on the basis of that report, important changes were effected in the entire Governance system, including the functioning of C.I.A. I have gone

through that report. I cannot say that because of these changes no terrorist attacks took place in America after 9/11 but it is worth mentioning...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only Shri L.K. Advani's submission should be recorded and nothing else...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I would like to say and demand this much that a thorough investigation of 26/11 attack should be conducted and the attack on CRPF camp at Rampur and the persons involved therein should also be brought under the ambit of that investigation. The detailed information regarding their local supporters should be collected. You have named one person, should I name the other person? This is not an issue between Congress or BJP, Government and the Opposition. If the Supreme Court has given its verdict on Afzal Guru and Bangladeshi infiltration, then there is no reason why the Government should not respect those verdicts...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not disturb.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The Supreme Court has never before highlighted the infiltration or illegal immigration from Bangladesh going on for several years in such a categorical manner.

* Not recorded.

[English]

This is nothing short of external aggression and in this external aggression.

[Translation]

The verdict is that the Government has failed to check it. Moreover,.

[English]

the Government has been colluding with it. It is a serious indictment of the UPA Government, and it is surprising that after that what did they do. This was the verdict given on the IMDT Act.

[Translation]

The Supreme Court observed it while declaring IMDT as unconstitutional. Thereafter [English] instead of taking that indictment in right earnest and trying to apply correctives.

[Translation]

to IMDT Act, an effort was made to include the same provision in Foreigner's Act as an amendment to the said Act.

[English]

And the result was that once again the Supreme Court struck down even that amendment to the Foreigner's Act.

[Translation]

If the Government even after being subjected to such severe criticism twice, does not take steps to check the continuous infiltration from Bangladesh, it is quite natural that not only the Supreme Court but the entire country gets the impression that they are promoting the infiltration.

It is good that in the meantime a new Government has been formed there. This Government's attitude towards

India has not been as non-friendly as the preceding Government's attitude. Hence, I hope that now when a new Government has been formed in Bangladesh, this Government would take the verdict of the Supreme Court seriously and check the ongoing infiltration. I do not want to discuss as to which party benefits and which party does not benefit from the infiltration. I am of the view that it causes a great loss to our country. Even if security issue is viewed with political consideration, it is detrimental and fatal for the country. I think that even all the persons in the Government do not agree to it. I have met with the Ministers in West Bengal. Sometimes, I have met with such persons who were willing to extend full cooperation in this case. Here leftist friends are sitting. I can tell them that.

[English]

I have had different experiences even with the West Bengal Government.

[Translation]

It is a good thing. I am giving them a compliment. ...*(Interruptions)* But here this govt do not change even after the verdict of the Supreme Court. It is a matter of sorrow. They do not have to be told by the Supreme Court at least...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Silence please.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : You need to think over its far reaching consequence. In the very beginning, our Prime Minister committed a mistake in that case. Kashmir issue was taken to UN and as a result we have been suffering for the last sixty years. That was a mistake and the then Minister of Home Affairs tried his best to undo the same but he could not succeed. All this has been described.

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Moreover, when he went to All India Radio for delivering his speech, V. Shankar went there to prevent him from delivering his speech, but that could not be possible.

I would like to say that continuous infiltration and illegal immigration in Assam and eastern India has become a serious threat which may result in another partition of the country. When this threat of country's partition becomes evident we will say that it would have been better if we had taken such and such preventive measures. Do not do this mistake. No Government not even the country will accept it. Whatever has happened in regard to Kashmir, has become a history and people are taking advantage of that omission even today. If a foreigner makes a statement that attack on Mumbai is related to Kashmir problem, it cannot be tolerated. I do not know, whether he formally lodged a protest against that or not as he was the Minister of External Affairs. It was wrong to have said that incidents of terrorism take place because of stalemate on Kashmir issue which has not been solved so far. Kashmir problem has no relation with it. If there is any problem on Kashmir, it is the Pakistani attack. They attacked Kashmir in 1947 and our position on Kashmir is quite clear. Let us not forget that this House has unanimously passed a resolution on it. The fact is that the part of Jammu and Kashmir illegally occupied by them is an integral part of India. Not only the part under our control but also the part occupied by Pakistan is an integral part of India and we should not forget it. It is our resolution...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Does he need guts?...*(Interruptions)*
Though we could not regain it, yet we do not compromise on it...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I know. I am not unfamiliar with them. I can say that important persons in the Government or in their party who meet me, do not disagree with what I say. But, he has a right to say so...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri L.K. Advani.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Sir, in President's Address, so much was said in self praise of the Government that it made such and such achievements especially on economic front, whereas, the fact is that *[English]* we are in a serious economic crisis. Denial will not take us anywhere *[Translation]* we cannot escape from it merely by denying. We have been elected on the promise that we will work for the welfare of common man. While presenting the Budget yesterday, the Leader of the House had said that the Government will work for welfare of common-men and we have been elected to this House on this promise. But the same common-man has faced great hardships because of price rise during last several years and that problem still persists. They said inflation has come down to naught and is under controlled. But it has come down because of fall in price of petro-products and some other items. The prices of essential commodities, especially food-articles have risen constantly. Recently, in reply to a

question in Rajya Sabha, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Shri Taslimuddin had said that the prices of many items have increased. He has furnished details.

[English]

It says:

"Detailed prices of 23 essential items including onion, washing soaps, sarees rose by 40 percent during the second half of 2008."

[Translation]

It is an official information that prices have soared recently i.e. in later half of 2008, i.e. Inflation is another issue, but the current crisis is more serious than inflation. It is the loss of Jobs. Unemployment is already scarce but the employed persons being rendered jobless poses a very serious matter. During last 2-3 days, I came across some incidents in Mumbai and Delhi. Day before yesterday, a person committed suicide at Vijay Chowk in Dethi. The company, wherein he was employed had fired him, so he set himself affair. Another incident took place in Mumbai. A boy was living with his mother. 'The Times of India' has reported three days back that the IT company wherein he was working retrenched him. He came to his mother and told her that he has been retrenched. Further, he said that since he cannot do anything now, so he is committing suicide. The job loss perturbed them so much that the mother and the son both ended their lines. So far, I have been worried about suicides by thousands of farmers. It spread like an epidemic in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh. On the other hand, gradually another problem is cropping up. Though unemployment has already been there and I am afraid that loss of job may set a new trend and results in mass suicides.

How it will look, if despite the said retrenchment, the Government still says, no, the prospects are encouraging. Well, while presenting the Budget how come Pranabji stated,

[English]

The heroes of the situation are the farmers. You said something like that. They have provided the nations the food security and we have not been able to provide security even for their life'.

[Translation]

Then, he said about agro-production, record production of wheat and paddy. Though it is right...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Manvendra Singh, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri L.K. Advani.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The Govt. could not even save their lives. This has never happened in any other country of the world except our country that thousands of people should commit suicide in this manner. In the last four years of this Govt's rule...(Interruptions)

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura) : The Govt. has provided Rs. 72,000 crore for saving lives... (Interruptions)

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja) : But, that money did not reach the farmers. I know this because I come from the farmer family.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : You should not insult them by saying this. Do not insult. You are insulting them even more by saying that as compensation you have provided thousands of crores of rupees to those who have committed suicide...(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Manvendra Singh, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri L.K. Advani.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is good if prices are raised and the farmers gain but our economy and its management is such that the businessman gains but not the farmers. It is a fact and you should recognize it...(Interruptions) I am not arguing with you; these are facts. Your leader will reply to them. Your leader will give a better reply. But, you are insulting the farmers by saying that the issue of suicide should not be raised because you have provided money. Those who committed suicide did not borrow from the banks but from the private moneylenders and they have not got the relief. The condition of the families of those committing suicides is the same as before.

Infrastructure is the most important thing for the progress of the country since independence. Education and Health come after it. The most revolutionary scheme, National Highway Project for the development of infrastructure in the independent India was formulated during the NDA Govt's rule. It had two parts. One was the Golden Quadrilateral and the other one was North-South, East-West corridor. Though some work has since been done on the Golden Quadrilateral project but no progress has been made in regard to the North-South, East-West corridor. I have a report of the National Highway Authority, which contains relevant figures in this regard. In the beginning, when this scheme was launched, it was asked how the funds would be mobilized and how the work would

be done. We had said that we would execute and complete it. Later, people appreciated it and Khanduriji was praised as well. But, despite that why no progress has been made there in so far. I blame the Govt. that one of the main reasons for it is that money is made through big schemes and thus corruption is being promoted...(Interruptions) Nobody from the UPA Govt. speaks against the corruption...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please, sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Except the speech of Mr. Advani ji, nothing should be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit, down. Do not waste the time.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, number of reputed magazines have brought out full editions on the irregularities being committed in the Highways Scheme. The headline of the 30 January, 2009 edition of the India Today is "Roads to Nowhere" i.e. the roads which do not lead us anywhere. All of the work is lying suspended. I can cite so many scams and scandals which took place in the last 5 years in contrast of which the earlier Govts. will be considered much honest and cleaner. The corruption has crossed all the limits this time and nobody talks about checking corruption.

They have talked about rural development. But I see no progress in the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

A Committee was constituted. About 34 percent village electrification has been completed.

Electrification of BPL households in six percent. Drinking water connection to habitations is around 48 percent. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is badly behind schedule.

[Translation]

About employment, the Federation of Indian Export Organisation says that around one crore people would lose their jobs in the field of exports by March 2009. It is the estimate of the IEO. As such the current situation is serious and more serious thing than this is the concern about future and it is quite a serious matter.

While presenting the budget yesterday, the Finance Minister had said that.

[English]

When the time comes, the people will recognize the hand that made it possible." Yes, I tell you the time is coming very shortly and the people will recognize the hand that made price rise possible. The people will recognize the hand that made so many thousands of farmers commit suicide. They will recognize the hand that made the economic crisis as bad as it is and they will recognize the hand that made scandals like the one in Satyam-Maytas possible.

[Translation]

Hon'ble leader of the House is sitting here and I respect him, Mr. Speaker is not here, otherwise I would have expressed my views before him. I would like to say that I have been in the Parliament for the last 40 years, hon'ble Pranab ji has been there for forty-one years and hon'ble Somnath ji for 39 year. Probably, he came in the year 1971. But we have never seen it before in the Parliament the Members of Parliament are being traded and those involved in such trading are treated as non-culprits and those exposing them are treated as criminals.

15.00 hrs.

[English]

On that day, at least I, certainly, felt ashamed to see that. I just could not bear it.

[Translation]

I would like to say that today we are there but tomorrow we may not be there. How long can one exist? The manner in which this Government has brought down the dignity of the House, I do not think that the future generations will ever forgive them.

The institutions of our country are also being misused. You must certainly be watching the observations made by the Supreme Court and you can read that in newspapers as well. Recently, the CBI stated before the Supreme Court that it wanted to withdraw its case against them.

[English]

A Supreme Court Bench comprising Justices Altamas Kabir and Cyriac Joseph said to the Director of CBI : 'So, you were acting at the behest of the law ministry. The Central Government was of view that you should withdraw the case and you apply for withdrawal. What you are saying is rather unusual, it is rather incomprehensible.' This is what the Bench said. Further, they made a remark that. 'I wish a Government was sensitive enough to understand when the Supreme Court makes observations of this kind. If the advice of the Centre and the Law Ministry is the ground for the CBI to seek withdrawal of the application, then God help us.' This is what the judges said. Why are we doing all this – destroying institutions which are made after a long time? The CBI is supposed to be an autonomous body. The Election Commission is supposed to be an autonomous body. And yet, we are dealing with them as if whatever we want, they have to do. Please do not do it. I have an experience with the leader of the Pakistan Government who was, at one time, Prime Minister.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

[Translation]

She once visited me. I told her to see how successfully the democracy is running in our country. This was when the NDA was in power. During the discussion, I told Shrimati Benazir Bhutto as to why democracy failed in their country, it was because for the maximum time, their country had been under military rule. Our countries were unified during the time of British rule, therefore, the political culture of both of our countries should be the similar but it is not so. Shrimati Bhutto agreed that their political culture was a bit different from that of ours. One reason was that our military was non-political, and she was right to say so. It is really good for us and a matter of pride also for our army. It should be so in a democracy. The second thing she pointed out was that our Constitution makers had actually made our Election Commission independent and no Government has tried to undermine the authority of the Election Commission. I agree that both her statements had substance. I would like to request the Leader of the House that the Government should not try to make the institutions like CBI, Election Commission dance to its tune. If it goes on like this, then everything that the Supreme Court has said about CBI will prove to be true, word by word, and then only God can save us. But, I believe, we will not have to seek God's blessings because the people of the country have always saved the country in the times of crisis.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Sir, I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound scheme to root put increasing terrorism in the country." 30

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about review of relations with Pakistan in the wake of recent Mumbai terrorists attack." 31

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ongoing efforts for getting Pakistan declared as a terrorist State." 32

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to make the existing provisions relating to newly created National security Agency more stringent." 33

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for increasing agriculture production and to bring more land under irrigation." 34

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete scheme for providing potable water for all in a time-bound manner." 35

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check increasing commercialisation of medical facilities." 36

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete action plan to check population growth." 37

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check infiltration of Bangladeshis in Assam and other States." 38

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound plan for deportation of Bangladeshis illegally staying in India despite order of the Supreme Court in this regard." 39

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound scheme for modernisation of ports." 40

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of one rank-one pension scheme for the armed forces." 41

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to check increasing cases of suicide by farmers in the country." 42

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to speed up inter-linking of rivers in the country in a time bound manner." 43

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for modernisation of police force in the country." 44

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about revival of loss making public sector undertakings." 45

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound programme for abolition of bonded labour, especially child labour." 46

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive scheme for the welfare of debt ridden farmers." 47

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to deal with national calamities." 48

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about lowering the rate of interest on loan to farmers." 49

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ensuring safety of senior citizens, women and girls in the National Capital Region of Delhi." 50

[Shri Santosh Gangwar]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be taken in view of the increasing number of pending cases in the courts." 51

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for filling up of vacant posts of Judges in view of acute shortage of Judges in the courts." 52

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about equipping the police force with sophisticated weapons in a time bound manner." 53

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps taken by the Government at diplomatic level to ensure safety of Tamils in Srilanka." 54

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting a complete check on religious conversions allegedly being carried out by offering allurements." 55

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the

Address about stopping the acquisition of land by various State Governments for the purpose of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and to provide appropriate compensation for the acquired land to the farmers." 56

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting an effective check on the increasing incidents of terrorism from across the border." 57

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting a check on ever increasing Maoist and Naxalite activities in the country." 58

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about improving the traditional cultural ties with Nepal." 59

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ensuring effective check on the rise in the prices of essential commodities." 60

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about fake currency coming from neighbouring countries." 61

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting a check on the anti-India activities being carried out from across the border." 62

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking steps for closing terrorist camps in the neighbouring countries." 63

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking up the issue of protection and welfare of Indians in Nepal." 64

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check illegal trade of human organs in the country." 65

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check the incidents of kidnapping, exploitation and killing of children in various States particularly in the National Capital Region of Delhi and adjoining areas." 66

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check the spurious drugs being manufactured and sold in the country." 67

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of the recommendations made by the Commission of Farmers constituted for reforms in agricultural sector." 68

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the support price of agriculture produce." 69

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to ensure adequate supply of electricity to the farmers and people living in rural areas of the country." 70

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing loans to farmers, housing sector and industries at low rates of interest." 71

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound scheme to bring down or eradicate unemployment in the country." 72

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the increasing incidents of retrenchment by private sector." 73

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about granting approval to the Guj Coke proposal sent

[Shri Santosh Gangwar]

by the Gujarat Government for the approval of the Central Government's approval." 74

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting in place an effective system to check the corporate scams in the country in the wake of Satyam Computers scam." 75

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check rising incidents of female foeticide in the country." 76

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strengthening the internal security in the country." 77

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures to deal with rising unemployment in the country in general and also due to the laying off of hundreds of people every day owing to economic recession." 78

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any proposal to check reservation on religious grounds in various educational institutions of the country." 79

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about early to enactment the Lokpal Bill and to prevent corruption through the appointment of Lokpals." 80

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to remove shortcomings in the Central Loan Waiver Scheme and to prevent the incidents of suicides by farmers." 81

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any project aimed at inter-linking of all the rivers of the country." 82

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about enhancing the rate of interest in respect of Small Saving Schemes including Provident Fund Scheme." 83

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for issuance of national identity cards to all citizens of the country." 84

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission." 85

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme aimed at stepping up agricultural production and providing additional irrigation facilities to the farmers." 86

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the rising prices of food grains in the country." 87

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking depleting ground water table." 88

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing a rehabilitation package to terrorism affected families particularly widows and orphans." 89

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of a population policy in view of population imbalance in certain States." 90

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to achieve annual target of generating of additional power in the country." 91

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address

about any time bound programme to improve the lot of farmers in the country." 92

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a concrete programme aimed at checking the tendency of drug addiction and indulgence in criminal activities among youth." 93

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete programme to curb the activities of the ISI in the country." 94

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any special proposal for waiving off loans of farmers facing drought in Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh." 95

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any measures to counter increasing separatist and terrorist activities in the North-Eastern States." 96

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any programme for rehabilitation of people displaced from the State of Jammu and Kashmir." 97

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking increasing crimes against children in the country." 98

[Shri Santosh Gangwar]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete steps to check sexual exploitation of children in various States." 99.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West) : Sir, I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive legislation of the welfare of agricultural workers in the country." 151

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about creation of more employment opportunities in the country." 152

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan for making more public investment in agriculture sector to bring it out from the severe crisis it is facing due to economic recession." 153

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for employment of unemployed youth of the special category states." 154

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address

about providing unemployment allowance to educated unemployed youth." 155

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a one-time Debt Relief Package by writing off all the outstanding Central Government loans including interest thereon of the North-Eastern States." 156

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the share of states in the central taxes from 30.5% to 50% in a phased manner." 157

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any special package for the special category states to enable them to narrow down the regional disparity." 158

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing adequate funds to the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council of meet its expenses including expenses in infrastructural development." 159

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to deal with increasing malnutrition amongst poor in the country." 160

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking concrete steps to check abnormal rise in the prices of essential commodities." 161

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to take stringent steps to control increasing incidence of atrocities on women and children in the country." 162

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strengthening of Public Distribution System." 163

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete steps to control unabated suicides being committed by the farmers in the country." 164

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to remove shortcomings in the policy of Banks and Financial Institutions in providing loans to poor, deprived people, unemployed youth, poor and marginal farmers." 165

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to expedite land reforms in the country." 166

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about universalisation of Integrated Child Development Scheme." 167

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about early commissioning of Paratana and Monarchak power projects in Tripura." 168

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about realignment of the proposed Trans Asian Highway and Trans Asian Railway to pass through Tripura." 169

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about extension of the Golden Quadrilateral road network beyond Silchar to Agartala." 170

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about review of foreign policy of the Government." 196

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about mustering support in the UN to stop the Israeli attack on Gaza." 197

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about tackling global economic melt down affecting Indian industries and resulting in loss of jobs of lakhs of workers." 198

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strengthening the Non-aligned Movement." 199

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about referring the issue of terrorist attacks in Mumbai to the United Nations Organisation." 200

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the guidelines for the Government in regard to liberalizing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)." 201

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the policy of the Government in respect of Forward Trading." 202

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking effective steps for universalising Public Distribution System in the country." 203

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address

about solving the problem of non-availability of food to poor people in the country." 204

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about completion in a time bound manner the work of identifying BPL sections of the population." 205

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about tackling the problem of huge unemployment in the country." 206

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about early pass age of the women Reservation Bill." 207

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about carrying out a review of the Centre-State relations." 208

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about allocating six per cent of GDP to the education sector." 209

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the allocation of failure of the Government to invest funds to the public sector and the social sector to face the ongoing economic melt down." 210

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking communal, parochial and chauvinistic attacks on minorities, and Christians in various parts of the country." 211

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removing the condition of belonging to BPL category as laid down in the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 so that maximum number of workers in the unorganised sector can avail of the benefits of various schemes listed in the Act." 212

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about correcting the official definition of 'Poverty Line' which has turned totally obsolete." 213

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking of suicides by the farmers in various parts of the country." 214

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the unprecedented rise in prices of essential commodities." 215

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about overcoming the crisis in availability of vaccines due to closure of three public sector vaccine

manufacturing units namely, Pasteur Institute of India, Central Research Institute and BCG Vaccine Laboratories." 216

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the irregularities in granting 3G spectrum leading to huge financial loss to the Government exchequer." 217

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the disastrous impact of global slow down on millions of workers who have lost their jobs, livelihood and earnings due to closure, lay off, wage-cuts, retrenchment, etc., across the sectors and also the alarming trend of sharp decline in index of industrial production." 218

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removing the shortcomings in the fixation of the prices of the cost of Aviation Fuel diesel and petrol and correcting the flawed excise duty structure." 219

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strengthening which goes against the independent foreign policy of the country in the wake of the Indo-US Nuclear Agreement." 220

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the loss of jobs of lakhs of workers

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

engaged in diamond polishing units in Gujarat and reported suicide of 71 workers in Saurashtra alone." 221

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting in place an effective system to stop recurrence of corporate scams as took place in the Satyam Computer Services Limited." 222

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about awarding the defence contract of Rs. 10,000 crore for the supply of Air Defence Missile Systems to the Israel Aircraft Industries, which is already under CBI investigation for the deal on Barak Missile." 223

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about review of Indo-US Nuclear Deal which has seriously eroded the strategic autonomy of India's Nuclear policy." 224

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to make available food at affordable prices to 'AAM AADMI' whose daily income is less than Rs. 20." 225

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to properly identify large sections of people who are actually living below poverty line due to faulty parameters of BPL." 226

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude towards the hon'ble President for addressing the Joint Session. This was the second such speech of the hon'ble President, Smt. Pratibha Patil. Actually we should not bring in hon'ble President in this discussion because this address is merely a report card of the assessments and announcements made by the Government itself, it is like the preliminary draft of election manifesto of the Government which is usually presented in the fifth year of the term. It is a Parliamentary procedure and I think there is nothing wrong in it. That is why the President's Address which ran into 68 pages and 22 pages last year runs into 82 pages and 31 pages. This means an increase has been made, the country is progressing, 1/3 development has been done if we go by the increase in number of pages.

In the last paragraph of the last year's presidential address, it was stated that the Parliament has its dignity in a democracy and our former President had also said that the Members of Parliament should act and behave in a nice way as the whole world watched them. It was during last year's Budget Session and today, after one year, we are again meeting during the Budget Session. Though there was rain during monsoon but there was no Monsoon Session, there was winter, but no Winter Session. Only a special Session took place, wherein the incident of cash-for-vote was hotly debated. Though I will not go in the details now. I was a Member of a Seven Members Committee constituted for that purpose. Even in the due course of inquiry, I observed that the Committee was not allowed to find out the truth as it was politically motivated...*(Interruption)* I submitted my report with a note of dissent. Many things came to light. I don't think intelligence of Delhi Police will be able to dig out anything as everyone knows how CBI functions, so much can't be expected from CID. I have seen how the players behind

this drama were running from here to there to pay a price for it. Though I will not go into its details. But it is parliamentary democracy, the Parliament has its dignity and importance. But I would like to know—has the parliamentary democracy functioned during the last one year? There was no Session, no sittings, even Session was not convened for taking important decisions. There was no debate on the Bills introduced. The report of the parliamentary Committee was not taken seriously. Bills were put into effect through executive orders.

The country is facing a great challenge after so many years of Independence and a glorious parliamentary democratic history. Though it is an election year and, therefore, the Address is like an election speech. So like in an election speech, even a reference has been made to the symbol while asking the people to vote. But what about the dignity of the parliament? Technocrats and bureaucrats will implement their wish through executive orders. I am coming to that point. Two days prior to the Presidential Address, the GOM took a decision for allowing FDI in several sectors, across the board. And the sound decision was immediately implemented. What will happen to the FDI in insurance sector for which a law is yet to be enacted. The Government plans to increase the investment. This is not the only point. The public elects the Members of parliament, then MPs elect the President and every action is executed in the name of the President of India, however, I would like to ask the Council of Ministers— is there any respect left for the parliamentary democracy? So, far as the issue of said FDI is concerned, I have a copy of the concerned Cabinet note of the concerned Ministry. The Department of Commerce had decided on 27th of October to hike the FDI limit across the board.

The foreign investors will invest a certain capital in the country. A Cabinet note dated, the 27th October, was presented before the Cabinet on 6th of November and then it was decided to constitute a group of Ministers (GOM). The GOM took up this issue first on 23rd of December and secondly on 3rd of February before the parliament Session. Thereafter, within a week directions were issued

to Defence production, telecom, insurance and print media and it was made to appear that foreign investment would be converted into domestic investment. But will it happen after the global recession is over. While the finance sector all over the world is in distress, for whom our Government is working. It takes months in drafting a Bill or any scheme but the Cabinet note dated the 27th October was approved by the GOM on the 3rd February. When any note for the Cabinet is prepared, other Ministries are consulted. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had put objections to this note the Cabinet. I have got the copy of that note and I quote from SC the section of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

[English]

In consultation with the concerned Ministry, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has suggested that it may be pertinent to calculate indirect foreign investment on a pro rata basis as the proposed method may lead to controlling share above the prescribed levels. The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, has not concurred with the proposal mentioning that while pro rata calculation may not be the best solution, the proposed alternative of taking into account effective control of ownership may be worse and may lead to disputes which cannot be resolved easily.

[Translation]

The economic policy of this country is not decided by the parliament. The Ministry of Home Affairs, an important Ministry, had objection. It was said that the GOM would discuss it. Both the Additional Secretary of Department of Telecom and the Secretary of Department of Information and Broadcasting objected to the proposal of DIPP in the meeting of GOM.

[English]

Home Minister stated that he recognised the infirmities of the existing pro rata method of calculation. It was, however, essential to have clarity and to ensure that take

[Md. Salim]

over of Indian firms in sensitive sectors was not made easy as a result. In fact, it was necessary to have adequate safeguards in position for take over of Indian firms in the sensitive sectors of telecom and broadcasting.

[Translation]

You may recall that when the telecom policy and broadcasting policy was discussed, they used to say that foreign companies cannot be considered for investment with a view to security. But how these foreign companies are being permitted now to invest. The Ministry of Home Affairs, M/o Fiance, M/o Information and Broadcasting and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology have raised objections. This issue was never brought before the Parliament whereas the Parliament had the rights to discuss it. But we were deprived of our rights. The MS, IBBI Says-

[English]

The media sector was highly sensitive and we need to ensure that take over by foreign entities of management and control was not permitted through any measures of proposed liberalisation.

[Translation]

Even then it happened. I would like to ask the Government where their decisions are taken. We have a Parliamentary democracy but the decisions are taken neither in the Parliament nor in the Ministry. The foreign investors are ready for heavy investment because they are expecting huge profits. The entire world along with us admits the fact that H.E., the President has also said in her Address that our country was not affected by global melt down because our mechanism was still regulated. When the entire world is going through a crisis, you are relaxing all the controls through back door. It is a dangerous situation. If I get time, I will explain in detail how it is happening. HIE, the President has said in her Address as

to from where the attack is carried. It is in the first para "A year that tested by fire the principles that our country has always lived by communal amity, tolerance, compassion, justice and peaceful co-existence. Through terrorist attack as on Mumbai, efforts are being made to weaken our country from within as well as from outside. Communal harmony is being disturbed, they are trying to destabilise our economy, rather destroy it globally. What kind of politics is being played. Her Excellency, the President of India in para II her Address had stated that our wisely conceived and intelligently implemented economic reforms are protecting us from ill-effects of global economic slowdown. Let it be wisely or not, but my perception is that it is since twenty years when we implemented economic reforms or liberalization. The leftists were sidelined as they only opposed too much liberalization. The left parties were repeatedly saying that reforms are alright but we should have some kind of monitoring, regulatory system. We know we have to compete with the world but let us have kind of restrictions or regulatory mechanism. On the other hand, the Government has resorted to total decontrol. On whose behest the Government was doing it. Last week an American delegation on Atomic Energy came to India. They wanted certain amendments in our laws dealing with it. They did not want liability provisions under the said Act. I can quote what they said. The hon. Leaders in our Congress Party desire President Bush should be conferred Bharat Ratna. Wherever he goes, people are hurling shoes at him, I would like to ask what is this, is the decision taken right. Keep hands over your heart and ask. The Address was aimed at gaining votes for the Party in power. Before expecting a common man to vote for them, they should introspect as to which way our economic, political and internal policy is heading to? The Government talks of self-reliance...(Interruptions) The world-wide economic recession is a matter of serious concern. I am surprised, the Presidential Address is bereft of its assessment. I charge the Government of not showing transparency. Either the Government has not assessed the likely impact of global slowdown on our trade, export, labour market, inflation, food, diet, poverty and malnutrition or it is hiding

the facts. We saw glimpse of it in the Budget Speech and also in the Presidential Address. The Government will have to face it. Till October last, the Government was not willing to accept it till crisis of Lehman Brothers came to light. The world has been in the grip of slowdown for the last two years. It started with the banking sector, the sub-prime crisis. Then followed the Citi Group. Since the Government was all out to push Indo-US Nuclear deal, so only atomic energy was in its sight and it was not in a position to assess the economic scenario, nor it was sharing it with other countries. In the month of November itself our party suggested as to what steps should be taken to take the slowdown, such as how to enhance plan expenditure, how to infuse more funds in infrastructure sector and how to give stimulus package. The stimulus should not have been in this manner. I will read out from Indian Express, dated 15th. The paper reported about sordid affairs of diamond workers in Surat, that the workers are losing their job and they are forced to commit suicide. The Union Ministry says it provides relief to the exporters. The Government is unconcerned about the loss of Jobs as a consequence thereof. The Government will have to take it more seriously and find out ways to tackle it. I will read out something from the newspaper.

[English]

Since Diwali two lakh jobs lost in Surat Diamond hub – Government admits. This is from "The Indian Express" dated 15th February, 2009. I will not read out fully.

Most gem and jewellery units have not opened or functioned normally since Diwali. Two thousand five hundred or three thousand large diamond units employed about four lakh workers, half of whom have lost their jobs.

[Translation]

I will not read out from the newspaper. I got a copy of the survey of Deptt. of Labour Govt. of India. It is not that it not with the Government. It is the report of the Govt. of India.

[English]

Report on Effect of Economic Slowdown – Unemployment in India.

[Translation]

Since the session of parliament is going on the truth should be brought before the public.

[English]

The sample survey was conducted to assess the impact of economic slowdown on employment during October-December 2008 in 20 centres covering 11 States. It is not concerning a single State. The important sectors namely mining, textiles, metals, gems and jewellery, automobile, transport and IT, that is, BPO, were covered in the survey.

[Translation]

Since this sector contributes 60 percent to our GDP, hence it is very important.

[English]

A sample of 2582 persons was covered in the survey, a large survey. Labour Ministry has conducted it. About half a million workers had lost their jobs during October-December, 2008.

[Translation]

Since the Labour Ministry says so, how come the Parliament is not aware of it? It should be reflected in the Budget Speech. They are reading the report cards of the period 2004 to 2009. No doubt, some good works were done, as we were with the Government. They made a mention of NCMP. In his Budget Speech, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that NDA Government was replaced by the UPA Government in 2004 for a change. We have been supporting the Government for the last four years and we were asking the Government to address the challenges in agriculture and crisis of unemployment and inflation. But

[Md. Salim]

the Government was going ahead vigorously with the liberalization. Today, the Government accepts that the public sector units pay dividends and also taxes to, it but it has been making efforts for the last 10-15 years to divest its stakes in these units. It was the case both with NDA and UPA. We openly opposed it, but we were defamed. Today, the whole world, be it Iceland, Britain, of America is not against nationalization. But they were telling us that there is no business of the Government in business sector. But now they have come to rescue the entire business sector, not just Satyam. The Government has its own role and I feel the Government will have to accept the truth to overcome meltdown and its impact on labourers and it will have to come to the public. The Government is not formulating any plan to thwart it.

Sir, 9th February issue of News-Week has reported that the hunger may be the worst fallout from recession. It is our main concern. The weekly forecasted its worst impact on sub-Sahara and South Asian nations. We will have to gear up to fight it. Any how, our procurement of foodgrains has been remarkable and there has been good monsoon during last four years. We salute our farmers. Our buffer stock is 84 per cent more than the desired level. The Government did not divulge the reasons for 73 per cent reduction in ration of APL, though we have surplus food stock. A survey has revealed that 47 per cent children of the age group of 0-5 years in our country are facing malnutrition. It was not during recession, but when all was well, and the country was reporting good growth. One out of every two children face malnutrition. 70 per cent women in our country are also suffering from malnutrition. Children in the age group of 0-3 years are the victims of severe malnutrition. Myself and other MPs formed a group and visited many villages, our group included MPs from all the parties. I am talking about all the parties and not talking about any particular State because that kind of situation can come up in one state also. It is maximum in the tribal areas of Jharkhand and Maharashtra. We also visited Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. We saw all this over there. When

the food crisis will increase further and retrenchment will take place then it will directly effect malnutrition because people of poor class spend 50 percent of their income on food.

In our country they spend 70 percent on their diet and if there is no income then they will not get their diet even. How can we feel proud of that. We are taking pride in achieving 9 percent growth rate, no doubt, we have developed over the years. At that time we had stated that in social sector money would be spend on education, health, employment, infrastructure and for development of villages and cities, it was said at that time that people are becoming billionaires but later on there would be trickle down effect. This is what liberalism means. What did the hon'ble Prime Minister say, I would like to pray for his healthy life but when he attended a meeting at FICCI before his operation for announcing an award, he said that the world is facing a huge economic crisis. In order to deal with this our entire country will have to come together. Which means, when there is benefit, there is development only handful of billionaires will reap the benefits, profits and super profits and when there is loss and problem then they expect the starving poor man to prepare themselves to participate in this. The privatization of Profits and nationalization of losses will continue like this in liberalization and this will make our own economic condition hollow from inside. I do not want to give the figures over here, you would know if you see them. I have given the reference of Newsweek therefore, I would not like to read them. The IMF forecast that we have here is not ours. The forecast of IMF pertains to the growth rate of the world which is going to be 2.2 percent in the year 2009 whereas last year it was 3.7 percent and 5 percent in the year 2007. Which means slowdown has been going on for two years. What does our leadership mean, they must foresee. I am telling the figures of 2008-09. The Government is not ready to accept and speak about this when the situation would be worst in the year 2009.

There is a forecast about world trade growth, the latest IMF document says-growth of the world trade to decline

from 7.2 percent in 2007 to 4.6 percent in 2008. It will decline further to 2.1 percent in the year 2009.

[SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH *in the Chair*]

15.26 hrs.

This has a direct relation with our exports. 37 percent of our exports are made to North America and Europe. Unfortunately or fortunately, there is a lot more integration also. It has been said that there will be 0.3 percent negative growth in US economy in the year 2009 whereas, in the year 2008 it was 1.4 percent. In Europe it was 0.7 percent in 2009 whereas it was 1.4 percent last year. We are projecting 37 percent export oriented trade and there is already a panic amongst the textiles, garments, gems and jewellery businessmen because their orders were getting cancelled. The earlier commitments are also being called off and the future order book is becoming blank. We will have to see their forecast and then from our strategy accordingly. We are still saved because 50 percent of our exports are within Asia. Asia is the most happening place but the integration with Europe and America is such that it is affecting countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand etc. The financial crisis...
(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Salim ji, you please address the Chair and not him.

MD. SALIM : Madam, I am trying to pacify him...(Interruptions)

[English]

I am not talking about my party's concern but what concerns me.

[Translation]

In this condition, if our Asian market is also going down and the Government is also saying the same, as Mr. Ashwani Kumarji replied to a question today during the Question Hour, he said that even though the domestic

market is doing fine, our exports are not much. The spokespersons of liberalization for the last twenty years are totally export oriented and they keep watching all the conditions and duties so that how can we increase our exports. No doubt we need to have exports but by the time we will build our market worth Rs. 115 crore we will not be able to sustain development.

Madam Chairman, today we will have to look towards our domestic market. Therefore, this stimulus is not for the investors. The Government is proposing to reduce cenvat by 4 percent. Over the last one year the Government has been mentioning that Reserve Bank will reduce the Repo rate and CRR. The Government was only changing the monitoring policies. The Government was not willing to accept the financial crisis. It was only saying that this is a mere liquidity crunch and the matter will get resolved once some money flows into the market. How will the market improve if there are no orders and people have no money to buy? Will it improve with mere investment? Therefore, we want this thing to go upward down. There should have been a stimulus package from the Government. This thing should have been mentioned in the President's Address. Alongwith this the construction work will also have to be increased. There is a deficit in the development work in our country. We have schools here, but no buildings. There are villages but no roads, there are people but no drinking water and bridges are available. All the places are not covered by railways. Till today the average of 50 percent state highways have not exceeded 2 miles. Therefore, it is time for the Government to push up the slump coming into the steel, construction, cement and labour market.

Madam, the Govt. endorses PPP. It was endorsed in this year's budget too. The PPP model could work when the Govt. had no industrial fund for investment but the private sector had. But, how will it work when there is liquidity crunch and the businessmen themselves are saying that they have no money to invest. Only announcement will be made but it will not be implemented. It will just be an empty speech.

[Md. Salim]

Madam, I want to give an example or two from this speech that whatever has been said in the speech, it indicates future only- 'the Govt. will do,' 'it will happen'. The Govt. should have provided the assessment of the work done by it during the last four years. I am giving small examples from the speech one by one. Para 14 states that "Our Govt. is considering to create National Urban Health Mission to focus on the health requirements of the urban poor". There are poor, slum dwellers in cities too whose health index is going down as per the Human Development Index. If, after five years, the UPA Govt. says that it is considering it then it would be like an old adage, 'Baba Mariya, Dal Batiye'. This work should have been done now. Similarly, in respect of SC, ST and OBC, the Govt. is saying that 'it is taking action'.

Madam, I am quoting from the Address by the president itself- "though steps are being to take this programme forward and relax the rules." What is this? About the new born babies, children and mother's health is being said that the work is being done. Instead, it should have said that we have this much in the five years. We were in this situation five years ago and now we are into this situation after five years. This was the figure for 2004 and this is the figure for 2009. Our very senior leader is looking after the Ministry of Finance and he has been brought there to match and rectify what went missing in the 25 years. Regarding allocations, sanctions he told about the bases of 2004 and 2009 respectively. It is very nice. Similarly, there should have been mention of achievements in the President's Address that this was our health index. I am challenging that the Govt. should come forward and say that the enrolment was this much in 2004 and this much presently. Regarding education of the minorities, figures for 2004 and 2009 should have been given. Comparison should have been made this way and only then can one know the quantum of work done. It would be useful if, in regard to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, the figures are provided in physical terms for implementation, reaching physical targets etc. I can cite many such examples.

Madam, scholarship programme for the pre-matric and post-matric students in a very good programme. We were asking about it since 2004 and NCP was also there. It was announced in 2007-08 and implemented in 2008-09 and today we hear that "About eight lakh students belonging to minority communities will be included." Similarly, words 'will be included' have been used for the SC, ST and others also which means that work will be done in future. I want to give an example as to how the Govt. works. Announcement has been made in the budget regarding Safai Karamcharis.

(English)

The scheme of pre-matric scholarship for the children of those engaged in unclean occupation - Rs. 2.37 crore has been released against the budgetary estimate of Rs. 54 crore for 2008-09.

(Translation)

This document pertains to 16th February.

(English)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Md. Salim, please conclude.

(Translation)

MD. SALIM : I had to say a few things more...*(Interruptions)*

(English)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Your party's time is only 40 minutes. But you have already taken 35 minutes. Please conclude by making only the points.

(Translation)

MD. SALIM : Madam, give me some more time please.

I have to speak on a point or two. Since when the matter of Women's Reservation has been going on?

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You are reminded of Women's Reservation after seeing me.

MD. SALIM : I have seen it in the points. You know that I will not delve into the whole thing. That Bill is still pending. It should have been mentioned in the President's Address as it was promised in the NCMP. This proposal was made by a Committee formed in 1974 during Madam Indira Gandhi's rule and then again in 1988. After that Gesta Mukherji Committee examined it. Now it is being said that it is going to be passed. The PM had said same thing when he visited the Lady Shri Ram College two years ago. On 20th March, 1947 Rajkumari Amrit Kaur had said in the Committee on Minorities that there should be reservation for women. How many years the Govt. will make us wait for it? The Govt. if it wants, passes nine bills in 10 minutes and if it does not, then it makes people wait for 50-60 years...
(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You will feel sorry when you have to leave your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM : I am talking about important thing only. I have collected much data about the situation of exports but, as I have said, I will not go into that now.

The last para is about the youths. We have to bring the youth power forward. No doubt that even in this crisis we understand that we have to provide for human development of our youth, we have to develop our human resources...(Interruptions) With regard to independence and FBI, people ask us why do we not do the same when China is doing it? I will give you an example. The Chinese Government told the youths passing out as engineering and management graduates in the year 2007-2008 from the engineering and management institutes in the country to be prepared for an employment crisis since markets in the export-oriented economy of the country were going to take a big fall due to the global economic slump. "This is staring

on you." What did we do—we created a post of officer on Special Duty at the Zila Panchayat, Municipality, and Block level. They were told that no pubs or five star hotels would be available there, nor would they be getting fat pay packages. They would get a salary of Rs. 18000 in the village and they would have to do two years of apprenticeship in such areas. The IIT and IIM alumni do not make any contribution to the schemes meant for villages or towards the delivery systems approved by us. Talented people either migrate to foreign shores or join some reputed company. When the foreign countries stop campus recruitments and the local companies do not employ them either what will happen to the thousands of students who graduate every year. New IITs and IIMs are being set up. In my view the Government should mobilize resources for the youth.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : It is the Second Cultural Revolution.

MD. SALIM : ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

It is happening now, this year.

[English]

There is modernization.

[Translation]

They were told that if they succeed in improving the agriculture, promote entrepreneurship, tighten the administration and prevent corruption they would get incentives. I am not saying that we should copy it.

[English]

This is what is happening. What I am saying is, about sharing the issues and the concern. Then, we have to take the people along.

[Md. Salim]

[Translation]

Particularly the young generation needs to be motivated. That cannot be done through communalism or by saying "Mandir Wahin Banayenge" or arresting someone under POTA. We have to bring the country together over this issue. We have to look beyond vote politics, regardless of who forms the government. In my view the Address has not taken into consideration the prevailing global economic scenario in 2009 or the ways to face the economic and financial challenges before our country. The government is on an election hunt whereas it should be preparing to deal with the challenges that lie before us. That is why I do not think the Address appropriate in the present context. Truth will prevail because this is our national belief.

Satyamev Jayate is etched below the Ashoka Pillar. This aphorism has been taken from the Mundaka Upanishad- "Satyamev Jayate Nanritum, Satyamev Patham Yideya Na Jano," Our political philosophy is, 'Ahimsa Parmo Dharm'. But what is the situation today? "Ahimsa is being replaced by 'Asatya'. Violence has the country in its grip'- be it in the form of Maoists, terrorists or insurgency. Political violence is also on the rise...(Interruptions). No just one Satyam, hundreds of other Satyams may come to the fore. This is why I want that the philosophy of Satyamev Jayate and Ahimsa Parmo Dharm alongwith the Nehruvian policy of self-reliance should be adhered to. Otherwise, if we follow in the steps of America we would fail politically in the same way as we have failed economically.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Madam Chairperson, we have been in alliance with the government for barely three or four months. The circumstances in which we joined hands with it were not very elevating and in fact dishonoured us to a certain extent. However, now that we have made this alliance, it would be unseemly to part ways expeditiously. Hence, we are forced to stay together for appearances' sake, to follow the party line and in deference to our tradition and culture. We are not in a position to

tom-tom the achievements of the past five years but still I rise to support the President's Address. First of all, I would like to congratulate the government for being able to carry on for five years this is an art that Advaniji must learn from the Congress. It is easy for Advaniji to say that he is ashamed of the ruses adopted and the use of money power by the government to remain in power. But I was also a member of the twelfth Lok Sabha. Were the same underhand means not adopted by Advaniji to save his government at the time? I am witness to those tactics. I do not want argue with you, but the way your late Parliamentary Affairs Minister tried to entice people hardly gives proof of a golden era. I don't think that a party whose national president was caught taking bribes on camera, has any moral right to talk about good conduct and to denounce corruption. However, where you failed to save your government despite indulging in such malpractices, the Congress party succeeded. That is the only difference between the two parties that you failed to save your government but these people succeeded in doing so...(Interruptions). I am not praising this success. I am analyzing the extent to which the level of politics in the country has stooped. This is a matter of concern for all of us. What were the recommendations of the Constitution Review Committee, chaired by Justice Venkatchallaiyam constituted by Advaniji himself for effecting basic changes in the Constitution? It had recommended that the Lok Sabha must work for five years.

If the Lok Sabha is to work for five years then there is no political rationale for destabilizing the government in mid-term and by extension destabilizing the Lok Sabha itself. This attitude needs to be changed. Second thing I want to say is that when the cracks in the NDA government had started becoming evident, it had declared elections six months before completion of its term, when the exposure of its true state was becoming imminent. So, no one is really in a position to claim that it ran a clean government. I would like to thank the UPA Government for completing its five-year term competently and for trying to move into a new direction even while taking various disparate factions with it.

Taking advantage of this opportunity I would like to congratulate the people of Jammu and Kashmir, as it appeared for two to three months that there was complete anarchy there and hence elections could not be held. The Pakistani flags are hoisted, a large number of terrorists have entered into the state and Jammu and Kashmir would not remain with India. A sort of competition was going on in the state for two to three months. All of us are witness to all these things but after declaration of elections in the state everything became clear and perhaps Jammu and Kashmir is the only state in India where 85 percent voters turned out. These voters voted in the conditions when the separatist elements in the country tried to attack them. But ignoring them the voters turned out in a large number and the Government of India made a sincere effort to set up a stable government there. Today a stable government is there and we would like to praise the people of Jammu and Kashmir to skies and congratulate them.

The third point is that there is a worldwide recession. We had a debate on this in the Parliament. Our country also had to suffer from the recession. Going through the newspapers we see that the economic development of Japan, the second largest economic power in the world is coming down by 17 percent. When the economic powers of the world are passing through such a crisis, a national consensus is needed to sustain Indian economy. The leader of the opposition stated that all of us stood united in the hour of war. Such a message should be given not only in the war-time but also in the time of economic crisis and it must appear that all the people in the country are united to face the recession. We should try to create such an environment. The Minister of Finance has himself admitted that the country is supposed to face a crisis during 2009. The crisis is not to come in future but it has already come. We need to open our eyes and see it. At one time our agricultural development was below zero percent. Had the agricultural development not been around 4 percent then we would have suffered a lot from the recession and the inner contradictions of our economy. We would like to congratulate the farmers of our country. Whether we should

credit the policies of the Government or the enthusiasm of the farmers but it is sure that the self-confidence of the farmers would not have been boosted without bringing changes in the Government policies. The government had made an admission during the debate on agriculture in the Parliament that around 1.5 lakhs of farmers had committed suicide due to their problems during the last ten years. When the Government announced a loan-waiver scheme for the bank-loans of farmers, it was not an ordinary announcement. Prior to this the only such instance was when V.P. Singh led government had waived farm loan amounting Rs. 15,000/- crore and after that this UPA government has waived the maximum amount of bank loans of the farmers which has created a new confidence amongst the farmers. At the same time we have been reiterating that two things can be done so that the farmers may not have to borrow. One thing is that the government subsidy on agricultural equipments should be directly provided to the farmers. The government says that it would provide 94-95 thousand crore rupees as fertilizer subsidy to the farmers. According to a non-government source this fertilizer subsidy will increase to Rs. 1,10,000 crore. This is not an ordinary subsidy. Due to these subsidies our fiscal deficit is not coming down from 2 percent of our GDP despite our all out efforts. 4.5 or 6 percent, whatever is the fiscal deficit, it is huge in itself, but we have some compulsions due to which there is no need to object the increasing fiscal deficit. A major portion of this deficit is due to the fertilizer subsidy being provided to the farmers. In this regard we have given suggestions many times that this fertilizer subsidy should be provided directly to the farmers. The government had announced in the last budget that fertilizer subsidy would be provided directly to the farmers of one district in every state on experimental basis and it would be seen whether the experiment is a success or not. Even after one and half year the government has not taken any initiative to translate into action the announcement made here in the House. Therefore, I would like to request that the government should consider its subsidy policy on fertilizer and circulate a new policy

[Shri Mohan Singh]

providing the subsidy directly to the farmers. Swaminathan Commission has said that the price of agro-produces should be determined by adding 40 percent profits to the production cost of any produce every year, and accordingly the minimum support price for paddy should be fixed Rs. 700/- per quintal. It was profitable for the farmers but the state governments did not cooperate and procurement centres were set up nowhere. The result was that the farmers were compelled to sell their paddy to the middlemen at the rate of Rs. 600 to Rs. 650 per quintal. The farmers did not get the benefit of the price fixed by the government. The Committee on Agriculture and the experts in the government advised the government repeatedly that the minimum support price for wheat should not be less than Rs. 1100/- per quintal in the coming rabi season. The government reached close to it but just few days back this rate was reduced by Rs. 20. What were the circumstances leading to the reduction in price? The government has still the opportunity to compensate it. At the same time, I think that we must think seriously about the economic slowdown in the country. All the non-government figures are showing it. It is not a question of exports only, four to five lakh people engaged in exporting sector have been rendered jobless but it is being said that during the next one year almost one crore existing jobs will be lost and there is no scope of creation of new employment opportunities. If one crore jobs out of the existing jobs are lost and the number of new unemployed persons increases by one crore more then how this two crore jobs will be compensated. As a result there will be increase in naxalism and unrest and anarchy will prevail in the country. As our country is on the threshold of elections, we cannot expect this government to chalk out any urgent plan to face this challenge of unemployment. But prior to elections the government should call an all-party meeting to discuss the steps to be taken in future to address the expected challenge of unemployment.

The second serious problem which we are facing is

the menace of terrorism. The menace of terrorism is not the problem of India alone. All the representatives coming on visit to India from abroad have expressed that the terrorism in India is sponsored from abroad. I am glad that the diplomatic initiative taken by the Government after Mumbai attack is bearing positive results. The diplomats in the Government have proved that the political pressure created by diplomatic efforts can eliminate terrorism in our neighbouring countries.

We have been demanding time and again for extradition of a notorious criminal, who number one criminal of our country, hiding in our neighbouring country and was involved in several terrorist attacks carried out in our country so that he could be prosecuted. In this regard our neighbouring country repeatedly stated that neither that person was having any hideout in their country nor they were aware of his whereabouts. But today the Home Ministry of Pakistan has asked its security agencies to arrest Demand and take action against him. I think that post Mumbai attack it is the biggest success for Indian diplomacy. The Government of India should continue with its diplomatic efforts even after that.

The whole world admits that there are certain elements in our neighbourhood who are regrouping and posing a threat to the Capital of Pakistan. They are trying not only to occupy Pakistani territory but also to occupy the capital of Pakistan and spread the terrorism all over the world. The Government should be careful about it. India should consider seriously if any kind of support is sought from India for the elimination of these outfits. If our neighbouring country asks for extradition of any terrorist and gives an assurance of filing a suit against the terrorist in their own country then our Government should not accept that. Our Government should take a stand that if any terrorist belonging to any country in the world has carried out any terrorist attack in our country then we will take action against him in our own country. This is within our jurisdiction and we cannot give the right to the Government of another country to take action against him. This is our job and we will do it.

While cautioning the Government on the above facts, I would like to support the President's Address to both the Houses of Parliament. At the same time, I would like to support the Motion of thanks moved by Deo Sahab. Thanking the Government for a few things, I hope that we will face unitedly all the challenges before the Government in future.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Madam Chairman, I rise to support the Motion of thanks on President's Address moved by Mr. Deo in the House. This Government has tried its best to fulfil the promises made by the UPA Government during the last five years. The Government has focused on the villages. There has often been a discussion on India Vs. Gramin Bharat in our country. I would like to state that the area surrounding India Gate is India and the rest is Bharat. Mahatma Gandhi used to say that the real Bharat lived in the villages.

16.00 hrs.

The UPA Government has aimed its policies towards the rural India and some work has been done in this direction and some work is still to be done. For me India means the area inside the India Gate, Mumbai is inside the Gateway of India. The Parliament is in India because it is inside India Gate. The debate in the House is also suits India and if this debate becomes Bhartiya, it will prove to be very fruitful to the country. The whole Indian economy depends on the villages and agriculture. I am of the opinion that if a village is not prosperous, Bharat cannot prosper, though India may prosper. I have seen that something has been done in that direction. For example, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, whatever may be said to criticize the said scheme but under this scheme an initiative has been taken to provide 100 days employment to those poor people who belong to the downtrodden and deprived class of the society. Now this scheme will be implemented in every district. Though full implementation of this scheme may take some time but an effort has been made to increase the purchasing power of the poor through this scheme because it is unemployment which leads to poverty.

Poverty cannot be eradicated, until and unless employment opportunities are provided. Unemployment is the only reason for poverty. Hence the initiative to provide employment to 3.4 crore poor families during 2007-08 is commendable. Out of the above fifty-five per cent people belonged to the Schedules Castes and Scheduled Tribes and 39 per cent were women. Thus an effort has been made to increase the purchasing power of the people by providing employment to them. When the purchasing capacity will increase, the living standard of the people will also improve. Thus an effort has been made in this direction.

The UPA Government has taken the correct initiative about the unorganized labourers. Hon. Manmohan Singhji was speaking on this issue today. I had introduced this proposal in the House on 07 December, 2007 and I had been granted 45 minutes to speak on the issue and hon. Members across the board had also expressed their views on the issue. The social security laws for the unorganized labourers provide social security for them. Out of the 93 per cent of the workforce in country, 43 crore comprises of unorganized labourers such as construction labour, rickshaw pullers and bidi workers who subsist on daily wages. They are able to get two square meals a day only if they go to work every day. The Act passed by the UPA Government for unorganized labourers is indeed a revolutionary step. This assurance reflects Common Minimum Programme as well, though this assurance has come a little late yet, it is still a welcome step. They should have taken this step earlier and it should have been accorded priority. The issue of social security for labourers was raised as the last point and it was passed unanimously by the House. This would bring some positive change in the life of the people at the bottom of the social hierarchy. The landless labourers would be the ones most benefited by this legislation. It also has the provision of general insurance which has been stated on a pilot basis. This would be the real general insurance in actual sense.

The third point pertains to Indira Awas Yojana. But there has been a lot of in this scheme. The local level

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

monitoring and vigilance system at the bungling state level is very poor. Allegations that the poor are being forced to pay money for getting houses under Indira Awas should be investigated.

Madam, this should definitely be probed. Indira Awas Yojana is an excellent scheme but it has not been implemented properly. The system is creating obstacles in the way of effective implementation of this scheme and hence complications have arisen.

Shri Mohan Singh was talking about the farmers. The number of incidents of suicide by farmers are rising. This is a matter of great shame for us. Even sixty years after independence more than one and a half lakh farmers are being forced to take the extreme step of committing suicide. The Government has undertaken many measures for the betterment of farmers like raising the loan ceiling by three times. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy has been pegged at Rs.900 per quintal alongwith a bonus of Rs. 25 per quintal said by the State Government. But it has to be seen how many farmers actually get the rate of Rs. 900 per quintal. I am in agreement with Mohan Singhji when he says the procurement centers meant to be opened at every block and crossroads have not been set up yet. Facilities such as bank credit, equipments etc. have not been made available to the farmers as yet. The farmers are being forced to sell the paddy at 600 or 700 rupees per quintal since they are not able get remunerative rates. The ground reality is that procurement centers have not become functional in all the places. Even in places where procurement centers have been set up, there is no one to run them. The required equipments are not available. The farmers are not getting credit from bank in time.

Similarly, in the year 2004, the Minimum Support Price of wheat was Rs.630 per quintal. It has now been raised to Rs.1080 per quintal. It is indisputable that steps have been taken in the interests of the farmers but there is a need to lay emphasis on achieving the targets. There is also a need to monitor that farmers are able to avail the

benefits of such steps. If farmers are not able to get remunerative prices, farming would become a loss-making proposition for the farmers. Our biggest achievement today is that we have a huge stock of foodgrains. We should take pride in the hard work of our farmers. An increase in national production would reduce our dependence on imports from other countries. We would become self-sufficient in foodgrain production and our needs regarding mid-day meals or public distribution system would be fulfilled without import of foodgrain.

Shri Mohan Singhji rightly said that farmers were provided loan at the interest rate of 7 to 8 percent whereas the Chairman of National Commission for Agriculture Swaminathanji had recommended that the rate of interest of loans given to farmers should not exceed four per cent. This would make agriculture lucrative for the farmers and lead to an increase in domestic production.

Many other areas have also seen a lot of development. For example, a provision of more than Rs.13 thousand crore has been made for Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan. An effort has been made to increase the number of primary schools. Similarly, a provision of more than thirty thousand crore rupees has been made under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NTEGS). A provision of seventy-four hundred crore rupees has been made under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission. Twelve hundred crore rupees have been provided for Rural Sanitation Scheme. A provision of one lakh twenty thousand seventy crore rupees has been made for National Rural Health Mission.

A provision of more than Rs. 40900 crore, 40,000 crore, in fact, nearly Rs. 41000 crore has been made for Bharat Nirman. This is a good initiative but Bharat Nirman will happen only when monitoring is carried out on a practical basis. On lines of the guidelines of the Central Government, there is need to put in place a regular monitoring mechanism to ensure that the funds are reaching the needy people. The monitoring system is needed to be strengthened to find out whether the funds are being availed by the targeted categories or not.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : It says here that only the hand (Congress) has taken the initiatives and no one else has contributed in any manner...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Don't give it a political twist.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Swainji, please sit down. Speak when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Madam, an estimated amount of Rs. 95589 crore has been provided in the form of subsidy for food, fertilizers and petroleum. The provision has also been increased for defence needs. But I would like to emphasize that there should be a diplomatic initiative to ensure the safety of the Tamils of Indian origin who are stranded in Sri Lanka. A diplomatic dialogue should be initiated with the Sri Lankan Government to stop the oppression of Tamil civilians in the country since their plight is giving rise to a sense of insecurity within the Tamil community in country as well. Action should be taken against the terrorists but we demand that the Government should take a serious view of the atrocities being committed against all the Tamil people. We are spending a lot on the defence budget and it is our responsibility to protect the Tamil civilians. We should intervene in this in a diplomatic way and should guarantee their safety. Today, we have provided Rs.1,41,703 crore for defence. The Tamilians are of Indian origin and therefore there should not be any kind of carelessness in their safety. That is why I had raised this issue.

Now, I want to speak about the efficient leadership in the Indian Railways. Just now, Swain Saheb was tilling some political thing. Indian Railways, under the able leadership of Lalu Prasadji, have created a record in the last few years. An effort has been made by the Indian

Railways to provide world-class railway services. Through its efficient and upgraded services during the last four and half years, the Indian Railways have earned a record profit of more than Rs. 90,000 crore or to say one lakh crore. Using new technology, the Railways have increased the safety of the passengers, and its profit. Construction of a dedicated freight corridor between Kolkata and Ludhiana on Eastern route and between Mumbai and Dadri on the Western route has been started to increase the freight capacity.

Dedicated Freight Corridors Corporation of India has already started the initial work on this project through the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) and its estimated cost is Rs. 28,000 crore. A 2700 km. long track will be constructed under this project. Thus, the Railways have taken a historical step.

Losses have been incurred in Kusha due to breaking of the west Kosi embankment due to flood resulting in destruction for more than 20 lakh population in seven districts. The Government of India provided more than Rs. 1000 crore for relief and security of the embankment out of which Rs. 143 crore were given only for construction of Kusha embankment. This embankment will keep on getting damaged until a permanent solution is found. Be it Kosi or Kamla, they are a group of rivers of North Bihar which affects West Bengal and seven states. An agreement has been reached to prepare a DPR (Detailed Project Report) with regard to the rivers flowing from Nepal during the Indo-Nepal talks, Talks were held with the Prime Minister of the new Nepalese Government who was here on a visit. But, the DPR should be prepared within the prescribed time limit and I think then only we will be able to find a permanent solution to the flood problem. We have not been able to make the desired progress in the matter during the last 4-5 years. Now, DPR will be prepared in a year or two for a permanent solution but it should be included in the priority sector.

The Government has taken many important steps to improve the economic and social condition of the minority

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

community in the country. The UPA Government has announced a 15 point programme by forming a Ministry for the welfare of the minorities. The reports of the Sachar Committee and Ranj Nath Committee should also be implemented and I think only then the social and economic condition of the minorities can improve. Effort should be made to bring them also in the national mainstream. Just now, our hon. Members and the Leader of Opposition have discussed the Mumbai terrorist attack. Separatism, naxalism, religious fundamentalism and imported terrorism - all of them are different. The Mumbai terrorist attack took place on 26th November. It is said that two crore Bangladeshi infiltrators are there in the country. Two crore Bangladeshi infiltrators entered India during the NDA regime. A question was raised in the Parliament on this and it was replied that 2 crore Bangladeshi infiltrators entered the country during the tenure of the NDA Government. What were they doing then? Advaniji was the Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister at that time. Wasn't it his responsibility? Now they are making it the main issue. They speak on the Mumbai terror attack. Double standards cannot be accepted on terrorism. We will have to fight terrorism by remaining united. Terrorism and naxalism are two different things. Naxalism is the result of economic disparity, exploitation, oppression and regional imbalance. The tribal areas which have not been developed have their own demands. But, terrorism is anti-nation and it should be dealt with strictly as it is a blot on humanity. Some people look at terrorism through their own definition and glasses which will prove extremely detrimental. Just now, Swain ji was speaking and chanting a slogan. Now he has come back to the old slogan. I want to call it a slogan because the Leader of Opposition had said that the Govt. would have already hanged the criminal attacking the parliament had his name been Anand instead of Afzal...*(Interruptions)* can anyone divide patriotism? Can anyone divide nationality? They are dividing patriotism. He is a responsible leader and you yourself had said that the security concerns should never be seen through the party's

ideology. He himself has said that the security concerns should not be looked at through political sentiments...*(Interruptions)*. Does it look nice to give such a statement...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH JOSHI (Bhopal) : What wrong did he say?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : You are a veteran leader...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You should address the Chair. You should speak on your turn. Let him speak...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH JOSHI : What he is saying is not correct...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You can state your point later.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Devendra ji, please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : You are a veteran leader,

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH JOSHI : The question is not about any religion but the security of the country.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You please, let him speak now. You can tell him on your turn.

SHRI KAILASH JOSHI : What he is saying is not correct. That is why I had to intervene, otherwise, I would not have spoken...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Joshi ji, I was not saying that. You did not understand my point...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : It will not be recorded now.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Hon'ble Madam Chairperson, I have clearly stated that he has been the Leader of Opposition, Home Minister of the country and I respect him a lot. He has also been the Deputy Prime Minister. Does it behove him? A few days back Shri Advaniji had said that had the name of the terrorist who attacked Parliament been Anand in Place of Afzal then the Government would have hanged him by now. I want to bring it on record. He mentioned Afzal Guru today also. Similarly if somebody asks hon'ble Leader of Opposition Shri L.K. Advaniji that if in place of Pragya Thakur and Dayanand the names of the accused in Malegaon blast case were Abida or Shakil then whether Advaniji or the Sangh Parivar would have given a similar reaction. It is my question. Please do not divide the country like this. So far only charges have been framed against Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur and army officer Purohit. The BJP has said that these are merely charges, they can not be called criminals. ATS Chief Shri Hemant Karkare and the entire ATS team has clarified that...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Devendraji, please do not make incoherent comments.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The manner in which voices are being raised in favour of the so called Hindutva and the honesty and working of the Anti-Terrorist Team is being questioned, does it not raise any suspicion. Whether it was required to be seen from political point of view. You said that political view should not be brought into security concerns but I would like to ask why are you bringing political concern in this. Not only this, hon'ble Madam Chairperson, with your permission I would like to read out one reference. What sort of games these people are playing. Terrorism from the country can only be eliminated when there will be communal harmony in the country. We can fight against terrorism only when we are united. Therefore, we should think over it. I am reading a reference from Mail Today. It is a matter for inquiry. Please listen to it...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAILASH JOSHI : Hon'ble Madam Chairperson, we will oppose this. He is not fair. There is no fact in it. We will oppose him if he says wrong things.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You please sit down.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : You please get this investigated. I am only quoting it...(Interruptions) you please reply to this during the course of your speech.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You please sit down.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am quoting:

[English]

The Hindutva terror trail has led to the family of Mahatma Gandhi killers Nathuram Godse and his mentor and co-accused Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Himani Savarkar Godse, who married Savarkar's nephew has started a platform with Sangh Parivar activist Pragya Singh Thakur who is in police custody for her alleged involvement in the Malegaon bomb blast.

[Translation]

I will only read it out. Allow me to speak one more line, you please get it investigated.

[English]

Himani, who heads Abhinaya Bharat, accepts having met Pragya and other Sangh Parivar activists arrested in the Malegaon case. "I met Pragya Thakur three-four months ago. We both were at a public function but it is difficult for me to explain what kind of a woman she is", Himani said.

[Translation]

I would like to tell you that Himani is running Abhinav Bharat. You are disgracing the majority community. Terrorist...(Interruptions) I have read it out to you people, it is published here, you please get this inquired into...(Interruptions) You people should read as to where from terrorism is coming.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Yadavji, you please address the Chair.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Madam, this is a sort of terrorism. When the majority resorts to terrorism them no army of the country can stop them. Therefore, it is a very dangerous trend. The majority never wants so...*(Interruptions)*. You are creating terrorists. The majority would never be terrorist because they do not have such culture. You are inculcating a new culture in them. If we are having a debate on terrorism then it should be complete and in a proper way. A terrorist does not belong to any religion. Terrorists want to destabilize the country. Such people are anti-national and you stood by them. Your entire party is supporting them...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Yadavji, you have made your point, now conclude your speech.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I would like to quote from Outlook Magazine.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You please do not show it here.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : All the members quote from newspapers and magazines. I would like to quote what is published in this, it is not my version. It is clearly stated here that, Adi Shankaracharya of Govardhan Math is the founder of the Ashram...*(Interruptions)**

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Whatever is quoted by him will not form the part of proceedings.

(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : That portion has been expunged.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : This thing should be inquired into...*(Interruptions)*. Such kind of terrorism is a blot on humanity.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You do not quote this and continue with your speech. This will not be recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have not said anything in this, all this is said by the Sadhu's...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Devendrajji, this will not form part of your speech. You please conclude now.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have not said anything from my side. I want that you should inquire into it. I would like to demand this. Whoever is involved in this terrorist activity, be it Pragya Singh Thakur or anybody else, none should be spared at any cost...*(Interruptions)* This should be restrained from both the side...*(Interruptions)* No one should be spared.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Devendra ji, your time is over now. You have made all your points.

Shri Krishnaswami ji.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am not asking to spare any one. She has been arrested in connection with Malegaon bomb blast on 19 September, 2008...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You please do not talk point wise.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : It is quite unfortunate incident and we will have to thwart such incidents. The Government should take bold decision to check terrorism. Terrorism is antinational and whosoever supports it should think it over because terrorism destabilize our country and it is a blow for unity and integrity of our nation and secularism. Besides, it is also against the spirit of our Constitution. Terrorists should not be spared. The Government should come down heavily on them.

[English]

*SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur) : Sir, Let me thank the chair for this opportunity to take part in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to both the Houses of Parliament. Many members who spoke ahead of me referred to the achievements of this Government. The mover of the motion Shri Kishore Chandra Deo was referring to the bag full of achievement this Government has made. I would like to go a step further. The achievements of the UPA Government is abundant and the basket is overflowing.

I can point out to certain achievements like Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyarthikaran Yojana that has enabled us to provide electricity to the households of distant village folks in about 50,000 villages even in the remote parts of the country. 25,000 villages have got connectivity through Rural Road Connectivity Schemes benefiting the farmers in our rural areas. 98% of our villages have got telephone connections. Under the Rural Health Schemes thousands of remote village have got primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and Dispensaries. NREGA is a revolutionary scheme that provide job opportunities to rural poor all over the country in a big way. People living below poverty line and the needy villagers get an assured 100 days job every year and such people will get unemployment allowance in the absence of creation of jobs in their areas. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has helped to eliminate poverty and help the rural poor. Thus targets have been achieved and the success is galore.

Railways have made a stride in setting new records. Shri Lalu Prasad deserve accolades for the achievements the Railways have made in earning record profit. The surplus revenue continues all these years. Entire world turns back and look at his great success. In Tamil Nadu we witness the commendable work done by the Ministry of Railways. I would like to record my appreciation and

heartfelt thanks for all that has been done. Similarly in the Civil Aviation Sector we find a new dynamism. Many airports have been modernized. Flight service has increased manifold. A level playing field with a healthy competition is there benefiting air travellers.

Under the golden Quadrilateral Roads Project, fourlane highways are being converted to six lane roads. Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition was critical of the functioning of National Highways Authority of India. I strongly deny his baseless charges. I would like to go on record in this august House that commendable work is being carried out in the Surface Transport Ministry where roads get priority. During the previous regime the Highways Projects were moving at a snail's pace. Only 1.6 kms of roads were laid every day. Whereas during the present UPA regime 4 Kms per day is the standard. All the members of this august House are appreciative of Hon'ble Minister Shri T.R. Baalu and expressed so in person two. The pace in which the works are progressing is praiseworthy.

At this juncture, let me placeforth a demand before this august House. Unprecedented rain havoc and flood havoc have hit hard Tamil Nadu heavily. In 2004, this UPA Government extended Rs.1000 crores for Tamil Nadu flood relief. But this time round, a mere Rs.200 crore has been provided by the centre for the flood relief work which is much more than the earlier one. It may be enhanced atleast up to Rs.1000 crores by way of allocating another Rs.800 crore.

I would like to welcome the observation made by Her Excellency the President of India while referring to the Sri Lankan conflict where Tamils are put to great hardship. Restoring peace and normalcy there is necessary. To achieve the same, peace process must be initiated through political dialogue. She has expressed her concern for the sufferings of Tamils in Sri Lanka and emphasized the need to find a lasting solution. It is distressing to note that innocent Tamils are displaced in their own homeland and the armed conflicts must come to an end. Sri Lankan Tamils are the sons of the soil there and they are of our

*English Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri A. Krishnaswamy]

stock and related to us as our brothers and sisters. I appreciate the concern expressed by our President that our Government will take efforts to end hostilities and find peaceful settlement. But, ceasefire, the prerequisite has not come about as yet. It causes worry in our minds.

Both the UPA Government at the centre and the Government of Tamil Nadu have made appeals. But the Sri Lankan Government has ignored them. 6 crores of Tamils in the Tamil main land in India are greatly agitated and anguished. Our kith and kin are being butchered. Our plea goes in vain and their plight is being ignored.

Ever after its independence, for more than 50 years now Tamils there have been denied of their legitimate rights. Sporadic attacks on Tamils continue unabated. To express our solidarity, we the Tamils in India, 6 crore of us, are peacefully expressing our deep concern. Our sentiments must be respected by the Government of India. The Sri Lankan Tamils started raising their voice in a peaceful way through democratic means and methods. But they fell on deaf ears and stone walled. The campaign for their rights by the Sri Lankan Tamils through democratic forums might have changed now and we the DMK or the people of Tamil Nadu are not in favour if it.

Innocent civilians are attacked day in and day out by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces. Bombings, shellings and shootings kill hundreds of Tamil civilians. Aerial bombardments are resorted to. The latest cluster bomb attacks are also made. Our brethren across the seas in the Island Nation are being eliminated. Our hearts bleed. Our sentiments must be properly understood by the centre. Through this august House I appeal to all the right thinking people for an effective step to restore peace and normalcy there.

Several peaceful protests have been organized by us. Led by our leader Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi, we have adopted several methods of protestations and agitations

in a peaceful way. Worthy of being noted by the Guinness Record Book, a 50 km long human chain solidarity show was organized by our leader in which the general public from all walks of life and leaders and cadres of various political parties cutting across party line took part in a big way. Ignoring the heavy down pour lakhs of people assembled for that big human chain agitation. We have resorted to fasting. We have organized several rallies all over Tamil Nadu. Through public meetings we have conveyed our feelings. We have passed unanimous resolutions twice in the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu urging the centre to take up with the Sri Lankan regime. We want a ceasefire and we want them to establish peace and ensure normalcy. Even after making all these efforts, ceasefire is still eluding. Even now innocent civilians are attacked. At the behest of our leader Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi, as per his last and latest appeal, our External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee went to Sri Lanka and had talks with Sri Lankan President Rajapakse. He impressed upon him for an immediate ceasefire. But still there is no stopping of the Army attack on innocent Tamils.

Not only the Tamils from India but the Tamils from all over the world and from countries like America, Europe and Britain especially in London have appealed to the Government there in Sri Lanka. Reportedly a mere 48 hour ceasefire was announced. It was a mere eye wash. No effective arrangements were made to shift Tamils safely. Again the attacks have commenced. I would like to know as to what steps were taken by the Sri Lankan Government to evacuate willing Tamils from the conflict zones. We find Tamils could not move away. There was no action by the Sri Lankan Government. Sri Lankan Tamils also could not move away from the conflict zone. This is the hard reality. About 7 crores of Tamils all over the world are deeply hurt by the active inaction on the part of India to impress upon the racist regime in Sri Lanka. We are forty members elected together from Tamil Nadu for this House extending support to this UPA Government. It must not be last sight of that this Government came to power through us. We feel ignored by this Government.

I would like to reiterate that our demands are not at all heard and met with.

Our leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi is respected by the Tamil people all over the world. He has made his plea loud and clear. All the Tamils are greatly disappointed that even Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi's request fail to get its rightful recognition in the right forums. You have been belying our hopes in a disappointing way.

I want you to go by the trail of history in which DMK has been engaging itself in raising its voice for the rights and welfare of the Srilankan Tamils right from 1958. Our late lamented leader Arignar Anna led a rally in the year 1958. A huge rally was taken out in 1977 wherein more than 5 lakhs of people participated. In 1981, violating the prohibitory orders, our leader Kalaignar Karunanidhi led a rally and courted arrest along with two hundred & fifty people. In 1983, another big rally with seven lakh peoples' participation was organized to raise voice for the protection of Srilankan Tamils. There was also a 'Rail Roko' (stopping of trains) agitation. DMK President Kalaignar Karunanidhi and Professor Anbazhagan, the General-Secretary of DMK resigned from the Legislative Assembly in 1983 protesting against the inaction on the part of the Union Government. In the same year a memorandum with the signature of two crores of people was sent to United Nations Organisation. In the same year, Members of Parliament belonging to DMK went on hunger strike in Delhi. In 1985, in support of Srilankan Tamils, the General Council of DMK took a decision to go on a peace march courting arrest in Chennai and all the district headquarters of Tamil Nadu. About 40 thousand leaders and cadres were arrested. On 16.05.1985, our leader Kalaignar Karunanidhi participated in a public meeting, arranged in Kanchipuram and was arrested. In 1989, as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, our leader Karunanidhi took up with the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi the vexing Srilankan Tamils' issue. At his behest our leader took efforts to convince various militant groups to come together unitedly to spearhead their campaign. In 1990, DMK has to pay a price by way of getting its Government dismissed. In the same year black

flag agitation and total hartaal was resorted to. In the same year Rs.25 lakhs was donated by the DMK Trust for the medical relief assistance meant for Srilankan Tamils. In 2008, Rs.49 crores have been mobilized through the contribution made by the people of Tamil Nadu and has been sent to Srilankan Tamils through Red Cross.

Even after all these humanitarian efforts having failed to put an end to the armed attacks on innocent Tamilians, an emotion of youth called Muthukumar immolated himself in front of the Central Government offices, housed in Shastri Bhawan in Chennai. He has done so to highlight the cause of Srilankan Tamils and to bring to light before the world their plight. He poured kerosene on himself and burnt himself to death. This only reflects the emotional turmoil in the minds of the people of Tamil Nadu. He has left a will and testimony that the students of Tamil Nadu must uphold the flames of spreading the fervour that the Srilankan Tamils must live honourably and peacefully in their homeland. Following this incident, there have been more such immolation. Including a Tamil who burnt himself in Geneva, five people have resorted to self immolation. Srilankan Tamils issue is a burning issue and still there is no respite. An end to the war of the Government waged against innocent civilians has not ceased.

We would like to demarcate the Srilankan Tamils issue as one before Rajiv Gandhi Assassination and other one as after Rajiv Gandhi assassination. Before the assassination of our late leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi, our approach might have remained different. But now, after his being killed, we strongly believe in implementing the Indo-Srilankan Accord. I would like to register and reiterate this view point of ours in the august House.

I would like to point out that the current war in Srilanka is not a war merely between LTTE and Srilankan Army. We should not keep quiet on that count. In fact, it is a war between the Srilankan Tamils and the racist Sinhalese. Tamil race is being systematically eliminated and wiped out there. It is not a mere internal problem in Srilanka, it is an international issue. It must be understood in its right perspective.

[Shri A. Krishnaswamy]

In India, we have extremism and the attendant problems in the North. There is tension witnessed evidently. But in the South it is comparatively peaceful. Extremism has not taken its ugly head. Just because there is no problem in the South, don't be reluctant. The internal conflict in Srilanka may have its ramifications in India too. We must be careful about it. India must cautiously approach this.

LTTE cannot operate in India. It is proscribed. Indo-Srilankan Accord provides for it. Under the circumstances, under the guise of this agreement, Srilankan Army is trained in armed attacks. We learn that they get weapons and equipment from our Defence establishment. It is also said that reconnaissance support is being extended to Srilankan Army. It cannot be dismissed as mere exchange of information. It is said that only non-lethal weapons and equipment have been given to Srilankan Army. It must be noted that this may help that army to annihilate the Tamil race. I draw the attention of the Government of India to this aspect.

Instead of curving out a Tamil homeland merging both the Northern province and the Eastern province a farcical election was held in the Eastern province and a puppet administration has been established there. From the East, the armed attack is perpetrated against the Tamils in the Northern province. It may lead to another farcical election and a puppet regime to make the Tamils third rate citizens. The intentions of the racist regime should be understood. All out efforts must be made to save and safeguard Tamils.

Tamils cannot be treated as inferior citizens. They are also a national race. They are sons of the soil. They are the descendents of those who have ruled the island nation in the ancient days. They must have equal rights.

Pakistan and China are helping Srilanka in several ways. Both in 1965 and 1971 during Indo-Pak war,

Srilankan Government was supportive of China and Pakistan and not India. This must not be last sight of. Considering the fact that South is peaceful India must not blindly support Srilanka. After wiping out Tamil race, Srilanka may turn against India. What is the guarantee that it may not happen. Hence, there is a need for the Government of India to give protection to the Tamils. We must come forward.

'Frontline' has written that it may be a victory for Srilankan Army now. But it is more important to win the hearts of Tamils which they cannot do easily. The Srilankan Tamil aspirations to have a Tamil homeland must be respected. The plight of all the Tamils in Srilanka must be taken note of. In the Central provinces, plantation workers are all Tamils. They were taken there during British Regime as bounded-labour. Now they languish there without equal rights. Hence, we must strive to get equal rights for all the Tamils in Srilanka. Srilankan Tamils must get their right to live there honourably. There must be an end to war and restoration of peace and normalcy. A peaceful settlement must be evolved through democratic process. Devolution of powers and autonomy must be ensured. Only then, the Tamil race there can breathe and live peacefully which will ensure peace in the region. Reiterating this on behalf of DMK, let me conclude the extending my support to the Motion of Thanks.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Madam, Shri Krishnaswamy was asking as to why weapons, like radar are being given to Sri Lanka. His party is a part of the Government. Whom is he asking this question? ... (Interruptions) When he was speaking, I did not disturb him. Whom is he asking this question now?

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Madam, we can solve the matter among ourselves. He need not worry about that. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : His party is a part of the Government. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record.

[English]

(Interruptions) ...*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Nothing should be recorded.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Madam, Chairperson, I rise to speak in support of the Motion of Thanks on the Address of Her Excellency, the President of India, Shrimati Pratibha Patil moved by Shri V. Kishore Chand S. Deo and seconded by Shri Madhusudan Mistry...[Interruptions]. However, it is the last year of Fourteenth Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Madam, perhaps the hon. Member could not follow what I have said...[Interruptions]

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You make your point. You address the Chair.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : We will come again and again.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : What I mean is that it the last year as well as the last session of Fourteenth Lok Sabha and also the last year of UPA Government's five year rule. Therefore, obviously the hon. President of India has incorporated the achievements of five years rule of the present Government in her Address. Subsequently the Budget speech of the Leader of the House and of the new Minister of Finance reiterated all those achievements. When Shri Madhusudan Mistry rose to second the Motion of Thanks on Presidential Address, he said that from the day one the opposition was thinking that UPA Government will not last for five years and it would fall midway. He expressed happiness over completion of five years by UPA Government. The hon. President as well as the Leader of the House made a mention of achievements of the UPA Government during its five years stint. But I feel it would be premature to boast of these achievements. The coming election will decide about its achievements, its success or the failure. When the Government goes to the voters, seeking their votes on the basis of its achievement the public will decide how far the Government has been successful or a failure...[Interruptions]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Madam, the people of this country will assess the success or failure of the Government and coming elections will decide it. No one can predict anything as to what is going to happen. But the Government should view it seriously. The should introspect as to whether our people are really happy, are they really in prosperity? Are our borders safe? Is the life of a common man safe in our country? Are the jobs of the employed persons secured? Is there food security for the people living below poverty line who are finding it difficult to get their two square meals? There are many such issues which needs to be pondered over seriously by the Government, as it is the responsibility of the Government to provide these facilities to its people. It is responsible for its 100 crore population. Therefore, there is a need for the Government to make self-assessment whether it has been successful in discharging its duties or not?

Madam, the Government announced a package of Rs. 70,000 to waive the loans of farmers. The demand for loan waiver started from Maharashtra. The reason behind the said demand was that approximately one and a half lakh farmers committed suicide during the last five years and maximum such cases were from Maharashtra, especially Vidarbha. The main crop in Vidarbha is cotton. Agriculture is the only source income in Vidarbha. There are no

* Not recorded.

*.Not recorded.

[Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

industries. The area is not industrially developed. And farmers have no other source of income than agriculture. Complete crops of farmers get destroyed in the event of any natural calamity such as famine, hailstorm and then they are forced to commit suicide.

17.00 hrs.

Agriculture is the only source of income in Vidarbha and when the crops get damaged the farmers have no other go than committing suicide. So far as MSP is concerned Shri DP Yadav patted himself and the Govt. saying that MSP has been increased during their regime. Every year the Govt. fixes MSP. But it is debatable as to whether the Government procures the produce of farmers at MSP declared by it? Does the farmer really get MSP for his produce? One can go and see as to what really goes on when the govt. agencies procure paddy. The Govt. declares MSP but the Government does not buy cotton at the announced price from any farmer. Procurement centers are opened during the crop season. The Government agencies categories cotton into 'A' 'B' 'C' and 'D' grades. The fact is that when a farmer comes to the procurement center the agency officials say that his cotton is of 'D' grade and they can buy it at Rs. 1400 per quintal only, they would have procured it at MSP of Rs. 2700 if it was of grade 'A'. It is clear that the farmer gets Rs.1400-1500 only per quintal. Whereas, the farmer was quite happy to know that the Government have announced MSP of Rs.2700 a quintal for cotton. In view of attractive price farmers have sown cotton on their whole land. And when they went to the market, they were dumb founded to learn that their cotton was being procured at just Rs. 1400 per quintal at a whopping difference of Rs. 1300. The Government should look into it. Mere announcements will not help the farmers and incidents of suicides by the farmers. Though the Government announced a package of Rs. 70,000 crores, yet the farmers are committing suicides in Vidarbha.

Madam Chairperson, under loan waiver scheme, the

banks were supposed not to recover the loan amount from the loanees and the banks gave certificate to them to this effect. But who will grant fresh loan to the farmers? They are likely to lose their one crop. When raised a question on this issue in the Parliament the then Minister of Finance, stated in his reply that there were some doubts in the minds to bankers over loan waiver scheme. The dispelling of doubts took time and hence sanctioning of new loan was delayed by 4-5 months. But one crop season was over in this period. The banks took four months in understanding the modalities of loan waiver in deciding whether to accept applications for fresh loan or not and in the meantime the crop season was over. They lost their one crop. Now what those farmers will do in the next season? Can it prevent them from committing suicide?

So far as MSP is concerned, the Government should ensure that the produce of farmers is procured at MSP. But it does not do so. Even now the farmers are committing suicide. My submission is that loan waiver is not enough, entire loan should be waived from the revenue records, known as 7/12 in the state of Maharashtra. And loanees revenue record, that is 7/12, should be cleared, but what the Govt. has done? Loan of some of the farmers have been waived, whereas, it has resorted to one-time settlement for others. Loan of the farmers has not been waived off and the farmers whose loan has been waived off are not in a position to get loan afresh. Therefore, they are in trouble, unhappy and annoyed at the Government, it is more so in Vidarbha.

Similar is the condition at our borders. Today's question No. 28 relates to naxalites. It has been stated that there is no internal security left in the country. I would like to refer to the figures on naxalites provided in reply to the said question. In reply to the question No. 28, it has been stated that 1608 terrorist incidents took place in the year 2005, 1509 in 2006, 1563 in 2007 and 1551 in 2008. 851 such incidents, took place in 5 months of the year 2008, i.e. from January 2008 to January, 2009. 253 civilians and 95 security personnel were killed in these 851 incidents. The Government has provided this information. 659

naxalites have been arrested and 83 killed. It is the scenario of our internal security.

Attack on Mumbai was the severest terrorist attack and I am grateful to the Government that for the first time it has admitted that the attack on Mumbai was not just an attack on Mumbai, but an attack on the country as a whole. The Govt. of India has said so for the first time. I thank the Govt. for this. If we do not heed on terrorism the number of terrorist attacks will never come down. Even now, common man in Mumbai is afraid. When one returns to this home after work in the evening one's family members feel relieved that head of their family has come home safe. In a statement in this regard the commissioner of police, Mumbai said that during the preliminary investigation of Mumbai attack it found that there were 10 terrorists, 9 of them were killed, tenth one, named Kasab was nabbed. Two days ago another statement came, wherein, it was said that 16 terrorists had come, 9 were killed and one was nabbed and there is no trace of remaining 6 terrorist. It is very serious threat to the country. The Government should be alert and act strongly in this regard.

The entire House supported the proposal for creation of national Security Agency.

Madam, our borders are insecure today. The matter relating to internal security is before us.

Madam, unemployment in the country is on the rise. The hon. President in her address had stated that the Government has stated NREGS to bring down unemployment. She also elaborated about the number of employment opportunities created under the said scheme. Even today, the Government informed the House in this regard. I would like to say something about the present status of this scheme. In fact wages are paid under the said scheme. It is rural employment. Day before yesterday, the hon. Minister in reply to a question on urban employment and urban housing stated that the poor in urban areas are those who have no dwelling units of their own. Their population is four crore and they have come to cities from far-flung

areas in search of employment. You must understand one thing that a single scheme cannot eradicate the problem of unemployment in the country. For this we need to adopt a certain policy. The global economic recession has led to the unemployment of more than 3 lakh workers. Our small-scale industries are nearly wiped out. Here they are telling as to what improvement they have made into our infrastructure and the facilities that are being given by our Government. In a reply to today's question it was mentioned that small-scale industries are in trouble. I would like to read out from the reply to the question *[English]* "The major challenges faced by the micro and small enterprises in their growth mainly relate to lack of adequate credit availability". *[Translation]* We are saying that we have made large funds available but the Government states in a reply to one of the questions today that *[English]* "Lack of adequate credit availability, technology and marketing constraints, infrastructure bottlenecks".

[Translation]

Today the Government is accepting this fact that the major reason behind the problems being faced by our small-scale industries is the infrastructure bottleneck.

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please sum up, now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : This means that we are not able to provide complete infrastructure and are highlighting our achievements one after another here. D.P.. Yadav ji was speaking in the House and he made an allegation upon the NDA Government that 2 crore Bangladeshi people migrated into India when Shri Advani ji was the Home Minister. We agree that 2 crore Bangladeshi people migrated into India during the tenure of NDA. I would like to ask the Government as to what it has done to evict these migrants from our country. Today there is unemployment, malnutrition in our country and the farmers are committing suicide. A leader from the

[Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

Government side is making an allegation on the NDA that there are 2 crore Bangladeshi people in our country. I would like to ask the Government as to what steps have been taken by the Government to send back these migrants from the country?

Today, the Government is accepting this in its reply that *[English]* illegal Bangladeshi migrants are not entitled to receive ration cards, Pan cards, etc. Action is taken for cancellation by the concerned authority as and when such cases are reported or discovered. *[Translation]* This means that the Government accepts this thing that there are Bangladeshi in migrants in the country but they are doing nothing to evict them. There was no mention of this in the hon'ble Madam President's Address...*(Interruptions)*. I will conclude my speech with one last sentence. When D.P. Yadav ji was speaking, our senior leader Joshi ji was listening to him quite seriously. I was listening when Shri D.P. Yadav ji was speaking and I was reminded of a Hindi film song. I would like to make a mention of that here so that Joshi ji does not become more serious. The song goes like 'Bengani Shaadi Mei Abdullah Deewana, Aise Manmauji Ko Mushkil Hai Samjhana. Therefore, hon'ble Madam Chairperson, I would like to say that it is not a question of Government and opposition here. The problems being faced by the common man today are increasing day by day and this itself is the failure of the Government.

[English]

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur): Madam, this House is discussing the Motion Thanks on the President's Address. We support that.

But, at the same time, we would like that certain points would have been added additionally in that Address or certain points are missing in that. In a very peculiar situation in the country, the UPA has come to power. It is not that the Congress had a big majority and then they could form a Ministry. The Congress and its Allies together

did not have also majority and it was at that time, on the basis of a Common Minimum Programme, they sought the support of the Left and it was given. Without asking for any ministerial position or anything, the Left extended the support.

The whole point is that we expected that the Common Minimum Programme would be strictly implemented. The President has narrated point by point saying that most of the Common Minimum Programme has been implemented. The next day, Shri Pranab Mukherjee in his Budget presentation also did the same thing.

Here I think this is a time for introspection because you are completing five years. We also take credit for the achievements of the UPA Government because for four-and-a-half years, we were supporting that Government. But when you say that everything is so bright on the horizon and the life of Indian people looks like a rainbow, it reminds me of these people, who are sitting in Opposition today, five years ago were telling about India shining.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Feel good factor.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Yes. So, the same mistake is probably being committed. That is my feeling. Now, I do not want to go into the details of it. One very important thing, which everyone should remember now, was that the political instrument was created in this country with a view to fight reactionary communal forces, the fascist forces, and ensure that democracy and secularism is saved.

That was the UPA supported by the Left. That was the political instrument that created an atmosphere, that created a new Government and Common Minimum Programme and everything. If you look at it today, Madam, I always thought – not only myself but the country always thought – that the Congress has a feeling of its slightly exaggerated influence, and is trying to live in a dream world.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee, while presenting the Budget,

in the first two or three paragraphs narrated the achievements, dedicating the whole thing to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi as UPA Chairperson. At the end, while concluding it, the UPA was forgotten and he said that the people, the *aam admi*, will remember the hand that made everything possible. He did not say that vote for the hand, but short of that, everything has been said.

Madam, this attitude is creating certain problems in the country. For example, they thought that it was not so important to keep the unity of the Left and the UPA and it was more important to go with the United States. Somebody even suggested that *Bharat Ratna* should be given to President Bush. ... (*Interruptions*) The kind of thinking that was there, that thinking is very wrong. With that thinking, probably the Congress thought to dispense with the Left and get somebody else's support and they got it readily by payment and otherwise. You have reduced the Parliament into such a shameful situation that the greatest democratic institution in the country stands discredited. Let us not forget that your Government has survived, but I do not know whether democracy has been survived, whether constitutional rule has been survived. It is not that only the unity of the UPA and the Left has been disbanded. Now with the decision the Congress has taken that we will have alliance with no UPA partner on the national plane, you have dispensed with the UPA itself. In every State, some kind of an alliance will come. Now, many people, the UPA partners, are looking for alliance elsewhere. So, the kind of political approach the Congress has adopted at a time when the country needs the greatest unity of the democratic and the Left forces to fight reactionary forces, to fight the forces of terrorism and communalism, it was a rather suicidal step, I must say.

With that introduction, I would come to the other point. The President's Address as well as the Budget spoke about *aam admi* and the kind of good life that you have provided to the *aam admi*. Many good programmes, which you called flagship programmes and all that, money has been provided for. We also supported

those programmes. But where does the fact take us? India remains, today, a country where every night 200 million people go hungry to bed. The country having the biggest population who are hungry is India. That is a fact revealed by so many agencies. If you look at India in another way, this is also the country that is having the greatest unemployment. Again, India is having the largest number of illiterates.

Who are these people? They are the *aam admi*; the hungry millions; the unemployed millions; and the illiterate millions. There are people who are hardly dressed, and there are people who still dream of a shelter. My friend just now mentioned that about four crore people, who are homeless, are roaming about in this country in the urban area alone. This is the profile of the *aam admi* in the country.

Why did you not take concrete measures by which you could have changed? You could have changed with the kind of support that you are receiving from people, but you hardly did anything. As soon as you came to power, the Government appointed the Swaminathan Committee to look into the plight of peasants, which happened in the background of suicides spreading among desperate farmers, who were victims of indebtedness and all that. It is not a question of giving him more credit. It is not the solution, but it is only one part of the solution. But the main thing is that he should be able to sustain himself and his family by engaging in agriculture. Thereafter, he should be offered remunerative prices for his crops. Otherwise, as was happening in Vidharbha, that is, when the cotton prices come down, then they have no way other than committing suicide. There should have been more elaborate steps of providing crop insurance and then you should give him credit, and probably he would have been placed in a better position.

Madam, I am aware about the time constraint, and I do not want to take your indulgence so much. Now, we are facing global economic crisis, and many steps are being taken in this context and many packages are being offered. But the fact of the matter is this. Take the case

[Shri C.K. Chandrappan]

of a State like Kerala from where I come where all the traditional industries like coir, cashew, handloom, the whole coastline full of fishermen — Kerala is a State that exports maximum fish products to country abroad — that employ lakhs and lakhs of people are all in crisis. Kerala is also known for cash crops and plantation crops. The price of plantation crops have collapsed and no one is there to help them. Now, if things go like this, then they will also have to commit suicide. The packages that are being offered do not help them much. These are packages that go off their head as their problems are not resolved and their problems are not seriously approached.

As we speak of special packages to deal with the economic slowdown that we are facing in India, let me remind you that 20 lakh industrial workers became unemployed during this period of economic recession, and another 10 lakh workers are surely going to be unemployed soon. This is not the general unemployment that I mentioned about before, but due to the present economic recession.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee, while introducing the Budget, said that the year that we are going to face will provide us much more hard time because the things are not improving in the international situation. It would mean more unemployment, more closures, more retrenchments and more cut in production, etc. What are the steps that you are taking? The Government has hardly taken any concrete measures by which they could provide some kind of safety-net for these people who are now thrown out from their employment.

Madam, you hail from Delhi and you know the plight of industrial workers when they are thrown out of their jobs. An industrial worker thrown out of his job comes on to the streets. He does not have food, he does not have a home, he does not have clothes, and he does not have anything. That is the situation of nearly half a million people in the country now who are thrown out of their jobs. They are on roads. Has the Government taken

any step worth its while which can bring a difference in the situation?

Leading trade unions like AITUC, CITU, HMS and others are getting to Delhi lakhs of people who are victims of recession and the resultant unemployment. They are coming here to demonstrate before the Parliament. Well, they may not be allowed to come near the Parliament because we want to sit in a place that is hermetically sealed from the realities of life. But, the whole world will see their plight when they come hungry and half-naked, shouting slogans against the realities that they are facing today. After all everybody knows that the Address of President is prepared by the Government. So, the Government is unconcerned about these problems because hardly any mention has been made of them in the Address.

Madam Chairman, former Finance Minister Shri Chidambaram used to take pride in the fact - we also felt nice whenever he referred to it - that Indians working abroad are doing good work. Good that the Minister of Overseas Indians Affairs is here now. He is from Kerala and we are good friends. The reason why Shri Chidambaram used to take pride in the Indians abroad is that they were sending a lot of money home. When the country's foreign exchange reserve was at its lowest ebb, we depended upon the money Indians abroad had sent to India. It was the money that they earned through their sweat and blood. Now, because of the international financial crisis, several lakhs of them are returning home. Since Kerala is a State from where many lakhs of people are working abroad, we feel the pinch of it. We asked the Government whether some rehabilitation measures could be taken. We said such measures will have to be taken. But the Government of India very merrily ignored it saying that there is no such thing. There has been no mention of it in the Budget. These people were so helpful in strengthening our economy in the time of need. We depended upon them and we were praising them for their services. Now, when they are in trouble, you turn your face away, you are showing a Nelson's eye to them. These

are problems which the President Address does not mention.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee made an interesting comment in his Budget Speech yesterday. He referred to 'economic growth with equity'. The author of that concept was Jawaharlal Nehru. As the Chairman of Planning Commission when India was fighting for freedom he said in his report that India will not take the path of classical capitalist development; India will go for development with social justice. Shri Pranab Mukherjee now says that 'growth with equity' has been corrected by Amartya Sen and said that growth should be sustained in the context of crisis.

I was amazed. I was really amazed. I respect Amartya Sen, a world renowned economist, and a pride of India and that he got the Noble Prize. But we want growth with justice, growth with equity. That was the slogan which inspired the masses of India, who sacrificed everything for the cause of freedom. Let us not forget that.

For your new friend, America, for whom you are so eager to present the Bharat Ratna – which was spoken unfortunately by a Congressman. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and also Mahatma Gandhi must be turning in their graves seeing this new disciple of Congress. Wherever President Bush goes, he gets shoes. His own people rejected him. Let us not forget that fact. Why are we eager to do that? Is it sycophancy? More loyal towards the King! I do not want to say about it. These are some of the things that really missed in the President's Address.

My last point is about terrorism. Terrorism is mentioned in this House. We made a new legislation. Our Opposition Leader was happy that some kind of a legislation has come, and he was very unhappy that POTA has been repealed. I remember, Advani ji was telling that the Government is using CBI, etc. They are using. Probably, they learnt a lesson from him. He was charge-sheeted by CBI in the case of demolition of Babri Masjid. It was he who classically proved that they do not care for it. He

became not only a Minister of Home Affairs but a Deputy Prime Minister too. But unfortunately, Congress should not take leaves from that and practise it. Both of them are birds of the same feather when it comes to such things.

Regarding terrorism, there are certain failures on the part of the Government. Now, it is over. We made a new legislation; we are united in facing it. I remember, Shri A.K. Antony, my another good and esteemed friend and a Minister, made a speech in Kerala four days before about the incident in Mumbai. He said that the importance of Himalayan defence is an old story. It is not that important today. More important is, dangers coming from the sea, let us be vigilant against it. This was the statement of the Minister four days ago on Mumbai incident. Later, we came to know that after Mumbai incident. We had intelligent inputs from various agencies from different countries that there is an imminent threat of terrorist attack from the sea. Shri Antony knew it, and that means, the Government knew it. That is why, he said that there is imminent threat from the sea. But why did the Government fail? And why it failed so miserably? It brought shame to us. Ten boys coming and holding the country for three days with mass killing, and setting arson everywhere. That was the failure. Now, the laws have come. Let us hope that the law will be implemented. In the law, as this Parliament passed, we defined terrorism in many ways. Naxalites are also included among the terrorists. Today also, the Home Minister said that they are slightly different from others. I now come to Hindu terrorism, I do not mean the entire Hindu community, the RSS-led Sangh Parivar-led brigade, who are setting up new brigades - Ram Sena, etc. All these are creating conditions of terrorism in this country.

Let us not just overlook it. The Government should be vigilant that these agencies will not be given such opportunities to work.

The real last point is, when we discussed the Malegaon incident, when we saw the chargesheet as it is,

[Shri C.K. Chandrappan]

the most dangerous thing has come to light – that is, Lt. Col. Purohit is one of the accused. That means, in the ranks of the Army, these forces are operating. They are operating among the diplomats; they are operating among the Army; and they are operating among the Ex-Servicemen. These are dangerous omen that has to be tackled properly. These aspects of the matter have not found any expression in the Address of the President. Later, when Shri Pranab Mukherjee spoke, he also did not make any mention of this.

With these words, I support it. But I hope that these aspects also would find some expression later.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): Thank you. I rise to participate in the Motion of Thanks on the Address of Madam President.

Like speakers before me mentioned, it has been mentioned over and over again, that it is the Government, and here, I would like to re-assert that it is actually some bureaucrats, who make a draft of the President's speech. So, the hollowness and the pomposity of the speech are invariably visible at a very surface level.

It was simple rhetoric; and the UPA's claim of accomplishing the targets set by CMP, simply ended as a bubble that burst because they are incapable of presenting an honest balance sheet for the past five years. Had they been assesses the income tax department would have seized their assets by now, and they would have been penalized for taking the country to ruins. Socially, politically and even outside the country, India has reached the pits during the past five years.

In the Address to the hon. Members of both the Houses of Parliament, the President never thought it fit to address the problem of our burgeoning population, a problem that has actually plagued this country so badly that none of the projects, none of the programmes, and none of the policies that we declare and we tried to implement actually reach the *sam admi*, because

by the time the implementation takes place, it has all gone haywire and the way the population is spinning out of control is not a joke any more. But unfortunately it was not deemed necessary to underline or stress this issue.

Prices of essential commodities – those of us who go out to the shops and actually buy things will realize this – are even today skyrocketing. It is a shame; our country is so well connected; we always see on the Highways, Kashmir to Kanyakumari, India is one and the first proof of that which I personally saw when I was gradually becoming aware of political oneness of the country, was in 1977.

At that time, except AIR and Doordarshan there was no private media house yet from the top of the country to the bottom, from the East to the West everyone voted against the Emergency and against the then Congress Government and threw it to the rubbish bin. It is another story that the others also failed and so the Congress came back. But the country's history tells us that from 1977 onwards, people have been rejecting the Congress again and again.

In spite of this kind of a modern society where we are well connected through Media, it is a pity that when international prices of petroleum products are going up, our oil companies are compelled to put a lid on the rising prices. When we do decide to jack up the prices, it is a bit too late. Here in Parliament we hear that the companies have borne so many thousands of crores as losses and hence the Government has to make up for that. Again when we see that from 147-148 dollars a barrel the prices have come down to 45-46 dollars a barrel we do not see the linkage between the prices that are available at the outlets. This is because we are using such vital things in this country's economy only for mere petty political gains. We are holding the prices high so that when election comes close we will bring down petrol and diesel prices by another Rs.3 or Rs.4. These people think that they will take the kudos for their achievements. But let us be

aware that the *aam aadmi* of India today is a very-very conscious citizen of this country. He has realised that your CMP was a completely mal-nutritious policy which did not work out at all and it has failed. Because of this failure the *aam aadmi* today will probably be compelled to eat *kachcha aam* in the coming days.

Madam, projects that were started by the NDA Government, like the Golden Quadrilateral and the criss-cross North-South-East-West corridors, have as yet not been completed. Forget about taking up new eye-catching infrastructure projects, even on-going projects have not progressed in the last five years. We saw the birth of the NREGS. I remember very clearly, at that time I had spoken against this programme because I had said that it would divide families. Every major son will want to be separated from the father so that he can claim to be an independent family and can claim rightfully hundred days of employment. That has happened. In the process we have brought down land holdings to the minimum. We have brought more people into the fold of home-less in the rural areas. It has not helped in creating the backbone of economic independence for the common people in the villages.

In the name of Bharat Nirman, all projects and programmes were brought under one umbrella. I would like to ask all the hon. Members here as to what they have seen in their constituencies; where is that Bharat, that is India and where is that *nirman*. This has been a complete failure except for the roadside hoardings where we see the photographs of one Member each of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and that is all. In reality nothing has happened for the people.

Many hon. Members have talked about terrorism. What has been the reaction of this Government to terrorism? They have changed a Minister. They have revived an old law in a new guise and a new name. They are claiming to be forming a new police force which will guard the coastal areas. But these are all knee jerk reactions. There is no positive outlook on how to

combat a global threat such as terrorism. There is no over view look at policy that will help in controlling this menace.

Similarly, as far as Maoist violence goes, my State of Orissa has been inflicted along with many other States in the Eastern part of this country, but here also the Government has failed to bring about a coherent policy to meet internal terrorism and it is sad that the Presidential Address did not deal with this major problem in a very tangible way. Just giving walkie-talkies or UB-40 or U2 or Uzi guns will not solve the Maoist menace. It has to be a socio-economic answer to a problem that is ever widening and getting deeper and deeper by the day when more and more people are getting recruited into the ranks of the Left Wing extremists. But a simple thing that the Government of Orissa had requested that five more districts be included in the Left Wing extremists' affected list that the Central Government has but till date the Union Government has been incapable of reacting to this small demand of the State Government.

The NDA Government had committed for six All India Institute of Medical Sciences kind of hospitals in different parts of the country. One was promised to Bhubaneswar also but unfortunately five years have passed by but not a rupee has been given for these projects neither do these projects come under the scanner of the Presidential Address.

This Government has formulated a new mineral policy. All mineral-rich States have opposed this policy. Orissa, for instance, has been demanding hike in royalty on coal and other minerals. You are not able to hike the royalty. You are not able to recognise the fact that these are finite resources. They are not infinite. They are not unending. They will end one day sooner than later but no benefits accrue to these concerned States and no royalty has been hiked. States like Orissa have suffered since long because of freight equalisation policy which was adopted immediately after Independence. I guess, and assume you

[Shri Tathagata Satpathy]

understand what freight equalisation meant for the States in the east and north-east like Orissa, Bihar and such other States. It meant that we had to pay through our nose for the rest of the country to develop but now when the other parts of the country have developed, the mineral-rich States are not being looked after and the colossal losses that we bore when the freight equalisation policy was adopted has not been made good till date.

Madam, farmers and farm workers have been completely neglected by this Government. There are only two-three very simple things that a farmer wants. A farmer wants water on time, proper seeds and appropriate knowledge of useable technology. Forget about technology, we have no system of passing on technological knowledge to our farmers. But proper seeds and water on time, this Government has completely failed on this front to address such important issues. They have not been able to take any innovative steps on the issues of farms and farming.

Orissa had recorded highest procurement of rice during the last two years. I am happy to mention here that the Minister of Agriculture was kind enough to commend this achievement of the State.

But again, a small request by the Government of Orissa to direct FCI to open more procurement centres has fallen on deaf ears of the Federal Government. Resultantly, the Oriya farmers are compelled to resort to distress sale.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You may conclude now.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Madam, I am the only speaker from my Party and also from the State of Orissa. So, you should allow me some more time.

Madam, my complaint has been that Orissa has consistently, through the decades, been neglected for no fault of the Oriyas or the State of Orissa. The people of Orissa are gentle and soft spoken but that does not mean

that we will be trampled upon; will be squashed and we will be set aside. The time has come when the conscious Oriya people who are aware of the country's needs, the needs of the State will rise up. In that situation the Congress Party will get a befitting reply in the coming elections when the whole country and our State will go to the polls... (*Interruptions*) They should have patience. Patience pays. This impatience on the part of the Government which is looking for independent and small players in every State to pick up the ragtag to throw aside anybody who is powerful to survive speaks of the very pitiable state of affairs for the Congress. The reality is that the Congress has lost its roots. It fought for freedom from the clutches of the foreigners but today it has itself fallen in that very swamp. It does not have the answer to the problems of this country because it does not know what the problems of this country are. People who are siding with them, who are members of the UPA are committing a crime on the people of this country and they will have to suffer in the days to come. I have the faith that not only the intelligent people of Orissa but everywhere in the country the people will rise up and will realize what the UPA, especially the Congress is and they will give a befitting reply to this Government and to the Congress in the forthcoming elections.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Madam, I am feeling a little bit elated while participating in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. A number of eminent Members including the Leader of the Opposition have already participated in this discussion.

Madam, at the outset I would like to convey my heartfelt congratulation to the mother of Vivek. The mother who resides in Gujarat. The original name of Vivek is Muzafar Sheikh. He has been re-christened as Vivek by his new mother. Muzafar Sheikh, two and a half years old boy went missing from Gulbarg society during the riots and was found six years later in the home of a Hindu family. For six years Vivek was growing up at Bina Patni's house in Rakkhail area of the city. Bina claimed that someone

had come to her late husband Vikram during the riots at Meghani Nagar and left this little kid with him. Vikram had brought this boy home and the boy not only adjusted in the family but also became the darling of the other children. Now, the biological parents of the boy, namely, Jibannunisha, the mother, found her own darling and by the direction of the court, she also has been given the right to look after her own son.

18.00 hrs.

Madam, we need this society.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, the time is 6 p.m. now and we have a long list of speakers to participate on the Motion of Thanks. If the House agrees, we may extend the time of the House by one hour more.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: The time of the House is extended by an hour.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Madam, being a Member of this House and being an Indian, I am proud of this family and this mother. We need this kind of a society. The more we are able to build this kind of a society, the more we will be secure and the more we will have peace. We need the society of mutual respect, mutual dignity, mutual compassion and mutual love.

I think our Leader of Opposition got exasperated as the contents of the President's Address clearly indicates that the UPA Government has been focusing its attention on the welfare of the common people. That is why, the Government is so preferred by the *aam aadmi*. The name '*aam aadmi*' has sent jitters in the hearts of the Opposition Parties. The reason is-obvious. More and more people of this country are now hearing the concept, the vision, and the objective as enunciated by the UPA Government.

To convince the Opposition colleague, I would just refer to two or three issues. First of all, this is the

Government which has made a significant legislation to ensure the job of the common people of this country by introducing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. Nowhere in the world has this kind of a legislation been brought about so far. Right to work has been enshrined in our legislation. Now, people are at liberty to seek, to get and to compensate for not having a job. So, it is a landmark legislation that must be appreciated by the representatives of people.

The second is the Unorganized Workers Social Security Act, 2008 which will facilitate social security to 43 crore unorganized workers. What does it mean for *aam aadmi*? Are these Acts not benefitting *aam aadmi*? Who else will be benefited by all these Acts? Are they not common people of our country who will be benefited? It is the utter frustration of the Opposition Members to tarnish the image of the UPA Government.

That is why they are simply raising non-issues in the context of President's Address. You will be astonished to note that in 2007-08 nearly 3.4 crore rural households were provided employment under this Programme. Out of the beneficiaries, 55 per cent belong to Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes and 49 per cent were women. Over 46 lakh works were taken up under the Programme so far of which 19 lakh works have been completed. A few minutes earlier Shri Chandrapan made a criticism of the UPA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Do not record the interruptions.

...*(Interruptions)**

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Silence please.

[*Translation*]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Hon'ble Chairman, there is not a single Minister present in the House...*(Interruptions)*. There is no single Minister present here during this important discussion...*(Interruptions)*

* Not recorded.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : The Minister has just left with the permission of the Chair. He is coming back in a minute, therefore, you sit down, everything is on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Hon. Madam Chairman, there is not a single Minister in the House...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : The Minister has left just now with the permission of the Chair. He is going to come back in one minute.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You sit down. The Minister is very aware and everything is on record.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : The Minister has come, so you sit down. You are just looking for an opportunity because you only want to talk in place of doing any work. The Minister had left with permission. He is coming in a minute. Now he has come, therefore, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Jhanjgir) : Is there only one Minister? There is such a wide Cabinet.. (Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : that will increase further. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Every human being needs to go out some time. I am also a human being. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: All right. Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: No comments to be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MADAM CHAIRMAN: No comments please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Madam, I would suggest to Shri Chandrapan to advise the State Government of West Bengal to implement the NREG Programme in the State. The reason why I am suggesting is that a survey has revealed that hundreds of Scheduled Tribes in the poverty-stricken area of West Bengal have not been able to obtain job under the NREG Programme. On an average, only 14 to 16 days of work have been provided to those poor people. Those areas are witnessing the starvation deaths for years together.

18.10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I will suggest the Members of the Left Parties that they should pursue their respective Governments especially the West Bengal Government to implement the Right to Information Act because a kind of social revolution has been made by this Act. Here, they are advocating for the welfare of the farmers, but in West Bengal the State Government is discouraging the poor farmers by their new argument of urbanisation and industrialisation. It is the new slogan raised by the Left Parties in West Bengal. Even they put their argument now that the agriculture is not remunerative. So, it is better shift to industrialisation and urbanisation and in the name of urbanisation and industrialisation, only the farmers of the State have become the victims of the atrocities, of the violence perpetrated by the Ruling Party in cahoots with the administration.

* Not recorded.

Sir, everybody knows, Nandigram has already become a popular name not only in our country but also in the whole world. ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, in Nandigram, farmers have been killed, ... *(Interruptions)** and the houses of the farmers have been put to arson. ... *(Interruptions)* This is the reality of West Bengal where in the name of industrialization, ... *(Interruptions)** and thereafter they are pleading for the welfare of agriculture. ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, we have not dispensed with the Left Parties. But the fact is that being a National Party, we have some responsibilities to be discharged. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your Party Member will be given time and he can reply to all these things. I will see if there is any objectionable thing, then I will expunge it. I will see the record. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, the Indo-US Nuclear Deal was meant to generate more power in our country. But it is only the Left Parties, who have opposed the Indo-US Nuclear Deal, had left the UPA on their own volition. We have not compelled them to leave the alliance. ...*(Interruptions)* Whenever they made an alliance with us, we had offered four Cabinet Ministries to the Left Parties. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**...

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : If they got at least, those Ministries say for example, if got the Ministry of Agriculture, they could have been able to radicalize the agricultural sector in our country. But they had missed the bus. They have missed the opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except Shri Adhir Chowdhury's speech.

*(Interruptions)** ...

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, from time immemorial, it is the privilege of the harlot to enjoy power without discharging responsibility. Here lies the lacuna of the Left Parties. ... *(Interruptions)* There lies their fault.... *(Interruptions)* I will challenge those Left Friends on one count. After the election, when the Fifteenth Lok Sabha will be constituted, they should pledge that they will not support us. They have to declare now whether after the Fifteenth Lok Sabha results are declared, they will either support us or not. I think their political stand will be clear if they declare in the august House that they will not support us. ...*(Interruptions)*

We are witnessing the economic melt down the world over. When the tsunami struck, our shore also got devastated. We could not spare ourselves from the ripple effect of that tsunami. Now, in the economic scenario, the economic tsunami has been generated in the USA. The ripple effect is being felt the worldwide. We cannot escape from that ripple effect. The epicentre of the financial tsunami lies elsewhere.... *(Interruptions)* But we are the victims of that economic convulsion. This is the truth. After the World War II, no country in the world has been able to be a strong economy without the support of the US economy. This is true because the USA is the largest economy in the world. As the USA is the largest economy in the world, so, all the developing countries are bound to deal with the USA as far as economy is concerned. Their comrades in Russia and China are hankering after the business with the USA. That is also the truth. When we are going for signing the nuclear deal with the USA, it is wrong. But, in Kerala, when they take bribe money from a Canadian Com Lavlin, then, They will be honest persons! So, there lies the contradiction. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except Shri Adhir Chowdhury's speech.

*(Interruptions)** ...

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, we have to have an introspection in terms of security, in terms of peace, in terms of our economy, in terms of our society, in terms of our culture. India is a civilization which has been running for 6000 years. India is such a country where four major religions in the world originated. So, we are honestly playing a responsible part in the world scenario. Our neighbours are trying to bleed the country. As India is an emerging power, so, many powers in our neighbourhood do not like to see the emergence of India. Hence, I would suggest to the hon. Members from the opposition that it is ridiculous to criticize the man performing before your performance is distinguished.

Before you perform, you should not criticise the other person. What is your performance? The NDA also got an opportunity to run the country. In the name of 'Shining India', what have they done? In the name of 'Shining India', India was a laggard country. Now, after the political upheaval, after the communal upheaval, when the UPA had taken the rein of running this country, we are witnessing peace and prosperity in all sections of our society. That is why, they may seek nemesis to be descended upon us, but whatever devil proposes, the common man will dispose it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Sir, when will my turn come.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have not given any notice, so you sit down.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me time. I have risen to speak on the motion of thanks on the President's Address. First of all, I associate myself with the views expressed by L.K. Advani, the hon. Leader of Opposition in the House. Besides, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards some other issues. Item No.3 on page 1 of the Address says that the UPA govt. is committed to the principles of democracy. This statement is far from the

truth. In the last 4-5 years, the manner in which the UPA Govt. has indulged itself in bringing down the Govts. not towing along with its ideology by resorting to all kinds of wrong means is condemnable. Jharkhand and Goa are its example. How the present Govt. has survived and what is its situation today can be seen clearly through these examples. The UPA Govt. has taken many actions to deal a blow to the democracy. The constitutional arrangement is that the Govt. elected under the democratic set up should be allowed to work independently, but the UPA Govt. has not only made many state Govts. unstable but also brought them down. Efforts should have been made to let the President come out boldly in this regard which has not been made and I want to condemn the Govt. for this.

After that, a lot has been said about the farmers in the item no.(8) on page 3. A lot has been said about the loan waiver. Everyone says that it amounted to Rs. 72,000 crore but in this very budget speech a figure of Rs. 65,000 crore has been shown. Even in that, the farmers having more than two hectares of land could not benefit from this scheme and those who used to pay back regularly were allowed the benefit of 25% on depositing the 75% of the outstanding loan in a lump-sum. Hon. Minister Shri Gupta ji is sitting here. It has become a general rule and convention that a Bank Manager has a right to write off 20-25% of the outstanding amount in the case of the farmers who do not repay. This Govt. has done injustice to the farmers, made a mockery of them and has not benefited them by making this announcement. On this occasion, I would also like to say that the way farmers are facing problems and the permanent solution which should have been found to remove their problems has not been found by this Government...(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the speech of the hon. Member.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : When hon. Rajnath Singh was the Agriculture Minister, he had introduced a National Agriculture Income Insurance Scheme as a permanent solution to the farmers' problems. The then

Finance Minister had mentioned about the scheme in his budget speech. Later, elections were held and the UPA Govt. came to power. While presenting the first budget of the UPA Govt. on 8th July, 2004 Chidambaram Saheb had said in his budget speech that the National Agriculture Income Insurance Scheme introduced by the NDA gov. was a good scheme and it had been implemented in 19 districts in 12 states of the country on experimental basis and it would be continued further and, if needed, few improvements would also be in it. I am sorry to say that it is the fifth year of the Govt. but not even a single step has been taken in this direction. It is injustice to the farmers. The National Agriculture Income Insurance Scheme should be implemented if the Govt. really wants to protect the interests of the farmers and have a permanent solution to their problems. Like the industrial and commercial units get more compensation from the insurance companies in case of loss to their properties, similar facility should be provided to the farmers. Suicides by farmers can not be stopped if we do not provide such facilities to them. The Govt. can waive of the Govt. loans but the loans taken from the money lenders can not be waived of. This keeps the farmer in trouble and he is forced to commit suicide. In addition, the farmers should be provided the agricultural loans at the rate of 4% but even this effort has not been made by this Govt. Atalji's Govt. had made provisions for giving loans to the farmers at the rate of 7% but except loan waiver, this Govt. has not done anything in the farmers' interest. There is a need for doing much in the farmers' interest but the Govt. has not done anything. In my view this Govt. is anti-farmer.

One part of the country gets flooded while the other part faces drought. Under the leadership of Atalji, the NDA Govt. had formulated scheme for linking of rivers but this Govt. has not taken any step in this direction also. This is the reason that loss of property and lives is suffered due to flood in one part and drought in the other. There is severe drinking water crisis in western Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and other states today. I, therefore, want to say that linking of rivers scheme should have also been implemented if the Govt. really wants to solve this

problem. Now, this Govt. has nothing in its hand and it has not done anything. Elections will be held now and the people will give their verdict.

Now, I come to the item no.16 on page 7...(*Interruptions*). Whatever should have been done in the field of education has not been done. We should all be aware and also need to understand that there should be 100% literacy in the country if India has to become a developed nation. We have only 65% literacy since independence and it defines even alphabetical knowledge as literacy. Literacy of amongst women is even lower. Article 45 of our constitution says that free and compulsory education for all children upto the age of 14 years should be provided by the Govt. Atalji's Govt. had made such a provision by making amendment in the constitution and implemented the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). But, this Govt. showed laxity towards this scheme also and did not implement it as fast as was needed. All this needs to be done. Now, I would like to draw attention to the item nos. 19,20,21, on page nos. 8-9 of the Address where it has been said that special facilities would be provided and bank branches would be opened in the minorities dominated areas. There will be a 15 point programme. I am not anti-minorities. The people belong to the backward classes amongst the minorities are being provided reservation in jobs and other facilities are also being provided to them in the states where our party is in power be it Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh or Madhya Pradesh...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Don't talk of Gujarat...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : It is implemented there. But I would like to say that the UPA Government is working against the interests of SC/STs. This Government had also worked towards repealing the provisions of reservation. A Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha has been passed by the Rajya Sabha recently which is against reservations for SC/ST and backward classes. I would like to tell you that you would not be able to From Government if the interests of these categories are not

[Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot]

safeguarded and nor you have the right to remain in power. It is the misfortune of the country that the Prime Minister of the country says that Muslims have the first right on the resources of the country whereas the Constitution of India lays down that budget should not be allocated on the basis of caste or religion...*(Interruptions)*. Still there are special action plans, special budgetary provisions for minorities which is against the spirit of the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*. Christians are in minority, you also belong to a minority community and there are crores of people in such communities who are millionaires and are yet availing special benefits...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : The Prime Minister has not said all that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Lal Singhji, please sit down. All this will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : It would have been far better had the Prime Minister of the country said that the poor and the oppressed living below poverty line or the middle-class or poor people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and the backward classes have first right on the budgetary provisions instead of saying that the muslims have first right on it or detailing the special facilities for the minorities. Our constitution does not provide for reservations on religious basis or for other discriminatory policies. This act of the government will not be forgiven by the SC/ST and the backward and poor classes. If the government had courage it would have stated these facts in the President's Address. Then we could have thought that there was veracity in the government's statements. I can say that many points in the President's Address are far from the truth. First, the Railway Minister presented the Rail Budget and then the Finance Minister presented the General Budget. The newspapers reported that there was

discrepancy in the budget figures presented by the Finance Minister and the Railway Minister. This proves that the points made in the President's address are not true. At this point, I would also like to comment on point 32. It talks about the courts and says that the government has taken many steps in regard to judiciary. My point is that lakhs of cases are pending in various courts in the country. Four or five days ago it was reported in some newspapers that if the existing judges conduct fast hearings under the present judicial system or even if an estimation is made on the basis of the current state of disposal of cases it would take 40 to 42 years to dispose of the pending cases. Constitution of India promises speedy, accessible and affordable justice. But are we getting it? The Government has neither taken any steps in this direction nor made efforts to take any such steps. The poor, the oppressed and the victimized people have to run around endlessly in their quest to get justice. Let alone the first generation of litigants, even the third generation fails to get justice. These people are sinners and the curses of poor people are going to bring them down...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, regarding item 34 and 35 on page 14, I would like to say that our Constitution has provided for a federal structure. States and the centre both are regulated by the Constitution. But the states ruled by the BJP are being meted out a stepmotherly treatment by this government. I would like to give the example of Madhya Pradesh. 350 MW of electricity was cut back from the power we were getting from the National Thermal Power Corporation. This was done deliberately. This was done to anger the people of the state so that they do not vote back the BJP to power. Besides, coal is needed to run power plants and the allotment of coal is in the hands of the Union Government. It does not give us coal either. It is the strategy to starve the state of power so that the people get angry with the state government. But the people have again voted for the BJP and thwarted the UPA government's plan. They have been taught the lesson that it is not wise to tamper with the democratic set up or to mete-out a stepmotherly treatment to state governments. They should learn a lesson from this.

* Not recorded.

Sir, they have invoked Indian culture in item 50 at page 19. Direct and indirect cooperation, protection and support is being given to organizations involved in instigating separatism, terrorism and naxalism all over the country...*(Interruptions)*. This country has rich culture. The Government protects the elements that are working to undermine the culture, unity and integrity of the country. This has posed a threat to the entire country because they flout the orders of the court when it directs them to give the land to the Amarnath Shrine Board. They flout the court's order to hang Afzal Khan. They flout court's stay on destruction of the Ram Setu and conspire to destroy it. All these are efforts to undermine the culture of India. This cultural heritage is necessary to safeguard the culture and pride of our country for the future generations. This Government made tall promises and assured us that it would act on them. It made the hon. President say in the Address that most of the promises have been fulfilled. I would like to ask you as to what happened to the issue of reservation for women?...*(Interruptions)*. The Government could not do anything till date and would not be able to do anything in future...*(Interruptions)*. When our government comes to power, we will do that...*(Interruptions)*. You can't do that because your government is not to come to power. Drawing your attention to one more point, I would conclude. Whenever the Congress Party or Congress led Government comes to power there is a price rise. When Morarji Desai formed the government in 1977, the prices came down heavily. When the Congress came back into power after Desaiji's government, the prices started rising again. After that Shri Atalji formed the government, the price-rise was checked. After that the UPA government came into power which broke all the records of India and perhaps other countries of the world. The inflation rate went beyond 12 per cent. The inflation rate was 2.5 per cent to 3 percent during Atalji's regime and now it is perhaps 4.1 percent. The government got the hon. President to praise that. You have been robbing the pockets of the poor for the last five years. You had a slogan 'Congress ka haath, garibon ke saath' but the so called hand of congress was at the throats and into the pockets of the poor and several people died

of starvation. This sinful deed has been committed by this Government.

Today unemployment is increasing. They have done nothing in this regard but several industrial units are increasingly becoming sick industries. Lakhs of people having permanent jobs are being rendered unemployed and the government says that it is mainly due to global recession. Recession has hit ground six months ago or one year ago. You look at the performance of the last four years, several industrial units have been rendered sick, permanent workers and employees have been rendered unemployed during those four years but your government has not taken any step in this regard. There is not one but many such points. Before I conclude. I would like to make one more point.

AIIMS is a reputed hospital of India. People from all over the country come to this hospital for treatment. The NDA government had decided to set up mini AIIMS in the states on the lines of AIIMS. Smt. Sushma Swaraj was the Minister of Health at the time. Mini AIIMS were sanctioned in 8 to 10 states and budget provisions were also made. Bhoomi Poojan was also performed and the work was started but after that the UPA government came to power and this government has not taken one step forward in this regard. There could be reservations against the government or any party but the NDA government had taken this decision in the interest of the common people as well as the country. This decision was taken so as to provide better treatment to the people. But this government has not implemented even that decision. You will have to pay for your negligence. The people of the country know all these things. The people of the country will teach you a lesson and you will be on the roads. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI L. GANESAN (Tiruchirappalli): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, thanks a lot for having given me this opportunity to participate in this discussion and pay my heartfelt thanks

[Shri L. Ganesan]

to the President for her Address to the Lok Sabha as well as to the Rajya Sabha.

Sir, the Address of the President is nothing but the Address of the Government. Therefore, if we thank the President, it means and implies that we thank the Government.

Sir, she has succinctly referred to various achievements of the UPA Government. There is all-round progress – progress in agriculture, progress in industry, development in the Rural India and development in the Urban India. Also, concrete steps have been taken up by this Government during these five years for the upliftment of the downtrodden, the so-called Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and such of those people, who are backward – economically, educationally and in every respect.

This Government has also taken concrete steps for empowerment of ladies. Ladies are one-half of the human society. For a pretty long period, in our India, due to various pauranik traditions, ladies had been suppressed.

Ladies have never enjoyed any equal rights with gents. If at all there is any movement in India, I should be very proud that I do belong to that movement, called Dravidian Movement, which started fighting for the rights of the ladies. That is why, we are in Parliament. There may be some other body but I can be very proud. I can prove it. So, even today we are in Parliament.

Have we reserved seats for women in Parliament? How long you have been clamouring? How long you have been fighting? How long you have been shouting? Did you achieve it? But what happened in Tamil Nadu? In Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar, who is the Chief Minister for the fifth time, has provided for reservation of seats. Sir, 33 per cent of the seats has been reserved for women in local bodies, say, in Panchayats and certain other

bodies.... *(Interruptions)* I should also thank you if that is the case. We are colleagues. We are friends together. There is no doubt about it. But when I say.... *(Interruptions)*. I know.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not disturb him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)** ...

SHRI L. GANESAN : During these days the Minister for Local Administration in Tamil Nadu has provided self-help facilities all over Tamil Nadu. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)** ...

SHRI L. GANESAN (Tiruchirappalli): No village is left without self-help groups. If at all anything you want to raise, you can do it when you speak.... *(Interruptions)* You please do not interrupt.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Only Mr. Ganesan's speech should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)** ...

SHRI L. GANESAN : We have these achievements in the rural parts of India. There is no village without road facility, without electricity facility and without drinking water facility in any other state. I do not know if there is any place without these facilities. There may be place but I can refer to and I can take Tamil Nadu as an example. There is no village without road. There is no village without school. There is no village without drinking water facility. All these are achievements. After all, you know, this is not a single Party Government. Even in a single Party

* Not recorded.

Government, there will be friction, bickering, in fights, this and that. This is a coalition Government. The coalition Government consists of so many Parties with admirable skillfulness under the stewardship of our benign Prime Minister and under the leadership of UPA Chairperson, Madam Sonia Gandhi and under the guidance of Dr. Kalaignar who is the Leader of the Democratic Progressive Alliance in Tamil Nadu, which is part and parcel of this alliance Government.

Therefore, I say, these achievements in a coalition Government are to be appreciated, and I wholeheartedly appreciate them. If it is a one Party Government, all right, that is different. But this is a coalition Government. Therefore, the achievements of this UPA Government are to be congratulated and appreciated. As a matter of fact, I appreciate them wholeheartedly.

I am coming to one point. As far as the coalition is concerned, Kalaignar is the friend, philosopher and guide. It is all right. But yes, in one respect there is bitterness; there is friction; that is, the Sri Lankan ethnic problem. If it has not been handled in such a way, in such a skilful way, in such a diplomatic way by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Tamil Nadu could have become a land of riots, land of bloodshed. There could have been lots of bloodshed. In 1965, what happened? The same thing would have happened.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI (Sivakasi): They are enjoying the power. You are enjoying the power. ... *(Interruptions)* You are speaking something which is unparliamentary.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing is unparliamentary. Please sit down.

SHRI L. GANESAN : Let him speak. The fact is that he i.e. Dr. Kalaignar has passed three Resolutions in Tamilnadu Assembly demanding immediate cease fire. What have you done? I know what happened in 1983. You are talking about the hunger strike. I say in 1983, you were

not there. You do not know what DMK was. In 1983, I was the man who led the hunger strike.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down now.

SHRI L. GANESAN : I know. What else? ... *(Interruptions)* Therefore, for the information of Shri Ravichandran and Dr. Krishnan, you please talk about it, if you have opportunity. You talk if you have stuff, if you have any expression and if you have any language. I support you. Without anything, do not shout. ... *(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I am referring to Sri Lankan problem. The problem exists since 1956 when Sinhala Official Language Act was passed. Dr. Krishnan, do you know that in 1946, in Rajya Council, which was then the representative body of the Sri Lanka, a resolution was passed that in free, independent Sri Lanka, both Tamil and Sinhala would be the official language? It got independent in 1948. In 1956, Sinhala Official Language Act was passed. ... *(Interruptions)* If he was not born, I am not responsible for that. ... *(Interruptions)*

What I mean to say is that Father Selva Nayakam, Father of Tamil Struggle had agitated. He was much influenced by our Gandhiji and hence satyagraha agitation was carried on. Then, year after year happened the atrocities. In 1977, there took place a holocaust and in 1983 major riots happened and so on and so forth. Now I have never seen that in my life. With anguish and agony, with eyes shedding tears and heart bleeding, I appeal to whole of the nation in the name of this august assembly that the suffering masses, the Tamils there to be protected. They are not immigrants like Sinhalese; they are the original citizens, the natives of that land. We used to refer them in Tamil as Poorva Kudigal. They are the natives of that land and they are now being butchered and massacred. All at the same time, they are raided through the land, the sea and the air – all three sides. The Government is killing its own citizens. I have never heard about it. If at all that had taken place, it took place during

[Shri L. Ganesan]

the Nazi Hitler in Germany when Jews were persecuted and slaughtered by Hitler in the same way. ...
(Interruptions) I know what the Indian Government did. ...
(Interruptions) You please sit down. I appreciate. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except what Shri Ganesan speaks.

*(Interruptions)**...

SHRI L. GANESAN : Therefore, I come to the point. Did you have your time? Have you not been given your time? Did you make use of your time and put forth your own views here? Why do you interrupt me? What is this? ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. GANESAN : I know that you cannot talk. ...
(Interruptions) Anyway, I am prepared to argue with anybody on earth on this issue. Are you prepared? You cannot. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. GANESAN : Therefore, with all sincerity at my command, I would say that please do not give room to the opponents to exploit the situation and to make use of it against you, the UPA Government. You should be very careful. This is an emotional issue, an issue which you should understand. Therefore, I appeal to you. You have referred to this issue in a fleeting manner, in a passing

way in the President's Address, after three Resolutions were passed by Dr. Kalaingar in the Assembly. ...
(Interruptions)

Sir, that is what I am telling. You cannot put forth the issue in such an effective manner. I know that. You can read, but you cannot speak. ... *(Interruptions)* You stop it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI L. GANESAN : Therefore, I appeal to you with all sincerity at my command to please adhere to the advices of your friend, philosopher and guide Dr. Kalaingar, and forthwith see that ceasefire is declared. ...*(Interruptions)* Talking about negotiated and peaceful settlement is all right. But can we talk when they are waging a war? If talks are to be initiated ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please conclude your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. GANESAN : Sir, kindly give me a couple of minutes more to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, please conclude your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. GANESAN : Therefore, I appeal to you to declare ceasefire, and see that it is done. ... *(Interruptions)* I would like to mention that peaceful negotiations should be resorted to in this case when cease fire is in force. ... *(Interruptions)* With these words, I thank you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Rajesh Ranjan, your Leader has requested the Chair to give you some time to speak on this issue. Therefore, as a special case, I would like to give you five minutes to speak on this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to speak on the motion of thanks moved by Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo ji on the President's address. The first thing which I would like to state is that five years ago a coalition government was formed. This coalition was named as UPA coalition which had the support of the Left Parties also. I think and the common people of the country think that this coalition government formed under the leadership of Madam Sonia Gandhi, guidance of leaders of various parties and specially under the stewardship of hon. Manmohan Singh ji, who has been one of the best Prime Ministers, has taken the country to new heights in terms of global goodwill, strategic and diplomatic status during the last five years and this has been the biggest achievement of Shri Manmohan Singh ji, the Prime Minister of the Country.

My. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members of the opposition must understand one thing that while criticizing they must keep their past and present in their minds. To criticize is not a crime. I would like to refer to an incident. The BJP-JD (U) coalition government is in power in Bihar. You must be aware of the biggest tragedy ever taken place in the country few days ago. The government is responsible for that as 40 lakhs of people were rendered homeless due to negligence of the government. More than five thousand innocent and poor people died and the houses of about twenty lakhs of people were destroyed. Such an incident had never taken place before in the Indian history. Lakhs of cattle were drowned. The government did not pay any attention to them. The entire cabinet was sitting idle. Even the Minister belonging to a district did nothing. Even then if anybody says that this government has hurt the interests of the common people, I would tell him to look at the two examples - one is Bihar and the other is Gujarat.

19.00 hrs.

If an evaluation of these two states is done, it will be clear as to where the Members of the opposition stand.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to state, through you, that this government has certainly stated right things about the common people. I have got little time, hence I would like to state, through you, that here few points regarding naxalism and terrorism have been raised. The opposition has spoken much with regards to these points.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : May we extend the time of the House by one-two minutes so that the hon. Member can conclude his speech?

[English]

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat) : Sir, the hon. Speaker assured us in the morning that important matters will be taken up at the end of the day.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No 'Zero Hour'.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara) : In the morning there was an assurance from the Chair.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : With the permission of the House, the time of the House is extended till the speech of Shri Rajesh Ranjan is over. Shri Rajesh Ranjan please continue your speech. Conclude your speech in one-two minutes.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Dy. Speaker, Sir, I will make two-three points and conclude my speech. Keeping the issue of development aside, the issue of terrorism and naxalism is often raised in the House. I would specifically focus on these two issues. I would like to know - what led to the origin of naxalism? No doubt, naxalism is wrong and none can accept it. It cannot be justified because the naxalism is endangering our internal security and that of villages and towns. But none of the government have ever tried to understand the reasons, such as gross inequality, poverty, hunger, unemployment, which are responsible for rise of naxal movement. Has any government ever taken steps to create conditions which

[Shri Rajesh Ranjan *alias* Pappu Yadav]

may result in eliminating this movement. No steps have been taken to overcome inequality and hunger in the society, so that the people are not compelled to resort to start such movement. Has anyone not debated upon this issue so far?

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Member that the State Govt. of Chhattisgarh started a campaign named 'Salwa Zudum' to check the menace of naxalism...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Madam, please sit down. Don't interrupt him.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the reasons as to why such elements resort to violence whom we call terrorists and sometimes naxalites. I would say that the present UPA government has definitely taken steps to provide two square meals to the labourers in the villages and to reduce economic, social, mental and physical inequalities and also to check their exploitation.

As long as the exploitation of the people in the society is not checked, the problem of naxalism cannot be solved. The UPA Government has reduced the disparity by giving priority to employment to the people and bringing economic prosperity.

Sir, on the question of terrorism I would like to say that terrorism is not a new problem. I would like to ask my friends in the opposition as to what is the reason that terrorism is getting deep rooted whether it is because of social sentiment, socio sentiment, geo sentiment, national sentiment or religious sentiment. I would like to tell my friends in opposition that if they really want to finish terrorism then they will have to bring changes in their own thinking, character, intention and policies. Double standards will not do. I do not want to get into any argument. At lot of things have been said about the Malegaon incident and Pragya Thakur but I would not like

to go into that. I would only like to suggest one thing that all the people's representatives should seriously think that they will not play politics in the name of language, castes, religion and region as result of which the sentiments of other persons or section of the society are hurt and a new society is formed...*(Interruptions)*

I am concluding. I would like to say that in whatever way the UPA Government is viewed be it the nuclear deal or work and employment programme for the common man, this government has worked very well under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh ji, Chidambaram ji and Sonia ji. Shri Lalu Yadav ji has improved the condition of railways. Even under difficult conditions he has brought Indian railways at par with the world parameters. Today, one can certainly say that the introduction of the Garib Rath...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now you please conclude.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I am just concluding. It was UPA's thinking to launch the Garib Rath. The poor people who belong to the lowest strata are traveling in AC today. Is it not the biggest achievement of the UPA Government? Is it not the biggest achievement of the UPA Govt. that as a result of its diplomacy, Presidents and Govts. of every country in the world are supporting India? Isn't India standing tall due to the policies and ideology of the UPA Govt? I have risen to support the UPA Govt. But, our friends from Opposition benches will have to understand some things like the are opposing Shri Ram Sena also. Is it proper to beat up people for showing resentment against pub culture, burn churches and minority people? What is Bajrang Dal, will it not divide the society? The attitude and the activities of the Bajrang Dal will.....whether they are Christian, Muslims Sikh...*(Interruptions)*. I am concluding within a minute.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, please sit down now. I have given you more than 15 minutes.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I will conclude my point within a minute. I would request the UPA Govt. that organizations like Bajrang Dal or Shri Ram Sena should be banned because they keep on creating nuisance in the name of the Valentine's Day, Pub culture etc.

Secondly, my last request is that I was very hopeful that some special package would be announced for Bihar in this budget. At the time of state's reorganization, everyone hoped that special status would be accorded to Bihar. I request the UPA Govt. that though Bihar got much as far as Railway is concerned and the Govt. has also provide much money but attention should be paid to Kosi tragedy...(Interruptions). I am making the last point...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, nothing should be recorded.

[Translation]

I had allowed you to speak for five minutes only.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : While concluding, I would like to draw your attention towards just one thing that the devastating Kosi floods have created a tragic situation for everyone. In view of the conditions prevalent in Bihar a special package should be given to the State. This should definitely be a point in the budget speech of the UPA Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please make your point when the discussion on the budget starts.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : It is my request. In the end, I express my support for the proposal moved by V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo ji.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : Sir, I have a request to make.

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : It is written here that everything has been done by the Congress Party. His name figures nowhere in this...(Interruptions). He is praising the UPA Government...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

(Interruptions)* ...

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, the 'Zero Hour' items may be taken up tomorrow. Now, I request that you may adjourn the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now the House stands adjourn to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

19.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, February, 18, 2009/ Magha 29, 1930 (Saka).

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